PA 13-210—sHB 6671

Government Administration and Elections Committee

AN ACT CONCERNING GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

SUMMARY: This act requires (1) the governor to proclaim the following months and day of each year to honor Americans of different ancestry and (2) suitable exercises to be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the governor designates:

1. March as Irish-American Month,
2. October as Italian-American Month,
3. November as Native American Month, and
4. June 24 as French Canadian-American Day.

The act also establishes (1) the ballroom polka as the state polka and (2) Beautiful Connecticut Waltz, composed by Joseph Leggo, as the second state song. It specifies that Powered Flight Day is in honor of the first powered flight by Gustave Whitehead, rather than the Wright Brothers.

The act requires the legislature to commemorate the 14th anniversary of the Connecticut-Taiwan sister state relationship. Suitable exercises must be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the legislature may designate. The act allows the economic and community development commissioner to designate a day, week, or month for celebrating ethnic, cultural, or heritage groups, upon the application of such groups. In practice, such days, weeks, or months are proclaimed by the governor in his role as the chief executive.

Additionally, the act allows state employees in the unclassified service to compete in promotional examinations for positions in the classified service without having previous permanent status in the classified service. Under prior law, unclassified employees could compete for classified positions if they possessed the minimum qualifications the administrative services commissioner established, but they had to have previous permanent status in the classified service to compete in promotional examinations for the positions. PA 13-247 (§§ 360 & 387) delays the effective date of this change until July 1, 2013.

Lastly, the act makes technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

OLR Tracking: TA:RC:VR:RO