

Commerce Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-1034

AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR BROWNFIELD

Title: REMEDIATION AND DEVELOPMENT.

Vote Date: 3/14/2019

Vote Action: Joint Favorable Change of Reference to Finance, Revenue and Bonding

PH Date: 3/12/2019

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Commerce Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

SB1034 would ensure a consistent source of funding through the issuance of bonds. By ensuring that there are funds to develop these sites safely, cities that would like to restore brownfield sites will have the financial security to do so.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None expressed.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

- 1. Ann Catino and Gary O'Conner of the Connecticut Brownfield Working Group** support this bill. According to Ms. Catino, "...DECD receives requests for projects equaling on average \$22 million. A demand clearly exists for these programs." This funding is critical to the success of the redevelopment of brownfield sites. They feel this bill will help municipalities, the environment, the economy, and affected communities.
- 2. David Hurley, Connecticut Licensed Environmental Professional Consultant** supports this bill as he believes it will help revitalize communities across the state and attract new businesses to Connecticut. He says, "We need to have the ability to provide the funding to address the historic contamination without slowing the projects down."

- 3. Mayor Neil O’Leary of Waterbury** supports this bill as he feels it will help cities like Waterbury bring opportunity to parts of their communities that are most affected by these vacancies.
- 4. Arthur Bogen, President of Connecticut Brownfield Land Bank, Inc.** supports this bill because it will provide critical funding and gives these organizations time by removing the time-consuming task of securing funding.
- 5. Ted Farrarone, Chief Operation Officer of Harbor Point Development, LLC** supports this bill and believe it will help cities make use of vacant properties
- 6. Frances Cruz, Director of Special Projects for Building and Land Technology** supports this bill and believe it will help cities make use of vacant properties
- 7. Randall Collins, Connecticut Conference of Municipalities** supports this bill, and feels that despite the cost of the program, the state will see a return on the investment into these remediation programs.
- 8. Rachel Cain** supports this bill and believes it will help cities make use of vacant properties

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None expressed.

Reported by: Wesaneit Tsegai

Date: 3/29/19