General Law Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

2:45 PM in Room 1C of the LOB

The meeting was called to order at 2:49PM by Chairman, Rep. D'Agostino M. 091.

The following committee members were present:

Senators: Fonfara J. S01; Kissel J. S07; Leone C. S27; McCrory D. S02; Witkos K. S08

Representatives: Ackert T. 008; Allie-Brennan R. 002; Altobello E. 082; Arconti D. 109; Candelaria J. 095; Cheeseman H. 037; D'Agostino M. 091; Gibson B. 015; Luxenberg G. 012; Orange L. 048; Rutigliano D. 123

Absent were:

Senators: Bradley D. S23

Representatives: Candelora V. 086; D'Amelio A. 071

Representative D'Agostino welcomed everyone and invited members of the committee to make remarks. He then introduced Director Jack Suchy, Director of the Liquor Control Division.

Director Suchy reviewed how many permit types there are in the state that covers all 3 tiers. He also reviewed a variety of other liquor laws in the state. Committee members asked questions of Director Suchy.

Representative D'Agostino commented that the cannabis legislation is still being written. Judicial, finance and general law are working together. General Law will only deal with
the regulation and he is asking that people only bring concerns to the committee that have to deal with regulation. There will possibly be a meeting on March 25.

**PROPOSED BILLS TO BE DRAFTED AS COMMITTEE BILLS**

**Proposed S.B. No. 9** AN ACT ADJUSTING FEES FOR OCCUPATIONAL LICENSES, CERTIFICATIONS AND REGISTRATIONS. (GL)

**Proposed S.B. No. 434** AN ACT CONCERNING EVENT TICKET SALES. (GL)

**Proposed H.B. No. 5139** AN ACT CONCERNING TOBACCO BARS. (PH,GL)

**Proposed H.B. No. 5267** AN ACT CONCERNING FAIR REIMBURSEMENT TO RETAIL DEALERS OF POWER EQUIPMENT. (GL)

**Proposed H.B. No. 5703** AN ACT CONCERNING ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF CURRENCY AS PAYMENT IN LOCAL BUSINESSES. (GL)

**Proposed S.B. No. 647** AN ACT STREAMLINING THE LIQUOR CONTROL ACT. (GL)

The motion was made by Senator Fonfara and seconded by Senator Leone to draft the above as committee bills.

**MOTION PASSED ON A VOICE VOTE 16 AYE, 3 ABSENT**

**Proposed S.B. No. 48** AN ACT REQUIRING MANUFACTURERS OF BRAND NAME PRESCRIPTION DRUGS TO PROVIDE SAMPLES OF SUCH DRUGS TO MANUFACTURERS OF GENERIC PRESCRIPTION DRUGS. (PH,GL)

Representative Cheeseman she is concerned that SB48 is overstepping the FDA. Representative D’Agostino commented that this bill is modeled after a Maine bill. He briefly described the bill and also commented that he understands the concerns.

The motion was made by Senator Fonfara and seconded by Rep. Arconti to draft SB 48 as a committee bill.

**MOTION WAS PASSED ON A ROLL CALL VOTE**

11 AYE, 5 NAY, 3 ABSENT

**Proposed H.B. No. 6869** AN ACT CONCERNING CASH REFUNDS OF GIFT CARD BALANCES. (GL)

Senator Witkos commented that there have been past agreements regarding this issue. Representative Cheeseman and Representative Rutigliano also voiced concern regarding this bill.

The motion was made by Senator Fonfara and Rep. Arconti to draft SB 6869 as a committee bill.

**MOTION WAS PASSED ON A ROLL CALL VOTE**

11 AYE, 5 NAY, 3 ABSENT

**BILLS TO BE VOTED AS JOINT FAVORABLE**
Senator Witkos asked that all bills be placed on a consent calendar. Senator Kissel requested HB 7182 not be placed on consent calendar regarding his concerns and a separate roll call vote be held.

S.B. No. 848 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING FUNERAL SERVICE CONTRACTS AND CEMETERIES. (GL)
S.B. No. 849 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING CHANGE ORDERS IN CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS. (GL)
H.B. No. 7116 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING CONSUMER PROTECTION. (GL)
H.B. No. 7117 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION. (GL)
H.B. No. 7182 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE MACHINES. (GL)

SB 848, 849, 7116, 7117 were placed on a consent calendar.

The motion was made by Rep. Orange and seconded by Senator Leone to JF the bills listed on consent calendar.

**MOTION PASSED ON A ROLL CALL VOTE**

16 AYE, 3 ABSENT

The motion was made to JF HB 7182 by Senator Fonfara and seconded by Senator Leone.

**MOTION PASSED ON A ROLL CALL VOTE**

14 AYE, 2 NAY, 3 ABSENT

Next public hearing will be on March 12, 2019. This public hearing will include DCP bills, Governors bill, and a few other bills.

Meeting was recessed until 5PM and votes will be held open.

The meeting was adjourned at 5PM.

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Jeff Lucas                        Bonnie Gray
CLERK                           Assistant Clerk