Government Administration and Elections Committee

JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-879
Title: AN ACT CONCERNING TRANSPARENCY FOR QUASI-PUBLIC AGENCIES.
Vote Date: 3/29/2019
Vote Action: Joint Favorable
PH Date: 3/25/2019
File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Co-Sponsors
Sen. Martin M. Looney, 11th Dist.

REASONS FOR BILL:

This is a Governor’s bill that would require quasi-public agencies to annually submit a report on employee compensation, including bonuses, merit and incentive payments, and salary increases for the previous three fiscal years as well as projected wage and benefit payments in the next succeeding fiscal year to the Governor, OPM, and OFA of employment conditions of its personnel.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None expressed.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Isabel Blank, Manager, External Affairs, Yankee Institute for Public Policy: testified that because quasi-public agencies use public funds, their expenditures on wages and benefits should be disclosed to the public. She further stated that government transparency is an essential part of empowering citizens to know how and where their money is being spent.
Margaret Miner, Executive Director, Rivers Alliance of Connecticut: testified that this bill would help to protect state waters.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

Kevin Dillon, Executive Director, Connecticut Airport Authority (CAA): testified that this bill undercuts the authority of the CAA’s board, who are appointed by the executive and legislative branch leadership. He further stated that he would welcome other ways to achieve the transparency which this bill seeks to attain.

Reported by: Melissa Russell
Assistant Clerk

Date: 4/12/2019