JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE

Monday, January 14, 2019

The House of Representatives was called to order at 2:36 o'clock p.m., Representative Doucette of the 13th District in the Chair.

Prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Mary Alice Hughes of Haddam, Connecticut.

The following is the prayer:

Let us pray. Lord, we call upon Your divine assistance as we strive to formulate the laws of our State. Inspire our Legislators with the desire to seek first and foremost the good of our people and the needs of our poor. Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mary Alice Hughes of Haddam, Connecticut.

REPORTS

The following reports were received on the date indicated, read by the Clerk and referred to the Committees indicated:

Report - Department of Motor Vehicles - Connecticut Emissions Program Statistics for the Period of December 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018. (Pursuant to Executive Directive #3 and Section 14-164h of the Connecticut General Statutes.) Date Received: January 7, 2019

Referred to the Committee on Transportation.

Auditors Monthly Report - Matters Reported Under Section 4-33a - Dated January 7, 2019. (Pursuant to Section 4-33a of the Connecticut General Statutes.) Date Received: January 7, 2019

Referred to the Committees on Appropriations and Finance, Revenue and Bonding.

Report - Access Health CT - Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange d/b/a/ Access Health CT - Quarterly Data Report for Calendar Year 2018 - (January 1, 2018 - December 31, 2018) - For the Quarter Ended December 31, 2018. (Pursuant to Section 1-38a-1092(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes.) Date Received: January 7, 2019

Referred to the Committees on Public Health, Insurance and Real Estate and Human Services.

Report - Northwestern Connecticut Community College - Report Concerning Sexual Assault, Stalking, and Intimate Partner Violence on Campus for Calendar Year Ended December 31, 2018. (Pursuant to Section 10a-55m(f) of the Connecticut General Statutes.) Date Received: January 7, 2019

Referred to the Committees on Higher Education and Employment Advancement and Public Safety and Security.
Report - Department of Administrative Services - School Building Projects Advisory Council (SBPAC) - Report on a Prototype Model School Building Program. (Pursuant to Section 223 of Public Act 17-2, June Special Session.) Date Received: January 8, 2019

Referred to the Committees on Education and Finance, Revenue and Bonding.

Report - Department of Economic and Community Development - Opportunity Zones Report to Legislature, January 9, 2019 - Prepared by Maya Loewenberg. (Pursuant to Public Act 18-49.) Date Received: January 9, 2019

Referred to the Committees on Commerce and Finance, Revenue and Bonding.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

HOUSE AND SENATE BILLS

On motion of Representative Demicco of the 21st District, the first reading of the following bills and resolutions was waived, the list of bills and resolutions as prepared by the Clerks was accepted, and the bills and resolutions referred to the committees as indicated thereon in concurrence.

EDUCATION

Proposed H.B. No. 5241 REP. LEMAR, 96th DIST. 'AN ACT ELIMINATING THE REQUIREMENT THAT SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BE PROVIDED FOR CHILDREN ATTENDING NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS', to eliminate the requirement that towns and school districts provide school transportation services to children attending private or parochial schools.

Proposed H.B. No. 5242 REP. CANDELORA, 86th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A UNIFORM APPLICATION PROCESS FOR CONTRACTS THAT INVOLVE STUDENT DATA', to reduce costs associated with the development of contracts between boards of education and technology contractors.

Proposed H.B. No. 5243 REP. FRANCE, 42nd DIST.; SEN. OSTEN, 19th DIST. 'AN ACT PERMITTING REDUCTIONS TO THE MINIMUM BUDGET REQUIREMENT FOR BOARDS OF EDUCATION THAT EXPERIENCE REDUCTIONS TO THEIR ECS FUNDING DURING THE FISCAL YEAR', to permit a board of education to reduce its minimum budget requirement in an amount equal to the amount of any reductions made to its education cost-sharing grant during the fiscal year.

ENVIRONMENT

Proposed H.B. No. 5244 REP. MICHEL, 146th DIST.; REP. ELLIOTT, 88th DIST. 'AN ACT EXPANDING THE FRACKING WASTE BAN', to expand the fracking waste ban to include all gas and oil extraction wastes and brines.

Proposed H.B. No. 5245 REP. MICHEL, 146th DIST.; REP. ELLIOTT, 88th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF PLASTIC STRAWS, STIRRERS, SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BAGS, POLYSTYRENE PACKAGING, HELIUM BALLOONS AND PRODUCTS THAT CONTAIN MICROPLASTICS', to reduce plastics pollution.

Proposed H.B. No. 5246 REP. MICHEL, 146th DIST.; REP. CAMILLO, 151st DIST.; REP. ELLIOTT, 88th DIST. 'AN ACT PROHIBITING THE SALE OF DOGS, CATS AND RABBITS IN PET SHOPS', to prohibit the sale of dogs, cats and rabbits at pet shops.

Proposed H.B. No. 5247 REP. MICHEL, 146th DIST.; REP. ELLIOTT, 88th DIST. 'AN ACT REQUIRING STORMWATER BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES', to require the use of stormwater best management practices.
Proposed H.B. No. 5248 REP. MICHEL, 146th DIST.; REP. ELLIOTT, 88th DIST. 'AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF WILD ANIMALS IN CIRCUSES AND TRAVELING SHOWS', to prohibit the use of wild animals in circuses and traveling shows.

Proposed H.B. No. 5249 REP. MICHEL, 146th DIST.; REP. ELLIOTT, 88th DIST. 'AN ACT PROHIBITING THE PURCHASE OR USE OF ARTIFICIAL TURF BY THE STATE AND MUNICIPALITIES', to prohibit the state and municipalities from purchasing and using artificial turf.

Proposed H.B. No. 5250 REP. MICHEL, 146th DIST.; REP. ELLIOTT, 88th DIST. 'AN ACT PROHIBITING WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING', to prohibit wildlife trafficking.

Proposed H.B. No. 5251 REP. MICHEL, 146th DIST.; REP. ELLIOTT, 88th DIST. 'AN ACT PROHIBITING THE POSSESSION AND TRADE OF SHARK FINS', to prohibit the possession and trade of shark fins in the state.

Proposed H.B. No. 5252 REP. MICHEL, 146th DIST.; REP. ELLIOTT, 88th DIST. 'AN ACT PROHIBITING THE SALE OF CETACEANS', to prohibit the sale and purchase of cetaceans in the state.

Proposed H.B. No. 5253 REP. SREDZINSKI, 112th DIST. 'AN ACT ESTABLISHING A GRANT PROGRAM TO ASSIST MUNICIPALITIES WITH COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH TREE REMOVALS CAUSED BY THE PRESENCE OF THE EMERALD ASH BORER', to mitigate the costs for municipalities that are required to remove trees damaged by the emerald ash borer.

Proposed H.B. No. 5254 REP. GRESKO, 121st DIST. 'AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM AUTHORIZING MUNICIPALITIES TO IMPOSE A BUYER'S CONVEYANCE FEE ON REAL PROPERTY TO FUND THE PURCHASE AND STEWARDSHIP OF OPEN SPACE', to authorize towns to impose a real estate buyer's conveyance fee to generate funds for the purchase of open space.

FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING

Proposed H.B. No. 5255 REP. LEMAR, 96th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE TAX DEDUCTION FOR CERTAIN SECTION 529 QUALIFIED STATE TUITION PROGRAM DISTRIBUTIONS', to specify that distributions from a Section 529 qualified state tuition program for elementary or secondary private school tuition are not eligible for the personal income tax deduction.

Proposed H.B. No. 5256 REP. ROTElla, 43rd DIST. 'AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR SIDEWALKS IN PAWcatUCK', to provide funding for the installation of sidewalks along Route 1 in Pawcatuck.

Proposed H.B. No. 5257 REP. ORANGE, 48th DIST. 'AN ACT EXEMPTING ALL AIRCRAFT FROM THE SALES AND USE TAXES', to align the taxation of aircraft with surrounding states and provide a uniform sales and use taxes exemption to all aircraft.

Proposed H.B. No. 5258 REP. WILSON PHEANIOUS, 53rd DIST. 'AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR THE REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT OF BIRCH GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL IN TOLLAND', to provide funding for the repair or replacement of Birch Grove Primary School in Tolland.

Proposed H.B. No. 5259 REP. TURCO, 27th DIST.; REP. LOPES, 24th DIST.; REP. WOOD, 29th DIST.; SEN. LESSER, 9th DIST. 'AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONDS OF
THE STATE FOR STREETSCAPE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IMPROVEMENTS TO NEWINGTON CENTER IN THE TOWN OF NEWINGTON', to provide funding for streetscape and economic development improvements to Newington Center in Newington.

Proposed H.B. No. 5260 REP. TURCO, 27th DIST.; SEN. LESSER, 9th DIST.; REP. WOOD, 29th DIST.; REP. LOPES, 24th DIST. 'AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR THE DESIGN AND PLANNING OF A TRANSIT VILLAGE DESIGN DISTRICT OVERLAY ZONE IN NEWINGTON', to provide funding for the design and planning of a transit village design district overlay zone in Newington.

Proposed H.B. No. 5261 REP. DAVIS, 57th DIST. 'AN ACT PHASING OUT THE CAPITAL STOCK TAX', to phase out the capital stock tax over three years.

Proposed H.B. No. 5262 REP. MCGORTY, 122nd DIST. 'AN ACT ELIMINATING THE PERSONAL INCOME TAX ON SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS', to eliminate the personal income tax on Social Security benefits.

Proposed H.B. No. 5263 REP. MCGORTY, 122nd DIST. 'AN ACT ELIMINATING THE PERSONAL INCOME TAX ON PENSIONS', to eliminate the personal income tax on pensions.

Proposed H.B. No. 5264 REP. POLLETTA, 68th DIST. 'AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR PEDESTRIAN AND VEHICLE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE ROADS IN WATERTOWN', to provide funding to the town of Watertown for the installation of various safety measures as recommended in the town's most recent Road Safety Audit and to increase safety for pedestrians and motorists.

Proposed H.B. No. 5265 REP. DAVIS, 57th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE BUSINESS ENTITY TAX LIABILITY OF BENEFIT CORPORATIONS', to permit benefit corporations that are subject to the business entity tax to pay such tax every four years rather than every two years, provided the benefit corporation submits a copy of its benefit report to the Department of Revenue Services at the end of the second year.

GENERAL LAW

Proposed H.B. No. 5266 REP. HAINES, 34th DIST. 'AN ACT ALLOWING HOLDERS OF A MANUFACTURER'S PERMIT FOR CIDER TO SELL CIDER AND APPLE WINE BY THE GLASS', to allow holders of a manufacturer's permit for cider to sell cider and apple wine by the glass.

Proposed H.B. No. 5267 REP. ORANGE, 48th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING FAIR REIMBURSEMENT TO RETAIL DEALERS OF POWER EQUIPMENT', to extend post-sale warranty work reimbursement that is afforded to the automobile industry to power equipment dealers.

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

Proposed H.B. No. 5268 REP. MICHEL, 146th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING ABSENTEE BALLOTS POSTMARKED BEFORE OR ON THE DAY OF AN ELECTION', to allow absentee ballots postmarked before or on the day of an election to be cast, even if they were not received by the close of the polls at such election.

HOUSING
Proposed H.B. No. 5269 REP. WINKLER, 56th DIST. 'AN ACT REPEALING CERTAIN LEGISLATION CONCERNING AFFORDABLE HOUSING LAND USE APPEALS', to repeal modifications to certain affordable housing land use appeal laws made in public act 17-170.

INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE

Proposed H.B. No. 5270 REP. MICHEL, 146th DIST.; REP. ELLIOTT, 88th DIST. 'AN ACT REQUIRING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR PEER SUPPORT SERVICES PROVIDED BY CERTIFIED PEER COUNSELORS', to require health insurance coverage for peer support services provided by certified peer counselors.

LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Proposed H.B. No. 5271 REP. CARPINO, 32nd DIST. 'AN ACT INCREASING SEXUAL HARASSMENT PREVENTION TRAINING', to increase sexual harassment prevention training for certain entities.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Proposed H.B. No. 5272 REP. MICHEL, 146th DIST.; REP. ELLIOTT, 88th DIST. 'AN ACT PERMITTING MUNICIPAL REGULATION OF TRAPPING AND HUNTING', to permit local bans on the trapping and hunting of animals.

Proposed H.B. No. 5273 REP. LEMAR, 96th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING AS OF RIGHT MULTIFAMILY HOUSING ZONES', to establish as of right multifamily housing zones within one-half mile of all fixed route transit stops.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Proposed H.B. No. 5274 REP. DAVIS, 57th DIST. 'AN ACT EXEMPTING CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATIONS FROM THE PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE INSTALLATION OR REPLACEMENT OF AN IRRIGATION WELL', to exempt the installation of irrigation systems by condominium associations from the permitting requirements for the installation or replacement of irrigation wells.

Proposed H.B. No. 5275 REP. ZUPKUS, 89th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING MATERNAL CHOICE IN THE EVENT OF STILLBIRTH', to require hospitals to inform mothers of stillborn fetuses of the right to arrange for burial or cremation of such fetuses.

Proposed H.B. No. 5276 REP. ORANGE, 48th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE SAFETY OF NURSING HOME PATIENTS AT RISK OF FALLING', to improve the safety and quality of care of nursing home patients who have a high risk of falling.

Proposed H.B. No. 5277 REP. FOX, 148th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING CHANGES TO THE REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS TO QUALIFY FOR THE TEMPORARY WAIVER FOR REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS', to require changes to requirements for students to qualify for the temporary vaccination waiver.

Proposed H.B. No. 5278 REP. MICHEL, 146th DIST. 'AN ACT REQUIRING THE LABELING OF CONSUMER PRODUCTS CONTAINING GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS', to require the labeling of consumer products containing genetically modified organisms for public knowledge and consumer protection.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY
Proposed H.B. No. 5279 REP. ORANGE, 48th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE NUMBER OF SWORN STATE POLICE OFFICERS', to ensure adequate staffing and improve public safety.

TRANSPORTATION

Proposed H.B. No. 5280 REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO, 77th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING CHEMICAL ROAD TREATMENTS FOR ICE REMOVAL', to study the effects of chemical road treatments for ice removal when applied to highways and evaluate alternative road treatment techniques and products.

Proposed H.B. No. 5281 REP. RUTIGLIANO, 123rd DIST. 'AN ACT REQUIRING THE INSPECTION OF MOTOR VEHICLE HEADLIGHTS AND SIGNALS AT TIME OF EMISSIONS INSPECTION', to expand the inspection of motor vehicles at emissions inspection facilities.

Proposed H.B. No. 5282 REP. BETTS, 78th DIST. 'AN ACT INCREASING THE PENALTIES FOR DISTRACTED DRIVING WHEN VIOLATION RESULTS IN A MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT', to increase the penalties for texting and using a hand-held mobile telephone while driving when the violation results in a motor vehicle accident.

Proposed H.B. No. 5283 REP. CUMMINGS, 74th DIST. 'AN ACT NAMING A BRIDGE IN WATERBURY IN HONOR OF TOM CONWAY', to name a bridge in Waterbury in honor of Tom Conway.

Proposed H.B. No. 5284 REP. CUMMINGS, 74th DIST. 'AN ACT NAMING A BRIDGE IN WATERBURY IN HONOR OF SAM BEAMON', to name a bridge in Waterbury in honor of Sam Beamon.

Proposed H.B. No. 5285 REP. LAVIELLE, 143rd DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE LICENSING OF NEW AND USED CAR DEALERS', to expand the car dealer license eligibility to include electric vehicle manufacturers.

Proposed H.B. No. 5286 REP. BUCKBEE, 67th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING AN EXPANSION OF COMMUTER RAIL LINES TO THE TOWN OF NEW MILFORD', to expand ridership on Connecticut's commuter rails.

Proposed H.B. No. 5287 REP. SREDZINSKI, 112th DIST.; REP. GRESKO, 121st DIST. 'AN ACT PERMITTING UTILITY SERVICE VEHICLES TO TRAVEL THE MERRITT AND WILBUR CROSS PARKWAYS WHEN RESPONDING TO EMERGENCIES', to permit utility service vehicles to travel the Merritt and Wilbur Cross Parkways while responding to emergencies.

Proposed H.B. No. 5288 REP. LANOUE, 45th DIST. 'AN ACT ELIMINATING THE FEE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF COMMEMORATIVE NUMBER PLATES FOR VETERANS WHO WERE DEPLOYED TO A COMBAT ZONE', to allow a veteran or member of the armed forces who was deployed to a combat zone to obtain commemorative number plates at no additional cost beyond the cost to register a motor vehicle.

Proposed H.B. No. 5289 REP. KLARIDES, 114th DIST.; REP. KLARIDES-DITRIA, 105th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING SIGNS ON INTERSTATE 95 INDICATING "ROUTE 34"', to update certain highway signs to indicate access to Route 34 for motorists traveling southbound on Interstate 95.

VETERANS' AFFAIRS
Proposed H.B. No. 5290 REP. CUMMINGS, 74th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING CHILDREN OF VETERANS AND UNUSED TUITION WAIVERS AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION', to provide a tuition waiver at public institutions of higher education for any child of a veteran who did not utilize any tuition waiver to which such veteran was entitled.

Proposed H.B. No. 5291 REP. CUMMINGS, 74th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING TUITION WAIVERS AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR GOLD STAR FAMILY MEMBERS', to provide free tuition at state public institutions of higher education for family members of men and women killed while serving in the military.

Proposed H.B. No. 5292 REP. CUMMINGS, 74th DIST. 'AN ACT DESIGNATING A "GOLD STAR CITY OF FALLEN HEROES"', to designate the city of Waterbury as a "Gold Star City of Fallen Heroes".

Proposed H.B. No. 5293 REP. GREEN, 55th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN VETERANS' PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS', to increase the amount of a property tax exemption a municipality may provide to certain disabled veterans.

Proposed H.B. No. 5294 REP. KLARIDES, 114th DIST.; REP. KLARIDES-DITRIA, 105th DIST. 'AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A FREEZE OR REDUCTION ON PROPERTY TAXES FOR QUALIFIED DISABLED VETERANS', to permit municipalities to provide a freeze or reduction on property taxes for disabled veterans that meet certain qualifications.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Representative Demicco of the 21st District, the House adjourned at 2:37 o’clock p.m., to meet again at the Call of the Chair.