THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday March 13, 2019

(The House of Representatives was called to order at 11:30 o'clock a.m., Representative Joe Aresimowicz of the 30th District in the Chair.)

CLERK:

The House of Representatives will convene immediately, members to the Chamber.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

(Gavel) Will the House please come to order? Will members, staff and guests please rise, direct your attention to the dais where Rabbi Lefkowitz will lead us in prayer.

RABBI LEFKOWITZ:

Good afternoon. In Eastern Europe, it was the custom for Jewish families to begin teaching the laws to their children by introducing them to the book of Leviticus first. Only after the children
had mastered Leviticus, would they be introduced to the other books, Genesis and Exodus. So why begin teaching children the third book of Scripture first? The special significance in Leviticus for youngsters who are discovering the world and the world of Judaism is the word and value of sacrifice.

The Hebrew word for sacrifice is Korban, which is derived from the Hebrew root word Karov, which means to bring ourselves closer to God. For many, the word sacrifice means to do without, giving it the same meaning as surrender, but when our people were bringing their wares as a sacrifice, the population understood this as to become closer to God.

As it says in Leviticus, God says, "Let one who has a bull, bring a bull; let one who has a ram, bring a ram; let one who has a dove, bring a dove; and one who has none of these bring a flour offering or let one who has no flour bring words." So, how do we become closer to God; through our prayer and sacrifice, both are similar to one another. The
book of Leviticus also contains one of the most important statements of morality ever written: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Through our work, as we pray and we come together, we may we present ourselves as an offering of peace to the Lord. And we all say, Amen.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Oh, I got a new guy coming up. Will Representative Zullo, one of our newest sworn members come up to the dais and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

REP. ZULLO (99TH):

If everybody could please? (All) I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you, my friend. Is there any business on the Clerk’s desk?

CLERK:
Yes, Mr. Speaker. I have Favorable Reports House Bills to be tabled for the calendar and printing.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Ritter.

REP. RITTER (1ST):

Mr. Speaker, I move we waive the reading of the House Favorable Report and the Bills be tabled for the calendar and printing.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

So ordered.

CLERK:


SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Ritter.

REP. RITTER (1ST):

I move that we waive the reading, Mr. Speaker, of the bills and the bills be referred to the Committee as indicated.

CLERK:

And last item is the daily calendar.
SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, Mr. Clerk. Are there any announcements or introductions? Representative Borer, oh, I'm sorry, Representative Borer.

REP. BORER (115TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Hello everyone. I would like your attention. I am joined here today by my vice-chair, Pat Boyd, our ranking member, Kurt Vail, and the esteemed Representative Linda Orange and together, most importantly, we want to recognize today, the men and the women of the American Legion who are celebrating their 100-year anniversary. Over the last 100 years [Applause]. Over the last 100 years, the Legion has ensured the veterans economic opportunities through education, job fairs, VA home loans, business development and career training. They have fought in Washington as well as the State and local levels on behalf of veterans and families throughout our nation. The American Legion has been a driving force in legislation and in particular, brought us the GI Bill. With nearly
14,000 facilities worldwide, over 2600 service officers, the American Legion has helped veterans transition to civilian life as well as provide counseling to hundreds of thousands of veterans a year. At this time, I would like all members to rise and please join us as we present our proclamation to first, Tom Flowers who is representing our State, Connecticut, American Legion. [Applause]. And we'd also like to recognize, we're very pleased and privileged to have with us here today, the National Representative of the American Legion, Paul Spedaliere. [Applause]. We want to thank all of our servicemen and women who fought us. Listening to that Pledge of Allegiance is always so near and dear to our heart because of all of you. We know there's a couple of other announcements related to the American Legion so we're going to ask that after all of the announcements, if the group join us out in the lobby for a group photo. We want to thank you for your attention. Thank you. [Applause].
REP. ROCHELLE (104TH):

Hello? So I'd like to rise for the purpose of an introduction. I wish to recognize a special guest today from the great city of Derby in the 104th district, American Legion Erwin Gus Williams joins us today as we observe the 100-year anniversary of the Connecticut Chapter of the American Legion. Commander Williams has served as an officer for the American Legion, John H. Collins Post 24 in Derby for more than 25 years. Post 24 is one of the oldest posts in the State. Chartered in 1919, it will celebrate it's 100-year anniversary in July. American Legion Post 24 conducts vital work as it is the birthplace of the acclaimed Connecticut Hurricanes Drum and Bugle Corp, sponsors students to participate in the American Legion Boys and Girls Club, Girls State, and provides outstanding service to today's returning veterans through their Veterans
Service Office. Gus Williams has not only served as a longtime commander at Post 24, but also as State Commander of the American Legion Department of Connecticut. Because of his dedication and commitment, Gus Williams was inducted into the American Legion Department of Connecticut Hall of Fame in 2009. I would like to take a moment to thank Commander Williams for his service. As a Korean War Ear veteran, your commitment to our community is very appreciated. Thank you.

[Applause].

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

And on behalf of the entire House, I thank you for not only your original service, but your ongoing service, your service now to other service men and women and your service to your communities. We cannot say thank you enough so we'll give them one more round of applause of the deserving members of the American Legion, please. [Applause].

Representative Ritter.

REP. RITTER (1ST):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just two quick announcements. We do have a birthday. I want to recognize Representative Jason Rojas, wish him a Happy Birthday from the Chamber. [Applause]. He looks good for 50, Mr. Speaker. [Whoa] I'm just kidding. We also have a new member who's going to have his first session day with us today, on our side, I believe the Republican side will introduce their new member, but I want to welcome Anthony Nolan from the great city of New London to his first session. [Applause].

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, Representative Ritter. Representative Henry Genga, the 10th district, sir, you have the floor.

REP. GENGA (10TH):

Mr. Speaker, thank you. I stand for the purpose of an introduction. Here with me is also Representative Dorinda Borer, Chairman of the Veterans Committee, as we both stand here in honor of K9 Veterans Day, which is the second anniversary
in Connecticut of this day. Lisa Phillips and her working dog, Rambo, traveled here in 2017 to testify at the legislature at the urging of Jeannie Phillips, her mother, and asked us to recognize K9 veterans because they haven’t been. Prior to the military in 1951 recognizing them, they were treated as property which meant they could be dumped anywhere, but we know these loving animals deserve better than that and Connecticut is honored to be able to recognize that day. I thank Sergeant Rambo, who traveled here from Texas, who gave up one of his legs in the military because he was a very special dog, and he was the Military Working Dog of the Year in 2015. Today, in honor of this, I have the pleasure of introducing Giovanna Donofrio and her dog, Scherkje, and also Sergeant First Class Jeff Holyst. They are both part of a very unique National Guard, the only National Guard in the United States to have working dogs, the only one. We thank them for their work. [Applause] I want you to know that not only do they protect us here,
but in 2011, they were in Qatar. Also here with us today is a friend, and I say friend because we see him every day, Officer Bermudez and his good buddy, Cutter, a dog-sniffing dog for explosives and guns. [Applause] They have a tremendous privilege because they're our best friends and I want everybody to remember today, you should offer your dog a biscuit so Cutter [Applause] and Schurkje. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much Representative Genga and thank you to all the handlers, the officers and the canine officers. We really appreciate all that you do. Thank you. Representative Scanlon of the 98th, sir, you have the floor.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise for the purpose of an announcement and an introduction.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Please proceed.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As my friend, Representative Genga did say, last year was the first year that we recognized Canine Veterans Day. I was proud to make that happen with former Representative Brian Ohler at the behest of a constituent of mine and a friend of mine named Steve Spurrell from Guilford who is a former canine handler. He brought to my attention that we were not recognizing this here in Connecticut and thanks to Governor Malloy, we did have a proclamation last year naming today March 19, Canine Veterans Day. Representative Genga just introduced some people. I want to introduce three that are in the front row today. From Willimantic we have Lieutenant Paul Hussy who is a patrol commander, and Officer Fabian Silva with his canine, Fina. We also have from Groton, Officer Shawn Lisee with canine, Ace, and from Wethersfield, Officer Nuno Martins with his canine, Jax. If we can just give them all recognition for all they do for our communities to keep our communities safe. Thank you, guys.
SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Again, thank you all very much and thank you for coming up today. [Dogs barking] I kind of like that, get them up here. Representative Cook, you have the floor, madam.

REP. COOK (65TH):

Good morning, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Good morning.

REP. COOK (65TH):

I don't know how we follow service animals and we can't thank them enough, but just along the side of that, we do have Girl Scout Day here in the Capitol as well. There will be a pinning ceremony at 12:30 in the north lobby. We would like any and every one to join us. Please join us out there. There are girl scouts here. There's over 100 of them from across the state so if everybody could please take a minute to stop, say hi, introduce it, and let them know who you are. Thank you so much.
Representative Cook, are there are cookies? [laughter] Representative Cook said there are cookies, thank you, very important. Representative Ryan of the 139th.

Rep. Ryan (139th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the purposes of an introduction.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Please proceed, sir.

Rep. Ryan (139th):

Thank you, sir. Every year, the Council of State Governments Eastern Regional Conference makes a visit to the various states that comprise that conference, and for the last two days, we've been able to host representatives from the organization who have taken time to visit with individuals throughout the House and the Senate, those folks who were able to find time to be able to meet with them to hear about the proposed projects of the organization and what they plan to do in the
upcoming year and asking what ways they can help us as a state as we go forward. So we do have folks here today. In the Chamber at the moment, we have the representatives who -- former Representative Tara Sad and former Representative Bob Hapner, who take care of the agricultural needs and they're standing in the gallery. We appreciate them being here. We've also had Wendell Hannaford who's the executive director, David Biette, who's the vice executive director, Rona Cohen, who takes care of environmental issues, and Oliver Kim, who takes care of healthcare issues. So if you could join with me in welcoming them here and hopefully, if you have a chance, you'll be able to talk to them before they leave. Thank you, sir.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, sir. [Applause]

Representative Klarides of the 114th, madam, you have the floor.

REP. KLARIDES (114TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am rising today for
a very happy reason, to introduce our newest member, the newest Republican State Representative from the 99th district, Representative Joe Zullo. [Applause]

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Klarides, as you remember, we did the swearing in for Representative Zullo and Representative Nolan and part of that, we allowed them to come up to the dais. I will tell you, both of their hands were reaching for the gavel pretty quickly so [laughter] so it's a real pleasure to have both of you here. Hopefully you'll have long careers and you'll advocate on behalf of your constituents in the State of Connecticut, so thank you both for being here. Representative Rotella of the 43rd, madam, you have the floor. I see a lot of folks in the back of the room wearing a similar color to yours.

REP. ROTELLA (43RD):

Yes, Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to welcome to the House Chamber the Alzheimer's Association and some of us are wearing
purple, you are also, and that is in tribute to the Alzheimer's Association and thank you for all the work that they do.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

We can give them a round of applause for their advocacy on behalf of Alzheimer's please. [Applause] Again, thank you for your many efforts, thank you for coming to the State Capitol today, and welcome to the people's Chamber, it was a pleasure to have you. [Applause] Representative Ackert of the 8th district, you have the floor, sir.

REP. ACKERT (8TH):

Thank you, sir. For introduction, sir.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Please proceed.

REP. ACKERT (8TH):

Thank you. Today, as you mentioned, there's girl scouts in the building and I have a special girl scout here with me today, Morgan Benitto, seventh-grader, is here with me today and her mom, Jennifer. Just as a side note, her dad is an Air
Force vehicle also so it's perfect. Morgan has done so much for the veterans in the community. I see her at many, many events and one of the things that she did, she is a Silver Award winner so in the seventh grade, that's pretty good at a young age and how she earned that is she sent stockings, holiday stockings to Kuwait for veterans this last holiday season so if we could, a nice round of applause for Jennifer and her family here today. So thank you for being here today. [Applause]

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Rosario of the 132nd, sir, you have the floor.

REP. ROSARIO (132ND):

Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. I rise for the purpose of an introduction. I would like to introduce the Fairfield County Alzheimer's Association to the Chamber. My mother was diagnosed with Alzheimer's five years ago and it's one of those things where a life event like that happens, it really shakes you to your core so I really want
to thank all the caregivers and all the advocates here for the Alzheimer's Association. Let's give them a round of applause. [Applause]

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Bolinsky of the 106th. Sir, you have the floor.

REP. BOLINSKY (106TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To all my colleagues in the General Assembly I'd like to call attention to the fact that the folks from Alzheimer's Association are not just here to be clapped for. They are here on Advocacy Day. Find a constituent among these beautiful volunteers, these advocates, take a few minutes and learn their story. It's very, very important. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you all for coming up today and now that we've concluded the announcements for the day, we are going to move right into business. Will the Clerk please call Calendar No. 27?

CLERK:
On page 2, Calendar No. 27, House Joint Resolution No. 75, A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF ELEASE E. WRIGHT OF HARTFORD TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Executive and Legislative Nominations.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Phipps of the 100th district. Sir, you have the floor.

REP. PHIPPS (100TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning everyone. I move acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and adoption of the Resolution.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and adoption of the resolution. Representative Phipps, you have the floor, sir.

REP. PHIPPS (100TH):

So this adoption is for Elease Wright for the Board of Regents. Ms. Wright has spent 30 years at
Aetna in various roles including Sr. Vice President of Human Resources. Prior to her time at Aetna, she worked for the State of Connecticut, first as a rehabilitation counselor for the Department of Corrections, and employment training specialist for the Department of Labor. This is a reappointment and just a great addition for her leadership, so I urge adoption.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Will you remark further on the resolution before us? Representative Perillo of the 113th, you have the floor, sir.

REP. PERILLO (113TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would echo the gentleman's comments. This individual is highly qualified and in my eyes, really exemplified the kind of service we want to see in these individuals on these boards and commissions. I would urge adoption as well.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Will you remark
further on the resolution before us? Will you remark further on the resolution before us? All those in favor, please signify by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Those opposed, nay. The ayes have it. The resolution is adopted. [Gavel]

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Will the Clerk please call calendar No. 28?

CLERK:

On page 2, House Calendar No. 28, House Joint Resolution No. 76, RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF PETER M. ROSA OF AVON TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Executive and Legislative Nominations.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Representative Phipps. You have the floor, sir.

REP. PHIPPS (100TH):
I move acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and adoption of the resolution.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

The question before the Chamber is on acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and adoption of the resolution. Representative Phipps, you have the floor, sir.

REP. PHIPPS (100TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Peter Rosa was unanimously voted in favorably on March 5. He has a Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration from UConn. He is being re-nominated for this position and he spent 12 years at the Harvard Foundation for Public Giving as a Senior Program officer from 2005 to 2017. Prior to that, he was the Executive and Chief Student Affairs officer from 2003 to 2005, and before that he was a vice president for Student Affairs at CCSU. Once again, a highly qualified candidate. I urge adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Would you care to
remark further? Representative Perillo of the great city of Shelton, you have the floor, sir.

REP. PERILLO (113TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I appreciate it and yes, it is. I would echo the gentleman's comments. This is an individual who's highly qualified with extensive experience in higher education. He presented quite well and is very, very knowledgeable on the subject. I would urge adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Thank you. Representative Phipps. Would you care to remark further on the resolution before us? Representative Hill of the 17th.

REP. HILL (17TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in support of this nomination today for the extreme qualifications already spoken of and urge adoption. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Thank you. Would you care to remark further on the resolution before us? If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor of the resolution, please
signify by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

All those opposed, nay. The ayes have it. The resolution is adopted. [Gavel]

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Will the Clerk please call Calendar No. 19?

CLERK:

On page 2, House Calendar No. 19, House Joint Resolution No. 73, RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF PEDRO E. SEGARRA OF HARTFORD TO BE A WORKERS’ COMPENSATION COMMISSIONER. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Representative Blumenthal of the 147th. The House will stand at ease. Representative Luxenberg, you have the floor.

REP. LUXENBERG (12TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Recusing myself due to a perceived conflict of interest.
DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

The House will stand at ease. Representative Blumenthal of the 147th, you have the floor, sir

REP. BLUMENTHAL (147TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and adoption of the resolution.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

The question before the Chamber is on acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and adoption of the resolution. Representative Blumenthal, you have the floor.

REP. BLUMENTHAL (147TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today in support of the nomination for Pedro E. Segarra to continue to serve as a Workers' Compensation Commissioner. He resides in the city of Hartford. He currently serves in the New Britain District Office. He holds an associate's degree from Capital Community College, a B.A. from the University of Hartford, and a Master's in Social Work, and a Juris
Doctorate from University of Connecticut. He has a long history in public service and in the law including as the Hartford Corporation Counsel and the Mayor of the City of Hartford. I urge this Chamber to confirm him as Workers' Compensation Commissioner once more.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Would you care to remark further? Representative Rebimbas of the 70th. You have the floor, madam.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and good afternoon and it's good to see you up there.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Thank you.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the nominee before us for all of the reasons that have been stated. We had an opportunity to hear from the nominee and I also had an opportunity to chat with him. He certainly is enjoying his new position and
looks forward to continuing to serve and we believe that he is a qualified individual so I rise in his support.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Thank you, madam. Would you care to remark further on the resolution before us? If not, will staff and guests please come to the well of the House? Will the members please take your seats? The machine will be open. [Ringing]

CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by roll. Members to the Chamber. The House of Representatives is voting by roll, members to the Chamber.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Have all members voted? Have all members voted? Will the members please check the board to determine if your vote is properly cast? If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally. Will the Clerk please announce the tally?
CLERK:

House Joint Resolution 73.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

The resolution is adopted. [Gavel]

Representative Currey, you have the floor, sir.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I do this, Mr. Speaker, I just want to say you look fantastic up there.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Why thank you.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

Yes, I move that we suspend the rules to immediately consider Senate Joint Resolution No. 24.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Is there objection? Seeing none, so ordered.
Will the Clerk please call Senate Joint Resolution No. 24?

CLERK:

Senate Joint Resolution No. 24, RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF THE HONORABLE LUBBIE HARPER, JR. OF NORTH HAVEN TO BE A STATE REFEREE. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Representative Stafstrom from the great city of Bridgeport, you have the floor, sir.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, don’t you look wonderful having you up there.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Thank you so much.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Thank you. Mr. Speaker, I move for acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and adoption of the resolution in concurrence with the Senate.
DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

The question before the Chamber is on acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and adoption of the resolution. Representative Stafstrom, you have the floor, sir.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this is the resolution to move the State Capitol to Bridgeport [laughter].

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Point of order. [laughter]

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Mr. Speaker, the resolution before us is to reconfirm the Honorable Lubbie Harper of North Haven to be a state referee. Former Justice Harper has a long and distinguished career on our bench in our service to our State. Initially appointed to the Superior Court back in 1997 by Governor Roland and elevated to the Appellate Court by Governor Rell in 2005, he ultimately sat on the Supreme Court beginning in 2011 pursuant to employment from
Governor Malloy. He is well respected within the legal community of our state, is a very distinguished jurist, and continues to perform a valuable service to our state, sitting as a designee on the Appellate Court in his retirement as a referee. I urge support of the Chamber.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Would you care to remark further? Representative Rebimbas from the 70th district, you have the floor, madam.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank goodness, Mr. Speaker, I was actually listening to the good Chairman of the Judiciary Committee because I thought he was going to continue with the State Capitol, I might have had to rise, but instead, I'm happy that he stopped and we spoke about the nominee before us. So regarding the nominee before us, Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this nominee. We're very fortunate to have his expertise and professionalism and many years of service in a
variety of different capacities, continuing to want to serve the Judicial Branch so I rise in his support.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Thank you, madam. Would you care to remark further on the resolution before us? If not, will the staff and guests please come to the well of the House? Will the members please take your seats? The machine will be open. [Ringing]

CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by roll. Members to the Chamber. The House of Representatives is voting by roll. Members to the Chamber.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Have all members voted? Have all members voted? Will the members please check the board to determine if your vote is properly cast? If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will call the tally. Will the Clerk please call the tally?
CLERK:

House Joint Resolution No. 24.

Total Number of Voting 149
Necessary for Adoption 75
Those Voting Yea 138
Those Voting Nay 11
Those absent and not voting 1

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

The resolution is adopted. [Gavel] Are there any introductions? Representative Bolinsky of the 106th, you have the floor, sir.

REP. BOLINSKY (106TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a pleasure to be here on such a beautiful day with the Girl Scouts and what I'd like to do is take a moment and on behalf of myself, Representative J. P. Sredzinski and District 2, Representative Raghib Allie-Brennan, we'd like to introduce you to Newtown's Senior Girl Scout Troop 50293. So, as I call their names, hopefully they'll nod or raise their hand, Alison Bailey, Alyssa Bailey, I'm sorry, Tagan Smith, Riley
Burns, Rebecca Filiatto, Annie Fowler. So please join me, give a nice round of applause to Girl Scout Senior Troop 50293. [Applause]

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Thank you, Representative. I hope everyone enjoys their day here at the State Capitol. We are returning to the call of the Calendar. Will the Clerk please call Calendar item No. 16.

CLERK:


DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Representative Horn, you have the floor, madam.

REP. HORN (64TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and adoption of the resolution.
DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Thank you. The question before the Chamber is on acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and adoption of the resolution. Representative Horn, you have the floor.

REP. HORN (64TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in support of the nomination and reappointment of the Honorable Alexandra Dipentima of South Kent to be a Judge of the Appellate Court and Judge of the Superior Court to serve a term of 8 years starting May 13, 2019. Judge Dipentima was first appointed to the bench in 1993 at an interim appointment and served her first full term in March 1994. She has had a long and distinguished service on the Connecticut bench, and she currently serves as chief judge of the Appellate Court. She's a graduate of Princeton University and obtained her law degree from UConn in 1979. In addition to being a member of the Connecticut Bar, she is admitted to practice in the Second Circuit of the US Court of Appeals and the US Supreme Court.
Her dedication to her judicial craft is evident in the numerous bar and judicial committees she has served on and continues to serve on throughout her career and time on the bench, and her authorship and number of articles concerning legal practice. Before joining the bench, Judge Dipentima was with Connecticut Legal Services and in private practice. She also serves as a literacy tutor and a vestry officer with St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Kent. I urge her reappointment to this position. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Thank you very much, madam. Would you care to remark further? Representative Rebimbas of the 70th, you have the floor, madam.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the nominee before us. Certainly her evaluations have also been very supportive of her continuing this position. I rise in that support.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):
Thank you very much. Would you care to remark further on the resolution before us? If not, will the staff and guests please come to the well of the House? Will the members please take their seats? The machine will be open. [Ringing]

CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by roll. Members to the Chamber. The House of Representatives is voting by roll. Members to the Chamber.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Have all members voted? Have all the members voted? Will the members please check the board to determine if your vote is properly cast? If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally. Will the Clerk please announce the tally?

CLERK:

House Joint Resolution 70.

Total Number of Voting 148
Necessary for Adoption 75
Those Voting Yea 147
Those Voting Nay 1
Those absent and not voting 2

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

The House will stand at ease. The House will come back to order. Representative Wilson, for what purpose do you rise?

REP. WILSON:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise because I didn’t make it back quite on time. Can I cast the vote in the affirmative?

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

The transcript will show no.

REP. WILSON:

Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Thank you. All right. The resolution is adopted. [Gavel]

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Scanlon of the 98th district, you have the floor, sir.
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise for the purpose of an announcement.

Ladies and gentleman, Representative Scanlon is about to make an announcement. It concerns one of our former members. Let's ensure that we give Representative Scanlon the respect he deserves.

Representative Scanlon, you now have the floor, sir.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise with the unfortunate news that one of my predecessors, Janet Poss passed away last weekend at the age of 96. Janet served from the 98th District [Gavel]

Ladies and gentleman, if we could end the conversations. Representative Scanlon, please proceed.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Janet Poss, former representative for the 90th District. She passed
away at the age of 96 last Saturday. She served for only two terms from 1991 to 1995 and for some of who were there at that time and those of you who are students of history, know that that was probably one of the more difficult times to serve in this building during the income tax debate and just a very brief story about her.

When I first decided to run for this office, I called through the members of the Democratic Town Committee and every single one of them gave me their support except for her over the phone, and she said she wanted me to come to her house and talk to her. And at the time I was incredibly annoyed by that because I was a young man in a hurry and I wanted to get on it, and here was this older woman who was going to make me come to her house and sit down with her. When I went to her house the next day, we talked for a while and she asked me some questions and she agreed to support me, but she said I want you to come over here and look at something before you go, and when I went over to the front door of
her house, she pointed to her stairs by her front door and showed me what looked like just holes. And she said, do you know what that is and I said no and she said, those are bullet holes and I started laughing. And she said I'm not joking. She said on the night of the income tax vote, I was sitting in my living room the next morning and heard gunshots and somebody had shot the front door of my house and there's three bullet holes in my stairs.

She said I tell you this story because when you get up to Hartford, there's going to be a lot of times when you're going to have some really tough decisions to make, but my advice to you is always follow your conscience and do what's right and you'll always be right with that, and I've used the advice a couple of tough times when we've had tough votes here, and it's worked out for me.

It's working out for all of us that follow that maxim as well and on behalf of my community, which is very sad to see Janet pass away, I'm asking for a moment of silence in her memory.
SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

All members rise. We will now have a moment of silence. [Gavel] Thank you, Representative. Representative Devlin of the 134th, madam. Are there any other announcements or introductions? Representative Cheeseman of the 37th, you have the floor, madam.

REP. CHEESEMAN (37TH):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I too have a sad announcement to make. Kevin McMahon, a judge at the Superior Court unfortunately passed away at the age of 68 on February 18. Judge McMahon served faithfully and well for many years. He was a member of my community. He was appointed to the Superior Court in 1993 and became a senior judge in 2013 and in my first term, I had the honor to recommend his re-nomination. He is survived by his adoring wife, Patty and a wonderful group of nieces and nephews, brothers and sisters. Speaking personally, he and his wife were always wonderful supporters of the Children's Museum in Niantic where I'm executive
director and he was a stalwart judge, a wonderful character. So many people turned out for his wake and his service. He was truly beloved both through the judiciary community and in the local community so I ask the Chamber to join me in a moment of silence for Judge McMahon.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Ladies and gem, we'll have a moment of silence.

[Gavel]

REP. CHEESEMAN (37TH):

Thank you so much.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you, Representative.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Will the Clerk please call Calendar No. 17?

CLERK:

Representative Blumenthal of the 147th, you have the floor, sir.

REP. BLUMENTHAL (147TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and adoption of the resolution.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

The question before the Chamber is on acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and adoption of the resolution. Representative Blumenthal, you have the floor, sir.

REP. BLUMENTHAL (147TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in support of the resolution confirming the nomination of the Honorable John F. Mulcahy, Jr. of Glastonbury to continue to be a state referee. He has provided a long and distinguished service to this state and its Judicial Branch. I urge this Chamber to allow him to continue that service and to support this resolution.
DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Would you care to remark further? Representative Rebimbas of the 70th, you have the floor, madam.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the nominee before us. Certainly again having an individual who has served in this capacity wanting to continue to serve the Judicial Branch with his expertise is always a cost savings and always an asset to us so I rise in his support.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Thank you very much. Would you care to remark further on the resolution before us? If not, will the staff and guests please come to the well of the House? Will the members please take their seats? The machine will be open. [Ringing]

CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by roll. Members to the Chamber. The House of Representatives is voting by roll. Members to the
DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Have all members voted? Have all the members voted? Will the members please check the board to determine if your vote is properly cast? If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally. Will the Clerk please announce the tally?

CLERK:

House Joint Resolution 71.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

The resolution is adopted. Representative Ritter of the 1st, you have the floor, sir.

REP. RITTER (1ST):

Thank you so much. We have two nominations left. I would just ask everybody just stay in your
seat. Please don’t go get food, please don’t go to the bathroom. We’ll get it done and then we’ll do announcements and introductions at the end.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):
Thank you, Mr. Majority Leader. The House will stand at ease. The House will return to order. Will the Clerk please call Calendar No. 18?

CLERK:
On page 2, Calendar No. 18, House Joint Resolution No. 72, RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF THE HONORABLE J. LAWRENCE PRICE OF AVON TO BE A FAMILY SUPPORT MAGISTRATE. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):
Representative Palm of the 36th, you have the floor, madam.

REP. PALM (36TH):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and adoption of the resolution.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):
The question before the Chamber is on acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and adoption of the resolution. Representative Palm, you have the floor, madam.

REP. PALM (36TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my privilege to nominate for appointment the Honorable J. Lawrence Price of Avon to be a family support magistrate. This is an eminent jurist who has more than 31 years of experience as a trial attorney and has a very interesting and wide variety of experiences including serving in the municipal leadership for the town of West Hartford as well as a history teacher. Judge Price is a member of the Chickasaw Tribal Nation and has had a wide variety of experiences with premises liability, family law, liquor liability, municipal litigation, and I urge adoption of his nomination.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Thank you very much. Would you care to remark further? Representative Rebimbas of the 70th, you
have the floor, madam.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

    Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the nominee before us. Again, a very qualified individual so I rise in his support.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

    Thank you. Would you care to remark further on the resolution before us? If not, will the staff and guests please come to the well of the House? Will the members please take their seats? The machine will be open. [Ringing]

CLERK:

    The House of Representatives is voting by roll. Members to the Chamber. The House of Representatives is voting by roll. Members to the Chamber.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

    Have all members voted? Have all the members voted? Will the members please check the board to determine if your vote is properly cast? If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and
the Clerk will take a tally. The Clerk will please announce the tally?

CLERK:

House Joint Resolution 72.

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Those absent and not voting</td>
<td>0</td>
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DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

The resolution is adopted. [Gavel]

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Will The Clerk please call Calendar No. 15?

CLERK:

On page 1, Calendar No. 15, House Joint Resolution No. 69, RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF THE HONORABLE BARBARA N. BELLIS OF SHELTON TO BE A JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):
Representative Blumenthal for what purpose do you rise?

REP. BLUMENTHAL (147TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to announce that I am recusing myself from consideration of this nominee.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Thank you. Representative Stafstrom from the great city of Bridgeport, you have the floor, sir.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move for acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and adoption of the resolution.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

The question before the Chamber is on acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and adoption of the resolution. Representative Stafstrom, you have the floor, sir.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Judge Bellis was first appointed to the bench in 2003.
She's a graduate of Boston College and the Catholic University School of Law. She has a distinguished career on the bench including the last ten or so years as the presiding and administrative judge of the Fairfield Judicial District. She has served on a number of boards and commissions including the Civil Commission and the Rules Committee. I urge support.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Would you care to remark further? Representative Rebimbas of the 70th, you have the floor, madam.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the nominee before us. We had a lot of good testimony in support of. This is an individual who works very hard, very diligent, very organized, and that's exactly what we need on the bench, and we also take all of the testimony that comes before us seriously and a lot of stuff we looked into, and we still strongly supported this nominee.
DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Thank you very much. Would you care to remark further? Representative McGorty of the great city of Shelton, you have the floor, sir.

REP. MCGORTY (122ND):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today in great support for confirming of the nomination of Judge Bellis. Judge Bellis has been more than accommodating for our legislators, inviting us into the courthouse down in Bridgeport, introducing us to fellow judges, and shown us how the process works. I confirm, I hope she gets confirmed today with no problem. She's an excellent judge and as everybody can see down in our area of the woods, she handles the tough cases and she's very good at it and I urge adoption. Thank you.

SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Representative Perillo of the 113th, you have the floor, sir.

REP. PERILLO (113TH):

Thank you so much and I also would urge support
for Judge Bellis. As my colleague from Shelton said, they give her the tough cases because she's a very bright lady, very dedicated to her work, and I again would urge everyone support her today.

SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Thank you very much. Would you care to remark further on the resolution before us? If not, will staff and guests please come to the well of the House? Will the members please take their seats? The machine will be open. [Ringing]

CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by roll. Members to the Chamber. The House of Representatives is voting by roll. Members to the Chamber.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

Have all members voted? Have all the members voted? Will the members please check the board to determine if your vote is properly cast? If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally. Will the Clerk please
announce the tally?

CLERK:

House Joint Resolution 69.

Total Number of Voting 149
Necessary for Adoption 75
Those Voting Yea 148
Those Voting Nay 1
Those absent and not voting 1

DEPUTY SPEAKER ROSARIO (128TH):

The resolution is adopted. [Gavel]

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Are there any announcements or introductions?

Representative Hughes of the 135th, madam, you have the floor.

REP. HUGHES (135TH):

Progressive Caucus is meeting in room 1A right now so get your pizza and head over. 1A in the LOB. Thank you.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Reyes of the 75th, sir, you have the floor.
REP. REYES (75TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for purpose of journal notations, Representative Luxenberg recused himself, Representative Tercyak business in district, Representative Vargas business outside of the Chamber, and Representative Blumenthal recused himself for the last vote. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Are there any other announcements or introductions? Representative Baba Booey of the 67th, sir, you have the floor. [laughter].

REP. BUCKBEE (67TH):

Thank you, [clears throat] Mr. Speaker. I have a couple of quick [clears throat] announcements if I may. [laughter] So first off, it's really interesting, one of our former interns, Harrison, had his birthday today so I thought, I met him when he was like 19 but he's 23 so former intern, and now working in the Republican Outreach so I thought that was pretty interesting to share that.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):
Happy Birthday, Harrison. [whooping]

REP. BUCKBEE (67TH):

Yeah, that's great, thank you.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Are there any other announcements or introductions?  Announcements or introductions?
Representative Currey of the 11th.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.  Mr. Speaker, there being no further business on the Clerk’s desk, I move that we adjourn subject to the call of the chair.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on adjournment subject to the Call of the Chair.  Any objection?  Seeing none, so ordered.  [Gavel]

(On motion of Representative Currey of the 11th District, the House adjourned at 1:05 o'clock p.m., to meet again at the Call of the Chair).
CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing 58 pages is a complete and accurate transcription of a digital sound recording of the House Proceedings on Wednesday, March 13, 2019.

I further certify that the digital sound recording was transcribed by the word processing department employees of Alphatranscription, under my direction.

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