(The House of Representatives was called to order at 10:36 o'clock a.m., Speaker Joe Aresimowicz of the 30th District in the Chair.)

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Will the House please come to order. Will Members, staff and guests please rise, direct your attention to the dais where Rabbi Alan Lefkowitz will lead us in prayer.

CHAPLAIN RABBI ALAN LEFKOWICZ:

Good Morning. In Hebrew, there is no separate word for "to be." "Being" is implied in every word. "Being" is always present in you, in each of us, in everything and everywhere at once.

As we enter these important sessions, let us be reminded that when we take "being" to mind and heart - in the most ordinary and simple actions we take -
we will be able to bring wisdom in harmony with the wise actions around us. And as we stand in the space between our self-image and our God-image, the physical and the spiritual, the ordinary and the extra-ordinary, the mundane and the miraculous, both sides call to us as we stand in the mid-point. We are called to integrate what was with what is yet to be.

And as we stand in the "what is yet to be," let us be ourselves with the strength to act in the uniqueness of who we are - each of us in the uniqueness of who we are and may it bring harmony to those we touch, and for whom and to whom, we are responsible. We say, Amen.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you. Would Representative Jay Case of the 63rd District please come to the dais to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

REP. CASE (63RD):

(ALL): I pledge Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of American and to the Republic for
which it stands, one Nation, under God, indivisible with Liberty and Justice of all.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Is there any business on the Clerk’s desk?

CLERK:

Yes, Mr. Speaker the only piece of business I have is the daily calendar.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, Mr. Clerk. Are there any announcements or introductions? Announcements or introductions. Representative Kennedy of the 119th, Madam, you have the floor.

REP. KENNEDY (119TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. On a sad note, I want to announce that State Representative, former State Representative Dick Roy passed away on Sunday. He served here for ten terms with distinction. He was a former Chairman of the Environment Committee and he very aggressively, anyone who was there, was the first to pass the distracted driving bill way back. He also secured GMO labeling and banning of
pesticides on school properties. So I’d ask the Chamber possibly for a moment of silence and to remember his family, him and his family in their prayers. Thank you so much, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Yes, we will obviously doing more for former Representative Roy here in the Chamber. Many of us served with him but I think it is completely appropriate to give him a moment of silence.

[Gavel] Thank you, Representative. Are there any other announcements or introductions? Will the Clerk please call House Calendar 231.

CLERK:

On Page 65, House Calendar 231, Substitute House Bill No. 7267 AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC OPTIONS FOR HEALTH CARE IN CONNECTICUT. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Scanlon of the 98th sir, you have the floor.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):
Good Morning, Mr. Speaker. I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. Will you remark?

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Thank you and again, Good Morning Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Good Morning, sir.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Back in January when we got going with this Session I sent an email survey to my constituents asking them to share with me their healthcare stories and like many of my colleagues can probably sympathize I expected I would get maybe 15 or 20 people to respond to this. I got over 250 people to respond to share their story with me and the stories that they showed me are not going to surprise anybody in this Chamber because they all centered
around something we hear about everyday if we are out in our communities. I hear about it in the grocery store, I hear about it in the post office, I hear about it when I’m mowing my lawn and that’s the sense that healthcare is becoming far too unaffordable for the people of Connecticut, and our small businesses, and our individuals and our families. And so at the beginning of this legislative session my Co-Chair Senator Lessor and I set out to try and lower the costs of healthcare for the people of Connecticut. It is a hard thing to do. I won’t deny that and we had a very ambitious plan to do so. That is not what this is today and what this is today though is still a major healthcare reform bill when it comes to the one thing that we hear about all the time which is the cost of healthcare and it is an attempt by us to do something about it using some very creative ideas that other states have used, using things that are now happening at the federal level and doing our best to do what so desperately needs to happen which
is to give some folks in Connecticut the relief that they deserve when it comes to the cost of healthcare.

With that Mr. Speaker the Clerk is in possession of an Amendment LCO 10326. I that I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 10326 which will be designated House Amendment “A”.

CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule “A” LCO No. 10326 offered by Representative Scanlon, Senator Lessor.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there objection, hearing none, Representative Scanlon you have the floor, sir.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Thank you very much Mr. Speaker. So this Bill is going to lower the cost of healthcare for the people of Connecticut in three major ways that I
will briefly outline and I look forward to a good conversation about that. The first is on the cost of prescription drugs. Now I don’t know about all of you but everyday especially when I’m talking to seniors, I hear about the exorbitant rise in the cost prescription drugs. Last year in this Chamber on a unanimous basis we passed the very first law in the country, or in the State rather, excuse me, to bring about price transparency for prescription drugs. That law is addition to this law will for the very first time bring real relief to the people of Connecticut when it comes to the cost of their drugs and the way that we are going to do that is by importing safe and cheap from Canada. We would be the fourth state in the nation to do this and would most recently follow the State of Florida in doing this. Canadian drugs are, according to AARP, 35 to 55 percent cheaper that drugs sold in the United States of America. Let me say that one more time, 35 to 55 percent cheaper that drugs sold in the United States. That is real relief and I think that
if you ask any of your constituents whether they would like to save 35 to 55 percent on their drug prices they would say where to I sign.

The second piece, Mr. Speaker is to go down the past of seeking a 1332 Waiver from the Federal Government to initiate a reinsurance program in the State of Connecticut on individual health plans. What is reinsurance? Reinsurance is the idea that if we spend some money to lower the cost of sickest and take the biggest claims and we remove those biggest claims from the market we can lower the cost of healthcare for everybody in the market. There have been nine stats that have passed this law so far. Those nine states have seen serious reductions in the cost of their individual plans. Oregon established in 2017, eight percent drop in 2018, nine percent in 2019. Maryland initiated in April 2018 a 13.2 percent reduction this year in 2019. These are real numbers. These are big dollars in savings and we can do this by enacting what again, nine other states have done by seeking a Federal
1332 Waiver to lower the cost of healthcare for the individuals in this State by about five to ten percent is what we are predicting and what an independent group called The Wakely Study has predicted according to Connecticut’s models.

And the last piece, Mr. Speaker is to establish a healthcare cost benchmark. What’s a healthcare cost benchmark? Healthcare cost benchmark is a very simple idea that says from now on we will set a benchmark and at that point anybody who exceeds that benchmark, whether they are a hospital, a drug company, a manufacturer of drugs from now on, they have to explain why they didn’t hit that benchmark and they have to tell us how they can try to get to the benchmark in the future. All these things together, Mr. Speaker I think represented one of the boldest attempts we’ve done in this Building in a longtime to reduce the cost of healthcare especially for our seniors, especially for our small business, especially for our families and I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Question before the Chamber is on adoption. Would you care to remark? Representative Pavalock-D’Amato you have the floor, madam.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Like the Chairman and like many of us, going door-to-door I’d have to say that the cost of healthcare and prescription drugs is probably one of the most popular topics brought up especially in my district where we have a lot of seniors this is a constant issue. It’s not just at doors, it’s at townhall meetings, it’s at the senior center when we go for coffee and I think now it’s been my first year as the Ranking Member on Insurance, and now after a couple of years, I’ve seen some of these Bills come and go. I remember it was, it was around 2010 or 11 when I first started hearing about Obama Care and maybe even earlier, you know, it was supposed to solve all of our problems and I think like every Bill there is definitely good parts about a bill and then there’s things that you don’t like. What I did notice was for a few years I
would see ACA, Affordable Care, Obama Care and some of the titles of these Bills and then all of a sudden it changed to high deductible plans. And I realized, well I’m pretty sure that’s the same name for Obama Care, just you know, now that maybe parts of it didn’t work out, now we’re gonna call it something else. So I think we have been through quite a few changes with this Bill and I remember in the beginning at least the first Bill that was put forward and what went through Committee wasn’t exactly the same as what we have in front of us now. So my first question, to the Chairman would be, did the. Let’s take the first portion of this Bill, which is the Office of Health Strategy and I’ll say as it’s drafted. It ends up being the first few sections. Did that portion receive a public hearing?

Mr. Speaker, through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):
Through you, Mr. Speaker.

So as I said at the outset of my remarks today, back in January when the Committee first started meeting, we unveiled a very comprehensive Bill and as my good friend, the Ranking Member just alluded to this Bill is substantially different from that. And this Bill has gone as probably as anybody who reads the newspaper knows, this Bill has gone through some changes. In the process of those changes and the result of those changes came from constructive dialogues that we were having with different stakeholders in healthcare whether they be hospitals, drug companies, insurance companies, this idea that you’re specifically referencing in the beginning of this came to us after the Public Hearing process and it came to us from the Governor’s Office because this is a policy that has worked in Massachusetts and as part of our discussions with the different stakeholders in healthcare we decided that this could be a good thing that could lead to some savings for the people
of Connecticut and we thought it was worth introducing in this and so we put this in the most recent draft of the Bill, but no it did not have a Public Hearing according to the rest of the Bill when this Bill was in a different form back in February.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Now you mentioned you had some conversation with different insurance companies, so if you can elaborate which insurance companies did you have those conversations with?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I have had conversations with members of the six insurance companies that are here in the State
of Connecticut that participate in the Association of Health Plans.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And in those conversations did you discuss the first provision, first few provisions of this Bill relating to the Office of Health Care Strategy and what they are tasked to do in these first few sections?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And what was their response?
Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

This Bill and this specific provision has gone through different iterations even within the drafts that have been filed as Amendments and I would characterize my discussions with them as productive dialogues and I believe we ended up in a place that was, I won’t say supported enthusiastically by them but certainly in a much better place than where we started off as is the case of everything in this Bill which was a concerted effort over the course of about six months to try to find a way to lower the cost of healthcare for the people of the State of Connecticut.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):
Thank you for that answer. In your conversations with various stakeholders did you discuss the topic implications and other let’s say subject matters, well I’ll just keep it at did you discuss the topic of benchmark with any of these companies or stakeholders?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And what exactly, if you can be a little more specific is the goal of the benchmark provisions in this Bill?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.
REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

For the first time in Connecticut history we are going to see the full picture of healthcare spending in the State. We are going to see hospital spending, we are going to see drug spending, we are going to see manufacturing spending, we are going to see everything in one place and more than that we are going to set an aspirational benchmark to say that we want to keep all healthcare spending under this specific dollar amount. When we don’t hit that we understand that we don’t always hit goals in life whether we’re drug companies or politicians, all we are saying to them then is we want you to come back to us. Let’s have a conversation about it. Let’s talk about ways that you are going to meet this next time around or why you couldn’t meet this this time. And I think through that we as policymakers on both side of the aisle are going to finally try to understand what is driving this massive cost of healthcare and further what can we then do about
this to try to lower the cost of healthcare. We will now have access to that and have that discussion and thanks to this benchmark and I believe it is a very, very good thing for the people of Connecticut to finally get these answers.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Now when you are talking about the cost of healthcare has, I’ll say this Chamber or I’ll say the State, have there been any studies done in the past relating to the cost of healthcare in Connecticut.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

It is my experience in my now third year Chairing this Committee that there are many fingers
that are pointed in all different directions from the different stakeholders in this healthcare autonomy and you may take to one stakeholder and they point the finger at somebody else and that same person points it right back at them or points it in a different direction. Part of the challenge that we face is getting to the bottom of this and yes, there are comprehensive studies that show that for example drug costs are rising faster than anything else in healthcare. Right? But we need to actually see the data to know that and that is what exactly this benchmark is about.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Did the topic of a, and this question is a little different, a little more specific that my earlier one, did the topic of benchmark have a Public Hearing?

Through you.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

No.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And when between January and now did the, did the topic or idea of benchmark first come up as a possibility that it would be included in a Bill?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I don’t have an exact date and I am uncomfortable giving one for risk of being wrong, but I would say over a month ago.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Thank you for that. Now let’s look in Section 1, I want you to be able and I apologize if my questions seen trial like, you know, I can’t help it, sorry. I don’t intend to pin you or catch you or anything like that. So let’s go to Section 1 as far as the Office of Health Strategy. What currently is the Office of Health Strategy tasked with doing?

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I would direct my good friend to the lines 13 through 20, that is the current Statute and State Law outlining what the Office of Health Strategy does.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.
REP. PAVALOCK-D’AMATO (77TH):

So is says, “Developing and implementing a comprehensive and cohesive health care vision for the state, including, but not limited to, a coordinated state health care cost containment strategy;” So when I look at that, go down a little further to the new language, and of course what they currently have to do also goes through lines 16 to 20, I would go down a little bit further at some of that language, it says they are delivery and payment models that reduce health care costs, growth and improve the quality of patient care. Go down to line 24, setting a health care growth benchmark, guess I’m a little confused what is the difference between the new language and the language in lines 13 through 20, what’s the difference what they are supposed to do now and what they were supposed to do before?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.
REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

This simply gives the Office of Health Strategy the ability to set a benchmark in addition to the duties that are otherwise outlined in Section 1 of this Bill.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D’AMATO (77TH):

So would you say setting a benchmark is different than coordinate state’s health care costs containment?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

No, I would say it is perfectly in line with the established function of this office and will help the Office of Health Strategy Executive
Director and his or her team meet the statutory obligations of this by now having this tool in their toolbox in order to meet the health care cost containment strategies that they deem fit.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

To me that looks a little duplicative, a little bit, you know, we are passing legislation, we’re kind of restating what they are already tasked to do which to me is a little confusing.

So through you.

Do you think that we need to spell out benchmark which is a set savings that we’ll get into further as we go into the Bill a little bit more, but we need to restate that as if the office? You don’t think they already have that obligation and already have that power to set a benchmark without us going through a whole new Bill and stating that language?
Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

There is nothing in this specific Statutes that allow them to do that. We are simply putting in State Statute and declaring we feel like this is something they should proactively go and do and then obviously I’m sure we’ll probably get into it but Section 2 outlines what that benchmark would entail. That certainly is nowhere in State Statute, we would be putting it in through this Bill.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Now the Office of Health Strategy how is that structured? Are they a public agency, quasi-public?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

It is a state agency.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And is it within the Department of Public Health?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I am almost positive that it is part of the Executive Branch.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):
How are they funded, the Office of Health Strategy?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through the General Fund.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Now there, when we talk about innovative health care delivery which they are tasked with doing, can you, that is actually line 21, can you define that or is there anything specific maybe a little bit more specific example can you provider for line 21?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.
And I apologize, I just want to correct myself here, their funding is half through the Insurance Fund and half through the General Fund. But to answer my friend’s question innovative health care delivery is this notion that we can find ways to save money and how can we be innovative just, you know, it’s a struggling point to define, limited authority sort of define to my opinion in the title are there ways we can do things differently and perhaps creatively to lower the cost of delivering health care and that is the process by which we get health care. Their office has been doing things like that for several years before they became the Office of Health Strategy they were a different segment of the State, they were consolidated recently, I think last year into the office of Health Strategy but they’re focused on delivering different kinds of reforms when it comes to health care.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Now if we can go back, so you said it was through, just to clarify, through the General Fund and through the Insurance Fund?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

That is correct.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And how was the Insurance Fund financed?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

By the insurance carriers domiciled in the State.
Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavlock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And would that be the assessments on all of our health insurance policies?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavlock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

So is it possible that through the expansion of the Office of Health Strategy that, that could come at the cost of increased premiums of insureds in this State?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

If the gentlewoman could rephrase her question, I’m having a tough time understanding.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato can you rephrase the question please?

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Yes. I have a concern that if we are expanding what the Office of Health Strategy is doing, giving them more tasks like the benchmark and if they are funded through the Insurance Fund which is funded through basically the tax payers or the individuals with health insurance policies isn’t it possible that with their increased roles, since they are funded through us that ultimately that could be passed on to the consumer?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.
REP. SCANLON (98TH):

I don’t believe so.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Now with the, I’ll calm them the OHS the Office of Health Strategy, taking on these new responsibilities and I believe that it is, I’ll find that section in a second, but do we know how much it is gonna cost the Office of Health Strategy to undertake the new responsibilities and is there a fiscal note for that?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes, there is a fiscal note, it is gonna cost $1 million dollars in FY 20 and $1.5 million dollars in FY 21.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D’AMATO (77TH):

Okay, now we can go back to what we were talking about before as far as the health care delivery and I understood your question there. Now in the second part of that sentence, it talks about payment models. Can you explain what you mean by payment models?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

So the payer.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

The payers in health care are the insurance companies. They pay for health care and they are reimbursing for health care. The innovative things that the Department does, examples could be value based payment, health information technology, the all payers claims database, all these things are
trying to find ways to lower the cost of health care and that is what this office is tasked with is trying to find ways or suggest ways to us as the Legislature given their expertise as to how we can enact payment reform or save on the cost of health care.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Maybe I, it might be a little clearer if you give me an example.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

A good example would be paying for outcomes and value as opposed to just volume. Right? So we spend a lot more money here in the United States on health care than most other countries in the world,
we don’t have anything special here in the water, they is nothing we’re really doing differently that is innovative in medicine that they are not doing in the western world but we pay a lot more money for health care and so if we were able to find, for example, value based payments or paying based on outcomes, we would be rewarding providers who are actually doing a great job of mending somebody for less cost or doing it faster, or if they didn’t actually fix that person or get that person back to health and they were coming back again, and again, and again they would not be paid the same rate as they would otherwise and so I hope that answers the gentlelady’s question.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Now, you know, my hospital got an award maybe last year, year before it was based on their performance, their outcomes and I believe it was
relation specifically to their nurses so to some degree do you think that a hospital when they have a good rating, when people say I was taken care of there, I got, I had good service, you know, the doctors were nice and well I came out feeling better, that people going to the hospital based on good performance doesn’t necessarily need the State reaffirming that. I guess that’s not really in the form of a question. But I will put it this way, do you think that those same outcomes can be, can result without State regulation?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I think that we can certainly change outcomes based on personnel. I think all of us have probably at one point or another been personally or seen a loved one in a hospital and be enthralled with the care that they are getting from a doctor or a nurse
or even the guy who brings the lunch but we’re talking about a higher level policy change here. I think it is fantastic that the Bristol Hospital was given that award, I think I know what award you’re speaking to but this is to change behavior and it is to change behavior when it comes to payers and providers. To try to find health care cost savings. It’s not just an award for a great nursing staff or a cleanliness award based on an inspection that they had, this is to change actual dollars and cents when it comes to health care.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Now I understand what you’re saying and to some degree I agree with you. Now in my town we have a nonprofit hospital, community hospital, shall I say. Some years they are in the red, some years they make some money never since, we know with some of the other Representatives we go to their annual meeting,
never huge amounts that I see, especially in relation to the cost of let’s say a new machine that they may need or a new roof. Those costs, you know, when you’re talking half a million dollars for a single machine, I think even sometimes what little money they actually do have on the books, we know can be gone in a day. Now so, what did the State Innovation Model Initiative, what did that do before, before this Bill?

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

That is an existing program in the State of Connecticut.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

That is not part of this Bill.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

I understand it is not part of the Bill but did
it have to do with health care and outcomes and some of the things that we are talking about?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Yes.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And did it make any recommendations, did it achieve anything?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

I don’t have the data in front of me.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

But that is what got started, what started us on the value-based payments and this concept of
that. I don’t have the data in front of me.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Now the health care cost benchmarks, are we partly doing this. Well let me skip ahead a little bit. You discussed in here, the Bill discusses the enhancing of transparency of health care entities. How are you planning on doing this?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

By getting an accurate picture of what exactly they are doing every year and whether or not they are meeting our aforementioned benchmark and if they are not then what can we do via transparency, not any sort of threats or you know, fear here, there is nothing here that is punitive, it’s just simply
seeking some transparency and some information to make some decisions.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

So will they be required to submit a report every year?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And what entities are included or what types of entities are included in that let’s say in the quest for transparency.

Through you.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

This is a comprehensive list of all of the major stakeholders who are involved in health care whether they be pharmacy benefit managers, payers, insurance companies, hospitals.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

So pharmacy benefit manager, or PBMs those are included as well?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):
Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D’AMATO (77TH):

And you mentioned some of the other organizations what about the State? State is self-insured. Will the State be required to submit that same information?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And would that specifically be the comptroller?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.
I would have to find where it is but they are already getting a lot of this data through the all-payer claims database and in this Bill it says they can go to CMS to get the Medicare and Medicaid data.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

So it comes from different places but it will be certainly considered in this Bill.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Now mentioned here, what are accountable care organizations?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

That is a way in Statute that we defined payers in health care.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And what are patient centered medical homes?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

It is a patient centered medical home.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Are you defining a work with a work?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

It’s self-explanatory.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Thank you. Nursing, would that include a nursing home, hospital, hospice?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Thank you. I asked you earlier about the payment models, and in this Bill, still around Section 1 and 2, there is mentioned alternative payment methodologies. Can you please define that and possibly give an example?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I am wondering if my friend can point to a line where she is seeing that?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

That would be line 30.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I believe that would be a Medicare shared savings program.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

So is that different from payment models? I
just want to be sure because it is a little, and if you don’t have the answer that is fine.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

No.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Now in Section 2 lets say around, I would say, line 68 there is a mention of under the definition of “device manufacturer” it limits this category to $10 million dollars. Is there any reasoning behind the limit of $10 million dollars?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.
I believe that is a common limit that is elsewhere in our Statutes which is the case for also manufacturers and the doctors offices that are afterwards mentioned.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

If you go down to line 74, and I am asking this because is has come up in other Bills and I think we’ve struggled with how to get here, but in line 74 it discusses “substantial impact on prescription drug expenditures” so my question is what are we looking for in this Bill relating to a “substantial impact”, is this a certain percentage or certain number?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.
This would be a reference to the Bill I reference earlier which is Public Act, I believe it is 1841 from last year which is the prescription drug price transparency law and this is a specific reference to the drugs that are flagged for lack of a better word in that Bill which is the most expensive drugs.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And if we look on line 79 under “heath care entity” it says is “means an accountable care organization” so in this context. So in this context what is an accountable care organization?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

It is a large provider organization that is
basically agreed to be held accountable for certain standards, quality and outcomes for example.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And so would the words that follow that, “surgical center, clinic, hospital, physician organization” is that under the definition of accountable care organization?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

No those are other kinds of health care entities that would be applicable to this law.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):
Lines 86 through 100 discuss part of the calculation I believe of benchmark. Is that correct?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

That is correct.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D’AMATO (77TH):

So can you explain what the “health status adjusted total medical expenses” how we are going to calculate that?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yeah, it begins on line 85, it says, “the total
cost of care for the patient population of a group of health care providers with at least thirty-six thousand member months for a given calendar year,” and so on.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And if we can go back now, I remembered one of my other questions, in the previous paragraph, are there certain organizations that are excluded from paragraph, sorry Section 5?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Not that I am aware of.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):
Now would a small doctor’s office or a small doctor’s group be excluded from that group just for the reason of them not having let’s say more than 10,000 patients?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes. We originally had in the Bill 5,000 patients and twenty or ten million dollars, we bumped that up to 10,000 patients and twenty million dollars specifically to avoid the small doctor practices from being included in this Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And so those numbers would that be current, I would assume that would be current patients not lifetime patients?

Through you.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I believe the phrase “patient panel” is describing a current thing, not an all-time thing.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Thank you. Now if we can go to Section 3 about the benchmark, if I can ask a little bit further, I’m on line 167 what contractual agreements would be needed?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

This could be consulting.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And this is probably the section I was looking for earlier, when we were talking about the Office of Health Strategy so would these contractual agreements consist of the million dollars that is in the fiscal note?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

It could be.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And the specifics of this did not go through Appropriations, is that correct?

Through you.
Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I am not sure.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D’AMATO (77TH):

I believe the general million dollars went through Appropriations for this, what I think, what I remember was discussed as a study if I recall correctly not necessarily carrying out or any certain actions by the Office of Health Strategy and maybe some of the other members of the Appropriations Committee might remember, I know we did have some discussion of this, but if I recall the million dollars was to carry out a study but not for actuaries or anything else relating to any specific policy that was to be carried out. Now I believe you said before we did not have a Public Hearing on the benchmark itself as well, is that correct?
Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Correct.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And can you explain exactly, I know you mentioned they have to do a report, but if you could go into a little bit more detail as to what is required of these entities, is it on a yearly basis, what exactly do they have to provide and maybe just a little bit further detail that the Office is looking for.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.
We can go through this in detail but I’ll sort of paint a broad brushstroke right now which is that every year the different entities that are under the Section 2 reported guidelines have to come to the OHS Office, give them some data. OHS then has to come to the Legislature and inform us of what that data was, give us a report and then they can hold a Public Hearing in which they can call folks in, ask them why they didn’t hit the benchmark, talk about what they are going to do next year and have a conversation about it.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And you had mentioned that the State Employee plan, state employees would have to abide by the other section. Would the State Employee Plan also be held accountable to the benchmark?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

The numbers from the State Employee Plan would be included in the benchmark in terms of overall health care spending.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Considering some of these reports, are a little more specific because we’re trying to look at spending and where some of let’s say where there is more spending, where we can, some of the entities described, where they can possibly reduce costs, so would it not be in the State’s best interest to require specific information regarding the State Employee Account Health Care Account and plans?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.
REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I believe what I am trying to say is that they are included in this and their data would be considered through this.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Would the Medicaid program be held to the benchmark?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And would the Exchange Program be held to the
benchmark as well?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I don’t see that specified but again I believe the intent would be that we would take their data as well.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Now if the Exchange is held to the benchmark would that have an impact on Federal subsidies that individuals currently receive?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.
I don’t believe so. We’re just simply ascertaining what’s going on with regard to health care spending within the exchange or anywhere else in the health care marketplace.

Through you, Mr. Speaker. 

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Now how does the Office of Health Strategy and Exchange exactly relate to one another?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

They are separate entities.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Let’s see. Now what would the Executive Director require if a health care entity is found to
be a significant contributor to health care cost growth? What would then be required of them?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Line 279, “The executive director may require that any health care entity that is found to be a significant contributor to health care cost growth in this state during the preceding calendar year, participate in a public hearing held pursuant to subsection (a).”

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And what if they don’t comply with any of those recommendations?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I would ask that the gentlewoman reframe her question perhaps, is she trying to, well reframe her question.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato can you rephrase that question please?

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Is there a penalty if the entity does not comply with the recommendations given under the benchmark?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

No.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.
REP. PAVALOCK–D'AMATO (77TH):

Now can the Office of Health Strategy make any recommendations regarding legislation?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Yes.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock–D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK–D'AMATO (77TH):

Now Section 6, requires an entity to take action to reduce their contribution to statewide health care costs. Now if this action let’s say is due to state mandates will state mandates be taken into consideration as an increase to a certain provider or health care entity’s cost?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.
REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.
Absolutely if we are part of the problem and they feel like we’ve done something that is causing them to exceed the benchmark they can absolutely feel free to tell us so and state their case why.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Now we, Section 7 goes into the report. Is this report different from what was? Is this report in Section 7 different from earlier sections?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.
Yeah, this basically says that the other entities can be called in whether they are drug companies, a PBM, a device manufacturer they can be
called in to participate in this process as well.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And if they don’t comply or submit the report is there a penalty?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

No.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And so what would be, what would be the results if anyone of these entities just decided not to comply with this Bill and not submit a report and not attend a Public Hearing?

Through you.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

There would be no consequence in terms of law but in the court of public opinion I would hope that both myself and you should, both of us have this position and others in state government would express our displeasure that they did not join us for this conversation but there was nothing that we could do to force them or to compel them to join us.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And will. And would the comptroller also be required to submit such reports pursuant to Section 7.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.
REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

He could be. He or she could be.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D’AMATO (77TH):

Can you explain the purpose in Section 8 of the quality council?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Basically to identify kinds of quality measures providers will be judged against.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And who will consist. What or who will consist
of that council? What individuals?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

One moment please.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Chamber will stand-at-ease.

The Chamber will come back to Order [Gavel].

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I do not see that defined.

Through you.

But it is providers, carriers, consumers and employers make up the quality council.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Let’s see. Now if we can move on to the
waiver. I would like to move on to that part and I know you mentioned it briefly but I’ll explain again for people that there is something called the 1332 Waiver, it’s an application to the Federal Government that the State would make that has to do with reinsurance and where the issuers reimburse for some of the claims for which it would have previously had been liable. Basically reinsurance is a program that protects issuers or insurance companies against high claim costs and the issuer can lower premiums without incurring losses. So if a company can lower premiums then this results in a premium tax credit savings for the Federal Government and basically what the Federal Government does is they pass along that savings back to the State. So the waiver request that the Federal Government pass those savings to us and the state then can use it to fund part of a reinsurance program which the goal ultimately is to lower premiums. So will our waiver be utilizing a claims-based reinsurance program or a condition-based
reinsurance program?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

That is not specified. That is up to the powers that be that are underlined here in concentration OHS to decide which model that would be and what the fee, surcharge would be on the carriers.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And who or what department will be submitting that waiver request?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):
If would be the Office of Health Strategy.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And is there a deadline that we are looking to get back a response from that waiver request?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

September 1st of 2020.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Now the Chairman mentioned the Wakely Report, somewhat. Can you tell me who conducted the Wakely Report?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.
REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Wakely.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And who asked Wakely to do the report?

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

The Exchange.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Thank you. I believe also Access Health or DBA Access Health, right? How much is the state portion? How much is the state looking to raise in this equation?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

We empower the Office of Health Strategy to determine that but in line 586 it says that the amount cannot “exceed $30 million dollars.”

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And then how much would the Federal Government be, let’s say, kicking into this equation?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

We are uncertain of that number but we have guessed between $25 and $30 million dollars.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

How much of a premium reduction is the state looking to achieve?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELABARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Five to ten percent with this amount of money.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELABARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Would that apply to plans only on the Exchange or would it be possibly plans off the Exchange as well?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELABARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):
Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Individual plans on and off of the Exchange.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Can the State apply for this waiver without legislation?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Unclear but in the states that have applied for this, again nine of them have been approved for this, two were rejected of the eleven states I believe every single one of them their legislative body passed a resolution directing some entity in the state to do this.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.
REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

So would that be, you’re not 100 percent sure?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I am not 100 percent sure of the Federal Law and I certainly don’t have it in front of me that created the 1332 Waiver Program so therefore I feel uncomfortable staying definitively that it has to be a legislative approval but I am confident that is the case, that is one option for them and I am also confident of the fact that most, if not all of the states that have done this so far, successfully, the nine of them did pass this through their legislature.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):
I think the kind gentleman for his answers. In line 592 where it refers to “health care centers” is this defined in the Bill or in Statute?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

That is defined in the Statute.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D’AMATO (77TH):

And in what Statute would that be?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

That would be in our HMO Insurance Statutes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.
REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Thank you. Maybe we can find that later just cause I had difficulty finding that definition.

Through you.

Now in an earlier version of this Bill had a provision that wouldn’t allow the insurance companies to pass along what you referred to as the fee I believe to the insureds or the customers. Is that correct?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Having a little hard time hearing the Ranking Member, can she rephrase the question?

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

[Gavel] The gentleman is having difficulty hearing the question, can you please keep the volume down. Representative Pavalock-D’Amato will you care to repeat your question please?
REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Was there an earlier version of this Bill that included a provision that precluded insurance companies from passing along the fee to their customers?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

There have been so many iterations of this Bill, I can’t remember but this specific Bill allows them to pass on the fee.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

So the $33 million that we are raising, that is required from the state in order to get somewhere around the same money from the Federal Government I believe there was that provision earlier that
prevented them from passing it along and I think one of the main concerns that we’ve had in this section although I think the idea and the intent is in the right direction, we’re trying to lower premiums, finding a way if we can do it, to get that done even to get Federal dollars but the provision was removed because it wasn’t allowable that would restrict their, the insurance companies rights to pass it along to an insurance company, I mean, sorry to the customers. So it’s possible that the people in the state with insurance, insurance plans now we are not sure exactly what that fee would be, is that correct?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes, that is correct. The Office of Health Strategy is to determine the fee but is it not to exceed $30 million dollars.
Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

So it’s possible that to continue what I was saying before, that an extra fee is going to be assessed to individuals with health insurance to their plans or built into the premiums whatever it may be, to lower premiums for another group, let’s say individuals on the Exchange, on and off the Exchange. I’m having a hard time seeing that where you are raising them on one hand and then lowering from another group are we just shifting money from one group to another in regard to health insurance plans?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I would say that, first of all, we this is how
the Federal Program works. So in order to leverage what we estimate to be $25 to $30 million dollars of money, we have to institute some sort of fee such as this. That is number one. Number two is that we are estimating that this is going to result in five to ten percent of savings. Right? At the onset of this debate, I talked about the State of Maryland, they have put $500 million dollars into this program, a lot of money, they have obviously a bigger population than us. They have cities that have different needs than us, they have different kinds of folks that live in Maryland compared.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Thank you. Now in the Wakely Report, does the Wakely Report, you said we have to do, institute some type of fee, but we could get that money from let’s say the general fund?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

That is possible.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D’AMATO (77TH):

And again that is still taxpayer money, so essentially they have to make the same argument but it’s a larger pool of people and money, let’s say. Now the Wakely Report, did they, did they use a model that put fees on insurance premiums?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I do not have the Wakely Report in front of me, I don’t recall exactly what model that they used but they did evaluate using actuarial sound analysis of our state and then came back to us with the five
percent.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Well I’ll say that I’ll answer the question. The report again conducted by the Exchange Access Health did run through the 1332 model asking the Federal Government for a waiver and seeing how much the state had to come up with for their part and how much then the Federal Government would then kick in, and they didn’t use, they didn’t put a extra fee on people with insurance because again you are trying to lower premiums but then adding on, adding on to premiums on the other end. I think that, myself and some of my colleagues have raised that concern throughout and that is one of the main issues I have with this Bill that it is shifting from one individual with insurance raising premiums for some while lowering premiums for others. And of course again as we are going door-to-door we are taking to this hardworking middleclass individuals out there
every day, you know, people who are self-employed, own their own business, putting in more than 40, 50, 60 hours a week easily and now again we are possibly looking again at premium increases because of this $30 million dollars. You know, I think in an ideal world we would like the insurance companies to just reach out of their pocket, take it and say, we’ll take one for the team, we’ll eat this amount. But I know when I go to court, for my clients, I have to pay for parking and I’m not in the position to be eating those costs, you know, things that I do to run my business costs money, things that they do to run their business costs money and yes a lot of them are making way more money that we can ever imagine. But again I’m not necessarily concerned with that individual or with what that person is, that CEO is making, I am concerned with my constituents and how much their premiums are and you know, as we’ve seen we try to legislate and prevent them from doing that but that wasn’t possible. So we’ll move on to the last section of the Bill, which is the, I have to
say is the best part of the Bill. My favorite part of the Bill the part that reduces well hopes to reduce the cost of prescriptions and as the Chairman so kindly explained before, we’re looking to what I would say is go right around some of these manufacturers in the United States. I think we saw some of the testimony on TV at the federal level asking some of these CEOs why, why do prescriptions cost so much, why can I buy it from Canada for probably a tenth of the price but when we look to buy it in the United States all of a sudden the price goes up. We’ve seen some other shows people are going to Mexico to buy their scripts because it’s cheaper down there and so somebody came up with an idea we’re gonna go right, we’re gonna go right to Canada. We are gonna bypass some of these manufacturers here in the States, we’re gonna go to Canada, we’re gonna, we’re gonna cut them out. Try to save money and how knows maybe they’ll respond one way or another. We’ll have to see so with that, just do we require federal approval of this plan in
order for us to enact this part of the Bill the part relating to the Canadian drug prescriptions.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And if that part is not approved, will what will happen to this part of the Bill? Is there anything that will still be able to survive in those sections?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Our constituents will continue to pay
exorbitant prices for drug prices.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And just to go back real quick if the 1332 Waiver is not approved what will happen to the fee that is placed on insurance companies?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

The fee is contingent upon Federal approval of the 1332 Waiver which means that no fee will be assessed should we not get 1332 approval.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And will the departments that will be set up, I
believe the, this is through the Consumer of Commission of the Department of Consumer Protection is that correct?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

And the Department of Public Health.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And so will those programs not be set up until the Federal Program is approved?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes, if we get Federal approval DCP and DPH much put together a plan to actually do this. They
have to come back to us and share that plan with us and they after a certain period of time can begin finding Canadian or approving Canadian wholesalers of drugs to sell to Connecticut pharmacies.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Any my last question, did the Canadian drug prescription part, did that receive a Public Hearing?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

I’m glad you asked, Representative Pavalock-D’Amato because in the original Bill of this we put a study of whether or not we could import drugs from Canada and the reason for that was because up until about a month ago, only one state had passed drug reimimportation that was the State of Vermont in 2018.
Our President, President Trump, called a meeting with Governor Ron DeSantis of Florida who is the Governor of Florida after Governor DeSantis had passed a drug importation bill so once we realized that another state had passed a similar bill and that the President specifically directed the HHS Secretary Alex Azar to approve Florida’s plan we thought that we actually had all the information we would need and didn’t have to study whether or not we should do importation we could actually just do importation and again AARP has said that 35 to 55 percent cost differential cheaper from Canadian drugs, 35 to 55 percent. That’s big savings and that is why we decided to change this up after the Public Hearing.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And I want to thank the Chairman of the Insurance Committee, his Co-Chair and all the
individuals who do put a lot of work into these Bills into finding solutions for not only our seniors but these who are less fortunate, those who require these medications to live who in the past have been having to make choices and whether they afford food or whether they afford their medication. So again there are, I think, not just the drug but a couple of other parts in this Bill that I do like. I do think that we could find the money for the 1332 Waiver from other parts of the budget. I know making health care a priority has been a constant theme throughout our Insurance Committee and I wish that other individuals putting together the budget, you know, if health care was important that they would have made it a priority cause if they did I think that some of this money would have been put in there. So where as I see people saying health care is a priority, it is a right, I don’t see the actions behind it and again as there are many good parts in this Bill I like and I appreciate, I cannot support it in its current form but again I want to
thank everybody for their hard work and constant, constant desire to find a better solution for everybody in the State of Connecticut. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, madam. Would you care to remark on the Amendment before us? Do you care to remark further? Representative Polletta you have the floor. Would anyone care to remark further on the Amendment before us. Representative Petit you have the floor, sir.

REP. PETIT (22ND):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I will be brief. Through you.

To the proponent, so my biggest concerns were about the benchmarks and perhaps I can best phrase it in terms of an example in terms of benchmarking as I dare to benchmark a system, a group or an individual and by that I mean, you can take health care system “A” that has an oncology division and has a MD that specializes in a certain form of cancer therapy that is quite expensive so when they
are looking at the benchmarks they are looking at the overall costs of the health care system that specific oncology group or that individual physician.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

The idea behind this is to get a global picture of what’s happening and then give everybody and opportunity to tell us what they think is happening according to the benchmark. As I said to Representative Pavolock-D’Amato earlier, if there are things that we do for example in this Building that cause them to exceed that benchmark we want them to tell us that because we think that is good public information for us to consider and weigh but we’re not trying to single out specific doctor practices we are trying to look at health care from a global perspective and find ways that we can lower
the cost of health care on top of what we think will
do so in the other two sections of this Bill.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Petit.

REP. PETIT (22ND):

Thank you. Throughout the Bill it refers to
the Executive Director, I assume that is referring
to the Executive Director of the Office of Health
Strategy or does that refer to an executive director
of his benchmark committee?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

The Executive Director of the Office of Health
Strategy.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Petit.
REP. PETIT (22ND):

Thank you. I also have some concerns in Section 5, some of the requirements seem a little bit invasive for certain groups in that they are looking for data on costs, essentially proprietary business information because I thought the issue was to look at the final changes as opposed to how that was arrived. I wonder if the proponent could comment on what the discussion has been concerning Section 5 and the type of information they are asking groups to provide?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Lines 259 through 263 there is a provision about confidentiality where it says “the office shall not disclose any provide specific data or information unless the executive director provides at least ten days’ advanced written notices of such
disclosure to each provider that would be effective by” it.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Petit.

REP. PETIT (22ND):

Thank you.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

The new Quality Council will it replace the SIM Group of the SIM Quality Council?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Petit.

REP. PETIT (22ND):

Perfect, thank you. I think that’s all I had Mr. Speaker. I thank the proponent for his answers.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

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

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Those opposed, nay. The Ayes have it, [Gavel] the Amendment is adopted. Will you care to remark further on the Bill as Amended? Will you care to remark further on the Bill as Amended? If not will the Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. 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 CANDELARIA (95TH):
Have all members voted? Have all members voted? Please check the board to insure that your vote has been 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 Bill No. 7267 as Amended by House “A”

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DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Bill as Amended passes [Gavel]. Are there any announcements or introductions? Representative Perone for what purpose do you rise?

REP. PERONE (137TH):

Mr. Speaker, I wish to actually on the previous vote cast my vote in the affirmative.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
The Journal will note that. Thank you. The transcript will note that. Are there any announcements or introductions? Representative Rutigliano you have the floor, sir.

REP. RUTIGLIANO (123RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker in Trumbull we have a lot to celebrate and today I am joined by my colleagues Representative Develin and McGorty to celebrate the Trumbull We The People Team. The We the People is a national program in which students participate in simulated congressional hearings, they testify as constitutional experts before panels of judges acting as a congressional Committee. We are lucky and proud of our Trumbull delegation as they have won the state championship this past year in 2018 Trumbull’s eight consecutive win and the 24th since the program was instituted. I would like to turn it over to Representative Devlin with your indulgence, sir.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
You may proceed. Representative you may proceed, please.

REP. DEVLIN (134TH):

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the good Representative was saying we are so proud of these kids and not only do their accomplishments come from just their own inner-drive and smarts and everything else and commitment but we know the importance of our educators and with them today is Katie Boland who is a teacher at Trumbull High in U.S. Government and Constitutional Studies in fact these are all seniors in her class and Katie was the 2017 Connecticut History of the Year. So we are as proud of her as all these kids and welcome the Chamber to please join us in helping them celebrate their accomplishments. Thank you [Applause].

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Welcome and this is your House. Representative Stafstrom for what purpose do you rise, sir?

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Mr. Speaker I rise to ask the Chamber for a
moment of silence. Last, yesterday our State’s Legal Industry lost a trailblazing titan of the legal industry. Judge Ellen B. Burns broke about every glass ceiling for females in our state’s legal history and I am thrilled to be joined by the Ranking Member of the Judiciary Committee to ask the Chamber for a moment of silence for Judge Burns. Judge Burns was born and raised in the New Haven area. She was the first female to graduate from the Yale University Law School in 1947, the only female in her class. For almost 25 years she served this General Assembly in what was then called the Office of Legal Services, the predecessor of LCO. She was the first woman appointed to what was then called the Court of Common Pleas and became known obviously as our superior court. In May of 1978 then President Carter had the foresight to appoint her as the first female federal judge for the District of Connecticut. She served 40 years on the federal bench and was Chief Judge of the District Court from 1988 to 1992. She retired in March of 2015 at the
age of 91 having served her entire career in service to our State and our Federal Judiciary. Mr. Speaker I think it is fitting that this Chamber offer a moment of silence.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Chamber will stand for a moment of silence.

[Gavel] Chamber will come back to Order. Will the Clerk please call Calendar Number 686?

CLERK:

On Page 56, Calendar 686, Substitute Senate Bill No. 838 AN ACT CONCERNING REQUIRED HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE AND COST-SHARING FOR MAMMOGRAMS AND BREAST ULTRASOUNDS. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations. Representative Scanlon, you have the floor, sir.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Good Afternoon again, Mr. Speaker. I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Question before this Chamber is on the
Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. You may proceed, sir.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This Bill is a Bill that we passed in the House last week that deals with optometry, I apologize for the different Bill that is on the Board right now but in order to address a technical fix that was in the Bill, that was not in the Bill that we passed last week, we have now this Bill before us and the Clerk is in possession of an Amendment, Amendment LCO 10705, I ask that I be grated leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Would the Clerk please call LCO No. 10705?

CLERK:

LCO No. 10705 designated House Amendment Schedule “A” and offered by Representative Scanlon and Senator Lessor.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Representative seeks leave of the Chamber
to summarize the Amendment. Is there any objections to summarization, any objections? If not, Representative Scanlon you have the floor, sir.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Thank you again, Mr. Speaker. Again this is a Bill that I believe that we passed 150 to 1 last week and makes a technical fix to make sure that the Taft-Hartley Labor Plans are not adversely affected by the Bill that we passed last week and I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Question before this Chamber is on Adoption. Will you care to remark further? Will you care to remark further on the Amendment before us? If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it, the Amendment is adopted [Gavel]. Will you remark
further on the Bill as Amended? Representative Pavalock-D’Amato. You have the floor, madam.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the Chairman could just explain why an optometrist Bill is under a Bill entitled AN ACT CONCERNING REQUIRED HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE AND COST-SHARING FOR MAMMOGRAMS AND BREAST ULTRASOUNDS?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

The good news is because this Bill actually ended up in the budget that we debated yesterday, this Amendment being today and because we were making a technical change to a Bill that we passed but in the essence of getting the Senate to also pass this Bill it was helpful to have them send a Bill down to us that we could send back up to them and they could consider this Bill in due time.
Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And I believe as the good gentleman said that this does comply with federal law if he could just quickly say how this is different from the last Bill that complied with federal law which I believe is just the last section.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Correct.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

That is all, thank you Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, madam. Will you care to remark
further on the Amendment before us? Do you care to remark further on the Bill before us? If not 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 CANDELARIA (95TH):

Have all members voted? Please check the board to determine if your vote is properly cast. Have all members voted? Please check the board to ensure that your vote has been 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:

Senate Bill No. 838 as Amended by House “A”

Total Number Voting 139
Necessary for Passage 70
Those voting Yea 139
Those voting Nay 0
Absent not voting 12

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Bill as Amended passes [Gavel]. The Chamber will stand-at-ease.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar No. 559?

CLERK:

On Page 39, Calendar No. 559, Substitute Senate Bill No. 58, AN ACT CONCERING GAY AND TRANSGENDER PANIC DEFENSE. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Stafstrom you have the floor, sir.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Mr. Speaker, I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
The Question is on the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate. Would you care to remark?

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Mr. Speaker the Bill before us is one that comes out of the Judiciary Committee in response to instances we’ve seen around the country where individuals have tried to claim a gay panic defense or a temporary insanity or lack of substantial capacity defense based on finding out that someone is gay or perceiving someone’s sex or sexual orientation. The Bill before us would ban that as a defense in the State of Connecticut a step that other states that are taking in response to these cases we’ve seen around the country. I urge support of the Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further on the Bill before us? Representative Rebimbas, you have the floor madam.
REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I rise in support of the proposal before us, the good Chairman did highlight certainly what the Bill does, just want to make sure that it is clear that there are several other categories not just as its title is named but this goes as far as victims of actual perceived sexual orientation or gender identity of expression so it goes far beyond any one particular category in that regard and again this is just, it does not allow for the sole defense of justification of any physical force in that regard. Certainly people are going to be able to, both sides, be able to articulate their experiences and what occurred but again this is just eliminating inexcusably is it not a sole defense for physical violence and it never should be. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in its support.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, madam. Would you care to remark further on the Bill before us? Representative
REP. FISHBEIN (90TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and well it’s good afternoon. I am in support of this and I just to clarify have some questions for the proponent.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, sir.

REP. FISHBEIN (90TH):

Thank you. Can you identify any case, well let’s start with this, any state in the Country that recognizes this defense in its statutes?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I don’t know that any state has a specific defense in its statute that says it is okay or justification to use physical harm against someone because you find out about their sexual orientation or you perceive something about their sexual
orientation but we have seen instances around the
country where individuals have tried to use the
either temporary insanity or lack of substantial
capacity defense in order to claim they’re not, they
didn’t have the mens rea to commit a criminal act in
these types of instances. So what the proposal
before us would do is simply narrow or make sure
it’s clear that the lack of substantial capacity
defense in our statutes does not extend to
perceptions about someone’s sexual orientation.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Fishbein.

REP. FISHBEIN (90TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just, it wraps in
there, I think there was an answer to the question,
just trying to find out if some state has codified
this defense in their statutes.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Stafstrom.
REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I don’t believe any state has codified this defense in their statute, I do believe states have done what we are proposing to do here today which is to codify in our statute that this is not a defense.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Fishbein.

REP. FISHBEIN (90TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just moving forward can the good Representative identify any case that has ever been adjudicated in this country where this defense has been used successfully?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I’m not aware of anywhere it has been totally successful. I know it, I believe there are a few
cases that are up on appeal where not using the
defense or the trial court not allowing the defense
is being challenged.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Fishbein.

REP. FISHBEIN (90TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And similarly has anybody ever attempted to use this defense in the State of Connecticut?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Not to my knowledge.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Fishbein.

REP. FISHBEIN (90TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You know, Mr. Speaker just by the way of comment, you know, from my
perspective separate is not equal and unfortunately whoever reviewed this language and put it into the system either didn’t completely review the Bill or they were directed as to what the title should be because it’s quite clear when one reads the Bill that it is gender neutral and that’s of solace to me because when we create protected classes and those kinds of things and we separate people then we are not equal and our Constitution says that we are equal and I do sit on the Judiciary Committee and did ask questions about this and my concern was whether, how it would be applied and one of the respondents told me that I was wrong to utilize the title in my analysis of this and they were absolutely correct because although publicity, public relations says this is something that we need, I am in support of nobody being able to use gender against someone else no matter what it is as defense for violence. So for that reason, I am in favor of this and just want it clear that while it is titled one thing, the actual language says
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something much more even and equal. So Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further? Representative Dubitsky, you’ve got the floor, sir.

REP. DUBITSKY (47TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A couple of quick questions to the proponent if I may.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, sir.

REP. DUBITSKY (47TH):

Thank you. I am just trying to figure out a scenario where this Bill would come into play since we, I have not heard of any where it has been used or attempted to be used. I did hear of a situation I believe it was in Texas but I could be wrong about the state, it was a few weeks ago where a group of high school girls were in a locker room and a man came in pretending to be a woman and he apparently was simply a voyeur and not, and had no actual
expression as a woman other than that he was trying to sneak a peek. In that situation my understanding was that these girls beat the guy up. Would this come into play, this Bill, in a situation like that?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I don’t believe that is the main intent or import of this Bill. I think this Bill is more the situation where someone comes out as gay and says, tells that to somebody and the other person has a visceral reaction to that and uses some sort of physical violence and says the reason I did that was because I was shocked or disturbed or upset as a result of that admission and this Bill would simply say that is not an instance of lack of capacity or temporary insanity as maybe known more in the colloquial sense.

Through you.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Dubitsky.

REP. DUBITSKY (47TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate that answer and, you know, certainly for the situation that the good Chairman of the Judiciary Committee indicates I would be supportive of it. I just want to make sure that this Bill would not unintentionally be expanded to situations like the one that I just described and I thank the Chairman for his answer and thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further on the Bill before us? Representative Allie-Brennan, you have the floor, sir.

REP. ALLIE-BRENNAN (2ND):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just wanted to comment on this Bill, I am obviously in support. I do want to point out that in 1998 Matthew Shepherd, many may remember him, he was strung up on a fence, pistol-whipped, beaten and laid out for 18 hours in
the cold. He died in a coma and this defense is used during that case so I wanted to point out it is a very important case that we should not forget about and that as we see more increases in hate crimes in this country it is important for us to look out for everybody especially the LGBTQ community here in the state. People don’t know what it’s like to walk down a street and look behind your back and wonder is someone offended by me, does someone not like me, what are they gonna do to me so this is our job to look out for the people. This Bill is a good Bill. It’s a great way to make sure we are preventing anyone from having this defense used against them. Thank you so much.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further? Representative Currey you have the floor, sir.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to briefly say this is a good Bill, ought to pass. I really
think the work done by the Judiciary Committee Chairs and Ranking members and also for those who tried their comments today. Thank you very much.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further? If not Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. 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 CANDELARIA (95TH):

Have all members voted? Please check the board to ensure that your vote has been 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:

Senate Bill 58 in concurrence with the Senate.
Total Number Voting 142
Necessary for Passage 72
Those voting Yea 142
Those voting Nay 0
Absent not voting 9

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Bill passes in concurrence with the Senate

[Speaker raises gavel. Will the Clerk please call Calendar No. 456?]

CLERK:


DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Turco, you have the floor, sir.

REP. TURCO (27TH):

Mr. Speaker, I move the Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Question is Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. Representative Turco you have the floor, sir.

REP. TURCO (27TH):

Mr. Speaker current law already exempts until July 1, 2020 certain independent higher education institutions from requirements related to the Office of Higher Education approval process for new programs and program modifications. Currently under the law, these independent colleges are exempt for up to 12 new programs or modifications per academic year and this Bill is making that exemption which currently expires July 1, 2020 permanent, Mr. Speaker. These institutions must be accredited, they must be accredited and located in Connecticut for up to ten years. There is also other criteria that these institutions must follow to be able to have this exemption for 12 new programs or modifications a year. And, Mr. Speaker you know,
our private institutions are trying very hard to meet the needs of our workforce, meet the needs of our industries in the State and they need to have the flexibility to create this 12 new programs each academic year to keep up with industry trends. Mr. Speaker I move adoption of this Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will you care to remark further on the Bill before us? Representative Hall, you have the floor madam.

REP. HALL (7TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and good afternoon. Just a few comments on the Bill. I rise in support of this Bill. We actually had quite a bit of testimony from our private colleges throughout the state on this particular Bill. I am going to run through a quick list of who they were and they all testified in favor of this Bill. We heard from the Vice President of Goodwin College, the Vice President of the University of Bridgeport, the Chief Executive Office of POST, the Prevost of St.
Joseph’s, the President of Fairfield University, the
Vice President of Alberto Magnus College, the
Provost of Sacred Heart University, the President of
Mitchell College, the Provost of the University of
Hartford, the President of Connecticut Conference of
Independent Colleges. This Bill is supported by
CBIA and CMC. It came out of Committee unanimously.
Great Bill, ought to pass.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, madam. Will you care to remark
further? Representative Yaccarino you have the
floor, sir.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, good afternoon. I
stand in support of this Bill. I want to thank the
Chairs and the Ranking Member of Higher Education
and it is really important to our private
institutions and on that list was also the
Quinnipiac University President so I think it is
important for our universities and they do a
wonderful job and it gives them some, their freedom
for the program so I urge your support and I want to thank the Chairs and the Ranking Members of the Higher Ed Committee, thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Care to remark further.

Representative Carney you have the floor, sir.

REP. CARNEY (23RD):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I’ve just one quick question.

Through you.

To the good proponent of the Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, sir.

REP. CARNEY (23RD):

I was just curious if the good Foreman could tell me are any colleges currently exempt from this, there is a permanent, I guess, moratorium on any certain colleges out there today?

Through you.

REP. TURCO (27TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, there are four
independent colleges that are currently exempt due to their charter, Yale, Wesleyan, Connecticut College and there’s one more. Trinity College.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Carney.

REP. CARNEY (23RD):

Thank you very much, I appreciate the good Vice-Chair of the Higher Education Committee for that response and what that I think this is an outstanding Bill, getting additional colleges I guess in the same line as those afore mentioned. This is the type of Bill I think we should be passing here, more bills like this that are good for our colleges, get them out from under the oversight of government on this and it’s good for business and good for the future of the State of Connecticut of I hope all my colleagues will support it.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further? Representative Haddad you have the floor,
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker it is a rare occasion I think in this Chamber that the Chair of a Committee will rise in opposition to a piece of legislation that came out of his Committee but that is about to happen. I completely respect the opinion and the work that Representative Turco and Representative Hall and other advocates of this legislation have put forward and I am a pragmatic legislator and understand that there is a broad consensus in this room for passage of this legislation. But I did just want to say a couple of things with reasons why I will stand outside of that consensus today. I am not asking any of my colleagues to support me in this but I do think that for the record I want to sort of point out a couple of things. One is, you know,, we’ve been having this conversation for a number of years. This is the second moratorium, we’re halfway through the second moratorium program approval. The first one
was enacted three years ago. That was after we made a considerable amount of effort to ensure that the process used by the Office of Higher Education is a fair one for our independent universities and colleges and in fact they have a process right now that limits their approval process to just 45 days. The amount of time it takes to construct a new program is actually quite more extensive than that but a 45 delay, day approval process, so I think is reasonable and prudent. And I think that it provides us with the assurance that the programs that are offered by independent colleges in Connecticut will be of a quality that we can be proud of. I am grateful that this new legislation that makes permanent our current moratorium includes the limit to 12 programs. When we first enacted the moratorium on program approval we did not have that limitation and it was of great concern to me to learn that there was one institution in the State of Connecticut that approved over 35 new degree programs in the first two year period of that
moratorium and indication I think that more care could have been taken to ensure that those programs and those degree programs were quality, a quality that we can be proud of. I am not saying at all that I think most of the institutions in the State of Connecticut I think will do right by their students. I think many of the institutions that we all know and care about in Connecticut are outstanding institutions. I trust that they will not overextend their ability to provide a quality programing for their students and it certainly that would be my expectation. But I don’t think that, the same could be said of every institution in Connecticut even as we were testifying, college presidents were testifying in favor of this legislation nobody defended all of the institutions in a way that they took this ability, this deregulated environment enacted and so I reluctantly stand outside of the consensus on this Bill today and I hope that it works out well. I think it does give the Office of Higher Education the ability
moving forward to refocus it’s purpose and do some more planning as it steps out of a regulatory role and I look forward to working with them as they continue to restructure their work for the betterment of our higher education system in Connecticut and I think passage of this Bill will give us an opportunity to move on from this issue and to undertake that work. So with that Mr. Speaker, I thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further on the Bill before us? Will you care to remark further on the Bill before us? If not will Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. 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
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Have all members voted? Please check the board to ensure that your vote has been properly cast. If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally. Representative O’Neill.

REP. O'NEILL (69TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. May I be recorded in the affirmative?

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

We will record you in the affirmative. Will the Clerk please take the tally. Will the Clerk please announce the tally?

CLERK:

Senate Bill No. 26 in concurrence with the Senate.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Bill passes [Gavel].

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Will the Clerk please call Calendar 553?

CLERK:


DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Turco.

REP. TURCO (27TH):

Madam Speaker, I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

The Question is on I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.
Representative Turco, you have the floor, sir.

REP. TURCO (27TH):

Madam Speaker, this Bill was previously before us, it was passed temporarily. We did pass Senate Amendment “A” which was just an Amendment to change the definition of apprenticeship to match the Department of Labor’s. Now we are moving on to pass the underlying Bill and just to remind the Chamber that this Bill is trying to help those nontraditional learners, people that are earning an apprentice, that are part of an apprenticeship to be able to use that apprenticeship experience towards a bachelor’s degree. And what this Bill is doing is requiring the Labor Department and the Board of Regent’s of higher education to jointly together create a plan of how an apprenticeship program, the experience from that, the skills earned from that can then be translated to a bachelor’s degree, so the amount of credits they’ll receive, what kind of programs they’ll be able to apply for and then how they go from there to get a bachelor’s degree. They
have to present the plan to the Committee on Higher Education and then implement it from there if there are any recommendations or modifications the Committee recommends. I move its adoption, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Thank you, Representative. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Representative Hall of the 59th.

REP. HALL (7TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. As our good Vice-Chair of the Higher Ed Committee kind of summarized very quickly this was the Bill that we were talking about the other day. It came out of Committee unanimous, great Bill, I support the Amendment, ought to pass. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Thank you, Representative. Representative Ackert, this is the Bill as Amended, sir.

REP. ACKERT (8TH):

Thank you and sometimes you get distracted in
this Building, so thank you, Madam Speaker and I rise in strong support of this legislation. It is always interesting to here nontraditional learners though. I feel myself as being a very traditional learner and having gone through the apprenticeship program and gained college credits, matter of fact, one of the schools I know that teaches apprentices gets 40 college credits for their learning, so this is, we’re all traditional learners. We just may not go through a college or something so we all are learners. I do appreciate the good work by the Committee on this and I believe that those that are in getting apprenticeships whatever it may be, especially in my area of electrical that electrical engineering degree or plumbers and pipe fitters and a mechanical engineering degree. These give them opportunities that maybe they get in the trades and then decided they want to go into teaching and need that degree for teaching. So well done by the Committee and thank you for your efforts. Thank you, Madam Speaker.
DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Thank you, Representative. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Representative Nolan.

REP. NOLAN (39TH):

Thank you.

And through you, Madam Chair.

I just stand in full support of this Bill. I have numerous young adults in our community that go forward for apprenticeship with carpentry, with electric, with plumbing and I believe that this will give them an advantage and when they want to go to any college funded programs, that they will be able to have extra credit for those experiences that they have had so I thank the fellow Rep for the Bill that is being presented and those who helped him put it together. Thank you, madam.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Thank you, Representative. Will you remark further? Representative Lavielle.

REP. LAVIELLE (143RD):
Thank you, Madam Speaker. Good afternoon.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Good afternoon, Representative.

REP. LAVIELLE (143RD):

I know that the last time we had this Bill before us, I asked some questions and made some remarks and let me say that for people who are entering careers and want to get some credit for their apprenticeships I think it is great. I think that is wonderful but where I have a concern is what they are getting credit for. We have a lot of certification programs, associate degree programs, lots of different ways to get a qualification to continue in a profession. There are some professions that also require bachelor’s degrees. And I fear that with putting this into statue and going farther we are actually confusing what our definition of a bachelor’s degree is with other more vocationally related programs, bachelor’s degree is an academic qualification and I do appreciate that many people are going into professions that require
both work experiences and bachelor’s degrees, I think that is great and if their apprenticeships can lead to a qualification in any of the other sort of certificate programs or whatever it is they can get to move ahead I think that should be done, that absolutely must be done, but a bachelor’s degree is something different and it does demand a certain level of academic accomplishment. I also am, and I appreciate that there is still some commission work and report to be done on this, but I am having some trouble imagining how the evaluation of someone’s performance in an apprenticeship translates to an academic system. So much as I appreciate the sentiment behind the Bill and in many respects absolutely support the concept, the implications it has for academic bachelor’s degrees are, are for me a hurdle in going farther. Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Thank you, Representative. Will you remark further? Representative Haddad.
REP. HADDAD (54TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I appreciate the opportunity to rise again. Representative Turco took the last Bill and I wanted to make sure he understood that I supported him on this piece of legislation. He’s done a great job on our Committee advocating for a number of different initiatives and I thank him for his work. I rise in support of this legislation. I actually hear the concern raised by Representative Lavielle and take that seriously. I think the accreditation standards that our universities use really demand that it is the faculty themselves of institutions that are making the final determination about the academic program and that we do that to ensure that the programs that are offered by our institutions are of good sound quality. And this does not undo that. I think this allows us to have a conversation about whether or not there is knowledge that is gained by going through an apprenticeship and about whether or not that knowledge would appropriately substitute for a
prerequisite on the path to a bachelor’s degree. I think it is a question well worth exploring. I anticipate that the answer in many cases will be yes and think that will encourage students and young people that have gone through apprenticeships to move on to earn their bachelor’s degree and further their careers. Thank you, Madam President.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Thank you, Representative. Will you remark further? Representative McLachlan.

REP. MAC LACHLAN (35TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. A few questions for the proponent of the Bill and a brief comment.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Turco, please prepare yourself. Representative MacLachlan please proceed, sir.

REP. MAC LACHLAN (35TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker and good afternoon.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Good afternoon, sir.

REP. MAC LACHLAN (35TH):
Through you, Madam Speaker.

What is the limitation on particularly age group or grade that this apprenticeship study would apply to, apply for?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Turco.

REP. TURCO (27TH):

Through you, Madam Speaker.

There is no limitation on age within the Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative MacLachlan.

REP. MAC LACHLAN (35TH):

I appreciate that. I may have misspoken. What I meant to ask Madam Speaker is, are high school students able to participate or contemplate at all in this Bill as Amended or is the program limited to college students?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Turco.
REP. TURCO (27TH):

Through you, Madam Speaker.

Generally no because that is one of the things that the Amendment did in this Bill that we previously adopted this. The definition according to the Department of Labor of apprenticeship is generally somebody that is already graduated high school and is working fulltime.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative MacLachlan.

REP. MAC LACHLAN (35TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker and I certainly appreciate that. I was going through the Public Hearing testimony and one of the organizations that testified suggested that a structured apprenticeship programs could provide opportunities specifically for teachers currently in their associate’s degree seeking a bachelor’s degree but still working in the classroom.

Through you, Madam Speaker.
Would the proponent of the Bill agree with that suggestion that we are creating some opportunities for teachers who are in the process of acquiring their bachelor’s degree?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Turco.

REP. TURCO (27TH):

Through you, Madam Speaker.

If the teacher was actively in an apprenticeship program then yes, this would allow them the opportunity through that apprenticeship to potentially be able to use that experiences towards a bachelor’s.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative MacLachlan.

REP. MAC LACHLAN (35TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I thank the proponent for his answers. I think apprenticeships are fantastic programs, you know, our friends across
the Atlantic a number of countries in Europe do a great job of offering apprenticeship programs, identifying skillsets at a young age and identifying which students would benefit more from alternative forms of vocational learning and so I am really encouraged that our body is taking this step forward to work with the appropriate organizations to better define how we can open up on the job experiences, on the job learning to young people and prepare them for the economy of the future. So I thank the proponent for his answers and I will be happy to support this Bill. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Thank you, Representative. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? If not will Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. 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 COOK (65TH):

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

Representative Terry Wood for what reason do you rise, madam?

REP. WOOD (141ST):

Thank you, Madam Chair. I wish to change my vote to the affirmative. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

You vote will be changed to the affirmative.

Welcome to the Chamber, Representative Poletta. What can we do for you, sir?

REP. POLLETTA (68TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker and I wish to be recorded in the affirmative.
DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

We will record your vote in the affirmative. Will the Clerk. We will close the board. Will please announce the tally.

CLERK:

Senate Bill No. 607 as Amended by Senate “A” in concurrence with the Senate.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

The Bill as Amended is passed [Gavel]. Our fine Majority Leader, Representative Ritter.

REP. RITTER (1ST):

Madam Speaker, it’s always nice to see you up there?

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

It’s nice to be seen.

REP. RITTER (1ST):
It’s nice to hear that too. I move that we immediately transmit all items awaiting further action in the Senate pursuant to our House rules. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

If there is no objection, so ordered [Gavel]. Are there announcements or introductions? The fine Representative and Chairman of Human Services Representative Abercrombie.

REP. ABERCROMBIE (83RD):

For the purpose of a presentation.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Please proceed, madam. I see you have some guests.

REP. ABERCROMBIE (83RD):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Colleagues, on behalf of Representative Zupkus and myself, we want to take this opportunity to really thank everybody in this Chamber for your contributions and today we are joined by Vince Santilli from Homes for the Brave who we would like to present a check for
$2,333,00 on behalf of this Chamber. [Applause] And Madam Speaker, if I may I would like to turn the mic over to my good colleague for a few comments also.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

If there is no objection, yes you may, madam.

REP. ZUPKUS (89TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to thank everybody. I know we were always giving money and donating and this is a really great cause and it wasn’t just the people in this Chamber that were generous, our bipartisan staff, our Capital Police, our lobbyists everybody in this Building donated and made an effort for a great cause. So thank you to each one of you for letting us beg you do donate. Thank you. And if I may I would like to give Vince the opportunity just to say a couple of words.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

I’m sorry.

REP. ZUPKUS (89TH):

I’m sorry, my apologies to the Chamber, not allowed to do that. I apologize. But with that,
thank you all again. We so appreciate your support and I’m sure on behalf of Vince, we say thank you very much. Thanks, guys [Applause].

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Thank you very much and Vince, thank you for what you do. [Applause].

Any further announcements or introductions? If not we will go back to our Calendar. Will the Clerk please call Calendar 722?

CLERK:

On Page 69, House Calendar 722 House Joint Resolution 170, RESOLUTION CONCERING THE BOND COCENANT. This is Emergency Certification introduced by Representative Aresimowicz, Representative Ritter.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Our fine Representative of the Finance Committee, Representative Rojas.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I move for Adoption of House Joint Resolution 170.
DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

The Question before the Chamber is Acceptance of the House Joint Resolution 170. Is there objection? Is there objection? Hearing none, Representative Rojas you may proceed, sir.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. The Resolution before us is a request from the Treasurer’s Office seeking to clarify legislative intent for legislation that we passed in 2017 and 2018 pertaining to our bond covenant statutes that we put into place to ensure that absent from the bond cap, exempted from the bond cap would be GO refunding bonds, short-term revenue anticipation notes and $500 million dollars’ worth of GO bonds that were to be used for transportation. I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

The Question before the Chamber is adoption of the Resolution. Will you remark further on the Resolution? Representative Davis.

REP. DAVIS (57TH):
Thank you, Madam Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I believe this resolution is before us because when we passed the bond caps in 2017 on a bipartisan basis there was discussion in the next legislative session about moving somethings outside of that bond cap, somethings that one could argue could make some sense like refunding bonds, trying to go and get a lower interest rate on those bonds. I had concerns about moving revenue anticipatory notes outside of that bond cap. There is also discussion of moving the $250 million dollars a year in GO bonds that would otherwise be used for transportation purposes from outside that cap so that we can move forward with the responsible transportation plan. Madam Speaker, what ended up happening was the bond counsel for the State of Connecticut that wrote the covenants neglected to reflect the intent of those measures that were passed in 2018 when writing those covenants that were issued later on that year in May.

Through you, Madam Speaker.
I do have a couple of questions to the proponent of the Resolution.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Please proceed, sir.

REP. DAVIS (57TH):

Through you, Madam Speaker.

Have we ever as a body, as a General Assembly, ever had to pass a similar resolution as to this one confirming the intent of the legislation or legislature or previous legislature for that matter and the intent of that previous legislature dealing with something like this?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Rojas.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

Through you, Madam Speaker.

I don’t know the entire history of that question, in at least the last eleven years that I’ve been here I’ve never seen us have to do this.

Through you.
DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Davis.

REP. DAVIS (57TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

And through you.

The changes that were made to the bond cap that was clearly the intent of the legislature prior to those covenants being drafted and actually sold as part of the bonds that were sold that year, were those Bills passed prior to those covenants being written?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Rojas.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

Through you, Madam Speaker.

Yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Davis.

REP. DAVIS (57TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. And I see that what
we’re actually doing here in this resolution would be ratifying and confirming the formal opinion of the attorney general indicating that that was the true intent of the legislature in those covenants should be interpreted to reflect the intent of the legislature although the counsel did not draft those covenants in that manner. Is that correct?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Rojas.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

Through you, Madam Speaker.

That is correct. Then Attorney General Jepsen’s legal opinion he made clear that it was clear that the legislator in plain language in terms of legislative intent was for those particular items to be exempted from the bond caps.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Davis.

REP. DAVIS (57TH):
Thank you, Madam Speaker.

And through you Madam Speaker.

Has the General Assembly ever voted to ratify and confirm the conclusions set forth in a formal opinion by the attorney general?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Rojas.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

Through you, Madam Speaker.

I am not aware of that.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Davis.

REP. DAVIS (57TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker there was another issue that came up in the budget debate the bipartisan budget debate that we had in 2017 and 2018 that dealt specifically with indebtedness similar to this Resolution that we are dealing with today. If you all remember as part of the bipartisan budget in 2017 the legislature approved
financial assistance to our Capital City. It was approved that we would give them a certain amount of money for two years to help prevent them from going bankrupt. And in doing so, there was a piece of that legislation that allowed the treasurer and the OPM secretary to come to an agreement with the City of Hartford to use that funding for those two years. It was clear that the intent was for it to be happening for only over two years and instead despite the clear intent of the legislature the state treasurer and the OPM secretary entered into negotiations without consultation with the legislature and signed a massive 20 year agreement to take on the debt of the City of Hartford to the tune of $550 million dollars. Clearly outside of the intent of the legislature. And Madam Speaker, the Clerk is in possession of an Amendment LCO No. 10772. I ask that the Amendment be called and I be allowed to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO 10772 which will
be designated as House Amendment Schedule “A”.

CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule “A” LCO No. 10772 offered by Representative Klarides, Representative Candelora, etal.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Will you remark on the Amendment?

Representative Davis.

REP. DAVIS (57TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. This Amendment makes clear and would put into this Resolution at the end of it, it doesn’t strike it at all, it adds to it, to make it clear yet again what the true intent of the legislature was. It actually calls for us to restate and reconfirm the intent of the legislature that the pledge made by the State to the City of Hartford for $40 million dollars each year for two years of the budget’s biennium and creating those accounts to do so that that was the true intent of the legislature and it was not the intent of the legislature to extend such assistance to include
$550 million dollars over a 20 year period.

Mr. Speaker I move adoption and I ask that when the vote be taken that it be taken by role.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

The Question before the Chamber is on adoption of the Amendment. Given the substantive of the resolution, we will be taking this by role. Will you remark further on the Resolution?

REP. DAVIS (57TH):

Madam Speaker. I would like to continue to remark. Thank you, Madam Speaker. On March 28, 2018 it became public that this agreement was done in secret without consultation with the legislature between the OPM secretary and the treasurer of the State of Connecticut. On that day, March 28, 2018, a letter was sent to Secretary Barnes and Treasure Denise Nappier. It specifically stated that the agreement provided by the Office of Policy and Management do not accurately reflect the legislative intent of the bipartisan budget. Madam Speaker that was signed by the President of the Senate Martin
Looney and the Senate Majority Leader Bob Duff. Similar letters were also sent by the Senate Republican President at that time Len Fasano and House Republican Leader Dennis Klarides. It is quite clear that it was never the intent of the Connecticut General Assembly to give a 20-year deal to the City of Hartford to the tune of $550 million dollars. And Madam Speaker this Resolution very similar to the underlying Resolution makes it clear that it was never the intent of the Connecticut General Assembly. And I encourage its support.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Will you remark further on the Amendment? Will you remark further? Representative Rojas.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I want to thank the proponent of the Amendment for addressing his concerns. I know they have been a concern to him and to other members of his caucus although I would urge my colleagues to reject this Amendment. I am unsure of the legal ramifications of this Amendment
on the Bill on the bond issues in the underlying
Bill so that this time I would ask that my
colleagues reject this Amendment. Thank you

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Thank you, Representative. Will you remark
further? Representative O’Dea.

REP. O’DEA (125TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Just real quickly
this Resolution addresses both the high point and
low point of my political career. I stuck my neck
out back in October of 2017 with my caucus
encouraging them to vote for the bipartisan budget
fix and after that happened because those of you
that were here would remember we met during the
summer and the fall on a bipartisan budget and the
question really was do we let Hartford go bankrupt
or do we bail them out with a basically temporary
fix, not $550 million dollars but rather $40 to $50
million dollars. We convinced our caucus to go
along with bipartisan budget and we were rewarded
with a $550 million dollar bill that was not the
intent of the bipartisan budget and I remember we had voted out of this Chamber and upstairs in the Senate an almost unanimous fix to that problem and the Governor vetoed it and we were driving up to Special Session and I got a phone call that the fix to override the governor’s veto was not going to be called. I know it wasn’t, I know it was a difficult choice but it was the low point in my political career because I stuck my neck out trying to convince my colleagues to not let Hartford go bankrupt and this resolution reflects what the intent was with that, so I would urge my colleagues to vote for this Amendment to the resolution. Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Thank you, Representative. Representative Betts.

REP. BETTS (78TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Very briefly the reason why I support this is if we allow it to stand as it transpired we’re really endorsing an
encouraging people do an end-run around the intention and the desire of the legislature. We all supported the idea and voted on supporting Hartford and frankly any community that would be in the position they were in and we did so in good faith. I really think by not supporting this, we are opening the door for future problems based on this precedent and that is why I am supporting this Amendment. Thank you very much.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Will you remark further on the Amendment? Will you remark further? If not will Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. Members 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 COOK (65TH):
Have all members voted? Will the members please check the board to determine if your vote has been properly cast. If all members have voted, the machine will be locked.

Will the Clerk please announce the tally?

CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule “A”

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DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

The Amendment fails [Gavel]. Will you remark further on the Resolution? Will you remark further?

If not will Members come to the Well of the House and 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 COOK (65TH):

Have all members voted? Have all members voted? Will the members please check the board to determine if your vote has been 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 170

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DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

The Resolution is passed [Gavel]. Are there any announcements or introductions? Representative Vargas.

REP. VARGAS (6TH):
Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise to introduce to the House a young individual by the name of Ryan Howard who is studying at Oberlin College in Ohio. He is majoring in history and politics. He was very interested in coming to the House and meeting with us. Right now he is interning with the Connecticut State Employees Association, SEIU. He is an intern for person who we are all probably very familiar with Eva Bermudez Zimmerman who was a candidate for Lt. Governor a while back. Doing a great job as an intern for CSEA interested in politics, let’s give him a warm welcome if you please [Applause].

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Welcome to our Chamber and best of luck in your future endeavors. Representative Currey.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I move for the Suspension of Rules for the immediate consideration of Senate Bill 1111.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

If there is no objection, so ordered [Gavel].
Will the Clerk please call SB 1111?

CLERK:

Senate Bill 1111, AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF CRIMINAL LAWS OF THIS STATE. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Good afternoon, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

The Question is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate. Representative Stafstrom you have the floor, sir.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker the Clerk is in possession of an Amendment LCO No. 10699 which was previously designated as Senate Amendment
“A”. I ask that Amendment and I be granted leave to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO 10699, which will be designated Senate Amendment Schedule “A”.

CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule “A” LCO No. 10699 offered by Senator Flexor, Senator Winfield, et al.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

The Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there objection? Is there objection? Hearing none, Representative Stafstrom you have the floor, sir.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker this is a Strike-All Amendment of the underlying Bill and it reflects a bipartisan agreement in discussions that have been had over the last couple of days with respect to Senate Bill 3 or the Times-Up Act which this body passed on Saturday. This Bill makes certain changes to that underlying Bill, Senate Bill
3 and when passed will merge with Senate Bill 3. I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

The Question before the Chamber is adoption of Senate Amendment “A”. Will you remark further on the Amendment? Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker I rise in support of the Amendment before us. This is certainly an Amendment that we kind of alluded to the last time that we had the underlying Bill before us in this Chamber and I again just want to thank everyone that was involved in the bipartisan conversations regarding some of the proposed changes that we have before us.

And just through you, Madam Speaker.

Just a few questions or comments for clarification purposes regarding the Amendment.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Please proceed, madam.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):
Thank you.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

To the good Chairman, regarding the Amendment and again we did allude to a lot of these proposed changes previously but on Page three specifically lines 52 through 53 we are making a change regarding the standard and the standard now is “clear and convincing evidence” is that correct?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Thank you.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

Yes, we are using the higher clear and convincing evidence standard before there can be an award of a civil penalty.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):
Thank you, Madam Speaker.

And Through you, Madam Speaker.

On that same page in line 64, we have eliminated the phrase “or federal” and this is regarding discovery of documentation and because this is a State action we are limiting our obviously the reference to any discovery of documents in accordance with our State laws. Is that correct?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Through you, Madam Speaker.

Yes, that is correct. The intent here is that the commission could require the disclosure of documents so long as that disclosure would not run afoul of evidentiary protections as laid out in our State Practice Book.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Rebimbas.
REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

And through you, Madam Speaker.

Regarding page four which enumerates some of the fines and penalties in this regard, again we have changed what was the underlying proposal of $1,000 dollars to up $750.00 dollars is that correct?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Madam Speaker that is correct.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker and just for clarification.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

Is that per incident or per employee that the employer may have?
Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Through you, Madam Speaker.

Per incident.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

And through you, Madam Speaker.

On page five, specifically lines 118 through 124 what we have there is a type of parameters by which someone from the commission could technically go to a location of the business in order to inspect or request information in accordance with whatever allegation is being lodged against an employer and specifically regarding let’s say a commercial facility so a business that is not located in a residential facility, the parameters by which someone from the commission can go out to the
employer’s place of business would be based on a complaint or the executive director actually having some type of reasonable belief that the employer is in violation of the proposal that we have before us. Is that correct?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Yes, Madam Speaker.

Through you.

Under the underlying Bill we created an inspection mechanism whereby CHRO could go out and inspect for compliance. What we are doing in lines 118 through 124 of this Amendment is making clear that there needs to be some sort of triggering event before CHRO can send in an inspector out.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):
Thank you, Madam Speaker.

And through you, Madam Speaker.

And again even based on a complaint for example, it has to be within a 12-month period prior to the or during which or prior to the pending of the complaint. Is that correct?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

Representative Stafstrom.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

That is correct.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker and as far as the executive director because certainly the commission can bring an action based on an anonymous complaint or filing of some type of allegation but again not maybe in a formal complaint form, then the executive director would also have the ability, and I would
imagine, again should be with reasonable notice, I mean someone stopping by a business and the employer not having all the documentation ready to present if necessary would not be fruitful for that commissioner or agent of the commission to go out.

So through you, Madam Speaker.

Again regarding this is there any specific requirement, I did not see it in this proposal, I don’t believe there is, but for clarification purposes.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

There is no requirement for example proof that an employee has completed the training requirements which may or may not be a written document, it may be an email of conformation, there is no requirement to that employer that he must maintain those documents at the place of business, correct?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):
Through you, Madam Speaker.

The Ranking Member is correct. There is no requirement that an employer maintain records of completion of the training as we discussed the other day. The only requirement on the employer is they maintain records that they have provided the training materials and the opportunity for the employee to review those materials while on company time.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.
And through you, Madam Speaker.

If the place of business is located in one’s residence, the owner of the residence or the employer, it certainly could be the owner of the residence or it could be, let’s say, for example the residence might belong to a spouse but that is for the business address but the owner of the business
itself must give express permission for anyone from CHRO to come into their property to inspect any documents as a result of an allegation or a complaint, is that correct?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Madam Speaker, that is correct.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

And through you, Madam Speaker.

Even though we’ve highlighted the fine that is associated in this proposal there is no mandatory fine or penalty that CHRO has to put upon an employer could simply be that the employer correct the situation that would be sufficient, correct?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):
Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Through you, Madam Speaker.

That is correct, the fine is an up to $750 dollar fine as I indicated the other day, certainly especially as this begins to rollout over the next several years it is our hope that HCRO will give employers the opportunity to self-correct before imposing a fine.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. And Madam Speaker not so much a question but I just, you know, wanted to clarify that on page six of the same Amendment we do have a reporting requirement that the commission must provide information in regarding again attorneys’ fees, the type of case, whether or not the individuals or the parties were represented by attorneys and we have several other items that we
enumerate here that we would like to be part of that report however, it is not completely, a complete form of factors, just a minimum, these are the factors we would like to see but it should include these but certainly not to the exclusion of any other information that the commission may deem appropriate and necessary for us to appropriately evaluate what we are passing here today. I think, you know, very often with good intentions, there is legislation that is passed but unless we’re consistently reviewing that information we won’t know whether or not it is actually meeting it’s intended purpose or has gone far beyond its intended purpose and the certainly is one of the reasons for this reporting requirement that we have here. There is also a change, Madam Speaker in this Amendment regarding the task force which is something that we’ve discussed in a bipartisan manner as well.

And through you, Madam Speaker.

Just again for clarification purposes, on page eight specifically lines 231 and continuing
thereafter, because there is a requirement here at least in writing that if something were to take place, and I’m gonna do a hypothetical. Let’s say I’m the employer and there is an incident that gets reported between two employees. If I then decide to move one of those individuals, let’s say to another office location and then that individual say’s well I’m not moving. Under this provision because I’ve suggested a corrective action, I would also approach that person to see if they would want to sign-off on my recommendation. If they refuse to move and they refuse to sign-off on my recommendation have I as the employer done everything necessary under this proposal?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Through you, Madam Speaker.

Yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):
Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

And again that action certainly if reasonable is not gonna be in anyway used against me. Is that correct?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Madam Speaker, that is correct.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. One of the other corrections that we had requested on the underlying Bill is we had seen and I think unintentionally that there was a higher penalty for sexual assault on an individual that was impaired as a result let’s drugs or alcohol versus sexually assaulting someone with a diminished mental capacity. Again I think that was inadvertent so the language change here put them
both at the same standards in that regard and not one any less than the other.

And through you, Madam Speaker.

Just one more point of clarification. Again the failure for an employer to provide training as required in this Amendment the employer technically could be looking at being penalized in two ways, one through a fine and the other as a finding for discriminatory practice unlike a failure to post information as required by this Amendment, it is simply a fine. Again with that all said under certain circumstances any type of punishment is discretionary on the commission but is it correct that the failure of training could certainly be seen as fine and an action under discriminatory practice unlike posting of information would only be a fine if that was actually applied?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):
Through you, Madam Speaker.

That is correct although I will emphasize again as I did the other day that it certainly is not the intent, I don’t believe of leadership certainly of the Judiciary Committee that CHRO will be charging every person who fails to provide training with a discriminatory employment practice particularly as this process rolls out over the next couple of months and years, that instance I believe properly should be reserved for only those most egregious incidents and as the Ranking Member indicated there is some reporting and follow up requirements so certainly something we will be monitoring as this moves forward.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker and I want to thank the good Chairman certainly for his responses and cooperation in this and again this was a situation
where people from both sides of the aisle got together. Certainly we didn’t get all of the changes that we requested but certainly I am sure that they provide some of the changes that they weren’t expecting either in that regards so it’s a little bit of give and take. I think what this Amendment essentially does is make certainly what is already previously passed better. So, Madam Speaker I do rise in support of the Amendment before us.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Thank you, Representative. Will you remark further on the Amendment before us? Representative Carpino.

REP. CARPINO (32ND):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Just a few clarifying questions particularly for legislative intent.

Through you, good Chairman.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Please proceed, madam.

REP. CARPINO (32ND):
We spoke a little bit about Section 5 particularly line 118 last night and I just want to confirm, we speak about employee. The way I read this is this in fact could also include recent former employees, is that accurate?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Madam Speaker, it is.

REP. CARPINO (32ND):

Thank you. And we’re talking about either current employees or in fact former employees, would an employer be able to keep these records offsite so if the agency did go seeking proof that the training was offered, is it permissible for those employers to have the records offsite.

Through you, ma’am.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):
Yes, Madam Speaker. Certainly an employer could keep those records at a storage facility, an iron mountain type facility. There is no requirement in the Bill that those records be kept on site.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Carpino.

REP. CARPINO (32ND):

Thank you and my final questions is I do understand the intent of this training video is to provide a cost-neutral option to our businesses but I do want to be sure that the training video is not required in fact that a business could determine on their own to hire a professional to provide this training.

Through you, ma’am.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Through you, Madam Speaker.
Absolutely, what is laid out in the Bill is the minimum standards and certainly an employer could go beyond that or could hire it’s own professional to come in and provide the training.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Carpino.

REP. CARPINO (32ND):

Thank you both for your time.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):


REP. O’DEA (125TH):

Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. Just a few clarifying questions for legislative intent if I may.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Please proceed, sir.

REP. O’DEA (125TH):
Thank you. In line 121 it states, there is basically a two prong analysis in determining whether or not the CHRO can go into a business if, one is if “During the twelve-period following the date” of a complaint against the employer that is pretty clear, but two is “if executive director of the commission reasonably believes that an employer is in violation of the provisions” of this section.

So through you, Madam Speaker.

I just want clarify “reasonably believes” is more like a probable cause type standard, it is not simply well geez, I think or looking at them, I believe there has got to be some probable cause for them to enter the business. Is that correct?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Through you, Madam Speaker.

That is correct, there needs to be some sort of again, triggering event is the term I used before
that has to be something that gives rise to, rising
to the level of the executive director’s attention
why that particular business should be inspected.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative O’Dea.

REP. O'DEA (125TH):

And I hear that as some evidence more that mere
suspicions, correct?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

That is correct, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative O’Dea.

REP. O'DEA (125TH):

Thank you and in lines, my last comment, is
lines 231 through 236, and this addresses the
section where the victim has to prove in writing any
change in their circumstances and in line 231,
states, “Notwithstanding an employer’s failure to obtain a written agreement from an employee concerning modification in the conditions of employment, the commission may find that corrective action taken by an employer was reasonable and not of detriment to the complainant based on the evidence presented to the commission by the complainant and the respondent.” So in other words this is a scenario where an employer is trying to figure out what happened and correct the disagreement between the employee and the alleged perpetrator and if say the employer cannot, particularly in a small business, I think we need to give more flexibility to small businesses and not necessarily to larger company but where it says, “not a detriment” where an employee refuses to sign, if there is a, if both employees are moved by the employer but not of any detriment significantly with regard to wages for example, let’s say the alleged perpetrator is moved to a different schedule for example and the alleged victim was modified slightly
in either area or schedule to avoid overlap, as long as there is not a significant detriment but the good proponent would he agree that as long as the conditions of employment haven’t changed for the complainant that is not a detriment?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Through you, Madam Speaker.

I am not sure I quite follow the hypothetical but let me explain it this way. In an instance where an employer wants to take corrective action because there is a situation between two employees if the employer goes to the alleged victim and says I want to move your shift, I want to move you off whatever the action is, and the employee refuses then the employer need not take any further action. However, if the employer does decide to take additional action after that I believe that what the language of 231 through 236 is trying to state in
that instance the employer can argue to the CHRO in an adverse employment action case that the corrective action I took was reasonable, and necessary under the facts and circumstance of the case and there was no other reasonable option. There was not detrimental to the complainant taken.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative O’Dea.

REP. O’DEA (125TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. So if almost sounds like a shifting of burden like McDonald Douglass and its progeny about once an action is taken if the employer can prove, even if the employee does not sign-off on it those actions were reasonable, then the fact that the employer does not get a sign-off on that does not mean there was discriminatory conduct.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

Is that correct?

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):
Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Yeah, Madam Speaker.

Through you.

That is the way I understand it. Like I said the employer need not take action but if the employer does take action then the burden shifts and the employer has to prove that the action was reasonable under the circumstances.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative O’Dea.

REP. O'DEA (125TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I’m just trying to get “not of detriment” so if for example we move both of the parties apart. Suppose the employer cannot determine who was at fault. Let’s say a female supervisor is alleged to have harassed a male subordinate and the male subordinate complains, yeah, the male subordinate complains, the employer speaks to witnesses, speaks to, looks at whatever
physical evidence they can find whether it is cameras or whatever and they cannot come to a determination as to who was at fault. So they make an effort to separate them whether physically to opposite ends of the office.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative O’Dea I am going to need to interrupt you for just a moment. We have an error on the Board so we just need to correct it please. Sorry to interrupt your flow.

Will the Chamber please come back to Order? The Board has been corrected. Representative O’Dea please proceed, sir.

REP. O’DEA (125TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. In order to move this along, I guess the point is simply that as long as the employer acted reasonable under the circumstances, in their attempts at resolving the dispute, the fact that the employee does not sign-off on that reasonable response, does not make that a discriminator practice.
Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Madam Speaker, that is correct and I appreciate the questions on this and not the State Water Plan. Through you.

[Laughter]

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative O’Dea.

REP. O'DEA (125TH):

Thank you very much, Madam Speaker and I appreciate the good proponents responses and the efforts of this bipartisan compromise. There obviously other areas of this Bill I had hoped to correct that did not get corrected but I am hopeful that in the future if there are sections that need to be fixed, the good proponent has told me he promised to work with me in making those corrections to the extent needed and I thank the Speaker for the time. Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.
DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Thank you, Representative. [Gavel] If we could please take our conversations outside so we can continue this conversation and debate. Representative Ackert.

REP. ACKERT (8TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. And a clarifying question to the good gentleman.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Please proceed, sir.

REP. ACKERT (8TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. And just a clarifying question on the training requirement. I happen to, after the night that we spoke on this, I took the opportunity and actually Saturday morning cause I was thinkin about this and went on-line and found some training for and was excellent training that you can get on-line for your company and provide your employees. But I really couldn’t find anything to the length of two hours and I know the original language that was in our legislation before
was for supervisory provisions for two hours and now we’re gonna lay that our employees and I am gonna look to have this available for my employees I think as a valuable training. I was just more interested in I know where my wife works they have a 30 minute requirement and then I found a 40 minute requirement that was very comprehensive for 40 minutes and you had to literally watch it and hit the button so they knew you were getting the actual 40 minutes and so I guess that is the number one question is if you have a current one, but it doesn’t meet the two hours, what would be the businesses obligation?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Through you, Madam Speaker.

Under the Bill we passed on Saturday, it needs to be two hours. As I indicated then the CHRO is in the process of developing a video that will be available on it’s website, free of charge on or
before October 1, 2020 in order for employees to have the opportunity to watch it. So in the scenario that the gentleman posited, the videos he currently has do not comply, the video which CHRO is creating and will be made available would be the one that will be compliant.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Ackert.

REP. ACKERT (8TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. And I thank the good gentleman for his answer and I appreciate that. I think that that is because they aren’t cheap when I watch on-line and looked at ‘em so a free one would be definitely a benefit for the businesses out there and then we can essentially have that link and tell my employees, listen take the afternoon, I want you to watch his video within a given time, if they are new employees or looks like every ten years is that. Through you.

Correct, am I reading that correct?
Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Through you, Madam Speaker.

New employees need to watch the video within six months of their hire. It is only a one-time requirement for employees, supervisors need to watch the video every ten years.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Ackert.

REP. ACKERT (8TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I thank the good gentleman for his answers in clarifying. I truly appreciate it.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Thank you, Representative. Will you remark further on the Amendment before us? Representative Smith.
REP. SMITH (108TH):

Madam Speaker, thank you. Just a few questions as well.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Please proceed, sir.

REP. SMITH (108TH):

Thank you. In reference to the dialogue between the Chairman and Representative O’Dea, I seem to hear that the burden of proof would shift to the employer in those situations in which an employer offered a compromise or a resolution to the claim. The employee did not accept it and then it went to the CHRO and now there is a hearing. Am I correct in understanding that the burden of proof would then be on the employer to show that he or she made a reasonable good faith effort to resolve the claim?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):
Through you, Madam Speaker.

Not correct. Sorry, not completely. In the instance that was just laid out, if the employer decides he wants to take corrective action the employee refuses, the employer does not need to do anything further. At that point they can stop and they’ve satisfied their obligations. If the employer decides to take corrective action anyway, over the objection of the employee, then in that instance the burden would shift to the employer to show that the corrective action they took despite the objection of the employee was reasonable and not of a detriment to the employee, that is the only instance in which the burden shifts, in that limited instance.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108TH):

I thank the Chairman for that clarification.

So if the employer offers a compromise resolution
the employee says no, then the employer does nothing further, the situation as it was remains the same in the sense that the two employees are in the same area, one is not relocated, shifts not changed. Everything is the same because the offer that was presented by the employer was not accepted and that instance the employer does not have to do anything further if the employee takes it to the CHRO level, at that point the burden of proof would then, I’m assuming would be on the employee. Is that correct?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Madam Speaker that is correct.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108TH):

Again thank the Chairman for that clarification. And then finally in the initial comments that the Chairman made, he indicated that
this particular Bill that is before us today merged, will now merge with a Bill that we voted on whenever it was, everything is a blur at this point, but Saturday. So my question is that correct, did I understand that to be correct?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Yes, Madam Speaker.

Through you.

The Bill we are about to vote on makes changes to the Bill that passed this Chamber on Saturday evening.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108TH):

So expect for the changes that are made by this Bill, all the language in the Bill that we addressed on Saturday remains in the Bill and the two will combine to become one Bill?
Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Madam Speaker, that is correct.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108TH):

I’m sorry, Madam Speaker. Thank you. And then based on that response the statute of limitations that was in the Bill that we addressed on Saturday has not changed as I see under this Bill. Is that correct?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Madam Speaker, that is correct.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108TH):
I thank the Chairman for his responses and thank you too, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Thank you, Representative. Will you remark further on the Amendment before us? Will you remark further? If not, I will try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

All those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it, the Amendment is adopted [Gavel]. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended?

If not will the Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. Will Members 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
DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Have all the members voted? Have all the members voted? Will the members please check the board to determine if your vote has been 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:

Senate Bill No. 1111 as Amended by Senate “A” in concurrence with the Senate.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

The Bill as Amended is passed [Gavel]. Our fine Deputy Pro-Temp Representative Godfrey.

REP. GODFREY (110TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. For the purposes of
an introduction.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Please proceed, sir.

REP. GODFREY (110TH):

I am very pleased to note that.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

[Gavel] One of our members is making an introduction please.

REP. GODFREY (110TH):

I am very pleased to note that standing with you on the dais to your left, our right, is Christopher Setaro. Mr. Setaro has long been an attorney in Danbury. He represents workers in worker’s comp cases. He is a very successful for that and thank heaven for the workers who are being represented. He’s got a long history of activism in the City of Danbury both in government. He served on the city council and was the council president and certainly in uncounted, nonprofits, charitable organizations and there was one other thing… Oh yes, and he is running for mayor for the City of Danbury.
Please welcome Chris Setaro [Applause].

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Welcome to our Chamber. Any further announcements or introductions? Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker for the point of an introduction.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Please proceed, sir.

REP. CANDELORA (86TH):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Today I have my son visiting Christopher Candelora. He got out of college on Sunday. I was grateful we had the day off I could go pick him up. The last time he was in this Chamber was in 2007, believe it or not, he was seven years old and even back then, he wore a suit when he came into the Chamber to address us, so if everyone could give him a warm welcome [Applause].

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Chris, welcome to our Chamber and I know that
our parents truly enjoy as parents, you know, introducing and embarrassing our children, so welcome we hope you enjoy your stay.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will the Clerk please call Calendar No. 723?

CLERK:

On page 69, House Calendar 723, House Joint Resolution No. 171, EMERGENCY CERTIFICATION, RESOLUTION APPROVING THE STATE WATER PLAN. Introduced by Representative Aresimowicz, Representative Ritter, Representative Looney and Senator Duff.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg, you have the floor, sir.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Mr. Speaker, I move adoption of the Emergency Certification Resolution.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Question is on adoption of the Emergency Certification Resolution. Representative Steinberg
will you care to remark?

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You know, it will be exactly five years next week that the Governor signed Public Act 14163 AN ACT CONCERNING THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE WATER PLANNING COUNCIL. That initiated a process that many of us have been waiting for, for many years.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

[Gavel] Thank you, you may proceed, sir.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The water plan is a comprehensive working document that I know that Representative Mushinsky has been working towards for more than 30 years. Many of us who were involved with that effort back in 2014 are no longer in the legislature but I want to acknowledge the work of Representative Hampton, Representative Muchinsky in getting us to the point where we actually passed legislation requiring the creation of State Water Plan. The plan was charged with a
number of tasks including identifying the quantities and qualities of water available for public water supply, health and environmental benefits, identifying present and projected demands for water, recommending the utilization of state water resources for the greatest public good making recommendations for technology and infrastructure upgrades, and taking into account desired ecological, recreational, agricultural, industrial and commercial uses of water and importantly taking into account the ecological environmental and economic impact that implementation of the State Water Plan will have on this State. That process was initiated in July of 2014 and it was a year and a half’s labor by the Water Planning Council members and stakeholders across the State. It was an incredibly rigorous process. I attended a few of their meetings and they came up with really a remarkable document which I hold here, I can lift it without hurting myself. This is the Water Plan that the Water Planning Council put forward. This
document is a guiding document, not a prescriptive document that helps us make good decisions about water use and one of the things that it highlights is the concept of balance. When they talk about balance, it talks about the triple bottom line which where decisions are based on their social, environmental and economic factors and that all three of those factors are critical for making good decisions.

Mr. Speaker I believe very strongly that water is our most precious resource and even here in the State of Connecticut where we may take it for granted, this is something that we have to be concerned about, not only when we’re in drought but considering all the possible uses. This water plan is an excellent document. It had Public Hearings last year and now it’s the responsibility of the legislature as per the statute we passed five years ago to ratify this water plan, I strongly recommend we do so. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further on the Resolution before us. Representative Harding, you have the floor, sir.

REP. HARDING (107TH):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, sir.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Good afternoon.

REP. HARDING (107TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Just a few questions. First I want to thank the proponent. I know how much time and effort he has placed into this. I know the Public Hearings and everything he’s done to try to make this plan a good plan for the State of Connecticut for residents for everyone involved and I do want to thank him for all his work. In regards to a couple of questions.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, sir.

REP. HARDING (107TH):
I do remember that there was some discussion or has been some discussion over the last Session and into this Session regarding some language in the Water Plan regarding public trust and some concerns about that by some individuals and entities and if the good proponent could explain, my understanding is that that has been somewhat resolved and the good proponent could please explain.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I thank the Representative for the question because this has been the most controversial aspect of the entire Water Plan ratification since it was submitted to the legislature over a year ago. In the Executive Summary as other parts of the document itself, there is reference to water as a public trust which is frankly not a new concept, it appears in the statues elsewhere but to some it was perhaps interpreted as
giving some greater weight to one aspect of decision making than others, namely environmental over economic and social impacts which is why I chose to emphasize the repeated mention of the triple bottom-line which enshrines in the document the importance of all three of those factors and that they should all be considered before making decision in this context. We could not necessarily explicitly address the concerns in a resolution but I will say there is a Bill coming before us very shortly in which we will make clear that all those interests are honored and existing statutes including those that protect commercial interests will be honored even after the Water Plan is ratified. So I am satisfied and I understand all the parties that have been interested are satisfied that the compromise we made, the amendment that is going to come before us on a Public Health Bill very shortly will address those concerns and just reinforce the triple bottom-line concept where all three of those important interests are respected.
Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Harding.

REP. HARDING (107TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I will just comment then, I again want to thank the good proponent for all his work on this and bringing all the interested parties to the table and making this work. As the good proponent mentioned, it is our responsibility as a legislature to approve this plan as opposed to leaving it in the hands of the Governor’s Office. We should be doing something about this. I think we’ve worked out a good compromise here and I urge my colleagues to support it. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further on the Resolution before us? The Dean of this Chamber and this House, Representative Mushinsky, you have the floor, madam.

REP. MUSHINSKY (85TH):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I want to thank the two Chairmen of Public Health for being so persistent in bringing this process along and for never panicking that it might not happen. We’re finally ready to pass the State Water Plan. This goes way back even before 2014. In 2001 the legislature passed the Water Planning Council, one of it’s duties was to create a State Water Plan. The point was to bring together several agencies that deal with water resources and sometimes were in conflict and we wanted to have them all workin off the same plan, the same scientific data so that we would be using science to decide how to divide the resource up and how to preserve the resource. In the years since 2001, that’s 18 years ago, we have been steadily workin on this and we’ve had several droughts or drought advisories between then and now. In 2003 we developed a, with legislation, we developed a drought response plan preparedness plan which actually had five stages of drought and escalating responses for each stage and of course in
order to do that, you have to have data on how much water is available in the watersheds so that you can go through these five stages and make sure there is enough water for everyone. In 2007 and 2010 under our new system we issued, the State issued drought advisories and we started to implement the Drought Preparedness Plan and then the Water Planning Council report was brought to us by Representative Hampton sitting to my left, who had at the experience of having his district a potential raid victim by one of the water companies and his constituents rose up in alarm, why are we in this situation. Well the reason was we didn’t have god water plan and so one of the utilities thought it might be wise to divert one of his rivers to serve their needs and Representative Hampton set up this water summit and among the other people on the group that were working on this were Representative Steinberg, Representative Rojas who now Chairs finance, and former Representatives James Alvis and Phil Miller and to all of them we own a deal, a
great deal of thanks for being persistent advocates of water management. So we finally budgeted money for this project and collected good scientific data and we were able to layout the demands on the watershed basins so for the first time we had real science backing our decision making and we had consensus from the agencies that used to fight with each other, they all signed-off on this document. And the last piece of this puzzle was to reassure the water authorities, the water utilities, that their assets were not at risk by planning and there was a lot of go-round for about a year trying to come up with the exact language to reassure them and that was done very recently with help from the Governor’s Office and I am gonna find out who that was because they deserve a bouquet of roses for actually brining this to a conclusion. As Representative Steinberg said we now have language to make everyone, all the stakeholder content and that is in another Bill that you will be voting on.

So now, 18 years later we are ready to vote on
the State Water Plan. We now join a small group of states that has enough common sense and intelligence to plan their state’s water future, states that don’t have a good plan you read about them in the paper all the time. They have emergencies, they have shortfalls, their cities run out of water, you can see that they can’t support the population that they have and we are not gonna be with that group. We are gonna be one of the few states that has an intelligent, carefully drawn scientifically based water management system. I am very happy that Connecticut has gotten to this day and I am glad that we are going to be a leader here in this regard. So I hope everyone will support this and send this up to the Senate. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, madam. Will you care to remark further on the Resolution? Representative Lavielle you have the floor, madam.

REP. LAVIELLE (143RD):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise in
very strong support of this Resolution. Water is one of those things that it is so important to life that we forget about it, we take it for granted and never was that clearer than last year. I live in a town, Wilton, that is basically uses wells. There’s sewers in the middle of town and drinking water but on the whole everybody has a well and one of the water companies had owned a well for a longtime and decided that they were gonna start using it and diverting water out of the community and at that point of course everyone realized how very difficulty this was going to be and I never saw the town rally like that, and we won. But I have a special appreciation for this because when I, before I was here in the legislature and used to be a human being and I had a real job, I was living in France and was running corporate affairs worldwide for a company called Suez which had built the canal. And one of the activities Suez had was to run water systems for governments municipal, national, regional whatever and we had a lot of activity in
Africa, South Africa, West Africa also in California of all places. Places where the water dries up and when water dries up, you can’t live in that place any more you have to move. And I saw villages in Africa where people had had to move, where they had. They were a rather primitive societies but as it was they had to carry water on their heads and things like that about a mile from the village but when that water source dried up there was no way for them to bring water to the community. They had to do somewhere else. It was interesting to see and to hear about it. It is a big problem in California. But the problem with water is that its so necessary to life, you simply can’t live without it but you can’t just go out and get it. It has to be close to you. It has to be there; transport is very expensive and very onerous. So if we don’t manage our resources and protect them, we are looking at some stage at risk and some of the incidents that had been mentioned already in Connecticut with the prospect of for profit companies taking water away,
other types of interference with our local water systems could be a real problem for us. So I think it is very important that our State has gone through this exercise to develop this plan and even more important that we are recognizing the status of water in all of our lives and the importance of making sure that it remains available to everyone. It is not a commodity you can just sell and buy; it is finite and we can run out. So I would urge everyone to support the resolution. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, madam. Would you care to remark further on the Resolution before us? Representative Gibson, you have the floor, sir.

REP. GIBSON (15TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I rise in great support of this Bill. I would like to thank Representative Steinberg for his great leadership. I know this has been something that has been long forthcoming as my colleagues have said and
I would ask my colleagues to strongly support it. Coming from my district, the 15th of Bloomfield and Windsor it is extremely important to my colleagues and even more so to the State of Connecticut. This plan considers individual water usage, water flow and supply. It takes into consideration water emergencies, the quantities and quality of water that is available for public usage as well as water demand and recommendations for technology and infrastructure upgrades. Mr. Speaker this plan is so big and again I thank Representative Steinberg. I ask my colleagues to strongly support this plan. Mr. Speaker with no water there is no life and we have to protect this natural resource. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

    Thank you, sir. Do you care to remark further?

Representative Hampton, you have the floor.

REP. HAMPTON (16TH):

    Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Good afternoon, sir.

REP. HAMPTON (16TH):

Thank you. This is a great day for the State of Connecticut and I am extremely proud. This was my first piece of legislation and good things come to those who wait so it has only been a few years but I didn’t do it alone. Turing to my right here the godmother of water herself, Representative Muchinsky has taught me everything there is to know and she will continue to do so and I want to thank here and Representative Steinberg and our merry band of legislators including Jason Rojas and former Rep Albis and Phil Miller and all the support we got from our leadership, all our colleagues on the other side came together to get this plan done, all the stakeholders, the Water Planning Council, all the environmental groups, the League of Conservation Voters, The Rivers Alliance to give a shot out to Margaret Miner for her determination, my own Farmington River Watershed. It is a proud day and it is a great day that we advocate on one of our
most precious resources which is our water, not just for ourselves but for future generations. So I thank all of my colleagues and in supporting this legislation and excited to see its passage. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Praise the godmother of water [Laughter]. Will you care to remark further on the Resolution? Representative Gresko you have the floor, sir.

REP. GRESKO (121ST):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in full support of this Resolution and the compromise which allow all three of the stakeholders to be recognized. Look, I’m a public trust guy but this compromise is a good step and it gets us to a conclusion. In this sometime ago I lived in California and during the worst times of the many droughts that they have in California and having grown up in Connecticut you don’t appreciate or recognize the value of just having water until you experience that type and that
level of drought. Yes, we had our own version in the mid 2000-teens but nothing like what California experienced. So I agree with Representative Steinberg that water is probably our most important commodity and it will be as we go into the future and as the planet faces it many environmental battles along with population increase so when you ask yourself why do get all the rain during the course of the spring and I wish we had some sunny day, during the rainy days, it’s good to say to yourself well at least our reservoirs will be full and hopefully when they are not we will have this plan to fall back on. Lastly I would like to thank all the advocates, Representative Steinberg, everyone that was mentioned but especially Representative Mushinsky, she’s the model of perseverance paying off so Mary check the water plan off and let’s hope that next Session we can check the Bottle Bill off. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Representative Dubitsky, you
have the floor, sir.

REP. DUBITSKY (47TH):

    Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A few questions for the proponent if I may?

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

    Please proceed, sir.

REP. DUBITSKY (47TH):

    Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I’ve been going though the plan that we are proposing to enact or to formalize and I see there are a number of places where the public trust is referenced and I make reference also to the comments and responses from the good Ranking Member of Environment Committee and.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I would just ask the proponent, we have the public trust that is codified in 22a-15 and my question.

Through you.

Just confirm for me please that this Plan does not supersede or extend or change the public trust
doctrine that is articulated in Connecticut General Statutes 22a-15?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes the reference to water as a public trust appears a number of times in the document and was agreed to by all the stakeholders and makes reference to a Statue that has been in place for sometime and yes, indeed, that is correct, those Statutes still obtain and we reiterate that fact in the subsequent Bill.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Dubitsky.

REP. DUBITSKY (47TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So just to confirm, just for my own edification, so although there are references in here, these references do not supersede or change the Doctrine that is already in
Statue in 22a-15?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You know, you could argue that water is a public trust is just a self-evident statement, the Statute aside it was mentioned several times in the document as being pertinent to the decision making which also took into account economic and social interests but because it says over and over again one could almost argue ad nauseum that we are respecting the triple bottom-line of all three of those factors. To answer the Representative’s question it does not change existing statutory precedent.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Dubitsky.

REP. DUBITSKY (47TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the good
proponent’s responses.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Would you care to remark further on the Resolution before us? Do you care to remark further on the Resolution before us? If not will Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House.

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 CANDELARIA (95TH):

Have all members voted? Have all members voted? Please ensure that your vote has been 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 No. 171

Total Number Voting 148
Necessary for Adoption 75
Those voting Yea 148
Those voting Nay 0
Absent not voting 3

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Resolution is adopted [Gavel]. Are there any announcements or introductions? Representative de la Cruz, for what purpose do you rise?

REP. DE LA CRUZ (41ST):

No introduction, I was just letting you know Simms was stuck in security and that’s why we had to wait [Laughter].

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Well thank God, we had firefighters downstairs today that could assist, helping him open those doors, but thankfully she was able to get here. Let’s go back to the business of the Calendar. Will the Clerk please call Calendar No. 113?

CLERK:

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg, you have the floor, sir.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Question is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. Representative Steinberg you have the floor, sir.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a Public Health Bill that deals with access to water infrastructure grants. We were just talking about
this State Water Plan and one of the things it studies very carefully is the situation with water infrastructure in our State. We talk a lot about transportation infrastructure even energy infrastructure but we don’t talk enough about water infrastructure. It may be a surprise to many people here but there are over 100 water companies here in the State of Connecticut of various sizes, not just the large ones and some of the smaller ones are struggling to keep their infrastructure up to par and make sure the water that they supply is safe. This Bill would extend the grand program to include more of these small water companies which serve some of our small towns and communities and give them access to the State grant funding so they can improve their gran infrastructure.

Moving along though as I promised, this is a two parter, still taking Water Plan here, the Clerk is in possession of an Amendment LCO 10598. I would ask the Clerk please call the Amendment and I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 10598?

CLERK:

LCO No. 10598 designated House Amendment Schedule “A” and offered by Representative Steinberg.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there any objections? Hearing none, you may proceed, sir.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a very simple Amendment which adds a few lines to the existing statute which was the enabling legislation to create the Water Plan in the first place. Explicitly it adds at the very end of that section, Section 501, “In the event of conflict between any provision of the state water plan and any provision of the general statutes, the provision of the general statues shall control.”

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
[Gavel] I’m having difficulty hearing the gentleman summarize the Amendment. Would you please keep your volume down or take the conversations outside of the Chamber? Thank you. You may proceed, sir.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Well if you missed that sentence it was important because that sentence does what we were talking about just a few minutes ago. It makes clear that the general statues prevail if there should be a conflict. Now the specifics as to that conflict I could not predict but it does honor the commitment that we made to the triple bottom-line that economic, environmental and social interests are all critically important to making good water decision making. So I move adoption of the Amendment.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Question before the Chamber is on adoption of House Amendment Schedule “A”. Will you care to remark further? Representative. You care to remark
further on the Amendment? If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it.

[Gavel] The Amendment is adopted. Would you remark further on the Bill as amended? Representative Petit you have the floor, sir.

REP. PETIT (22ND):

Well thank you, Mr. Speaker I believe this is a straightforward Bill that’ll help public water companies access funds to improve the efficiency and safety of their systems and I urge my colleagues to vote for it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. You care to remark further on the Bill as amended? Will you care to remark further on the Bill as Amended. If not Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. Oop,
[Laughter]. Representative Rojas you have the floor, sir.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker the Clerk is in possession of an Amendment LCO 10832. I ask that the Clerk please call the Amendment and I be granted leave to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Would the Clerk please Call LCO No. 10832?

CLERK:

LCO No. 10832, designated House Amendment Schedule “B” and offered by Representative Rojas and Senator Slap.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The gentleman seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment, if there are no objections, hearing none, Representative Rojas you have the floor, sir.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What the Amendment does is clarify an issues that is in a Bill in House
Bill 7408 which this Chamber already voted on and is awaiting action in the Senate. When it got to the Senate it was brought to our attention that we needed to make one change to ensure that we are not empowering municipalities to have more than one stormwater authority in a municipality and what this Amendment does is ensure that it doesn’t happen. I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Adoption. Would you care to remark further on the Amendment? Representative Davis, you have the floor.

REP. DAVIS (57TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand in support of the Amendment. As the kind Chairman mentioned this does clarify some language that was in a previous Bill that was passed to make sure that metropolitan districts like the MDC or a local school district or a local fire district can’t create their own stormwater authority and have taxing authority on top of the town doing the very same thing so we want
to make sure that is very clear and this is a very much a pro taxpayer Amendment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further on House Amendment “B”? Representative Steinberg you have the floor, sir.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I view this as a friendly Amendment and I urge support. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further? You care to remark further. If not Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. Members please take your seats; the machine will be open. [Ringing] This is a role call on the Amendment.

CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by roll, Members to the Chamber. The House of
Representatives is voting by roll, Amendment “B” Members to the Chamber.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

    I suggest members stay in the Chamber as we will be moving on the vote fairly quickly. Have all members voted? Please check the board to ensure that your vote has been 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:

    LCO 10832 designated House Amendment “B”

    Total Number Voting 147
    Necessary for Adoption 74
    Those voting Yea 147
    Those voting Nay 0
    Absent not voting 4

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

    The Amendment is adopted [Gavel]. Would you care to remark further on the Bill as Amended by House “A” and “B”? Representative Dillon for what
purpose do you rise?

REP. DILLON (92ND):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am sorry I was in the Chamber when that vote was being and then I failed to get your attention effectively. I would like to be recorded in the affirmative. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The transcription will be so noted, madam.

REP. DILLON (92ND):

[Cross talking] Please note I would have done that had I been noticed, thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Representative Cummings, no? All right. Will Staff and guests please come to the House? 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
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Have all members voted? Have all members voted? Please check the board to ensure that your vote has been 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 Bill No. 7194 as Amended by House “A” and “B”

- Total Number Voting: 147
- Necessary for Passage: 74
- Those voting Yea: 147
- Those voting Nay: 0
- Absent not voting: 4

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Bill passes as Amended by House “A” and “B” [Gavel]. Would the Clerk please call Calendar No. 565?

CLERK:

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg, you have the floor, sir.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I hope everybody enjoyed our Water Plan two-parter; we are now going to engage in a dental care double feature. Mr. Speaker, I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report in concurrence with the Senate and Passage of the Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Question is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report in concurrence with the Senate and Passage of the Bill. Representative Steinberg, you have the floor, sir.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This Bill which I will get into shortly makes a number of changes to the responsibilities and opportunities to those working in the dental care profession. The Clerk is in possession of an Amendment LCO 7997. I ask that the Clerk please call the Amendment and I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Would the Clerk please call LCO No. 7997 designated Senate Amendment “A”.

CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule “A” LCO No. 7997 offered by Senator Daugherty-Abrams, Representative Steinberg, etal.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there any objection? Hearing none, Representative Steinberg you have the floor, sir.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said previously
this Bill, this Amendment makes some specific changes to the responsibilities of various people in the dental profession explicitly it adds to the list of procedures that dentists may delegate and expanded function dental assistants, it extends by one year the reporting deadline for the task force on the needs of and service for adults with intellectual disabilities, it gives dental assistances more time to pass an infection control examination – I’ll explain that later, and perhaps most importantly it establishes a dental therapist designation such that dental therapists will be able to provide a variety of services explicitly in public setting to take care of some of most vulnerable and needy dental care. This is a new path and an important change in the way dental care can be delivered in these specific contexts. I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Question before the Chamber is on adoption of Senate Amendment “A”. Would you remark further?
Will you remark on the Amendment? Representative Hennessy you have the floor, sir.

REP. HENNESSY (127TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in support of the Amendment, inclusion of dental therapy for underserved populations I think is a great thing. Dental health is very important for our allover health and unfortunately in this country dental health is something that does seem not to get its fair share so, what we can have with the passage of this Amendment is to have underserved population that don’t have good health insurance that they can get their teeth fixed and they can go to school and be able to learn without having pain, so I rise in support of the Amendment. thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Care to remark further? Care to remark further. If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Those again, nay. The aye’s have it, the Amendment is [Gavel] adopted. Do you care to remark further on the Bill as amended? Representative Stenberg you have the floor.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to make clear that while this provides a new opportunities for this new dental therapist category, dental therapists will not be entitled to do complex dental procedures which will still be the purview of dentists and that they will be operating under the supervision of a dentist in this context.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I move adoption, whatever.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

We’re ready for adoption so would you care to remark further? Remark further? Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108TH):

Mr. Speaker just a question.
Through you.

If I may?

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, sir.

REP. SMITH (108TH):

Was the dental association in favor or opposed to this practice?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is a very interesting question in that there is more than one organization representing dentists in the State of Connecticut and they lacked consensus on this so there are some dentists in the State who really have no problem with it and there are a couple of others in the State which don’t like it so much. So to answer your question, there is not one single answer, there is some who favor and some opposed as is the case for any number of changes in the scope
of practice in a profession.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108TH):

Appreciate the good Chairman’s response. You know, I’m kinda weighing this Bill and thinking of my own profession as an attorney sometimes you have paralegals doing a lot of the work that lawyers sometimes do and can do with supervision of an attorney, would medicine and dental and the risk of something going wrong especially with surgeries and things of that nature or major extractions, I understand this talks about simple extractions. I guess I just want to be convinced that what we’re talkin about routine, ordinary procedures as opposed to more complex matters.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):
I appreciate the question. As I said previously it explicitly does not include complex procedures, it enumerate 20 separate things that this new dental therapist category can do and certainly that requires additional education and training for anybody seeking to provider that. Again they are working with a dentist for supervision, if an they need to come up with a plan by which if they encounter some more complex circumstance how they are going to refer that individual to the appropriate dental care. So we believe we’ve addressed all the concerns related to more complex procedures, making sure they are not allowed, that there is a process for referral and that we’ve limited the setting to public settings so as not to really infringe on dentists profession. So this conversation we had with all the stakeholders over an extended period of time, something that has gone through scope of practice review with DPH so I do believe we’ve done a really excellent job of addressing any of those concerns.
Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108TH):

I appreciate that further explanation because not being on this Committee and not sure where this came from, who was the impetus behind the Bill and why are we here talking about this. Obviously there seems to be a need for it. I’ll continue to listen to the dialogue and see where it all goes. I am interested to see what, how the dentists actually feel about this. If they were pushing this Bill and actually said yes this is something we would like, this is something we need, this is part of our practice already, we just want to codify it, I’m hoping to hear that as the dialogue continues. I do appreciate the Chairman’s response indicating they talked to all the stakeholder, I truly believe he has and they all weighed in on this Bill but I hope we get some more input from some other folks.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.
Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Care to remark further on Bill as Amended by Senate “A”? Representative Petit you have the floor, sir.

REP. PETIT (22ND):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A comment then a few questions for the good Chairman. As the good Chairman has noted, we got a variety of opinions on this Bill. Prior to this language being formulated, we had buy-in from the dentists from one group that were present at the meeting and then after the Bill was formulated received several other opinions on which direction this type of practice should go.

So through you, Mr. Speaker.

A few questions.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, sir.

REP. PETIT (22ND):

To the Chairman, it is my understanding that the dentists will have full control over this and by
that I mean they will need to okay that the hygienist in their office is eligible to proceed with further training and then directly supervise said hygienist?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I really appreciate the question. This is a very important point. We’re not entering to creating this new path by any means trivially. We focused significantly on the subject of education and training and the supersession. In other words this is only gonna happen if a dentist is working with that new dental therapist to create that opportunity. So it is not for every dental hygienist who wants to suddenly move up to be a dental therapist, they have to have the education, they have to have the training, they have to have the trust and the engagement of the dentist before they could enter into this practice
in the very limited public facilities context. So I think it is really a critical question, they are not gonna be operating independently without supervision that is all part of what we think is appropriate safeguards to make sure they are only doing certain procedures and they are doing so while in communication with a dentist.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Petit.

REP. PETIT (22ND):

Thank you for that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Can the Chairman let us know what pathway the hygienist would have to pursue if say the dentist they are working with feels that they want them to proceed with further training to become a dental therapist? What courses or testing would have to be undertaken?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And again we gave this a lot of thought. They would need to obtain a dental therapist certification based upon passing a comprehensive examination prescribed by the Commission on Dental a competency assessment or its equivalent, complete 1000 hours of clinical training under a dentist’s direct supervision, verified by a certificate of completion signed by the dentist, compete an additional six hours of continuing education related to dental therapy and enter into collaborative agreement with a dentist. And I should also add they will need to maintain their certification over a period of time and continue to take continuing education course work.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you for that. In addition, Mr. Speaker as I recall, initial Public Health meetings in January and February there was a concern that there
was a need and some specific federally qualified health clinics specifically in the Hartford and Stanford area where they felt that there was inadequate service for the people that were there. 

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Is this dental therapy program intended only to be utilized in a public health setting or will it be widespread throughout the State?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and again a very important point. This is not intended to extend to dental therapists the ability to operate in any setting. This is explicitly in enumerated public health settings which is clear in statute. They may be schools; they may be other kinds of specially created clinics but those are settings in which the need is considered to be particularly acute and would not be basically widespread throughout the
State in a variety of other private practice settings.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Petit.

REP. PETIT (22ND):

Thank you for that. Mr. Speaker, I am presuming that in addition that the dental therapist will need to have a collaborative agreement on record with the supervising dentist. Is that correct?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, yes indeed that is critical. As I said it has to be in a collaborative agreement with that dentist so that the dentist is aware and frankly liable for the activities of that dental therapist and would be the likely point of referral should there be a complex circumstance that
the dental therapist would not be qualified or
allowed to deal with so that relationship, that
ongoing relationship as exemplified by the
collaborative agreement is critical for us allowing
this path to be created.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Petit.

REP. PETIT (22ND):

That’s all I had, thank you very much, Mr.
Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark
further? Representative Morin you have the floor,
sir.

REP. MORIN (28TH):

Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Good afternoon, sir.

REP. MORIN (28TH):

How ‘ya doin up there, all right?
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

I’m hangin.

REP. MORIN (28TH):

Good, glad to see that. I have a comment and maybe a few questions for the proponent of the Bill please.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, sir.

REP. MORIN (28TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

First of all to the Chair I want to say, I think the intent of this Bill is to expand access to dental care to many people especially people that don’t need it and I applaud that goal and this Bill is, am I correct in assuming that?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Indeed, precociously correct.
Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Morin.

REP. MORIN (28TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This one thing and I want to make sure I am looking at the correct area that in the Amendment that addressed dental assistants.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Before I bother the good Chairman with questions am I correct to say that there is a section in there that deals with duties that dental assistants may be performing?

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes indeed, we are very explicit about enumerating the tasks for which they are entitled based upon their additional training and education and it is an inclusive list so in other words they
may only do those things which we specifically give
them ability to do.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Morin.

REP. MORIN (28TH):

Thank you for the answer, sir.

And through you, Mr. Speaker.

So I know that the good Chairman will not be
surprised that I have some concerns about this and
the reason I have these concerns is that often times
in a dental office the lowest paid workers are the
dental assistants and it looks to me like we’re
adding more duties to their already busy workload
and I understand it requires more training and I’ve
read the language. It seems to be that, and I am
sure he will correct me if I am wrong but it’s
allowing, it says they may do this under the direct
supervision. It talks about taking alginate I think
the word is alginate impressions, orthodontic
appliances, whitening trays, mouth guards, oral
topical anesthetic typically things that are done, at least when I go to the dentist under my dentist is typically doing these not the assistant. Would the good Chair explain to me the reasoning why and I take it, it is the dentists that think this is a good idea, has anybody talked to the dental assisting boards to see what they think about it?

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will answer the good Representative’s question but I should start with a clarification. I believe the Representative made reference to dental assistants. It is confusing because this Bill does deal with additional delegation of responsibilities by dentists to dental assistants but we are talking in this case about dental therapists and I know it gets very confusing because they would have additional training initially as dental hygienists and then additional training on top of that which is part of my answer
to your question. Yes, you are absolutely correct. Some of the procedures and tasks that we are now allowing dental therapists to do in limited context are certainly things that were only done before by dentists. The assumption is that first of all the appropriate assessment board is involved in their certification so yes indeed, the expert authorities are directly involved in assuring that they, when they certify them, that the dental therapists have the requisite skills, experience and discernment to understand how to engage in the various new procedures we’ve given them and again it is also a matter of the collaborative agreement with the dentist. So the dentist on top of it has to be satisfied that this dental therapist is qualified to perform those exact procedures. If the dentist is not convinced, he would not grant such a collaborative agreement so it is not going to be for every dental hygienist to go for this additional certification and it may not even be for every dental therapist for a dentist to enter into a
collaborative agreement. This is a pretty rigorous process to assure any concerns that the good Representative brought up would be addressed and that providing services which previously been only dentists by dental therapists would be appropriate.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Morin.

REP. MORIN (28TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And through you.

So I do support the concept of the dental therapist. So looking at an Amendment that I believe was called specifies dental assistant so am I barking up the wrong tree? Are those duties in either another Bill or am I looking at something incorrectly because if I am I certainly don’t want to be questioning you on that?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg.
REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is the right tree but the wrong branch. There are more than one section to this Bill, these is a section that delegates additional responsibilities by dentists to dental assistants and there are far more limited and straightforward than anything that we are offering up to a dental therapist so it is not a totally apples and oranges but they are different.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Morin.

REP. MORIN (28TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So that’s where I am going on. I do support the concept and the, what you are looking to accomplish with the dental therapist. I really just have concerns with the section that deals with the dental assistants. Again as I said, they tend to be the lowest paid people in the office, they have an awful lot of duties right now and I am not sure that I agree with
giving them more duties in their already busy day
but I appreciate the Chairman’s answers. It may be
something that causes me to vote against the Bill,
but I do at least support the main guise in which
the Chairman has explained it. So, thank you very
much.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Mr. Speaker, sir. A little bit of
clarification.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg, [Cross talking],
comments please proceed.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

I want to make clear that the dental assistant
is operating directly under the dentist, in the
dentist’s office and again that is not in any way
independent discretion. These are fairly
straightforward procedures that the dentist will be
right there and handy to look after if there is any
problem, it reflects the reality on the ground where
dental assistants are entrusted with some
straightforward tasks. I just want to make clear to everybody listening that what we are offering the dental therapist versus what we’re delegating to dental assistants, are dramatically different.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you. Representative Morin.

REP. MORIN (28TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I get it. Again dental therapists, I’m good. I understand where we’re goin with that. The part that affects dental assistants I fully, again I am to be fair, I understand that the Chair is not suggesting, if I stated it this way. I didn’t expect that he’s not portraying it that they would be doing anything without a direct supervision I understand that. I just think that in the course of their jobs, it is just one more thing for them to do that really they are not getting compensated properly for and I know that is not a surprise for the good Chairman or anybody else that has heard me talk about this in
the past. So thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

    Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark

further on the Amendment before us? Representative
Dathan you have the floor, madam.

REP. DATHAN (142ND):

    Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, sorry, Mr.
Speaker. I just wanted to thank the good Chairman
for his work on this. I was not very familiar with
the work of dental therapists until coming up here
to the Capital and working in my position. I was
able to meet with a group of students who are
studying to be dental therapists and they walked me
through their courses and then in many cases they
have a whole extra year of training and other
qualification aspects that a normal hygienist
wouldn’t do. One of the things that they told me is
that they are able to help serve in underserved
communities so they go into schools where children
might not have normal dental care by a professional
and they are helping with these children get
fillings and other sort of services that maybe they wouldn’t be able to afford. In one case, one of the hygienists told me that somebody, a child had waited for a filling for several months and during the course of this months of waiting to be seen by a dentist, she could have been served by a dental therapist and would have had less problems with her cavity. So I am just raising up in support for this and also the extra support that the dental assistants can provide which will help our communities serve and underserved population. Thank you very much.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, madam. Will you care to remark further on the Bill as Amended? Representative Case you have the floor, sir.

REP. CASE (63RD):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Just a few questions to the proponent of the Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, sir.
REP. CASE (63RD):

So, when we look at this Bill in some that have written in a therapist, the good Chairman talks about they would be in certain settings. Can he explain that once again?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the statute defines what we call public health facilities and they explicitly include licensed health care institutions, community health center, group homes, schools, public preschools, head start programs, programs offered or sponsored by the Women’s, Infants and Children’s programs, senior centers, managed residential communities and licensed childcare centers.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Case.
REP. CASE (63RD):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

When these dental therapists are on site to do their work in these categories that the good Chairperson has just mentioned, is there a dentist on site also?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the question. That is indeed the distinction. There may be a dentist present but in this instance he doesn’t have to be physically located there at the time. Again there has to be an existing collaborative agreement, I am sure the dentist would have to be, some dentists would have to be communicated with should a problem occur that is why you have to have a reference plan if you are going to operate as a dental therapist but to answer the good Representative’s question, no a dentist does
not have to be physically present in that setting.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Case.

REP. CASE (63RD):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

So we talk about dental hygienists and their curriculum and they are taught on prevention and not treatment. So is the therapist taught on prevention or/and are they taught on treatment? My question for that is if the hygienist, if a therapist is working with a certain patient and it becomes a medical issue, is that therapist able and willing to, or not willing is that therapist able to assist in a medical issue or problem that happens to come up while they are with that patient?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Someone who is going
to be certified as a dental therapist in the State of Connecticut if this Bill passes will have to have already gone through the dental hygiene program and it’s curriculum. What is really important is the additional education and training we require to be certified as a dental therapist and as I said that would give them greater discernment when they are administering these procedures and the other critical part is the collaborative agreement with a dentist and the need for a reference plan should they encounter something that is beyond the enhanced scope that we’re providing so we believe we’ve addressed the concerns of their encountering the circumstance that is beyond their training.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Case.

REP. CASE (63RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe the last question, but are there any other states that have adopted this dental therapy program?
Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, there definitely has been other states. I do not recall the precise number it maybe as many as eight and they have done so without any problems.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Case.

REP. CASE (63RD):

Just doing some quick research, I see on in Minnesota. I haven't seen all eight. My concern is having the proper, the proper staffing there for the dental therapist in case they do come up with an issue of some medical problems because in these situations we are taking care of some our most vulnerable. I thank you, Mr. Speaker for the time.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark
further on the Bill as amended? Will you care to remark further on the Bill as amended? If not Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House.

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 CANDELARIA (95TH):

Have all members voted? Have all members voted? Please check the board to ensure that your vote has been 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:

Senate Bill No. 807 as Amended by Senate “A” in concurrence with the Senate.

Total Number Voting 148
Necessary for Passage: 75
Those voting Yea: 106
Those voting Nay: 42
Absent not voting: 3

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Bill as amended by Schedule “A” passes in concurrence with the Senate [Gavel].

Would the Clerk please call Calendar No. 432?

CLERK:


DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg you have the floor, sir.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good to see you again.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Same here, sir.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):
I promised everybody a dental double feature and we are now ready for the second reel and I hope this is not like pulling teeth [Moaning], I promise to sit down after this, okay. Mr. Speaker, I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Question is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. Representative Steinberg you have the floor, sir.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is the companion Bill which relates to the one that we just passed. There are change to it, now that we have passed Senate Bill 807 so, Mr. Speaker the Clerk has an Amendment LCO 10428. I ask that the Clerk please call the Amendment and I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 10428 which
will be designated House Amendment “A”.

CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule “A” LCO No. 10428 offered by Representative Steinberg, Senator Daughtry Abrams.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there any objection? Hearing none, Representative Steinberg you have the floor, sir.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I mentioned this, there are a number of changes here that reflect the passage of 807 and there are some technical changes. There is a correction of a spelling error, there is something on temporary dental clinics but most importantly there is the creation of a study group. The study group is important because when we were discussing creating a path for dental therapists it was pointed out that you have to go through the dental hygienist education first before you can
become a dental therapist and many people mentioned, I think quite correctly, that it would be better if we could create a direct path to dental therapists. Now DPH couldn’t agree to that currently because it hasn’t gone through a Scope of Practice nor have we really created the bandwidth to do so, so this Bill calls for a study to look at precisely that. So perhaps in a year’s time we can be talking about a direct path which would mean less expensive way to earn that degree and certification. I think that is a very important addition to this Bill and addresses some of the concerns we heard when debating the creation of the dental therapist path. I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELABRA (95TH):

The Question before the Chamber is on adoption House Amendment “A”. Would you care to remark further on the Amendment? Would you care to remark further on the Amendment? If not, let me your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.
REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Those opposed, nay. The ayes have it, the [Gavel] Amendment is adopted. Will you care to remark further on the Bill as amended? Will you care to remark further on the Bill as amended? Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to point out that here is one thing in there I didn’t mention which is something that dentists have asked for. They are often in a situation where they can see signs of potential incipient diabetes and we’re getting dentists the ability to do a simple pinprick blood test to determine whether or not there is a prospect to diabetes so a dentist can refer somebody who may be on that path to the appropriate other medical professionals. This is something they asked for and I think it is a good addition. Through you, Mr. Speaker.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Care to remark further on the Bill as amended. Representative Petit you have the floor, sir.

REP. PETIT (22ND):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Through you.

To the Chairman of Public Health, do you feel that this, if this study suggests that working group suggests that there should be a second pathway that it would work in similar fashion to the hygienist track?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, in our conversations with all the stakeholders, it was brought up that that might be a good alternative. As I said before it requires further exploration so we can understand exactly the ramifications for that
but we thought it was very important having created the dental therapist path that we explore this possibility and then have that working group bring their recommendations back to the Public Health Committee.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Petit.

REP. PETIT (22ND):

Thank you and just a comment. I think the intention of both of these Bills, the one just passed and the current one really was motivated by folks that felt that we needed better access in some of our cities and they came directly to the Public Health Committee asking for help in that regard. I think these are steps in the right direction in that regard and I think it will probably only impact a small number of people initially in terms of the hygienist and the time will tell depending on what this working group does but hopefully it will improve dental care which in the implementation that
is created by dental care leads to significant hardening of the arteries and premature death. In addition the final step would be a simple procedure of a fingerstick hemoglobin A1C will help people screen and/or confirm a diagnosis of diabetes and I think be very helpful when the dentist, the hygienist and the team that is taking care of a patient suspects that there is something metabolically going on. So I urge my colleagues to support this study. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Would you care to remark further on the Bill as amended? Do you care to remark further on the Bill as amended? If not Staff and guests come to the Well of the House. 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
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Have all members voted? Please check the board to ensure that your vote has been 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 Bill No. 7303 as Amended by House “A”

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DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Bill as amended passes [Gavel]. Are there any announcements or introductions? Representative Blumenthal you have the floor, sir.

REP. BLUMENTHAL (147):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to request a moment of silence.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

    Please proceed, sir.

REP. BLUMENTHAL (147):

    Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in commemoration and memoriam of Michael P. Koskoff whom we lost a little over a month ago but today a memorial service is going on at Fairfield University and because I can’t be there and instead here with you all, I thought I would beg the Speaker’s indulgence and tell you a brief bit about Michael’s life. Michael was truly a legend both to Connecticut and the National Trial Bar. He burst on the scene in 1970 during the famous trial of multiple members of the Black Panthers in New Haven. He defended Lonnie McLucas and he so impressed during that trial the Bridgeport Guardians with the fierceness and skill of his advocacy that the Guardians who are the Black Police Officer Union in Bridgeport that they hired him and brought him on to fight for them to achieve full integration in hiring and promotion in the Bridgeport Police Department.
His success in that case fighting along side the Guardians lead to similar successes in the New Haven Fire Department and the Stratford Fire Department. He was a pioneer in the area of trial law representing people who are victims of negligence and misconduct and was so feared and respected that toward the end of his life defense lawyers would get on cases just so they could have the potential to say that they tried a case against him. More than anything he may be remembered for his mentoring and his advising of young lawyers including Kathy Emmett when he helped her in her case to force Mory’s the famous Yale restaurant and bar to serve women, the Sandy Hook families against Bush Master and Remington who made the weapons and marketed the weapons that killed their loved ones. Allowing young lawyers like me and my colleagues to represent the Sandy Hook families against Allis Jones and others and towards the end of his life championed a case against Harvard University ironically my alma mater asking the question who should own the photos
of slaves and more generally who owns the fruits of slavery. Not to be outdone, he was a great champion of the arts and in fact he wrote a screenplay for a major motion picture, *Marshall* which is actually about a case tried in Connecticut early on in Thurgood Marshall’s career which I highly recommend. In the end he was somebody who believe fiercely in the power of the law to bring justice which I think is something we all believe in here today. He did so with empathy, he did so with love and I ask for a brief moment of silence in his honor.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

I will ask all members to rise for a moment of silence.

[Gavel] We will return. Representative Scanlon for what purpose do you rise?

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I also want to rise briefly for a moment of silence. Yesterday my community of Gilford suffered a very big loss in our former First Selectman Carl Balestracci. He was
a teacher in the Gilford Public Schools, he was the principal of the middle school when I was there and he became our First Selectman after that. He was a mentor to me and he died suddenly yesterday without much warning and many people in my community including myself are devastated by the loss and I would ask my colleagues to join me in a moment of silence in Karl’s memory.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Members please rise for a moment of silence.

[Gavel] We will return to the call of the calendar. Would the Clerk please call Calendar number 680?

CLERK:


DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Sanchez you have the floor, sir.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate. Representative Sanchez you have the floor, sir.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Mr. Speaker the Clerk has Amendment LCO 9866, I would ask the Clerk to please call the Amendment and that I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 9866 which will be designated House Amendment – Senate Amendment “B”.

CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule “B” LCO No. 9866 offered by Senator McCrory, Representative Sanchez.
Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there any objections? Hearing none, Representative Sanchez you have the floor, sir.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This Amendment is a Strike-All Amendment. The Amendment creates an annual minority teacher hiring goal, it expands teacher certification reciprocity with other states, it expands mortgage assistance for teachers who graduated from colleges and universities and creates flexibility in certain teacher certification requirements. Mr. Speaker this Bill passed the Education Committee unanimously and the Amendment, the present Amendment passed the Senate on Consent. It is a very good Bill and I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Question before this Chamber in on adoption. Will you remark? Representative McCarty you have the floor, madam.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):
Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise in support of the Amendment which is a Strike-All Amendment. I’d like to make a comment and then direct a few questions to the Chair of the Education Committee if I may?

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, madam.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):

I think this is a very important Bill, teacher minority recruitment and retention is extremely important as we have noticed and have spoken a great deal it is very hard to find enough minority teachers in our school districts. This Bill is an attempt to add diversity to our numerous school districts. I know in my particular district we have tried for over 20 years and I think this Bill will go a long way in helping recruit more minority teachers. So with that and I know the good Chair has explained the various components I just may like to question him on a few.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Please proceed, madam.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):

Thank you. You mentioned a goal was set. Do you know what number has been set for recruitment purposes?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Yes.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Two Hundred and Fifty is the goal.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarty.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):

Thank you and is there also within that goal a percentage for male teachers?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):
Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I believe it is 30 percent.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarty.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I think that is excellent that we set a goal to try to recruit more male teachers as well as there is truly a shortage particularly at the elementary school levels so that is a good point. I’d also like to question if I may, the section on mortgage assistance. If the good Chair could explain I understand that CHFA current offers mortgage assistance to our teachers and could he just explain what this addition is in this section of the Bill?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.
Under current law the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority administers a mortgage assistance program that offers mortgages at below market interest rates for certified teachers purchasing a home and eligible teachers are those who are employed by priority and transitional school districts, are employed by technical and education and career systems at technical high school and also teach in a subject matter shortage area as designated by the Education Commissioner.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarty.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):

Yes, thank you for that clear explanation. And then the other question I may have I know in this Bill we are looking at more teacher reciprocity agreements and it mentions a number of states. Do we have outlined the new additional states or what that expansion would involve?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes, there will be reciprocity through all the states, SD will be reaching out to all the states throughout the United States of America and hopefully come to an agreement in reciprocity so that we can accept these certifications from outsiders.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarty.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes, and it is my understanding that we currently do have many teacher reciprocity agreements with out New England states. The final question would look at if you could just go over quickly what this Bill does as far as teacher certification requirement flexibility and what would happen after a say a teacher’s certificate had expired.
Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Currently if a teacher’s certification expires they would have to redo the test in order to get certification, certified again.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarty.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So in conclusion again I would just like to mentioned that I think this is a necessary Bill we just put through this Session courses that will require studies in American and African studies, Latin and Puerto Rican studies, I think we need to increase our pool of minority teachers throughout this State and I think this Bill will go a along way to help us achieve that goal.

So I am in favor. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Thank you, madam. Will you care to remark further on Senate Amendment “B”? Representative Nolan you have the floor, sir.

REP. NOLAN (39TH):

Thank you, sir.

And through you.

Of course I would like to thank the speaker before me in regards to what she discussed as far as the needs of minority teacher recruitment in the State of Connecticut and I am too standing in agreement with that. Having interaction as a school officer with youth in the school not only kids of color but other students and the need for them to understand and see that it is successful to be a teacher in the school and see someone that resembles them and that looks like them and that can give them an enriching experience in regards to the things they’ve gone through and get through I think is very important for our students of all colors so I definitely am standing forward to support this Bill. Thank you.
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Sir I rise in strong support for Senate Bill 1022 and I would like to thank the leadership, Senator McCrory, Representative Sanchez for not only takin out this Bill and bringin out the details necessary for following through and gettin this Bill for signature to the Governor. My hope here is that we’re going to build on this and this will be a step, a step into expanding the educational forum to be more inclusive and to look more like the community it serves. I am a product of public education here in the State of Connecticut and I just want to, it’s funny in full disclosure, I have never had a Hispanic teacher in any of my classes and I had one African-American teacher, nothing about that other than it dates me, but I just want to congratulate
this leadership and this team for the work they are doing here and I think it is a step in the right direction and I am completely in complete support of this Senate Bill. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Care to remark further?

Representative Tercyak you have the floor, sir.

REP. TERCYAK (26TH):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker and I thank the Chairperson and Committee for a very important Bill and my comment relate to the Bill in that they relate to what’s going on right now and in terms of retention. Each month we get, among our many pieces of mail, a little thing that arrives in plain white paper, it is from the Vocational Teachers and the cover story this past month was about how lonely it is to be a teacher of color and how in school after school the teacher of color has nobody to turn to, to say how did you handle it. Like by the way the teacher of color of who is described in the situation one student called her the “N” word
everyday yet nothing happened when she threw him out of class. The assistant principal told her, “He is basically a good kid.” As we’re asked in this article is there any wonder when teachers leave when this is the support they get so I am very happy for everything we are going to be doing. But more needs to be done than what we are able to do here except with our encouragement and that includes by the way, I believe, the vocational system to meet with their teachers, Representatives and to come up with what they are going to do in addition to this good Bill to help us retain the teachers we already have so we can grow from a good solid base that we presently let get chased out of our classrooms and have our school systems do nothing to support. St thank you very much for this Bill and thank you, Mr. Speaker for my opportunity to speak about a serious problem going on right now in our systems.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

    Thank you, sir.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):
Mr. Speaker I think I forgot to say I move for adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

No, you did say move for adoption.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

I did say it, right? Okay.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Porter of the 94th you have the floor.

REP. PORTER (94TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in staunch support of this Bill and I do want to thank the Chairs and the Ranking Members for their hard work in makin sure that we brought this forward. I’m proud of the Bill but I would like what Representative Tercyak said goin forward be able to add some more to this Bill there is still much more needed to be done. It’s already been stated, minority teachers are not just good for children of color, they’re good for all children and it’s important because we need to have somethin or our
children need to have something that they can aspire to. We need to be able to fill this pipeline to believe in yourself and know what you want to be, you have to see that thing and that’s why it’s so important that we have more minority teachers in our school systems teachin. But it is also important that they have the support systems in place to help them deal with instances like what Representative Tercyak referenced in his speech a few minutes ago and that they will be able actually retain the teachers. It is also important that we have the right administrators at the head, at the helm because it is their responsibility to actually do the hirin and to make sure these teachers are retained so this is a good Bill, I do stand in staunch support but I am also excited at the possibility of what we will do in the future to strengthen this Bill and in turn strengthen our children which will strengthen our community and our state. So thank you so much Representative Sanchez and our Ranking Member for what she’s done on this
Bill and the Senate as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, madam. Representative Miller of the 145th you have the floor, madam.

REP. MILLER (145TH):

I stand in support of this Bill. Mr. Speaker this is a very emotional subject for me. As I stated the last time that we brought this Bill, a similar Bill to the Chambers, I went to school in the segregated south. I moved to Connecticut when I was nine. It was a culture shock for me to be in an integrated classroom with a white teacher because first, second and third grade I had someone who looked like me teach me, it was that person who understood what my struggles were going to be as an African-American child. It was that person that saw that there was something special about me and that I had some gifts and talents that could be honed, excuse me, I’m just very emotional about this because if it wasn’t for me going to school with someone that looked like me, I wouldn’t be the
person that I am today. That person nurtured me, those teachers nurtured me and cultivated me. They took me into their homes and taught me extra. It was when I moved to Connecticut that a teacher stood there, looked at me and told me I wasn’t smart enough, makin me feel that I wasn’t good enough. I wasn’t used to that as a nine-year-old child, come into a state that says, you know, you’re from the south you’re not smart and I had to live with that. I had to live with that in the seventh grade when a teacher looked at me and said, you’re not smart enough to take math, you’re not smart enough to take algebra but thank God I had teachers in the south that said that you are. I had a mother that said you can be anything that you want to be, that I did not let that teacher define, that guidance counselor define who I was and what I could be. I ended up with a degree in mathematics when she told me I couldn’t I wasn’t smart enough to take algebra and the reason why I ended up with that degree was because I had a black math teacher in my eighth
grade year who saw that I had the aptitude for math and decided to teach me and put me under her wing, take me under her wings. And if it wasn’t for that teacher, that African-American teacher I wouldn’t be standing here. I have a child who is now going to be 30 years old, her only teacher was first grade, her only black teacher who looked at her and said you’re gonna be a Toni Morrison who is an African-American writer and because she believed that in my child, she saw that gift, my daughter is a prolific writer, my daughter now stands because of that teacher. She is a reporter in Atlanta. So I want to thank Doug McCrory, I want to thank Bobby Sanchez and I want to thank Representative McCarty for making sure that this piece of legislation came before us today. I know I heard that, I don’t know why we have to treat some kids special or different, yes we do because society makes sure those children won’t succeed but it is this kind of legislation, my friends that will make sure that those children have an opportunity to succeed. So I have to thank God
for the opportunities that I’ve been given, thank
God for the opportunities to see those African-
American teachers, to thank God for the opportunity
that my daughter had to have an African-American
guidance counselor who made sure that my daughter
got the courses that she needed when they told her
no you can’t take these courses. So there is
something when somebody looks like you, there’s
something they instill in you, there is something
that they impart in you, to tell you that you can be
somebody. Now I’m not gonna say that I didn’t have
white teachers that spoke life into me because I did
and I had my eighth grade teacher call me when she
was in her 80s and said, Pat, the system didn’t do
right by you and that is why I fight for so hard for
education because I learned something as a child
that my mother taught me, you get it here cause
that’s the only thing someone can’t take from you.
Nelson Mandela said that education is the most
powerful weapon that changes the world, so my
colleagues I ask for you to vote for this. I thank
you; I thank you for listening to me. I’m sorry I’m so emotional but this is so important, this is such an important issue because whether you are black, white, purple or green we are all in this together and that it the only way were are going to make America to be what our forefathers wanted it to be. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, madam. You care to remark further on the Amendment? Representative Hall you have the floor, sir.

REP. HALL (7TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is absolutely a tough act to follow. Indeed we are here just last year debating and talking about this very issue and I talked to my colleagues in this great Chamber about how I was in high school, I went to Hartford Public High School just right up the block, a few blocks from here, 95 percent students of color and I didn’t have one teacher of color throughout all of my years of high school. And so I had a choice to
make from my perspective, you can be part of the problem, perpetuate or be part of the solution. So I decided to be part of the solution. So I went to Norfolk State University in Norfolk, Virginia, HBCU and I decided that I was going to become a teacher, come back to my community and be one of those teachers of color in that school so that I can be that change, be that inspiration for the very students that I knew that we lacked. My colleagues and I just this past weekend had the opportunity to celebrate a great African-American educator in the City of Hartford, Walter “Doc” Hurley who inspired thousands of students in Hartford and the Greater Hartford area and is that type of inspiration and message that we all wish to be one day. So to my colleagues, Representative Sanchez, Senator McCrory, Representative McCarty thank you so much for making sure that this was a priority of the Education Committee this year because this is going to pass and make a difference in a lot of people’s lives, in our children’s lives. So Thank you so much.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Representative Rosario, you have the floor, sir.

REP. ROSARIO (128TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in strong support of this Bill because this is great for the State of Connecticut. I have two children that are currently attending public schools, a son who is a junior at Bullard Haven Technical High School and throughout his entire career, school career he has had four teachers of color. My daughter is in the third grade and she has only had one teacher of color. And I want to thank Representative Sanchez and Senator McCrory and Representative McCarty although this Bill does come out of the Education Committee this is a jobs creation Bill. This is an opportunity for men and women that are black and brown to get a good union paying job, to have upward mobility and to get into the middle class and that is something that lifts all boats here in the State of Connecticut. So I want to thank all the
supporters of this Bill, I urge adoption. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Representative Felipe you have the floor, sir.

REP. FELIPE (130TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also rise in strong support of this legislation. I think it is pretty apparent to everybody I am the person who has most recently gone through the public school system and as a young Latino in Bridgeport, Connecticut is was very apparent to me that the teachers that were teaching me and the people that were dealing with me in the school system didn’t understand what I went through before eight o’clock and after three o’clock, what I went home to, what I woke up to, the streets I had to walk to get to the bus, to get there and I think this is addresses this problem, this legislation it makes it a little bit easier for people to understand what happens outside of books when you are teaching a child and for me that is
something that I can get behind strongly and support and I hope that the rest of my colleagues can do that as well. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Care to remark?

Representative Wilson Pheanious you have the floor, madam.

REP. WILSON PHEANIOUS (53RD):

Yes sir, thank you very much. I rise in full support of this Bill and I want to bring a slightly different perspective to it because we’ve been talking about the importance of minority teachers or black and Latino teachers for kids that are coming up through the grades but I rise to talk about my experience as the head of a graduate program and how important it was for me as a black woman, or I should say for the students in my program to experience me as a black woman. I was, this is back in 1981 to 1991 I was the Director for the Center of Child Welfare Studies at St. Joseph College. At that time it was essentially a Catholic girls school
and there were not any young ladies of color, there may have been in the school but they were certainly not in my graduate program. But a very interesting thing occurred after I took over, or after I developed the program and became it’s Chair, graduate students of color suddenly began appearing in my program, people who perhaps hadn’t, this was an interdisciplinary program that cross the disciplines of social work, law, medicine and police work in the area of child welfare and students from these various disciplines began to come into the program and at the time, it was interesting to me because there were in all of the other programs there weren’t very many people of color, this is back in the 80s early, up to 91 but they were gravitating toward my program and I began to understand they were coming because they saw somebody at the head of a program who looked like them and that said to them, I can do this. I can go to graduate school. I can be successful. I can step out there and bring my talents to this world
and I don’t know to what extent that would have happened. I hadn’t seen, I hadn’t thought about it, I mean I had wonderful students of many hues but no black and Latino students until I, as director, they began to come into my program and they told me how important I was to them as a role model, that I already had my law degree and my social work degree and I was movin forward and they hadn’t seen anybody like me in their careers and it meant a great deal to them. Those people have now moved forward, with that master’s degree they got and gone on to do wonderful things. But I have never forgotten how significant my presence was to them as the only black teacher in the school at that time, the only person who they could look up to who they could see a reflection of themselves and so it is not just the kindergartners and the middle schoolers and the high schoolers that need that influence it is all people. And so I thank the proponents of this Bill and I will certainly be voting in favor of it and hope that everybody in this Chamber considers this story
a long with all the others when they take their vote on the importance of this work. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

    Thank you, madam. Representative Vargas you have the floor, sir.

REP. VARGAS (6TH):

    Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to let all my colleagues know how important this Bill is to our communities. In 1972 my wife Sylvia and I both became teachers in the Hartford Public Schools, we both worked 35 years in the Hartford Public Schools and I can tell you we came as part of a group, teacher core group that was recruited by the community leaders because at the time Puerto Rican and Latino kids had no teacher that they could really identify with. If a Spanish speaking kid or Spanish dominate kid who spoke limited English behaved well they were allowed to stay in the room and they would pass from grade to grade and receive their high school diploma but unfortunately very little learning, they were basically ignored
throughout their educational career. If they acted up they were either designated as special education or they were disciplined, expelled, suspended so the community leaders said we need some teachers that can be roll models and my wife Sylvia and I were part of 30 individuals that came in in 1972 and were trained at the University of Hartford through a federal program know as Teacher Corp at the time. We need more programs like that today. And we were able to complete our careers and when I think back we had over 2,000 teachers in the Hartford Public Schools. At the time I remember we had about 300 African-American teachers, at the time we were the second largest school system in New England after Boston, we were larger than Bridgeport at that time. We had about 300 African-American teachers and we had about 250 Puerto Rican and Latino teachers so we had about 550, about one out of 4 teachers were minority teachers and we were complaining that it was 90 percent minority school system as far as student enrollment and that there were so few
minority teachers, little did I know at that time that was the high watermark, little did I know at that time that was the high watermark in terms of the percentage of minority teachers as part of the faculty of the Hartford Public Schools. I wish we had 300 African-American teachers and 250 Latino teachers in the Hartford Schools today, that is not the case. So this Bill, I want to congratulate the Co-Chairs of the Education Committee Representative Bobby Santiago, Senator McCrory for bringing this Bill out. This Bill goes a long way in helping to remedy a very critical situation for our kids. I remember when my colleagues honored me by making me president of the Hartford Federation of Teachers and I became the leader of our union. I was invited by many teachers to go into their classrooms throughout the school system and speak to them and I remember every so often I would say a few words in Spanish and I could see that all the kids, the Latino kids, the Puerto Rican kids would all lighten up and they would say, Mr. Vargas you speak Spanish and I’d say
yes, yo soy Puertorriquena, and they were so happy to see somebody who was in a position of leadership that was one of them which is something we rarely experience. It made me very emotional to see the kind of impact that having role models for our kids, what kind of impact it makes on kids and how it lightens their eyes, how they see the potential. So Mr. Speaker I am going to wrap up my comments by just saying that I really encourage all my colleagues in the house, on both sides of the aisle, lets make this a resounding bipartisan vote and support this Bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Care to remark further?

Representative Miller for the second time.

REP MILLER (145TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker for the second time. Mr. Speaker I would be remiss if I did not thank Senator Berthel in the Senate who is the Ranking Senate Chair who also helped bring this legislation to the floor, so thank you very much, Senator.
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, madam. Representative Gibson you have the floor, sir.

REP. GIBSON (15TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I rise emphatically in support of this Bill. Before I speak though I would like to thank Ranking Member McCarty and Senator Berthel for their outstanding leadership in this Bill as well as Senator McCrory and Representative Sanchez.

Mr. Speaker I’m gonna approach this is two parts. One from a student’s standpoint. Mr. Speaker I think all of us in here with children would say that we don’t want our kids to be taught by one type of teacher throughout their whole school year. Just imagine if your kid went through kindergarten to 12th grade and saw the same teacher every year in front of them. Would you rally want that for your students? This world is a beautiful place to live and it is becoming smaller each day
with the advancements in technology. My daughter is in the tenth grade and coming from a school system that I happen to be bias about, Bloomfield, she has a diverse teaching staff where she can to go a variety of teachers and hear about customs and things that go on in other nations and other parts of the world. She is getting a real full education because she has teachers that cannot only bring content to her but bring also real-world experiences and that is what we need for our children. Our children need teachers who are diverse because we live in a diverse world with people all over the globe that something to offer our students so we must make sure that we do everything in our power so our kids can be educated by the best, the best in this world.

On the second part, I’ve taught in school systems, in schools, where I was the only black teacher in that building. The only black teacher and I’m telling you that was such a disservice to those kids because instead of having an education
where they had a variety of teachers that can offer them things, I was the only one that could give them what they needed as far as African-American culture in my experiences. And it wasn’t only a disservice to the kids but it was a disservice to me because I didn’t have a variety of teachers in which I could reach out to and I could add perhaps something to what I was teaching the kids. It was also a disservice to the other teachers. So this Bill is so important and let me just make this perfectly clear, this is not just about African-American Hispanic teachers, this is about having teachers creating teachers a system and supporting teachers of diverse backgrounds so our kids can grow and learn and love one another. So Mr. Speaker I rise again and thank you to the Education Committee and thank you for the leadership in Education Committee and I urge my colleagues to support this Bill. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Care to remark further?
Representative McGee, you have the floor, sir.

REP. MCGEE (5TH):

    Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A lot has been said so I am not going to repeat all of the sentiments but I do agree with each and every one of my colleagues that have spoken previously. I too would like to thank the leadership of the Committee on both sides in both Chambers on continuing this great work. But I specifically would like to highlight two areas and that is creating an annual minority teacher hiring goal of 250 teachers. It is not enough to say oh we want to hire more teachers of color for our school districts but it means so much to see in writing that there are tangible goals that we all, all districts ought to work toward and so that is extremely encouraging to me especially across this state. And then the second piece is allowing for reemployment of retired teachers who graduated from and educational reform district in the State of Connecticut. I remember attending school at Annie Fisher Elementary here in Hartford, growing up in
Westbrook Village which is a project if you don’t know what that is and it was one of the most amazing experiences to have at least four teachers of color from historically black colleges and universities and for me I just I can only imagine if we can get back to a place where we are recruiting teachers of color from HBCUs, from other organizations that could really provide experiences for our students and also relate to them. But it is something to say about recruiting some folks who have been in the system who can teach our children and remind them of those experiences so again I support the measure before us. Thank you to all of the leaders and hopefully we can continue the great work of recruiting minority teachers. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further, on the Amendment? Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Yes, Mr. Speaker I want to take this opportunity also to thank the Ranking Members. We
sat down through numerous meetings with experts, principals and superintendents and we went over this Bill many, many times and Senator McCrory, myself, Senator Berthel and Representative McCarty I want to thank you so much for your support and for your work on this Bill. That’s all I want to say. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

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

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

All those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it, the Amendment is adopted [Gavel]. Will you care to remark further on the Bill as amended? Representative Candelaria you have the floor, sir.

REP. CANDELORA (86TH):
Making sure you’re awake. [Laughter]

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Sanchez on the Bill as amended?

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Mr. Speaker, that’s hilarious huh. Mr. Speaker I just wanted to say thank you again to the Ranking Members and to Senator McCrory, it’s a good Bill it ought to pass. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further on the Bill as amended? Will you care to remark further on the Bill as amended? Representative O’Neill you have the floor, sir.

REP. O'NEILL (69TH):

Yes, if I may, just a quick question. I was listening to the discussion about the Amendment and there were a lot of people mention and I was just wondering if I could ask, whose idea was this originally? Was it Senator McCrory’s, did it come from a task force, was there an individual member, I don’t see this, when I was looking at it, it doesn’t
indicate that it was originally a proposed Bill it was a Committee Bill and I see a list of Co-Sponsors and I was just wondering if I could ask who was the sort of original thought provider for this Bill?

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I think it was originally a minority teacher task force that came up with this concept.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative O’Neill.

REP. O'NEILL (69TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I certainly having listened to this discussion intend to vote for it and I don’t want, everyone has spoken about personal anecdotal stories, I don’t want to take up too much time but jus to say that many of you may know that my wife is Latino, Latina and that many times she meets young people of college age and ask were are you going to school and frequently if it is a member
of a minority community, Latino or black she will hear the response well I’m not going to college because my guidance counselor said I’m not college material and whether it is a female or a male and after her conversations with these young people, as a former college professor and someone who has specialized in child development, developmental psychology, she could tell pretty quickly that there were people who probably were college material and were steered in the wrong direction so they are now stacking shelves somewhere instead of going to school. So I just wanted to add that as a perspective of someone who has seen the outcome of this, there were great stories told to us of success stories but the lack of this sort of thing has a dark side to it as well, negative outcome for those people who do not get pointed in the right direction who could achieve more. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further on the Bill as amended? Care to remark
further on the Bill as amended?

If not Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. 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 CANDELARIA (95TH):

Have all members voted? Please check the board to ensure that your vote has been 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:

Senate Bill 1022 as Amended by Senate “B” in concurrence with the Senate.

Total Number Voting 150

Necessary for Passage 76

Those voting Yea 150
Those voting Nay 0
Absent not voting 1

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Bill passes as Amended in concurrence with the Senate [Gavel]. Are there any announcements or introductions? Representative Hampton, you have the floor, sir.

REP. HAMPTON (16TH):

Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Good afternoon, sir please proceed.

REP. HAMPTON (16TH):

For a point of introduction.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, sir.

REP. HAMPTON (16TH):

I am thrilled to welcome to the House Chamber one of my constituents Ms. Maggie Sullivan, she is going to graduate from right grade this week from my alma mater of St. Mary’s School in Simsbury. Maggie is one of the best and brightest, she has made great
academic accomplishments, athletic achievements. She has been a natural born leader. She has done great things as a president of the student council, she has a big heart and a great mind and she will be a great leader, I know. Big things ahead for her as she heads into high school and college and beyond so I am so pleased to present her this citation in her honor and I’d ask my colleagues and friends to join me in welcoming her to the Chamber and congratulating her [Applause].

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Welcome to the Chamber. We will return to the call of the Calendar. Will the Clerk please call Calendar No. 682?

CLERK:


DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarthy Vahey you have the
floor, madam.

REP. MC CARTHY VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Question is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. Representative McCarthy Vahey you have the floor, madam.

REP. MC CARTHY VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker the Clerk is in possession of an Amendment LCO No. 9593 and I would ask the Clerk to please call the Amendment and that I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Would the Clerk please call LCO No. 9593 which will be designated Senate Amendment Schedule "A."

CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule "A" LCO No. 9593
The Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there any objections? Hearing none you may proceed with summarization, madam.

Thank you so much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker this Bill deals with abandoned and blighted properties that we all have in our communities. It creates a mechanism to address these properties, it allows the Superior Court to appoint what we call a receiver who would be able to remedy the conditions and remediate the property. The receiver could include a municipality itself or a development organization and this will be a helpful tool in helping our communities to address blight and public health and safety issues and I move adoption.

Question before this Chamber is on adoption of Senate Amendment “A”. Will you care to remark?
Representative Zawistowski, you have the floor, madam.

REP. ZAWISTOWSKI (61ST):

    Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am in full support of this Amendment and would like to make additional comments on the Bill. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

    Thank you, madam. Would you care to remark further? Representative Ackert you have the floor, sir.

REP. ACKERT (8TH):

    Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And this has been on little board over here for quite a while so I had a chance to look at the legislation and had some questions. Does this first.

     Through you, Mr. Speaker.

     Does this apply to all communities?

     Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

    Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC CARTHY VAHEY (133RD):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker through you.

No, this Amendment actually does not. I applies to communities of 75,000 or over. There will be another Amendment that will address that.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Ackert.

REP. ACKERT (8TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I was looking at a property just this weekend and thought it needed a lot of work, so I saw the time frame of I believe a year in which something has to be done on that property so I’ll listen to the further dialogue and maybe have further comments but now I will look for that other piece on it and maybe have the question. But thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you to the good lady.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Representative Nolan. You have the floor, sir.
REP. NOLAN (39TH):

Thank you.

And through you, sir.

Just a question for the proponent of the Bill because I wasn’t sure I heard it correctly.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, sir.

REP. NOLAN (39TH):

Do you say 75,000 plus?

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC CARY VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes, this version, this Amendment under this Amendment, it is 75,000 plus and when properly recognized there will be another Amendment to address the population.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Nolan.
REP. NOLAN (39TH):

Now I become very excited for your Bill because I know in my municipality as like others we have what I term them to be slum lords that buy properties that are of importance to our city in regards to taxes and they do not do anything with those buildings so I am glad that you have another Amendment and I thank you for letting me know that so that I can get my smile back on and support what you have coming forward. Thank you, sir.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Care to remark further on the Amendment before us. Will you care to remark further on the Senate Amendment “A”? If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Those opposed, nay. The Aye’s have it, the Amendment is adopted [Gavel]. Will you remark
further on the Bill as Amended? Representative McCarthy Vahey you have the floor, madam.

REP. MC CARRY VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker the Clerk is in possession of an Amendment LCO No. 10830. I ask that the Clerk please call the Amendment and that I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 10830 which will be designated House Amendment “A”.

CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule “A” LCO No. 10830 offered by Representative Dubitsky, Senator Fasano etal.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there and objection to summarization? Hearing none, Representative McCarthy Vahey you have the floor, madam.

REP. MC CARRY VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker this
Amendment simply changes the population threshold from 75,000 to 35,000 or more which means additional communities will be able to avail themselves of this opportunity and I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Question before the Chamber is on adoption. Care to remark on the Amendment? Representative Zawistowski, you have the floor, madam.

REP. ZAWISTOWSKI (61ST):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is even a better Amendment that I support but I would like to speak on the underlying Bill when we are set. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Would you care to remark further on House Amendment “A”? If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it. The Amendment is adopted [Gavel]. Will you remark
further on the Bill as Amended? Representative Zawistowski you have the floor, madam.

REP. ZAWISTOWSKI (61ST):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. As noted by the proponent this Bill offer procedures for dealing with abandoned and blighted properties that can possibly be dangerous and allows municipalities to secure these properties and put them back into public service. The provisions are actually given for the owner to be able to have sufficient time to either repair, rehab the property or get it on the market. It is all set forth in the Bill. If I may, Mr. Speaker I have a couple of question for the proponent.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed.

REP. ZAWISTOWSKI (61ST):

How does this actually, how does this process differ from using the blighted properties foreclosure remedies that some municipalities may have available to them.
Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MCCARTHY VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And through you.

Each municipality has its own different blight laws and processes. This Bill would apply uniformly to all communities that are 35,000 and above and in many cases the communities may be able to take action and incur loans which then or incur expenses, excuse me, which then can be placed as liens on properties sometimes municipalities need to go to court and even in criminal proceedings and in this case the receiver will be able to take legal possession and through a petition process through the Superior Court will be able to remediate the property to have insurance, to enter into contracts and have all of those legal right as it speaks to provider mediation to the property.

Through you.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Zawistowski.

REP. ZAWISTOWSKI (61ST):

Yes, in addition I understand that this process may actually be able to expedite it somewhat because the foreclosure process can be a little long on blighted properties. I would like to ask the proponent what implications might have for existing mortgages or liens on the properties?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC C ARTHY VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, through you.

Those existing liens and mortgages would remain in place during the receivership.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Zawistowski.

REP. ZAWISTOWSKI (61ST):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker and if a property has some historical significance will the receiver need to consult with any local historical commissions, authorities or things like that?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC CARTHY VAHEY (133RD):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Zawistowski.

REP. ZAWISTOWSKI (61ST):

And at the end of the process when the receiver has taken care of the property, gotten it ready to market, rehabbed, whatever, will the new owner of the property get clear title?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC CARTHY VAHEY (133RD):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, through you.

There is a process that will need to be executed and it will require the receiver to create a deed that will then need to be approved by the court which will then allow for the new owner to receive clear title.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Zawistowski.

REP. ZAWISTOWSKI (61ST):

And I thank the proponent for the question. CCM cost and a lot of neighborhood organizations have been in support of this Bill. It gives cities another tool to combat blight and abandoned properties and some of these properties can be a magnet for kids playing in them if they are not secured so it has a very good public purpose. It also gets the properties back to productive use and also back on the tax rolls. I am going to be supporting this Bill and I recommend to my
colleagues do the same. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, madam. Will you care to remark further on the Bill as Amended? Representative Mastrofrancesco you have the floor, madam.

REP. MASTROFRANCESCO (80TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise, I have questions for the proponent of the Bill for clarification.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, madam.

REP. MASTROFRANCESCO (80TH):

Thank you.

And through you, Mr. Speaker.

Can you just explain to me the process of an abandoned property being rehabilitated?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC CARTHY VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you Mr. Speaker.
And through you the process requires the court to approve a receiver only under certain conditions and some of those conditions include that a property has been not legally occupied for 12 months, that the owner has failed to present compelling evidence that they have actively marketed the property or trying to sell or remediate the property, the building has not been subject to a foreclosure action and again this is as my good Ranking Member indicated a process that will help to expedite though still make sure that we are looking at the rights of the owners in proper cases where they are able to take steps to provide this remediation.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Mastrofrancesco.

REP. MASTROFRANCESCO (80TH):

Thank you.

And through you, who would make that determination if the property owner was not trying to make changes to the property or rehabilitate it,
I’m a little confused by that answer.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC CARthy VAHEY (133RD):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

More simply put it would be through the petition process through the Superior Court.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Mastrofrancesco.

REP. MASTROFRANCESCO (80TH):

Thank you and.

Through you.

So this process would not go through your town if they have a blight committee or a blight ordinance, would it have to do with that?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC CARthy VAHEY (133RD):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

That is correct. This process would go through the court and not through a town’s municipal blight process or any blight committee.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Mastrofrancesco.

REP. MASTROFRANCESCO (80TH):

Okay, and so.

Through you.

So the town would not have any say in whether or not the property is a blighted property?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC CARthy VAHEY (133RD):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

The receiver itself or him or herself could actually be a municipality or a government entity so the expectation would be that there certainly would
be involvement with the town but the ultimate decision would be with the superior court.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Mastrofrancesco.

REP. MASTROFRANCESCO (80TH):

Thank you.

And through you, Mr. Speaker.

How would it be determined that property needs to be rehabilitated? So I’m looking at an example of somebody that maybe has moved, they have not decided to sell their home here in Connecticut, maybe they moved out-of-state and the property is just sitting there. Would that be a qualifier for this program even if they’ve paid all of their taxes?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC C ARTHY VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And Mr. Speaker the
Bill outlines very specific condition and this is really more in a case of extreme situations and I will just list some of those for the good Representative and not legally occupied for at least 12 months and the owner failing to make a good faith effort or to actively market it, the building during 60 days immediately preceding the filing of the petition, again the building is not subject to a foreclosure action, that is part of the Bill or when the ownership of such building is in dispute or in any other legal proceedings would not be an eligibility but some of the other pieces of that to make sure that we’re not just looking at situation like the good Representative gave as an example. That it would be unfit for human occupancy would be one, that the building would require substantial rehabilitation and that there would be risk of fire, that there would be risk of illicit activity, that there would be risk to children who might play there, those are some of the situations that this Bill is contemplating.
Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Mastrofrancesco.

REP. MASTROFRANCESCO (80TH):

Thank you very much for answering that question. I was just a little confused my guess on who determines whether or not that property is at risk if it doesn’t go through their blight ordinance within their specific town, I guess through a court order, do they order somebody to go into that property to see if it is a risk, I mean how do they know that nobody is living in that property? Does it have to be reported?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC CARthy VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And Mr. Speaker, through you.

A party of interest may file a petition with the court and it is through that process that the
court would make the determination if those conditions had been met.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Mastrofrancesco.

REP. MASTROFRANCESCO (80TH):

Thank you.

And through you.

So just so I understand it correctly. If I have a house, my neighbor’s house they are no longer living there anymore, I can petition the court on that property based on nobody living there?

Through you.

Is that correct?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC CARTHY VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And it is not designed for just simply a vacant building. Again there are multiple conditions that must be met such as those
public health and safety hazards that I outline previously and the decision would have to be made by the court that those were met and the petition by the receiver or party of interest would be filed and the receiver would then outline a plan for remediation as well. So there certainly would be a process that would have to be met and it is not designed for just a vacant property that is in good and safe condition in a neighborhood.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Mastrofrancesco.

REP. MASTROFRANCESCO (80TH):

Thank you. I just needed some clarification. I will certainly listen on to the debate. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, madam. Care to remark further? Representative Ackert you have the floor, sir.

REP. ACKERT (8TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A couple of clarifying
questions and maybe an example.
    Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
    Please proceed, sir.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
    I have a short trip from my home to my personal office, a commercial building. So commercial buildings would be included in this legislation?
    Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
    Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC CARthy VAHEY (133RD):
    Through you, Mr. Speaker.
    Yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
    Representative Ackert.

REP. ACKERT (8TH):
    Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you to the good lady. I could think of two buildings that fit this perfectly, this example perfectly one was a home that was purchased by a gas station company
that is I think sat vacant and I would consider it blight for I would say three to four years and I would consider it to be an unsafe situation myself. There is no care of the lawn, the building is dilapidated, you cannot live in it at all, it could be an area that a building that could essentially be somebody could get into and may be considered unsafe, and if that sounds from what I’ve read here, that sounds like it would fit this legislation. It is not for sale. There is no for sale sign, they are not trying to transfer that. Would that be the type of property that would fit into this legislation?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MCCARTHY VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And through you.

There are requirements in terms of notice and actively marketing the building if the building is
not being put up for sale and forgive me, to the
good Representative, if it has not, if the owner has
actively marketed the building during 60 days
immediately preceding the filing of the petition
then it would not be eligible. But in the case that
the good Representative is referencing if the party
of interest has filed a petition and those criteria
that I referenced previously in the conversation
with the good Representative then this could be a
building that would be eligible for the program.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Ackert.

REP. ACKERT (8TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I thank the good lady. So essentially they would be notified and
that at some point they would either have to list
the property, fix the property, something along that
line to be not in this category or be affected by
this legislation, does that sound correct?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC CARthy VAHEY (133RD):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Absolutely yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Ackert.

REP. ACKERT (8TH):

Thank you and the reason why I bring this up is I just contacted an individual that is selling, I would consider a very rough property, they probably had it for a year plus and it is marketable, there is a sign out there, it is for sale so it does fit that criteria but I was thinking of purchasing and I didn’t know if I had a year time frame to fix it to meet any of this good, it needs a lot of work so to say and I would imagine that if somebody else, me bought the property did not have the means, something along that line to get it done in this criteria and there was a I guess something filed on it, that the person would have to act in terms of
getting the building fixed up within that time frame. It sat for a year, two years, something like that was considered a blight that they would have to take action to fix that building up, does that sound correct?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC CARthy VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I appreciate the good Representative’s question and the opportunity to clarify that and I probably should have said this previously that in order to be eligible the facility, the building would have to have been cited under blight through the municipality and so there is that process as well.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Ackert.

REP. ACKERT (8TH):

Thank you and I appreciate that clarity cause
that makes good sense. And now moving the amount of towns down to 35,000 how many towns are we not, because I have all small towns so how many towns are affected with this or would help those communities?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

 Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC CARthy VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I think that is a wonderful question and we had a late Amendment and I do not have the answer to the good Representative’s question but that was part of the reason for the Amendment. We wanted to expand the opportunity for more communities and I am happy to get an answer to that question for the good Representative.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

 Representative Ackert.

REP. ACKERT (8TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And so the legislators that have 35,000 and up that aren’t complaining
about this, then I’m good with it too. Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank the good lady for her answers.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Care to remark further? Representative Davis, you have the floor, sir.

REP. DAVIS (57TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, to the Madam Chairwoman, my apologies of the Planning and Development Committee.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, sir.

REP. DAVIS (57TH):

I was getting ahead of myself there, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker to the Madam Chairwoman. Is there anything in this Bill that would essentially prevent or encourage the property owner to not have the property go into blight and go through this process?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarthy Vahey.
REP. MC CATHY VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I think the first order of prevention is the municipal blight ordinance and those are the steps that would initially be enacted to help prevent a property from going and getting to the point where this would even be contemplated.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDLERIA (95TH):

Representative Davis.

REP. DAVIS (57TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. And as I read the Bill or the Amendment that became the Bill it would appear that an owner could disregard their property, let it go to the point that it’s in complete disrepair, it is required under this. They go into stewardship, an interested party as defined in the Bill requests that, it gets approved for this, then the steward comes in and can take out loans or get money to repair the building, make it marketable when it otherwise was not. The property then be
sold by that steward and there is an order in which
the money would be distributed but the owner would
have the leftover money essentially, anything that
isn’t paid to pay back the loan on fixing the
property, the court costs, the costs incurred by the
steward any of that. So, Mr. Speaker it would
appear to me that a property owner could, who has no
intention of cleaning up this property could sit
back and just wait and just let somebody else come
in and clean up their property, sell it for them and
then they get a few bucks from it. Is that a
reasonable interpretation of what could happen?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC CARthy VAHEY (133RD):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. And I thank the good
Representative for his question. I suppose that is
actually a possibility but when we’ve seen through
the course of time that an owner is unwilling or
unable for some reason to actively take steps on
their own to remediate the property the goal of this legislation and this Bill is to encourage us to get those properties back on the tax rolls to address those public health needs but the good Representative is correct, it is possible that after all of those other obligations are met, any other mortgages, liens and there is a particular order in the Bill but the answer simply is yes.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Davis.

REP. DAVIS (57TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And is there any mandated step in between that would say that the property owner has to be the one that has to make an active attempt to remediate the property or invest money into the property before this entire process begins or is there just somebody who is an interested party meets this criteria, they get to request the court put the steward in and then that gets the process moving forward.
Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC CARTHY VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And Mr. Speaker, through you. It would be the local blight process that would be the precursor to this and again each municipality has its own blight ordinances with the idea of trying to move those property owners into action and that would be the goal to prevent the need to get to this point in the first place.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Davis.

REP. DAVIS (57TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not sure I know my two towns are too small to qualify for this but I do know that in my towns we don’t necessarily have blight ordinances, I know definitely in East Windsor we do not as we are a right to farm community and
want to encourage agriculture so we don’t want to have complaints about blight on those property owners and I am not sure every community that is 35,000 or more has a blight process so I am not sure there would be any reason why a property owner would actually want to be encouraged to improve their property if they know they can just sit back and let somebody complain and ultimately have somebody fix it up for them and sell it. So for that reason I’ll listen to the rest of the debate but I may ultimately end up opposing this Bill cause I feel like it could ultimately encourage property owners to have blight and not actually improve their properties. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Care to remark further?

Representative Rosairo, you have the floor, sir.

REP. ROSARIO (128TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I stand in strong support of this Bill and I want to thank the chairpeople who worked on this legislation. As the
former blight director for the City of Bridgeport I can tell you firsthand that blight not only brings down property values in our communities but it also puts everyone at risk. Everyday we have children in the City of Bridgeport and communities like Bridgeport that walk by abandoned blighted properties on their way to school exposing them to great risk and also our public safety officials, our police officers, our fire department. I remember dealing with Bridgeport Fire Department when they would be putting out blazes of abandoned and blighted properties and their equipment, they would walk out and their boots and their equipment such as hoses would be littered in syringes so although this isn’t an overnight fix, it is a step in the right direction. I urge adoption. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

    Thank you, sir. Care to remark further? Representative Smith, you have the floor, sir.

REP. SMITH (108TH):

    Mr. Chairman, ah Mr. Speaker, a few questions
please?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, sir.

REP. SMITH (108TH):

Just the first question is I know we went from 75 to 35, I’m wondering why 35 and not everybody?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC CARTHY VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And through you, Mr. Speaker.

The honest answer is that was the agreement that we were able to reach. There were some folks who wanted to go to zero and others who were interested in the higher number so that was the compromise that we were able to reach.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Smith.
REP. SMITH (108TH):

And what was the pushback if you would from those people who did not want it to go to zero, what’s the rationale?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC CARTHY VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And through you, I am not certain of the nature of all of that. This all began in the Senate as you know and as it came down here there were some members from smaller communities who were interested in expanding that and so we had that conversation with the Senate and so I can’t give a full answer to the good Representative’s question.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108TH):

The reason I asked obviously cities have
typically more blighted properties than the rural communities but blight is everywhere. It’s in every town so it doesn’t really mean, we really shouldn’t be passing legislation that says well towns that have 10,000 or more or 35,000 or more would have the benefits perhaps of this legislation while the smaller communities with the blighted property would not. So I understand the Representative’s comments and appreciate her reference again the down of 35,000 I wish it was even further. I do have some questions about the Bill though and the priorities of some lien holders so if I am a back and I have a mortgage on the property as I am reading through this legislation it looks like my mortgage which was at one time in first place, the first lien holder now becomes way down on the chart in terms of getting reimbursed for the lien that is on the property pursuant to the mortgage. Am I correct in my assessment of the Bill?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC CARTHY VAHEY (133RD):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. If the good Representative would just give me a moment to check out the line numbers as where we have that list.

REP. SMITH (108TH):

If I may.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I was looking at lines 375 and following.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC CARTHY VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I appreciate the good Representative pointing that out and yes, indeed that is correct that court costs and other costs related to the expenses, sale and other liens do come before that.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108TH):
So I guess that is the concern I have with the Bill is that if I’m a lender with a private or a commercial and I loan some money to someone, and I have a security interest on that property and I’m first in line on the property and pursuant to this language as I read it, if a receiver is appointed I am no longer first in line because the reimbursement upon a sale of the property first goes to pay court costs, then any state or municipal lines, costs associated with the sale of the property, if there was money borrowed to rehabilitate the property, principle and interest on that loan, costs incurred by the petitioner and to prepare and file the petition with the court, costs of any rehabilitation, liens of the State and then my mortgage that I hold that was in first place now would be addressed. Why is it that the first lien holder has been bumped from first place all the way down to as I just described?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC CARTHY VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And through you. I believe it is because when this process begins through the court that owner has or that holder of that mortgage has one of the top rights and abilities to become the receiver and if they so chose not to take that right, that I think what bumps them down a bit.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108TH):

And I did see they were afforded the option to exercise the ability to be the receiver but banks are not in the business of being receivers they are in the business of loaning money to folks and I think really what we’re doing here because this is not a foreclosure where they would go through the foreclosure process and the bank would take title and then sell the property and get reimbursed for
their loan, now they’re just basically in my opinion almost shutout because I would assume based on the rehabilitation costs, the money borrowed to rehabilitate, the cost of the petition, the costs of all the things I just described it would probably be more than the, would not leave much I should say to pay any subsequent lean holder. So I am concerned about that process and how it really changes the whole way we do business here, we’re foreclosing properties and protecting lien holders who actually made the decision at one time to loan money based on security, thought they had security and now realize that security has been usurped by some legislation that we’re about to address here today. So those are the concerns, I’ll continue to listen to the dialogue and see if those concerns could be addressed but that would be the issue I have with the Bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further? Care to remark further on the Bill as
Amended. If not Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. 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 CANDELARIA (95TH):

Have all members voted? Have all members voted? Please check the board to ensure your vote has been 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:

Senate Bill No. 1070 as Amended by Senate “A” and House “A”

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Those voting Nay: 34
Absent not voting: 1

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Bill passes as Amended [Gavel]. Will the Clerk please call Calendar No. 548?

CLERK:


DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Wilson Pheanious you have the floor, madam.

REP. WILSON PHEANIOUS (53RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage
of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

Representative you may proceed.

REP. WILSON PHEANIOUS (53RD):

Thank you, sir. Mr. Speaker the Clerk has an Amendment LCO 7555. I would ask the Clerk to please call that Amendment and allow me leave to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 7555 which will be designated Senate Amendment “A”.

CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule “A” LCO No. 7555 offered by Senator Moore, Representative Abercrombie, Senator Logan.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there any objection? Hearing none, Representative Wilson Pheanious you have the floor, madam.

REP. WILSON PHEANIOUS (53RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This Amendment strikes language of the underlying Bill and the associated
fiscal impact. The Amendment clarifies that DSS may provide Medicaid coverage for Telehealth services if they is a clinical need for such services, if they are medically necessary and they can be provided using Telehealth in a cost-effective manner, and if such services are likely to expand coverage for the population. The Bill authorizes the commissioner to move forward to create the kinds of regulations that she may need to implement this to see federal waivers or to amend the state plan as required so as to allow, to be able to recoup Medicaid services. The Bill further requires DSS to report to Human Services and report to Human Service and Public Health in a report by August 2020. I move acceptance of the Amendment. I move adoption of the Amendment, excuse me.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will you remark further on the Amendment? Representative Wilson Pheanious.

REP. WILSON PHEANIOUS (53RD):

I’ve spoken on it; I don’t know if there are
any further questions.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

    Thank you, Madam. Representative Case, you have the floor, sir.

REP. CASE (63RD):

    Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

    Through you a couple of question to the good woman from Human Services.

    Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

    Please proceed sir.

REP. CASE (63RD):

    So in Sections 9, or lines nine, ten and eleven with the fiscal what will this actually, what is the potential cost to the State of Connecticut, if any?

    Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

    Representative Wilson Pheanious.

REP. WILSON PHEANIOUS (53RD):

    There is a potential cost savings with this Bill. There aren’t, it’s not anticipated there will
be any costs. There was some time ago a pilot that saved approximately $5 million dollars over a six-month period so these savings with implementation of this could be quite substantial.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Case.

REP. CASE (63RD):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. In lines nine in this Amendment it says the “Department shall” and when we turn the page in some of the new language on line 17 it says the “Commissioner may” is this a may or a shall?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Wilson Pheanious.

REP. WILSON PHEANIOUS (53RD):

I’m sorry, Mr. Speaker.

Through you.

The “Department shall provider coverage under the Medicaid program for Telehealth Services for
categories of health care” and is subsequently says “Commissioner” you said in 17, the “Commissioner may provider coverage pursuant to the section not withstanding any provisions to the contrary.” What this means is as I interpret is that the commissioner may seek to implement the changes that are needed. Going through the regulatory process by appropriately publishing and advising those that need to be advised, under CMS rules and that until those waivers are submitted she can provide those services so that we can get Medicaid coverage.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

    Representative Case.

REP. CASE (63RD):

    Through you, Mr. Speaker.

    And I thank the good woman for her answers. I’m just going though this Amendment real quickly. So has the Commissioner or DSS implement this program since we first started talking about it and passing it through to DSS and is that the reason for it saying the Commissioner, the department “shall?”
Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Wilson Pheanious.

REP. WILSON PHEANIOUS (53RD):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

There has been a couple of pilots over the years and so the services have been tried but not fully implemented. The pilot’s lasted for a period of time but as I said, over a six-month period there was deemed to be a savings of approximately $5 million dollars. What this allows us to do is to expand those services and to provide a report which will then tell us where by 2020 she has been able to implement those services, how much money she has been able to save and the categories of services which can be provided under Telehealth.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Case.

REP. CASE (63RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And reading through some of the pilots that were done through other
states from back in 2106 there is a significant cost savings that we can also look at and I do look forward to working with the good Chairwoman in Human Services and also the good Woman on Human Services with our new Commissioner to see that we can see this trough and the cost savings to the State of Connecticut. I’ll save the rest of my comments for the Bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

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

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it, the Amendment is adopted [Gavel]. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Representative
Wilson Pheanious, you have the floor.

REP. WILSON PHEANIOUS (53RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe it is a good Bill and it ought to pass. Thank you, sir.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Case.

REP. CASE (63RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also feel it’s a good Bill and ought to pass. Just a few questions to you through the good Woman of Human Services. So are there any potential savings within this, or put through within this budge that we passed yesterday? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Wilson Pheanious.

REP. WILSON PHEANIOUS (53RD):

At this point that is not a part of this proposal. But I believe as soon as the Commissioner begins to implement Telehealth services they’re be not only better services provided but an incredible savings. This is bourgeoning area of practice that
is growing with exponential speed is growing across and I think that all over the country they are finding tremendous savings and tremendously better service provided through the use of Telehealth.

There are some 47 state that have implement this, Connecticut is one of the last states to fully implement this under Medicaid. So I do believe that there will be savings but that is not part of the plan.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Case.

REP. CASE (63RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I think we all look forward to some good saving in the State of Connecticut and I think this is something that I think that since I became on Human Services we’ve talked about Telehealth and we’ve talked about trying to actually save dollars and reach out to more people and I do feel as though this is a good Bill and ought to pass and we can anticipate some
savings down the road especially with out new commissioner that is coming on board with all of her knowledge and things. You know, there are people out in the rural areas that will really benefit from this and I know the good Chairwoman who is sitting next to the good Woman of Human Services, we worked on this for years and, you know, seeing it actually being implement and pushing it as a “shall” I honestly I look forward to seeing the savings and being able to help more people and I thank the good Woman from Human Services for bringing it out. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Do you care to remark further on the Bill as Amended? If not will Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. 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 CANDELARIA (95TH):

   Have all members voted? Please check the board to ensure that your vote has been 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:

   Senate Bill No. 1052 as Amended by Senate “A” in concurrence with the Senate.

   Total Number Voting  146
   Necessary for Passage  74
   Those voting Yea  146
   Those voting Nay  0
   Absent not voting  5

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

   The Bill passed as amended by Senate in concurrence [Gavel].

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):
Mr. Clerk, Calendar 571 please.

CLERK:

On Page 41, House Calendar 571, Substitute Senate Bill No. 1080 AN ACE CONCERNING A TWO-

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Distinguished Chair of the Committee on Human Services, Representative Abercrombie.

REP. ABERCROMBIE (83RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Question is on passage in concurrence. Would you explain the Bill please, ma’am?

REP. ABERCROMBIE (83RD):

Mr. Speaker, the Clerk has an Amendment LCO 7575. I ask that the Amendment be called and I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.
DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

The Clerk is indeed possession of LCO No. 7575 previously designated as Senate Amendment “B”. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule “B” LCO No. 7575 offered by Senator Moore, Representative Currey.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Abercrombie, what’s your pleasure.

REP. ABERCROMBIE (83RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker in 2016 there was developed the Two Generation Advisory Council, what this Amendment does is change it to a Two Generation Advisor Board, it changes the membership of the Board but not the direction of the Board, I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Question is on adoption of Senate Amendment Schedule “B”. Will you remark further? Will you remark further? If not, I will try your minds. All
those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Opposed, nay. The aye’s have it, the Amendment is adopted [Gavel]. Will you remark on the Bill as Amended? Will you remark on the Bill as Amended? Representative Case.

REP. CASE (63RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I couldn’t get the good Chairwoman off that easy without any questions, so.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

But of course.

REP. CASE (63RD):

So also within this Amendment, in the Strike All, is it so that in the two generational board that is put together to develop a plan and a plan to be acted on, and I believe it is in lines six through eight, if the good Woman could take a look and is that correct?
Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Abercrombie, do you care to respond?

REP. ABERCROMBIE (83RD):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

That is correct.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Case.

REP. CASE (63RD):

I thank the good Chairwoman of Human Services. Good Bill, ought to pass.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Will you remark? If not the Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. 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 GODFREY (110TH):

Have all members voted? If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

And the Clerk will announce the tally.

CLERK:

Senate Bill No. 1080 as Amended by Senate Amendment “B” in concurrence with the Senate

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DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

The Bill is passed in concurrence with the Senate [Gavel]. Mr. Clerk, 665 if you please.

CLERK:

On Page 52, Calendar 665, Substitute Senate Bill No. 1069, AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REVISIONS
AND ADDITIONS TO THE EDUCATION STATUTES. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

the Distinguished Chairman of the Education Committee, Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Question is on I move for Acceptance of the and Passage. Will you explain the Bill please, sir?

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Mr. Speaker, the underlying Bill makes changes to laws governing criminal history checks for school personnel, it creates separate criminal history check requirements for teachers preparation program, participants for filling student teaching requirements in schools. The Bill also requires SDT to update the comprehensive school health education
component of the Healthy Balanced Living Curriculum
Framework and the Bill also makes technical and
conforming changes. Mr. Speaker, the Clerk has
Amendment LCO 9170. I would ask that the Clerk
please call the Amendment and that I be granted
leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

The Clerk is indeed in possession of LCO No.
9170 previously designated as Senate Amendment
Schedule “A”. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK:

LCO No. 9170 designated Senate Amendment
Schedule “A” and offered by Senator. McCrory and
Representative Sanchez.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Is there objection to the gentleman
summarizing? If not, Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Mr. Speaker the Amendment adds three additional
sections to the Bill. Section 8, under current law
about school governance council members, it brings
it from two to four members. Section 9 changes the law regarding student expulsions so that in order to expel a student, a student conduct must violate board policy and a serious disruptive and endanger others. In Section 10 which requires the education, the boards of education to post their grade level curriculum on-line. I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Question is on adoption of Senate Amendment Schedule “A”. Will you remark? Representative McCarty, distinguished Ranking Member of Education.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):

Yes, thank you Mr. Speaker. I would just like to make a few remarks on the Amendment and then reserve my comments for the Bill. So we just talked about the School Governance Council and I think it is in reference to changing their terms. Is that correct?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Sanchez.
REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

That is correct.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative McCarty.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. And then the second part of the Amendment adds for when we are expelling students the word “and” and I think the rationale behind that was to be certain that we are not expelling more students than necessary, that it also has to be serious event so we are adding the work “and” to this part of the Amendment. Is that correct?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

That is correct.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):
Representative McCarty.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):

Thank you and then, just a preface that Section 10 we’ll be talking about so I will ask my colleagues to reserve comment on Section 10, that will be shortly discussed and that we act on the Amendment in front of us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Thank you, ma’am. Will you remark further on Senate “A”? Will you remark further on Senate “A”? If not, I will try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Opposed, nay. The aye’s have it, the Amendment is adopted [Gavel]. Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker LCO, I mean the Clerk has an Amendment LCO 10841. I ask that the Clerk please call the Amendment and I be
granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Clerk is in possession of LCO No. 10841 which
will be designated House Amendment Schedule “A”, Mr.
Clerk.

CLERK:

LCO No. 10841 designated House Amendment
Schedule “A” and offered by Representative Sanchez
and Representative McCarty, Representative Candelora
and Senator McCrory.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

The gentleman asks leave of the Chamber to
summarize. Is there objection? Hearing none,
Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Mr. Speaker, what this Amendment does it
strikes Section 10 in it’s entirety and renumbers
the remaining sections of the Bill. I urge
adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Question on adoption of House Amendment
Schedule “A”. Representative McCarty.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I too would urge my colleagues to support this Amendment which was discovered today as a technical issue and so I would also ask for adoption. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Thank you, ma’am. On House “A”, Representative Fishbein on House “A”?

REP. FISHBEIN (90TH):

Yes, sir.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Proceed.

REP. FISHBEIN (90TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a brief question for the proponent if I may?

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Proceed.

REP. FISHBEIN (90TH):

Thank you. So striking Section 10 would be a revision to the Amendment we just passed. Is that
true?

   Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

   Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

   Through you, Mr. Speaker.

   Correct.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

   Representative Fishbein.

REP. FISHBEIN (90TH):

   Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I really didn’t hear other than there was a technical things that was discovered why and just for the record just want to read those brief three lines, why are we striking language that “Not later than August first of each year, each local and regional board of education shall make its grade level curriculum available on its Internet website? Why would we be striking that language?

   Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):
Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

We are striking that language because it would create a fiscal note and it would be a mandate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Fishbein.

REP. FISHBEIN (90TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and if could know, what would that fiscal note reflect?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I believe is was about $20,000 dollars and it would be reflected on the local board of eds.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Fishbein.

REP. FISHBEIN (90TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That concludes my
questions. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you remark further on House “A”? Will you remark further on House “A”? If not, I will try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Opposed, nay. The aye’s have it. The Amendment is adopted [Gavel]. Will you remark on the Bill as Amended? Representative Ackert.

REP. ACKERT (8TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a comment. You know, I look at each of these pieces of legislation. We talk about the background checks and processing through depths getting the fingerprinting done and some of the background checks and things like that and we know the value of that for each of our districts whether it is our daycare providers, whether it is our people going and applying for, you
know, gun permits, or teachers or bus drivers or something like that. I know that the good gentleman, Representative Verrengia had worked on a piece of legislation last year that expanded, that allowed the state, the DES to hire a third party contractor to do some of these, so I get concerns that I believe that, you know, and I’m using this platform to encourage them to do that, the legislature has asked for that. It keeps and gets these teachers reviewed, qualified and get them working as fast as possible whether it is a bus drive, whether it is a daycare provider something like that, so I want to take the opportunity to make sure that the backlog is reduced in any manner or way that they look forward to that so we can get these good individuals in the position needed to get the job. So I look forward to working, passing this piece of legislation but making sure that the people providing these background checks can get it done in an expedient manner. Thank you, Mr. Speaker for the opportunity.
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I’d just like to make a few comments and direct a question to the Chairman of the Education Committee if I may?

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Proceed.

Thank you. I think this Bill as amended is a necessary Bill and it’s really putting the State in compliance with some of the Federal requirements and this came out of a task force that had been put in place to look at criminal background checks and finger printing but if the good Chair could just please identify, there is a new group there, and it was to really classify who the school operators would be and also the nongovernmental piece. If he could just clarify those two groups for the Chamber, I would appreciate it. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):
Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes, they are the private non-profits and endowed academies and special ed facilities.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative McCarty.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. And then I would also like to point out for the Chamber and I would like to give Representative Bolinsky some recognition on this, that there is a section in the Bill that exempts student teachers in preparation from having to pay for the fingerprinting, we understand and background checks it can be quite costly so the Department of Emergency Services and Protection will be helping in that regard and I’d just like to know if that is correct?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Sanchez.
REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

That is correct.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative McCarty.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):

Thank you and I think that is a very good addition. And then finally I just to put the Chamber at ease on the section that requires different topics that will be put into the Balanced Living Curriculum Framework. This is work that is currently going on by the State Department of Education and these will be topics that will be added but they are to be used as only as guidelines and that is not a mandate on the school districts and I would just like to know if that is the understanding of the good Chair.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):
Through you, Mr. Speaker.

That is correct. It is something that they can have and teach if they would like to. It is not really a, it’s not a mandate. Put it that way.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative McCarty.

REP. MCCARTY (38TH):

And thank you for that answer. So in summary that I think this is a very necessary Bill, it puts us in compliance with our Federal requirements and I would urge my colleagues to support it. Thank you.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Thank you, ma’am. Representative Fishbein.

REP. FISHBEIN (90TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just want to ask a few more questions about the matter, if I may?

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Proceed.

REP. FISHBEIN (90TH):

Thank you. So I looked up the fiscal note for
what we’re, the underlying Bill, the Amendment and I thought that in striking Section 10 that we were getting rid of a fiscal note in the $20 thousands, at least that is what I heard. Is that correct

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

That is correct, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Fishbein.

REP. FISHBEIN (90TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And what I’m looking at says that Section 10, requires effective July 1, 2020 that “each local and regional board of education post their grade level curriculum” online. This could result in a potential minimal cost to various local and regional school districts associated with website upgrades and digitizing various materials. So I wonder where the good Representative got their representation that we’re
getting rid of a $20,000-dollar cost cause it’s not reflected in the document.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Of the $20,000 dollars actually is a loss to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection. By removing Section 10 though the cost to the local boards of education, there wouldn’t be a cost to the local boards of education because they wouldn’t have to post these on-line. There are some, my understanding, there are some local boards of education that don’t have their curriculums in place in discs that they can put on-line, that would be a cost to them, but by removing Section 10 that would no longer be a cost to them but there will be a revenue loss to the Department of Emergency Service and Public Protection of $20,000 dollars because we are goin to be waiving, the fingerprint
and the background checks on teachers, student teachers.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

    Representative Fishbein.

REP. FISHBEIN (90TH):

    Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Section 10 has nothing to do with the waiving of the fingerprints for the student teachers, correct?

    Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

    Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

    You’re correct. It just removed the mandate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

    Representative Fishbein.

REP. FISHBEIN (90TH):

    Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So I am just wondering where the representation of the $20,000 dollar fiscal note that would be suffered by our municipalities and I was given the impression each municipality would have $20,000 dollars they would
have to expend to comply with that and that is the reason to support that Amendment that passed to get rid of Section 10, where that representation came from cause I just don’t see it in the back-up materials.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I was not correct on the $20,000 dollars to the local municipalities. It was DES that would actually have a revenue loss of $20,000 dollars. So I stand corrected.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Fishbein.

REP. FISHBEIN (90TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So moving forward from there, if I am to understand now that looking at the fiscal note that because we are waiving this fee, the actions are still going to occur that presently
we have revenue of $20,000 dollars, we will not have that $20,000 dollars as a result of this Bill, I ask the good Representative where that $20,000 dollars is expected to come from?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

It is a revenue loss to DES, I am not really clear where they’re gonna get it but it will not remove, the section that made this a mandate and required a fiscal note, to my knowledge, was Section 10 but DES would be the one that would lose the $20,000 dollars in revenue loss, that’s I would think that is an estimate.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Fishbein.

REP. FISHBEIN (90TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would hope, yea it’s
an estimate, going forward we certainly would have information from the past but I don’t know how I can, we just passed the budget yesterday and now we’re gonna be passing something that decreases revenue to the government that action is still occurring and we don’t know where that money is gonna come from other than from everybody using, not making use of this program and I just don’t know how I can responsibly support this. I think the underlying is laudable but we have a responsibility to the taxpayers and I look forward to the debate and perhaps being swayed differently but I think we should be dealing with this in a more responsible manner. So, thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? If not Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. 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 GODFREY (110TH):

Have all members voted? Have all members voted? If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

Mr. Clerk kindly announce the tally.

CLERK:

Senate Bill 1069 as Amended by Senate “A” and House “A”.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

The Bill as Amended is passed [Gavel].

Representative Ritter.

REP. RITTER (1ST):
Mr. Speaker, I move pursuant to the House Rules that all items awaiting further action in the Senate be immediately transmitted. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Without objection, so ordered. Mr. Clerk,

Calendar 517.

CLERK:

On Page 35, House Calendar 517, Substitute Senate Bill No. 1067, AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO ANALYZE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF LAWS GOVERNING DYSLEXIA INSTRUCTION AND TRAINING. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Sanchez, one more time.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Question is on Acceptance and Passage in
concurrence. Representative Sanchez would you like to explain the Bill please.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker this Bill establishes a task force to analyze and make recommendations on issues relating to the implementation of State dyslexia instruction and training law and the task force will examine other things whether colleges or universities are providing teacher prep programs. The Bill also allows the task force to make recommendations about the following topics, the Development of the Connecticut Reading Standards matrix, supervised practical methods and components needed to identify students at risk for dyslexia. Mr. Speaker I would like to thank Representative McCarty. I would like to thank Representative McCarty, Representative Bolinsky, Representative Kokoruda and Representative Currey and so many others that have championed and advocated for children with dyslexia and I urge adoption.
Representative McCarty, you just got thanked. Would you like to speak?

Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you and I rise in very strong support of the Bill in front of us and I thank the good Chair for his compliments and I would like to echo those compliments to all of the members that worked so hard in the past on all the dyslexia issues. This is a task force that is necessary because we have to ensure that our teachers are being trained properly in detecting dyslexia early on and also to be sure that in our professional development that the teachers are trained with dyslexia so they know when to intervene. Surprisingly there are one in five children that are classified as dyslexic. These are very intelligent children.

Excuse me, Representative McCarty. [Gavel] [Gavel] I’m having trouble hearing the Distinguished
Ranking Member of Education, if you would take your conversations outside, we would all appreciate it. Representative McCarty.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):

Thank you, I appreciate that. As I was saying one in five children are classified as dyslexic and these children have a right to succeed in school and can lead successful lives so this is a very important task force that will look to see what loopholes we have in training with our teachers so that we can really do our best in the classroom to help with these children. And I would just like to ask the good Chair was there any opposition to this Bill?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Absolutely not.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):
Representative McCarty.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):

Thank you for that comment. I think it was unanimous, there is no fiscal note, no mandate, it is really looking to improve our training requirements. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Thank you, ma’am. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? If not will Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. 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 GODFREY (110TH):

Have all members voted? Have all members voted? If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.
And the Clerk will announce the tally.

CLERK:

Senate Bill 1067 in concurrence with the Senate

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DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

The Bill is passed in concurrence with the Senate [Gavel]. Mr. Clerk, 111.

CLERK:


DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

The Distinguished Chairman and the Danbury Representative, Representative Arconti.

REP. ARCONTI (109TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move for Acceptance
of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

    Question is on Acceptance and Passage.

Representative

REP. ARCONTI (109TH):

    Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker the Clerk is in possession of an Amendment LCO No. 10180. I ask the Clerk to please call the Amendment and that I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

    The gentleman has leave of the Chamber to summarize. Is there objection? Hearing none,
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker this Amendment establishes a council on 5G technology. It requires the Council to accept and make determinations on requests from wireless carriers and permitted entities to use state property to place, maintain, construct, operate, personal wireless and small cell facilities. It also requires OPM to make recommendation concerning the establishment of a streamline process to site these small cell facilities on municipal property and those recommendations will be due to the energy and technology committee by January 30, 2020. Entities like cable operators are not subject to his Bill and they would be able to continue to deploy wireless services, wireless devices on strand in state right of way pursuant to their state issues franchises and Federal Cable Laws and I urge adoption.

Question on adoption of House Amendment

REP. FERRARO (117TH):

    Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I rise in strong support of the Amendment which will become the underlying Bill. This is the exciting technology that we’ve all been waiting for, it is the fifth-generation technology that we purge to the latest mobile networks, being deployed by telecommunications providers to increase speed and capacity and provide other enhanced services when compared with the current networks. 5G networks are designed to meet consumers growing demand for data and to support the growing use of mobile technologies across industries, i.e. autonomous vehicles, smart medical devices. The advances in this technology will lead to fast phone, remote controlled devices, smart automobiles, connected wearable devices, wide-spread broadband access and smart homes. To give everyone an idea of just how fast 5G will be compared to current 4G technology, a
two-hour movie would take six minutes to download on 4G while only taking three to four seconds on 5G. So with that being said, Mr. Speaker.

Through you.

I have a couple of questions to the proponent of the Amendment which will become the Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Proceed, sir.

REP. FERRARO (117TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Through you.

This Bill will establish a council on 5G technology?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Arconti.

REP. ARCONTI (109TH):

Yes.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Ferraro.
REP. FERRARO (117TH):

And just for clarification purposes and to give the intent of the Bill, the council on 5G technology would be composed of which members?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Arconti.

REP. ARCONTI (109TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The 5G council will be composed of the following members or their designee. One employee from the Governor’s office appointed by the Governor, OPM Secretary, DAS Commissioner, DOT Commissioner, DEEP Commissioner, UConn President and CSUC President.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Ferraro.

REP. FERRARO (117TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And through you.

I have no further questions for the proponent,
this is an excellent Bill, it is a technology we’ve been waiting for. Let’s get this show on the road. It’s a good Bill, ought to pass. Thank you, sir.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Thank you, sir. Representative Dubitsky.

REP. DUBITSKY (47TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A few questions for the proponent, if I may?

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Proceed.

REP. DUBITSKY (47TH):

Thank you. I have been hearing from my constituents and through the news over social media and elsewhere concerns about the safety of 5G technology. Would this council have any responsibility for investigation the safety of 5G facilities?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Arconti.

REP. ARCONTI (109TH):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And no I do not believe the language in the Amendment speaks to the council referencing the safety of the 5G technology. The purpose of the council is to deal with determinations on requests for siting the small wireless facilities on various State lands.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Dubitsky.

REP. DUBITSKY (47TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And in the determinations where to site these facilities is the safety of them and the amount of radiation they give off one of the considerations that this council will look into?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Arconti.

REP. ARCONTI (109TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Nothing precludes the council from looking into that so I don’t see why
they couldn’t if that was their determination to do so.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Dubitsky

REP. DUBITSKY (47TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And now would given that the council will have some authority over the siting of these facilities does this council have any type of eminent domain power?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Arconti.

REP. ARCONTI (109TH):

Not to my understanding.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Dubitsky.

REP. DUBITSKY (47TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I didn’t see anything about eminent domain in here either. Can I ask the good proponent if it did have eminent domain power
would it be in this Bill?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Arconti.

REP. ARCONTI (109TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I don’t believe they have eminent domain power, the 5G council has eminent domain power through this legislation.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Dubitsky.

REP. DUBITSKY (47TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That was my only questions.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Thank you, sir. Representative Yaccarino.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH):

Good Evening, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Good Evening, sir.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH):
Just for clarification, I’ve been going through the Amendment, so basically you’re gonna set up.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

A council to find State property or private property for this technology?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Arconti.

REP. ARCONTI (109TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This council will only deal with siting on various State properties.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Yaccarino.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH):

Thank you for that. So obviously you have to have a goal, what is your goal, just for clarification?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Arconti.
REP. ARCONTI (109TH):

To accelerate the deployment of 5G wireless technology.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Yaccarino.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH):

I apologize, could you repeat that?

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Arconti.

REP. ARCONTI (109TH):

To accelerate the deployment of 5G technology.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Yaccarino.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH):

I see in lines 166 down to 174 “the Department of Transportation shall make highways and the Department of Transportation rights-of-way available for placement, construction, maintenance and operation of small wireless facilities in accordance
with any applicable Federal Communications” so basically you would have to get right-of-way.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Rights-a-way.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Arconti.

REP. ARCONTI (109TH):

Yes.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Yaccarino.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH):

The reason I ask that because.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

The previous Representative asked the question about eminent domain and I know the State when it comes to highways or properties that we have a department that does just that. They purchase property for eminent domain and it looks like through this language that that it is a potential.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.
DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Arconti.

REP. ARCONTI (109TH):

I’m sorry I was trying to think of an answer before you completed the question.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH):

Want me to repeat it?

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Yaccarino.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH):

Basically in line 166 down to 174, it is saying how the Department of Transportation will look for highways and rights-of-way on properties. It doesn’t say State or private or public. So, you know, our DOT and they do a great job because one of my friends works for eminent domain for the State, they purchase property like the Norwalk Bridge and properties in Norwalk and other towns throughout the whole state for different State projects, so the previous speaker asked about eminent domain and I don’t think there was an answer, so.
Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Will this potentially have to have eminent domain by the State?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Arconti.

REP. ARCONTI (109TH):

No, Mr. Speaker.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Representative Yaccarino.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH):

Thank you. All right I guess I’m just confused when it says rights-of-way. I’ll continue to listen, it’s a laudable goal but we obviously have to find, to get the property, the State property. I would think our Department of Transportation and parts of our State government would know that we have properties now and where we were to put these locations so. I’ll continue to listen. Thank you to the good proponent. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Thank you, Representative Yaccarino. Will you remark further on House Amendment “A”? If not, I will try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY (110TH):

Opposed, nay. The aye’s have it. The Amendment is adopted [Gavel]. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? If not Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. Members take your seats; the machine will be open.

[Ringering]

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 CANDELARIA (95TH):
Have all members voted? Please check the board to ensure that your has been properly cast. If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

Would the Clerk please announce the tally?

CLERK:

House Bill No. 7152 as Amended by House “A”

Total Number Voting 145
Necessary for Passage 73
Those voting Yea 144
Those voting Nay 1
Absent not voting 6

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Bill as Amended passes [Gavel]. Would the Clerk please call Calendar No. 227?

CLERK:


DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Representative Currey, you have the floor, sir.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Question before the Chamber is Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. Representative Currey you have the floor, sir.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Clerk has an Amendment LCO 10500. I would ask the Clerk to please call the Amendment and that I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 10500 which will be designated House Amendment Schedule “A”.

CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule “A” LCO No. 10500 offered by Representative Scanlon, Representative
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there any objection. Hearing none, Representative Currey you have the floor, sir.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Amendment before us acts as our one-stop crumbling foundation legislation for the 2019 year. Having found the need for a few minor revisions in some of the legislation that we passed within the piece is also House Bill 5969, Senate Bill 907 and original pieces from the original 7179 that was proposed. All that is going to clean up language and provide new ways in which homeowners are protecting their largest investment and safest place. I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Question before the Chamber is on adoption of House Amendment “A”. Will you remark further? Representative Delnicki, you have the floor, sir.
 Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A few questions for the proponent of the Amendment.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, madam.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

If you could just briefly explain in Section 2 the change in the units or dwelling coverage?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Currey.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

Yes.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

This corrects language to ensure that condominiums are now included and able to take advantage of the program that has been setup by the captive insurance company.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And can you explain in Section, what Section 3 clarifies?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Currey.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

Yes.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Section 3, well the insurance industry’s understood and abided by our intent to charge this once per policy, this now actually clarifies the language to ensure that this is a one time, $12.00 dollar charge instead of a per person charge on that policy and again we did work with the Insurance Department to ensure that this was not happening as of now but this language does clarify that section and it also clarifies the surcharge should only apply to new or renewed policies and not anything with new endorsements.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

In Lines 208 to 216 is the intent to collect the surcharge only from the surplus lines broker and not from the non-admitted insurer?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Currey.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Is there any instance where the non-admitted insurer would be charged a fee in place of the broker?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Currey.
REP. CURREY (11TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

No.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And what happens to the $12.00 dollars if the policy is cancelled at any point?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Currey.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

It is not refunded.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And could you define or maybe give a couple of examples of actual knowledge for the purposes of Line 677 and this relates to the disclosure questions part of the Bill?
Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Currey.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

Yes,

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

It is something you have evidence of and that you actually believe on. So an example of that would be if a person has actual knowledge of pyrrhotite, the provided a lab test core of the sampling, their foundation pyrrhotite was found and the person actually believes the sampling.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And if you could go to line 679, there are three parts (i), (ii), (iii) relating to part (i) and (ii) are those two disjunctive or if you can clarify how a court should read those two?

Through you.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Curry.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes, they are.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And could you provide maybe an example or explain a little further what actual damages could or would consist of?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Currey.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

Yes.

Through you.

Actual damages would include direct images which for example would be the cost of the repair of the foundation or consequential damages which would be the cost for the buyer to rent an apartment if
they were displaced while their house was literally being raised and put back down to the ground.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And if you could summarize what Sections, what is included in Sections 7 through 10?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Currey.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

Yes.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

This was the language we previously passed in this Chamber that was included in House Bill 5969 through the good work of the Vice-Chair of the Banking Committee. This was an ACT ESTABLISHING AN COLLAPSING FOUNDATION LOAN PROGRAM so when we passed that we did find a minor error that we needed to clarify that would have precluded folks from utilizing this program if they had expenses outside
of their foundation. So if you compare the 5969 that passed out to this, this now opens that up so you can use that for some of those ancillary costs.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D’AMATO (77TH):

And with the exception of that change, is the language that was passed in the previous Bill last week, are there any other changes in the language?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Currey.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

Through you.

No.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And if you can go to Section 14, why is the information collected exempt from the Freedom of
Information Act?

    Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

    Representative Currey.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

    Through you, Mr. Speaker.

    I think some of the issues there were having to do with personal identifying information and some of the data that they may potentially be collecting would have to do with a person’s home address, if they were tested for pierrotite, what the percentage of pierrotite was so just to avoid any sort of a stigma the thought was to go ahead and exempt that from that rule.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

    Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

    And is there currently a fiscal note associated with the Bill?

    Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Representative Currey.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

The Amendment removes the fiscal note that was originally on 7179 that was part of an innovation program. That program is now going to be housed over at Connecticut Innovations in which they have money readily available to provider for that program which will hopefully find this new cost effective and efficient ways in which we can replace the foundations.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And what section or section does that apply to? You may have answered that, I couldn’t hear?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Currey.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

That would be Section, that is Section 13.

Through you.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And that is all the questions I have. I want to thank the kind gentleman for his answers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, madam. Will you care to remark further? Representative Delnicki, you have the floor, sir.

REP. DELNICKI (14TH):

Good Evening, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Good Evening, sir.

REP. DELNICKI (14TH):

And I rise in support of this Bill. I think back to March eighth when we had the big Public Hearing that was combination of Insurance and Real Estate and Planning and Development and the good work that came out of that Public Hearing. And we see before us here, the fruits of that labor in this
Bill and I want to thank everyone who was responsible for working on every piece of this piece of legislation the commitment from folks to do what needed to be done here and of course the fact that we did have that Public Hearing thanks to the good Chairs of both Insurance and Real Estate and Planning and Development agreeing to it. I quite frankly urge everyone to support this and I ask that there is a favorable vote on it. I thank Representative Currey, I thank Representative Pavalock-D’Amato and I thank all the members of this legislature and the Crumbling Foundation Caucus.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further? Will you care to remark further on the Amendment before us? Representative Smith, you have the floor, sir.

REP. SMITH (108TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A few questions.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, sir.
REP. SMITH (108TH):

So this Bill’s been, this concept has been around the legislature for the past few years and I know a fund has been created already. I believe and I am just wondering if the proponent could tell us how the fund is actually workin, have there actually been some foundations and home that have been able to utilize the benefit of the program and actually be rehabilitated and made whole?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Currey.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

Yes.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

The program has worked better than I think any of us could have anticipated or expected. We were, a few of us were happy to be present when the house was lifted, the first house in this program was lifted out in Toland. I know Representative Ackert mentioned a week or two ago that that house had
actually been put back down to the ground and I know those homeowners are definitely appreciative of the work that we’ve done here in this Chamber and upstairs and we have not really hit any bumps in the road as of yet and so everything is moving along the way it should.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108TH):

So, I’m happy to hear that and just to confirm the money that is actually collected, that is set forth in a separate account so the legislation can’t reach in and swipe it away.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Currey.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

Correct. So there’s different pots of money that are being used for this initiative so we have to have the $20 million dollars a year that has been
bonded, that goes directly to the Crumbling Foundation Fund in addition to the surcharge that is collected. There is in the legislation before us there is a one-time, $1 million dollar allocation to home in New Haven that are literally sinking that the State provided money for a few years back but didn’t finish the job so we are finishing that up and then 85 percent of what’s left is then dedicated to go to the Crumbling Foundation Fund and then the money thereafter is then set aside over at the Department of Public Hearing for home hazard containment issues.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

   Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108TH):

   I thank the proponent for that response. I just didn’t catch quite all of it, so did I hear something about New Haven as well?
   
   Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

   Representative Currey, can you just clarify
please?

REP. CURREY (11TH):

Yep.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes, there are homes that are literally sinking into the ground in which the State provided funding for a few years back. Unfortunately it was not enough funding to finish the job and so we have that one-time, $1 million-dollar allocation that will go ahead and finish that up.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108TH):

And those home in New Haven, are they crumbling foundations as well or that was a different issue that is just now being reassigned to help those folks out as well?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Currey.

REP. CURREY (11TH):
Through you, Mr. Speaker.

They are not crumbling, they are sinking.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108TH):

Sounds like we have issues with out foundations throughout the State, Mr. Speaker so I am happy to hear that the homes are actually being rehabilitated and the program is working. I was a little skeptical at first, fortunately my area that is not an issue but I understand speaking to my good friend, Representative Ackert that certainly is in his town and I suspect yours as well, so I guess we are happy to help out the folks that are actually, through no fault of their own, ended up in this situation where they could not sell their property and I understand it’s a big issue in your area. So I will continue to listen to the dialogue and hopefully can support this as well. I guess, I was thinking of one more question, and it kind of escaped my mind, so I’ll just let it pass for now and I will listen to the
rest of the dialogue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

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

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it. The Amendment is adopted [Gavel]. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? If not Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. 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
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Have all members voted? Please check the board to ensure that your vote has been 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 Bill No. 7179 as Amended by House "A"

Total Number Voting       145
Necessary for Passage     73
Those voting Yea           127
Those voting Nay           18
Absent not voting          6

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Bill as amended passes [Gavel]. Will the Clerk please call Calendar No. 307?

CLERK:

On Page 66, House Calendar 307, Substitute House Bill No 1759 AN ACT ADDRESSING OPIOID USE. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on
Representative Steinberg, you have the floor, sir.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

The question is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. Representative Steinberg you have the floor.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We must be going on a half dozen years now that we have tried legislatively to address the many problems of the opioid epidemic has created here in the State of Connecticut. Each year we bring forward a Bill which is the result of the good efforts of many people, stakeholders across the spectrum and this is particularly important because the insidious aspect
of opioid addiction affects us in so many ways. We are inclined to look at various ways in which we can address the problem from identification, prescription, education, intervention, law enforcement and then ultimately treatment and recovery and support services. We recognize that there is no one solution to addressing the opioid epidemic. We seem to have maybe leveled off in terms of the number of fatalities here in the State of Connecticut but we know there is much more for us to do. So we’ve convened a working group. I also want to thank the involvement of the Governor’s Office has put forward a very aggressive agenda. I want to thank the good Chair of the Insurance Committee, Representative Scanlon, my Ranking Member Representative Petit and a variety of members from both sides of the aisle and from the Senate who have participated in an ongoing working group to identify new ideas that we can peruse in this context. Mr. Speaker, the Clerk is in possession of an Amendment LCO 10686. I ask that the Clerk please call the
Amendment and I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 10686 which will be designated House Amendment “A”.

CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule “A” LCO No. 10686 offered by Representative Steinberg, Senator Daughtery-Abrams.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Are there any objections to summarization? Hearing none, Representative Steinberg, you have the floor, sir.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I just mentioned, our goal each year is to see a variety of different ways in which we can help ameliorate the problem that has been created by the introduction of opioids into our society. So what we have before us is an extensive Bill covering some 16 sections.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

[Gavel] [Gavel] Please proceed, sir.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So each of these Section touches on a somewhat different area. I’m gonna just quickly run through some of the areas of interest for people and then we will open it up for questions. The first sections require pharmacists and pharmacy employees to offer advice and counseling to a patient when they are filling their use of an order and to keep records of these consultations. Section three designates trained pharmacy technicians to consult the Connecticut Prescription Monitoring and Reporting System before filling a prescription to make sure the person receiving the prescription is the appropriate person and there is no pattern of abuse.

Section four deals with drug manufactures and wholesalers requiring them to report to the Department of Consumer Protection decisions they make to terminate or refuse an order to, from a
pharmacy or a prescribing practitioner. Again intended to head-off abuse of over prescribing.

Section five deals with insurance companies, prohibiting life insurance or annuity policies from excluding coverage solely based on an individual having received a prescription for naloxone or a biosimilar. Once again we want to solve the problem and not this is one way we’re gonna do it.

Section six deals with chronic opioid prescriptions of more that 12 weeks which requires prescribing practitioners for anybody for more than 12 weeks supply to establish a treatment agreement with the patient. This is obviously the exception to the rule, somebody who has a long-term need for opioids we are going to be even more explicit about the need for an explicit plan for those people.

Section seven deals with how we address the potential of using Narcan in facilities in higher learning. It requires higher educational institutions by January of 2020 to provide and maintain a supply of opioid antagonists and they
must adopt policies generally requiring the institutions to maintain supplies of the product and to notify EMS or 911 should an event occur on their premises.

Section eight requires DMAS in collaboration with DSS and DPH to review literature on the efficacy of licensed substance use disorder treatment service provided in the homebased treatment setting. There are examples in other states the homebased approach being a very effective and efficient way to deal with people in the Committee and help them with their opioid issues.

Section nine requires treatment programs to, that provide treatment or detox services to educate them on the use of opioid antagonists and issue a prescription for or deliver to the patient at least one does of an opioid antagonist to prepare them for that prospect.

Almost done, Section ten requires EMS personnel to complete mental health first aid training. We ask a lot of our first responders and in this case
they are often the first ones on the spot. Giving them some training in mental health may make all the difference in having them make good decisions and helping people who maybe have overdosed on opioids.

Section 11, requires hospitals to administer a mental health screening or assessment if a patient is treated for a nonfatal opioid drug overdose. Again there is an opportunity at the hospitals to intervene and to help somebody get a mental health screening to hopefully avoid repeated use of opioids.

Section 12 clarifies language which allows behavioral health providers not just mental health providers to serve counselors.

Section 13 is a more controversial section where we are asking DMAS in collaboration with DHP to study the protocol for the police detaining people who they suspect of having experienced an opioid overdose and the implication of involuntarily transporting them who have overdosed to a safe setting, a hospital or to, in contact with a
recovery coach. I think that’s good for now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Question before this Chamber is on adoption? Will you remark? Representative Candelora?
Representative Scanlon? Representative Petit.

REP. PETIT (22ND):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was going to reserve comments to the Bill but as this Amendment is the entire Bill, I can make some comments right now. I think it was a great group effort. I thank the Good Chairman for his leadership. I would also thank our Senate colleagues, Senators Somers and Abrams for their participation. We had people from a wide array of services. People on the frontlines, first responders, those involved with chronic substance abuse, rehab people from the university system, people from the medical society, nursing associations, APRNs etc. so it was a very well-rounded working group. I think it is a well thought out, it’s really been in evolution since January
until today. I would point out that I think Section four on the diversion and trying to stop diversion when it is going on in large levels is an important part of it. Section five was something I never thought of before if you are a parent or you are someone who wants to have narcotic antagonist and you want to have it so you can save a friend, save a child, that you are not denied the ability to obtain insurance just because you’ve obtained a prescription for naloxone. We had great discussions with university system in terms of what they needed to do to make sure that naloxone and narcotic antagonists were available throughout the campus and I think the good Chairman spoke to the issue of diversion. I would not that there was probably three or four folks from the Democrat side of the aisle and three or four folks from the Republican side who submitted variation of Bills to the Committee about attempting to take care of people who had been treated in the field that is someone who overdoes near death, receives Narcan, wakes up
and tells the first responders hey, I’m great just drop me off or let me go back home and they go and overdoes again and sometimes die. We had many poignant testimony from parents and friends of people who were not transported who ended up eventually dying. It is a controversial issue in terms of civil rights and whatnot so I think studying this further and it is an issue we are going to take up in earnest next year.

I think all in all it is a great effort for the people of Connecticut. There is still more work to do in terms of this crisis and I urge all my colleagues to support the Amendment and then the final amended Bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further? Representative Hall. You have the floor, ma’am.

REP. HALL (7TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in support of this Amendment particularly the last item that the
good Representative Petit commented on. I came before the Health Committee to discuss the protective custody statute. Massachusetts and all our surrounding states do transport overdosed patients that have been narcaned directly to the ERs and there is a limited amount of time that they can be held in the ERs. The families appreciate this because there is no real way to get their loved one the help they need if they can’t be transported to the hospital because I think if you talk to any law enforcement once a patient is narcaned their first inkling is to get up and leave. There is a very rare circumstance where any patient or person who overdoses asks to be transported to the hospital, they go back, they overdose again. So I for one, am thrilled to see this in the Amendment that we’re going to take a look at this closer over the course of this coming year. I think if we study our surrounding states that already do this, Massachusetts in particular has had some really great success in their opioid programs. So I
applaud the Health Committee for the work on this opioid Bill. I truly, truly know it is going to make a difference in a lot of patients’ lives and I thank you and I stand in support of the Amendment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, madam. Will you care to remark further on the Amendment? Representative Scanlon you have the floor, sir.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. About two hours ago the Hartford Police Department had a press conference and at that press conference they said that in the last 15 hours five people have fatally overdosed from an opioid overdose within one mile of where we are all sitting here today. Five people in 15 hours all of them are dead. This story is not unique to Hartford. This is happening according to the statistics in 159 of the 169 towns in our State. You guys do the math. That means that only ten communities in the last year did not suffer a fatal
overdose. That is devastating. That is an epidemic and that is why we are doing this. As the Chairman reference earlier this is the sixth year, I believe, that we have done a comprehensive bipartisan package but it will never be enough. There is never enough that we can do to declare victory on this. We had 1,000 people in our State die from this last year. More people have died in one-year, last year than in the entire Vietnam wars, 60,000 Americans lost their life to this and so I just want to get up and give that context that this is not a problem we’ve solved. We have made progress and I am deeply grateful to the Chairman, the Ranking Member and the other members of the working group that we worked on this. But we can never, even accept this fact that five people, five human beings, five loved one, died just in the span of 15 hours, not far where we are standing right now and those people, and those who are suffering and those who deserve treatment are the people that we have to always remember, every single day and I am glad that we are doing that now
by addressing this Bill. I thank the Chairman and I hope all my colleagues will support this on both sides of the aisle. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further on the Amendment? Do you care to remark further on the Amendment before us? If not, I will try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it, the Amendment [Gavel] is adopted. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Representative Steinberg. You have the floor, sir.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you. I just wanted to thank Representative Scanlon for not only his collaboration on the legislation we see before us but for all of his hard work over the past half-
dozen years. He has been a leader in this legislature in trying to address the opioid epidemic in so many different ways and it has been a wonderful partnership between the Insurance Committee and the Public Health Committee as we’ve been moving this forward. And just to reiterate what he and Representative Petit have said, this has been bipartisan, this has been in collaboration with not only the Senate, explicitly with the Governor’s Office that feels very strongly about this and if I recall has put close to $5 million dollars into the budget to look into medication assisted treatment options in the prison system which is another important aspect of this initiative. I should also add that the working group that came up with a bunch of ideas, not all of which we could act on this year, and I think it should be encouraging to everybody we have a bunch of good ideas for the next session, some of which will require further study and public hearings and involvement of various other experts but there is never a shortage of things we
can do and you have the commitment of this Committee that we’ll continue to do so. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further on the Bill as amended? Representative O’Dea, you have the floor, sir.

REP. O'DEA (125TH):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I just want to briefly stand up and thank the good Chair for his work on this and the Ranking Member. This was back, you know, when I first got elected, Representative Jerry Fox and I had worked on adding the application of Narcan in giving people who use it immunity and that has saved a number of lives and this is obviously taking another step further. You may all remember we actually also passed a Bill allowing municipalities or giving them immunity if they put the Narcan in where defibrillators are throughout. So I do encourage my colleagues to support this. This opioid epidemic is spreading through the
country and impacting our, frankly our cities more so but even also affecting every municipality in our State. And at the risk of alienating some on the other side I am very happy that we did not, or have not, I guess we still have 24 about 28 hours left but we are not proceeding with marijuana which I am glad to see. So with that I would encourage my colleagues to support this Bill. Thank you very much.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Petit you have the floor, sir.

REP. PETIT (22ND):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just very quickly to follow up on the good Chairman. The Governor’s Office as fabulous in putting these ideas together. I think I left him out of my comments but they worked very hard, they helped us make a lot of changes to the Bill so I really appreciate the way they really dug into the Bill and worked hard on this and with a comment added, this is not a good Bill it is an excellent Bill and it definitely
should pass and we need to move forward with the further ideas the working group has going forward. But thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further? Representative Carney you have the floor, sir.

REP. CARNEY (23RD):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I just wanted to arise for a comment. I appreciate the good Chairman of Public Health for his work on this as well as Representative Scanlon and all my colleagues. I just wanted to say though when we think about the opioid issue we do need to think about the addicts and making sure that we can save lives but we also need to make sure that we think about the family members of those addicts. When folks bury a loved one because they are a drug addict, it’s horrible, it’s absolutely horrible. I’ve seen it in my community, loving families that have had to deal with a family member that has a
opioid addiction and then that day comes when they get that phone call and I know because since I’ve been a State Rep a very close family member of mine has passed away from this. So I do think that this is a wonderful Bill and we do need to continue to fight this epidemic as much as we can, not just for the addicts but also for the families. So, thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further? Representative MacLachlan. You have the floor, sir.

REP. MAC LACHLAN (35TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a brief comment on the Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, sir.

REP. MAC LACHLAN (35TH):

Thank you, sir. I just wanted to thank the good Chairman Public Health Committee, good Ranking Member, the good Chairman of the Insurance Committee
as well, the Ranking Member of the Insurance Committee. I’ve learned over the last four-and-a-half years of representing the 35th District that this is an epidemic that affects every community and requires participation and cooperation, efforts from State matched with the efforts of local individuals who give of their time and I just want to take a minute to recognize the organizations in my district that have really stepped up particularly in the Town of Clinton, Partner’s in Community as a advocacy organization for youth prevention of drug abuse, the Clinton Police Department that recently won an award for Committee policing has done a great job of outreach in the community as well as our Youth and Family Services. I just want to thank the members of this House for continuing to push the envelope on addressing this epidemic that stretches across the State. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further? Representative Klarides-Ditria, you have
the floor, madam.

REP. KLARIDES-DITRIA (105TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to make a comment, I would like to thank the Chair of the Public Health Committee for your hard work on this Bill, the Ranking Member of Public Health. As we know the opioid addiction problem is not getting any better in our country so anything we can do to help with this issue I thoroughly support and encourage all my members to support this Bill. It is a good Bill, ought to pass. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, madam. Representative Smith, you have the floor, sir.

REP. SMITH (108TH):

Mr. Speaker, thank you. On Sunday we all had the day off after a long week being up here in the Chamber. Sunday night my wife and myself stood in line for an hour-and-a-half at a wake and the wake was for a young gentleman, about age 30 who lost his life. He lost his life due to this epidemic and
when Representative Currey talked about how it affects the families, and how it affects the communities really, because our community came out in full force to support this family that lost their child to this drug and it bring tears to your eyes, Mr. Speaker. So it just doesn’t play favorites, it’s not just in the cities, it’s not just where you think it might be, it’s everywhere. And everywhere was Sunday in New Fairfield. So I’m getting a little choked-up cause I remember, I recall just giving my daughter who is very, very good friends with this young man, you know that tight hug that, tight hug you want to give your children, we just don’t do it enough because you never know, you know, you just never know. So I know this Bill will pass and I wanted to thank the Chairman for bringin it out and the Ranking Member for helpin, and for this legislature for this Chamber for pursuing this cause really to help your youngsters fight, fight, fight this addiction because it’s taken over and it’s winning and we need to fight hard and continue to
fight every year, so God bless the family, the families that have lost their children and let us continue to do the right thing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

    Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further on the Bill as amended? Will you care to remark further on the Bill as amended? If not will Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. 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 CANDELARIA (95TH):

    Have all members voted? Please check the board to ensure that your vote has been 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 Bill No. 7159 as Amended by House “A”

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DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Bill as amended passes [Gavel] Would the Clerk please call Calendar No. 568.

CLERK:

On Page 41, House Calendar 568 Substitute Senate Bill No. 964, AN ACT CONCERNING COURT OPERATIONS. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Blumenthal you have the floor, sir.

REP. BLUMENTHAL (147):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move for Acceptance
of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Question is for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate. Representative Blumenthal you have the floor, sir.

REP. BLUMENTHAL (147):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Clerk is in possession of an Amendment LCO No. 8206. I ask that the Clerk please call the Amendment and I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 8206 which is designed Senate Amendment Schedule “A”.

CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule “A” LCO No. 8206 offered by Senator Winfield, Representative Stafstrom.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Representative seeks leave of the Chamber
to summarize the Amendment is there any objection to summarization? Hearing none, Representative Blumenthal you have the floor, sir.

REP. BLUMENTHAL (147):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is our Annual Court Operations Bill. It makes a number of minor procedural and technical changes in addition to doing the following: It adds victims services advocates list of mandated reporters, allows joint petitions for non-adversarial dissolutions of marriage, in certain circumstance divides the cost of paying for attorneys appointed in juvenile child protection proceedings, makes certain changes regarding court recording monitors and allows under certain circumstances short-form presentence investigations. I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Question before the Chamber is on adoption. Will you remark? Representative Rebimbas, you have the floor, madam.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I rise in support to the proposal before us. Just a few questions of the good Vice-Chairman.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, madam.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Regarding the good Vice-Chairman did highlight than when there is a filing for dissolution action and then let’s say it is non-adversarial that then a person could do a joint petition is there any additional fees associated with that?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Blumenthal.

REP. BLUMENTHAL (147):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

No.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Rebimbas.
REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Regarding the now payback to any person that is appointed to represent someone through the Public Defenders Office and the Judicial Branch should also be reimbursed. That again is based on the person’s ability to pay, correct?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Blumenthal.

REP. BLUMENTHAL (147):

That is correct.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker this is a very good Bill because there was many occasions where certain attorneys were being appointed in cases where people had the ability to pay and what we want to make sure is that we are truly providing
services to the most indigent individuals and I
don’t think we were being very responsible with
those resources. Certainly this provision I
believe, achieves that, so I do rise in support of
the proposal for that any many of the other reasons.
Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, madam. Will you care to remark
further on the Amendment before us? You care to
remark further on the Amendment before us? If not,
I will try your minds. All those in favor please
signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it
[Gavel]. the Amendment is adopted. Will you remark
further on the Bill as Amended? Will you remark
further on the Bill as Amended? If not then Staff
and guests please come to the Well of the House.
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 CANDELARIA (95TH):

Have all members voted? Have all members voted? Please check the board to ensure that your vote has been 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:

Senate Bill 964 as Amended by Senate “A” in concurrence with the Senate

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DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Bill as amended passes in concurrence with the Senate [Gavel]. Will the Clerk please call Calendar No. 472?

CLERK:

On Page 31, House Calendar 472, Substitute Senate Bill No. 956 AN ACT CONCERNING GUIDELINES FOR A COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL COUNSELOR PROGRAM. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Sanchez you have the floor, sir.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Question before the Chamber Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate. Representative Sanchez you have the floor.
REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This Bill requires the State Board of Education in collaboration with the Statewide School Counselors Association to adopt guidelines for a comprehensive school counseling program by January 1, 2020. This does not result in a fiscal impact to SVE and has the expertise and the resources necessary to adopt the guidelines. I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Question before this Chamber is on adoption? Will you remark? Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Mr. Speaker I have, the Clerk has an Amendment LCO 7133. I would ask that the Clerk please call the Amendment and I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 7133 which will be designated Senate Amendment “A”.

CLERK:
Senate Amendment “A” LCO No. 7133 offered by Senator Looney, Senator Duff, et al.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The gentleman seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there objection to summarization? Hearing none, Representative Sanchez you have the floor, sir.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Mr. Speaker, all this Amendment does is in Line one it will strike January and insert July in lieu thereof. I move for adoption, sir.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will you remark? Will you remark further on the Amendment? Representative McCarty, you have the floor, madam.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was going to wait to reserve my comments for the Bill but since you called on me, I would say it’s an excellent Amendment, it gives the State Department of Education a little more time to get the guidelines
prepared so I’m in favor of the Amendment and I’ll say a word on the Bill after it is adopted.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will you remark further on the Amendment? Will you remark further on the Amendment before? If not, I will try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it, the Amendment is adopted [Gavel]. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Representative McCarty, you have the floor, madam.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):

thank you again, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I rise in great support of the Bill in front of us. This Bill is necessary so that we can have uniformed standards across the State for our guidance counselors as we know today the role and responsibility of the guidance counselor has increased tremendously so I
am very pleased to see that there are other areas that will be looked at aside from postsecondary and career readiness, we’ll be looking at the social emotional wellbeing of these students and I think it is very necessary following National Standards and I know the State Department is already currently working on some revisions so in very full support of the Bill in front of us tonight. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, madam. Will you care to remark further on the Bill as amended? Will you care to remark further on the Bill as Amended? If not will Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. Members will 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 CANDELARIA (95TH):
Have all members voted? Please check the board to ensure that your vote has been 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:

Senate Bill 956 as Amended by Senate “A” in concurrence with the Senate.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Bill passes as Amended in concurrence with the Senate [Gavel]. Will the Clerk please call Calendar No. 251?

CLERK:

On Page 14, Calendar 251, Substitute Senate Bill No. 6113, an act prohibiting employers from inquiring about date of birth or date of graduation
on employment applications. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Public Employees.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Ritter.

REP. RITTER (1ST):

Mr. Speaker, I move that we pass this item temporarily. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

No objections, so ordered. The Chamber will stand-at-ease.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar No. 681?

CLERK:


DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Simmons, you have the floor, madam.
REP. SIMMONS (144TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Question is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. Will you remark?

REP. SIMMONS (144TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Clerk has an Amendment LCO 9793. I ask that the Clerk please call the Amendment and that I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 9793 which will be designated Senate Amendment “A”.

CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule “A” LCO No. 9793 offered by Senator Hartley, Senator Cohen, et al.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to
summarize the Amendment. Is there objection?

Hearing none, Representative Simmons you have the floor, madam.

REP. SIMMONS (144TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a friendly Amendment that essentially becomes the Bill so I will outline the main provisions of this Amendment. This is an extremely probusiness and pro-environment Bill that will not only stimulate economic growth by facilitating more real estate transactions and bringing more business and jobs to our State but it will also help clean up more properties by making it easier for businesses to comply with the transfer act and allowing them to clean up more property in a more rapid fashion. This Amendment essentially does three things to the Transfer Act which is a program administer by the DEEP that essentially requires the disclosure of certain environmental conditions when certain real properties or establishments are transferred. So first the Amendment modifies slightly the definition of establishment to exempt
onetime generators of hazardous waste of 100 kg or more. Second is shortens the timeframe from three years down to one year and DEEP has to commence audits of the transfer final verification, previously it could take up to three years for business to even find out if they were going to be audited or not so this will help provide more certainty to businesses and quicken up that time frame. And then thirdly the Amendment creates a working group to further study and assess this issue. Again this is an extremely probusiness, pro-environment Bill passed unanimously out of Commerce, unanimously out of the Senate and I want to thank our Ranking Member Representative Cummings as well as Representative Wood, all the members of the Commerce Committee who have been in support of this Bill as well as the advocate, the Connecticut Realtors, the environmental lawyers, DEEP and the Environment Committee as well for their support of this and I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
The Question before this Chamber is on adoption of Senate Amendment “A”. Will you remark on the Amendment? Representative Cummings you have the floor, madam.

REP. CUMMINGS (74TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker first I would like to thank the good Chairman of this Committee for encouraging this Bill to get through and all her long hard hours on this and also Representative Wood who also spent many hours with us trying to make sure that we nailed all of the important issues at hand from a variety of different groups and I do have a couple of questions on the Amendment.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, madam.

REP. CUMMINGS (74TH):

Mr. Speaker there are two additional exemptions that we are incorporating into this statute here. Will those exempt furniture stripers, auto bodies or
dry cleaners?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Simmons.

REP. SIMMONS (144TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Thank you for the question, it is an excellent question. No those will not be exempt.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Cummings.

REP. CUMMINGS (74TH):

And Mr. Speaker will these exemptions allow for entities to act negligently in the environmental protections?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Simmons.

REP. SIMMONS (144TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Thank you for the question that the good Representative asked. No, this will not allow then
to act negligently and they will still have to comply with all Federal and State hazardous waste laws and regulations regarding handling, storage and disposal of waste and comply with Connecticut Spill Statute and other environmental regulations. This will simply provide that exemption for low risk actors that generate one time, in one month 100 kg of waste from being subject to this transfer act process.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Cummings.

REP. CUMMINGS (74TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Could the good proponent of the Bill please identify what the goals of the working group are going to be?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Thank you for the question, Representative and the goals are gonna be fore DEEP, DECD, the Commerce Committee, the Environment Committee as well as
experts from the realtors, environmental lawyers and business owners in the field to come together to really identify additional ways that we can make it easier to comply with the transfer and further improve and streamline the program with the long-term goal of trying to shorten up the audit period. Maybe in the future working potentially on eliminating geographic scope as other states have done to make it easier to comply with this law.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Cummings.

REP. CUMMINGS (74TH):

Representative Speaker I find this Amendment to be a very good probusiness Bill and I find that it will help our communities allowing some properties which are sitting vacant and underutilized to be able to be transferred to people who could reach their full potential and I encourage my colleagues to support this Amendment and the underlying Bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, madam. Will you care to remark further on the Amendment before us? Representative Ferraro, you have the floor, sir.

REP. FERRARO (117TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And through you.

I just have one question for the proponent of the Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, sir.

REP. FERRARO (117TH):

I’m trying to follow the Bill as this is the first time I’ve ever seen it. Could the proponent of the Amendment just give a brief summary of what it is this Amendment does?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Simmons.

REP. SIMMONS (144TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.
Thank you for the question, Representative.
And essentially the Amendment does three things. 
One it provides an exemption for one-time generators 
of hazardous waste in one month of 100 kg from being 
subject to this transfer act which again is again 
that one to three-year process where they are 
subject to DEEP audits when they are trying to 
transfer property. The second thing it does is 
creates a working group to further assess how we can 
help businesses comply with this transfer act and 
the third thing it does, is it shortens the window 
for when DEEP has to give notice to a business on 
whether or not they are going to audit them or not. 
Before this Amendment or this Bill passes it could 
have taken up to three years for business just to 
find out if they were going to be audited or not and 
that creates a lot of hesitation for buyers and 
sellers that slows the process. We know that time 
kills deals and so as a result of that lengthy 
process a lot of properties are just sitting there 
not just being cleaned up and not being used to
stimulate our economy. So shortening up that window and I want to thank DEEP too who have really be tremendous to work with and come to the table to help work on creative ways we can shorten up that window so we can make this more business friendly but also protect our environment at the same time.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Ferraro.

REP. FERRARO (117TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I know I said one question but I just want to be sure I know what I’m voting on. And so when you speak of hazardous waste what constitutes hazardous waste, number one and number two which type of properties are we talking about, strictly commercial or both commercial and residential?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Simmons.

REP. SIMMONS (144TH):
Thank you for the question.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

So hazardous waste is identified in accordance with Section 3001 of the Federal Resource Conservation Recovery Act of 1976, 42 USC 6901 and there is a couple of examples I could give but usually the four characteristics are ignitable, corrosive, toxic or reactive, you know, so certain chemicals, certain dry cleaning materials, furniture stripping materials, vehicle autobody repair materials like degreasers, gasoline things like that would constitute hazardous waste and with respect to the definition of establishment any real property that is being transferred is as defined in the statute.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Ferraro.

REP. FERRARO (117TH):

Great, thank you.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.
I want to thank the gentlelady for her explanation and it helps me understand the Bill a little bit more and.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Thank you very much for giving me the time.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further on the Amendment before us? Do you care to remark further on the Amendment before us? If not, I will try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it. The Amendment is [Gavel] adopted. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? If not Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. Members please take your seats; the machine will be open. [Ringing]
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 CANDELARIA (95TH):

Have all members voted? Will the members please check the board to ensure that your vote has been 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:

Senate Bill No. 1030 as Amended by Senate “A” in concurrence with the Senate.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
The Bill as Amended passes in concurrence with the Senate [Gavel]. Will the Clerk please call Calendar No. 470?

CLERK:

On Page 30, House Calendar 470 Senate Bill No. 922, AN ACT ALLOWING STUDENTS TO APPLY SUNSCREEN PRIOR TO ENGAGING IN OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Public Health.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Steinberg you have the floor, sir.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have to stop meeting like this. [Laughter] I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate. Will
you remark?

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think we’d all agree that the sun today is far more damaging than it was even half a generation ago and we should all be concerned on behalf of the young people particularly students in schools. Currently you are allowed to apply sunscreen on your children before they go to school but that is going to have to last them all the day. This Bill allows a child to possess and self-apply sunscreen before engaging in outdoor activities. Mr. Speaker the Clerk has an Amendment LCO 6829. I would ask the Clerk to please call the Amendment and that I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 6829 which will be designated Senate Amendment “A”.

CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule “A” LCO No. 6829 offered by Senator Looney, Senator Duff, et al.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there any objection to summarization? Hearing none, Representative Steinberg you have the floor, sir.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Amendment changes exactly one word, it changes the word eight to the word “six” meaning it is from age six and up instead of age eight and up that a child would be allowed to possess and self-apply sunscreen. I urge adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Question before the Chamber is on adoption of Senate Amendment “A”. Will you remark on the Amendment? Representative Dubitsky you have the floor, sir.

REP. DUBITSKY (47TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a quick comment that it’s actually pretty sad that we live in a world where it is so regulated that we need a law to allow kids to apply sunscreen. Sorry we live in
that world but unfortunately I’m gonna have to support this Bill. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

    Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further on the Amendment before us? Care to remark further on the Amendment before us? If not, I will try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

    Aye.

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it, [Gavel] the Amendment is adopted. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Representative Petit you have the floor, sir.

REP. PETIT (22ND):

    Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We can spend a longtime talking about the importance of sunscreen, the CDC has reported that only up to 10 to 15 percent of students regularly apply sunscreen and melanoma and other forms of skin cancer increasing
in our lifetime so the appropriate use of sunscreen is critical. To my good colleague’s comment I would agree when we first talked about this Bill on sunscreen I asked the good Chairman, I said, “Mr. Chairman, can’t we just ask the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health to change a regulation? He’s a really smart man and he knows what he’s doing, he understand the literature.” So it is perhaps something that whatever Committee cognizance is on these issues that for issues like these we need to change some of our own regulations such that for simple straightforward in this case health issues the Commissioner who has been duly appointed can make appropriate decision without us having to pass a statute, maybe some people disagree with that but it seemed to me that this type of decision really should be under the purview of a commissioner. With that said, I think it is a straightforward Bill and urge all my colleagues to vote for its passage. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further? Representative Arnone, you have the floor, sir.

REP. ARNONE (58TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to rise in support of SB 922. I would like to recognize Laurie Gates an Enfield resident and an advocate of this Bill. Laurie lost her husband to skin cancer; he was an active member in the military and he leaves three children. This Bill will help protect children from the sun and the future effects of the sun on our young. So I urge support of this Bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, Sir. Will you care to remark further on the Bill as Amended? Care to remark further on the Bill as Amended? If not will Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. 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 CANDELARIA (95TH):

Have all members voted? Have all members voted. Please check the board to ensure you’re your vote has been 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:

Senate Bill No. 922 as Amended by Senate “A” in concurrence with the Senate.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Bill passes as amended in concurrence with
the Senate [Gavel]. Will the Clerk please call Calendar No. 677?

CLERK:


DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Stafstrom 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 Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Question is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate. Representative Stafstrom you have the floor, sir.
REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, prosecutors in our State as in most jurisdictions in our Nation and in our criminal justice system have a great deal of authority, flexibility, autonomy and we as a public place great trust in the decisions they make on a daily basis which can affect the lives and livelihood of those who come in contact with our criminal justice system. Mr. Speaker, the Bill before us comes to us from a biproduct of work began by the Governor’s transition team and continued through the Judiciary Committee with all stakeholders at the table to try to provide and reform our system of collecting information and presenting data so that we as a legislature and the Governor and those in our Judicial Branch have better data and insight when making decisions on how to affect and change policy. We unfortunately Mr. Speaker have a fairly outdated system of tracking data and case data that tends to be courthouse by courthouse and sometimes even prosecutor by
prosecutor. The Bill before us which again comes to
us as a product of that work would reform that
system and provide for better data tracking and
reporting of data to the criminal justice commission
which has authority to appoint and review
prosecutors for reappointment to the Judiciary
Committee. Obviously the Committee of Cognizance
with respect to our criminal justice system and to
OPM to be made available to the public.

Mr. Speaker the Bill before us also provides
some additional pilot program funding with respect
to payroll revocation and parole hearings and
additionally as I mentioned, tries to reform our
system of tracking via the computer. Mr. Speaker
the Clerk is in possession of an Amendment LCO No.
9747. I ask the Clerk to please call the Amendment
and that I be grated leave of the Chamber to
summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 9747 which
will be designated Senate Amendment “A”. 
CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule “A” LCO No. 9747 offered by Senator Winfield, Senator Kissel.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there objection? Hearing none, Representative Stafstrom you have the floor, sir.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker this Bill adds two more sections to the underlying Bill which was part of another Bill we heard during the Judiciary Committee process which would have required the posting of notices for the criminal justice commissions meetings and also that those meetings were the criminal justice commission is appointing or reappointing a State’s Attorney or the Chief State’s Attorney that those meetings be held in public in the legislative office building and allow for public testimony. I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Question before the Chamber is on adoption of Senate Amendment “A”. Will you remark?

Representative Rebimbas you have the floor, madam.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I rise in support of Senate Amendment “A” as this was something that was done by the Senate Chair and Senate Ranking Member in a bipartisan way and again I think anytime that there could be notices regarding meetings and that they be held in this building certainly allows for the public a little bit more transparency in that regard. I’ll then reserve my questions for the underlying Bill once Senate Amendment “A” passes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, madam. Will you care to remark further on the Amendment before us? If not, I will try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it, the Amendment [Gavel] is adopted. Will you care to remark further on the Bill as Amended?
Representative Rebimbas you have the floor, madam.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I do rise in support of the Bill as amended before us and just a few clarifying questions.

Through you.

To the good Chairman.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, madam.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you. To the good Chairman he did indicate that we did have a system that even courthouse by courthouse, prosecutor by prosecutor was collecting different information. Regarding this it’s a little bit more uniform so this is, I would expect the bare minimum of information that they are gathering. Are they also able to gather
other additional information if they see fit?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Through you.

This Bill in addition to the language here it is my understanding that the prosecutors around the State are implementing new computer software to better tack case-by-case data. From that software we will be able to generate the information required in this Bill that will be presented back to those parties and I indicated but certainly any additional information that the prosecutor seeks to track that is not specifically required by the Bill can be tracked as well.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And through you, Mr. Speaker.

There is a pilot program that is being requested that is going to be established through the Chief Public Defender’s Office. Is that correct?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

That is correct, Section three of the Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

This would be for the first time; this would be providing an attorney that would represent the person who is facing a parole of revocation at a hearing. Is that correct?
Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

That is correct.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And through you, Mr. Speaker.

This is within available appropriations that the Chief Public Defender has and we all know what that means in this Chamber so, truly if the Chief Public Defender has no available extra funds to provide this pilot program, there would be no requirement upon them in order to do so. Is that correct?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Stafstrom.
REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

    Through you, Mr. Speaker.

    That is correct but as I indicated most of the provisions of this Bill came out of the recommendations from the Governor’s transition team with respect to criminal policy which certainly the Chief Public Defender’s office was a part of and it is my understanding that they are in support of this language before us.

    Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

    Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

    Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

    And through you, Mr. Speaker.

    This pilot program specifically will only be eligible for those who are actually indigent and unable to afford their own attorney. Is that correct?

    Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

That is correct. Just as any other eligibility for public defender services.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Rebimbas

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I am happy to hear that Mr. Speaker because again we just, not too long ago, just did a new provision where again we want to make sure those who have the ability to pay are not eating away at the funds that we need to preserve in order for those who truly can’t. The only note I’ll make, Mr. Speaker is, you know, on many occasions were are providing representation for the most indigent in these situations but not in all situations but some of them actually have victims and what has happened throughout our Judicial Branch we have actually pulled back on victim advocates.
So victims unfortunately have been an unrepresented in many of these occasions and they too may be indigent, unable to maneuver through the proceedings so with that said, Mr. Speaker I just want to make a note of that and make sure that as we move forward whenever we are considering certainly representation for one side we might consider representation for the other or making sure we’re approving our communications regarding the victim but certainly the proposal that is before us is a very good one. It collects data that we should be collecting and I think again as we move forward it is an evaluation that is going to better determine on how we can provide better services for those who need it most. So I do rise in support.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

    Thank you, madam. Will you care to remark further on the Bill as Amended? Representative Porter, you have the floor, madam.

REP. PORTER (94TH):

    Through you, Mr. Speaker. I do rise in support
of this Bill. Prosecutors are some of the most powerful people in the courtroom and we do not currently have all the information that we need as the good Ranking Member said, this Bill will give us the data that we need to make sure that it is being equitable when it comes to the people in the courtroom and deciding their futures because their lives literally are in the hands of the prosecutor. So I just want to rise in strong support of this Bill. I want to thank the Chairs and the Ranking Members of the Judiciary Committee for bringing this Bill forward and getting it done and I would also like to thank ACLU and the Smart Justice which championed this Bill and making sure we got it across the line. So I do encourage everyone in the Chamber to support this Bill and move us towards smart justice in the State of Connecticut where we can rest assured that there’s transparency and accountability for all. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

    Thank you, madam. Will you care to remark
further on the Bill as Amended? Will you care to
remark further on the Bill as amended? If not will
Staff and guests please come to the Well of the
House. 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 CANDELARIA (95TH):
Have all members voted? I just want to remind
everyone in the gallery and in the Chamber that
there is no clapping or celebration on the passage
of a Bill. Have all members voted? 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:
Senate Bill No. 880 as Amended by Senate “A” in
concurrency with the Senate
Total Number Voting 148
Necessary for Passage 75
Those voting Yea 148
Those voting Nay 0
Absent not voting 3

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Bill passes as Amended in concurrence with the Senate [Gavel]. Representative Ritter.

REP. RITTER (1ST):

Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the House rules I move that we immediately transfer all items to the Senate that are awaiting further action. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Hearing no objection, so ordered. Will the Clerk please call Calendar No. 519?

CLERK:

On Page 36, House Calendar 519 Senate Bill 1105 AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF LAW ENFORCEMENT RECORDS CONCERNING VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AND FAMILY VIOLENCE. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Government
Administration and Elections.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Fox you have the floor, sir.

REP. FOX (148TH):

Good Evening, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Good Evening, sir.

REP. FOX (148TH):

Mr. Speaker I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Question before the Chamber is I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate. Will you remark?

REP. FOX (148TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker the underlying Bill makes certain victims identifying information including law enforcement investigation and arrest records exempt from FOIA Act public
disclosure requirements. Further, the Bill allows agencies to redact from arrest records the name, address or further identifying information of the victim of the following crimes or attempted crimes: sexual assault, voyeurism, injury risk or injury by paramours or family violence. I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Question before the Chamber in on adoption.

Will you remark? Representative France you have the floor, sir.

REP. FRANCE (42ND):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and the good Chair summarize. Essentially to boil it down it extends the same protections of identification that is currently our provided to those who are victims of sexual assault to those also involved in family violence and also makes conforming changes Section 215 of the statutes as the Chair described. There were some concerns raised by the Freedom of Information Commission as well as the Connecticut Council on Freedom of Information.
And through you.

A couple of questions to clarify some of their concerns.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, sir.

REP. FRANCE (42ND):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

If a person is arrested and charged with a family violence crime, will their identity be a public record?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Fox.

REP. FOX (148TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Representative for the question. It is not intended to shield the names of people who are charged with a crime.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Representative France.

REP. FRANCE (42ND):

Thank you for that and it is important to understand that what we’re trying to do is protect the victims and not the people that are perpetrating the crimes, appreciate that. Now the second question, if a person is arrested and charged with a family violence crime but is also the victim of a family violence crime, what is commonly known as a dual arrest, will their identity be a public record?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Fox.

REP. FOX (148TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yes the Bill is intended to protect the victim of family violence it is not intended to shield the names of people who are charged with a crime.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative France.
REP. FRANCE (42ND):

Thank you the Chair for that answer. I think that clarifies the concerns that Freedom of Information that raised by both the Commission and the Connecticut Council. I recommend adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further? Will Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. Members 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 CANDELARIA (95TH):

Have all members voted? Have all members voted? Please check the board. Have all members voted? Please check the board to ensure that your vote has been 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:

Senate Bill No. 1105 in concurrence with the Senate.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Bill passes [Gavel]. Will the Clerk please call Calendar No. 712?

CLERK:


DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):
Representative McCarthy Vahey you have the floor, madam.

REP. MC CARTHY VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Question before this Chamber is Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate. Will you remark?

REP. MC CARTHY VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker the Clerk has an Amendment LCO No. 10368, I would ask the Clerk please call the Amendment and that I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will the Clerk pleas call LCO No. 10368 which will be designated Senate Amendment “A”?

CLERK:
Senate “A” LCO No. 10368 offered by Senator Cassano, Representative McCarthy Vahey.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there is no objection, so ordered.

REP. MC CARY VAHEY (133RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Bill temporarily modifies the payment and calculation for regional public safety answering points serving at least one municipality of at least 100,000 or more in order to address critical financial issues. It sunsets the temporary modification on or before May 1, 2020 and holds harmless all other regional [Inaudible-09:43:18] I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Question before the Chamber is on adoption. Will you remark further on the Amendment? Representative Zawistoswki you have the floor, madam.

REP. ZAWISTOWSKI (61ST):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a good Amendment; I support it and I would like to speak on the Bill after this is approved. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will you remark further on the Amendment? Would you remark further on the Bill, on the Amendment. Would you remark further. If not, I will try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Those against nay. The aye’s have it, the Amendment is adopted [Gavel]. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Representative Zawistowski, you have the floor, madam.

REP. ZAWISTOWSKI (61ST):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Amendment has broad bipartisan support, it is a good Bill. It solves a problem, ought to pass. Thank you.
Thank you, madam. Care to remark further.

Representative Sredzinski, you have the floor, sir.

REP. SREDZINSKI (112TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is a scary Bill title for some however, I can assure people it is just affecting one regional dispatch center. Good Bill, ought to past.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, sir. Will you care to remark further? Care to remark further. If not will Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. 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 CANDELARIA (95TH):

Have all members voted? Please check the board to ensure that your vote has been properly cast. If
all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

Representative Rochelle for what purpose do you rise?

REP. ROCHELLE (104TH):

I rise to switch my vote to a yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Change has been noted. Will the Clerk please announce, take the tally? Will the Clerk please announce the tally?

CLERK:

Senate Bill No. 1082 as Amended by Senate “A” in concurrence with the Senate.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Bill passes as Amended in concurrence with the Senate [Gavel]. Representative Borer for what
purpose do you rise?

REP. BORER (115TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I would just at this moment like all of the women in the Chamber to rise and stand. I am standing here with my good Co-Chair Representative Rosa Rebimbas and we just want to take the opportunity to thank all of the women who have worked so hard introduced, researched, debated and got some great legislation passed in the 2019 Session. We know tomorrow is going to be a really hectic day so we didn’t want to miss the opportunity. We have 51 percent of the population in Connecticut is female, 62 percent of the workforce is female and we have 62 women legislators and growing. So we want to thank all of you for your support but we have a lot of good work that we are going to continue to do and we also want to acknowledge that a lot of the women are wearing white today and we are wearing white in the anticipation of the 100 year Anniversary of suffragist movement and the reason that they wore
white was twofold, one because they felt that the color was nonthreatening but don’t be so sure, and secondly because the black and white photos of the day, they wanted to see white so they would be on the front page of the paper, so they were very clever as we are today. So thank you to everybody and a big round of applause to all of the women here in the Chamber [Applause]. And I was reminded that you have another day to bring diapers tomorrow, thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, madam and from my view up here, I just see a bunch of powerful women and I think from our side we’re glad to sit with you and legislate with you, so thank you for that. We will return. Any other announcements or introductions?

We will return to the call of the Calendar. Would the Clerk please call Calendar No. 715?

CLERK:

On Page 60, Calendar 715, Senate Bill No. 570 AN ACT CONCERNING OPPORTUNITY ZONES. Favorable
Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Rojas you have the floor, sir.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The Question is on I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

Representative Rojas you have the floor, sir.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker the Clerk is in possession of an Amendment LCO 9888. I ask the Clerk please call the Amendment and that I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 9888 which will be designated Senate Amendment “A”.
CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule “A” LCO No. 9888 offered by Senator Hartley, Senator Maroni, etal.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there objection, hearing none, Representative Rojas you have the floor, sir.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Amendment is a Strike-All Amendment. I will wait to summarize the Bill completely because we have another Amendment that we need to call. I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Question before this Chamber is on adoption. Will you remark on the Amendment? Will you remark on the Amendment? If not, I will try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it, [Gavel] the
Amendment is adopted. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Representative Rojas.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

Thank you again Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker the Clerk has another Amendment LCO 10444. I would ask the Clerk please call the Amendment and that I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 10444 to be designated Senate Amendment “B”.

CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule “B” LCO No. 10444 offered by Senator Hartley, Senator Maroney, et al.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

The representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there objection? Hearing none, Representative Rojas.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Amendment strikes Section 5 and 9 which address the fiscal note. I move adoption.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Question before this Chamber is on adoption of Senate Amendment “B”. Would you remark? Representative Cummings, you have the floor, madam.

REP. CUMMINGS (74TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will reserve my comments for the underlying Bill after the Amendment is adopted. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, Madam. Will you care to remark further on Senate Amendment “B”? If not, I will try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it, the Amendment [Gavel] is adopted. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Representative Rojas you have the floor, sir.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now that we have the Bill before us as Amended, this Bill seeks to engage the State of Connecticut in a strategy to help incentivize, market our opportunity zones which are economic development tools that came about because of changes that were made in the Federal tax bill of 2017. I urge passage.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Representative Cummings, you have the floor, madam.

REP. CUMMINGS (74TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

A couple of questions to the proponent of the Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Please proceed, madam.

REP. CUMMINGS (74TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker in Section 3 there is a requirement that DECD “identify and
market ten geographically diverse, vacant, state-owned properties” for sale. Once the ten properties are sold will the list be re-upped with ten additional properties?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Rojas.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes as they move through the list, they will continue to fill the list with additional properties.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Cummings.

REP. CUMMINGS (74TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And further down there is a priority list that must be developed, geographically diversified state-owned properties, must these be included in the promotion of the sales properties?
Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Rojas.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

I’m sorry, I couldn’t hear the question.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

[Gavel] [Gavel] Please take your conversations outside of the Chamber. The gentleman cannot hear the questions. Representative Cummings, do you mind repeating the question please?

REP. CUMMINGS (74TH):

No problem, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker in Section B of Subsection 3, it requires that a priority list of geographically diverse vacant state-owned properties be marketed. Is this over and above the ten properties?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Rojas.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.
Yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Cummings.

REP. CUMMINGS (74TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And moving on to Section 4, it requires that an Internet website be maintained for the “marketing and promotion.” How is that going to be effectuated?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Rojas.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

The Department of Economic and Community Development will gather all the necessary information and place the information on their website.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Cummings.

REP. CUMMINGS (74TH):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And on Section 6, it requires that a conference be held to “highlight state programs relating to the opportunity zones.” Where will this conference be held and how often?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Rojas.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

An exact location has not been determined at this time; the intent is to have at least one conference. Depending on the success of that initial conference there are certainly opportunities for additional ones.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Representative Cummings.

REP. CUMMINGS (74TH):

That’s all the questions I have. I encourage my colleagues to support this Bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
DEPUTY SPEAKER CANDELARIA (95TH):

Thank you, madam. Will you care to remark further on the Bill as Amended? Care to remark further on the Bill as Amended. If not Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House.

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.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Have all members voted? If all the members have voted please check the board to ensure that your vote has been properly cast. If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

The Clerk will announce the tally.

CLERK:

Senate Bill 570 as Amended by Senate “A” and
“B” in concurrence with the Senate

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SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

The Bill as Amended passes in concurrence with the Senate [Gavel]. Representative Ritter of the 1st District, you have the floor, sir.

REP. RITTER (1ST):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I could have the Chamber’s attention for a minute so that we can sort of explain as we get towards what hopefully is getting closer to the end of the evening on the second to last day of the 2019 Session. We did the same setup with the Conveyance Bill so we want to announce the rules very, very carefully for both Caucuses. I know the Republicans and Democrats have heard from their Whips and their Deputies what we’re looking to do. Let me start off by the fact that
there is a criteria that has been applied to the Bills that we will vote on for the remainder of the night. The criteria includes two things, it has received no votes in any Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly and it was passed in the Senate without any no votes. So let me repeat that again. Any Bill we vote on the rest of the evening has received no votes in Committees or no votes in the Senate and met that criteria, sorry, no No votes in the Senate [Laughter]. Should I start again?

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

I think I just like when you say no no votes. Go ahead, try it again.

REP. RITTER (1ST):

They were unanimous in the Senate, how about that [Applause] and in the various Committees that they went to they were also unanimous. Having said that, that does not assume anybody’s vote or that these Bills would not have been looked upon differently had they been to a different Committee
or before a different legislator. So just like with the Conveyance Bill, a Chair will bring the Bill out, the Ranking Member will go second. If there is any objection to the Bill going on a Consent Calendar just please rise and object. We will vote on it as a roll call, it is not a big deal. Any objection, just rise, hit your button the Speaker will notify you; we will not put it on the Consent Calendar, we will vote for it right away. At the end, before we do the Consent Calendar which we checked with lawyers from both House Dems and House Republicans the Speaker will again announce any Bills you object to be on the Consent Calendar. So if you happen to miss one Bill because you’re in the restroom you will have one last chance at the very end. Okay? So those are the rules of road going forward. If there is any questions certainly on my side I am available, the minority leader on her side is available and we’re looking forward to it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):
Thank you very much, sir. Chamber will stand-at-ease [Gavel].

Representative Ritter of the 1st District, sir.

REP. RITTER (1ST):

Mr. Speaker and I forgot one more thing, I’m sorry. There was, because we do consent Calendar so rarely just so you know, this is how it will work, at the end of debate, it will go back to the Chair person instead of the Speaker asking for a roll call vote, the individual Chairperson will say, “If there is no objection, I move this item go on the Consent Calendar.” That is when you would stand up and say, “I object.” Sorry for that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you. [Plays Jeopardy theme music].

[Gavel] The Chamber will come back to Order. Are there any announcements or introductions? Representative Abercrombie of the 83rd madam, you have the floor.

REP. ABERCROMBIE (83RD):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker in the Well of the House we have a very special Happy Birthday, Liz Conley’s birthday is today, so please join me in wishing her a very Happy, Happy Birthday. [Applause].

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

[Gavel] House come back to Order. Will the Clerk please call Calendar No. 502?

CLERK:


SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Gresko of the 121st.

REP. GRESKO (121ST):

Mr. Speaker I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of
the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. Representative Gresko.

REP. GRESKO (121ST):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker the Bill requires the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Commissioner to enter into a dual landing agreement with Rhode Island, New York or both. The agreement authorizes licensed commercial fisherman to take fish from State and Federal waters in an amount that exceeds their daily limit per State but not more than the total daily limit for all States party to the agreement. Current law prohibits a commercial fisherman from holding a Connecticut license from exceeding the Connecticut quota even if the commercial fisherman plans to offload their cargo in both Connecticut and other states. In a nutshell, if you catch over your Connecticut quota this Bill would allow you to bring that additional fish to either Rhode Island or New York potentially saving time, energy, fuel and of course more importantly product. I urge our colleagues to adopt
the Bill.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Will you remark further on the Bill before us? Representative Harding of the 107th.

REP. HARDING (107TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Very good Bill, hope everyone likes it cause I like it. Thank you.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, sir. There has been objection to adding to the Consent Calendar. So there will be a roll call vote. Will you remark further on the Bill before us? If not Staff and guests to the Well of the House. Members 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.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):
Have all members voted? If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

The Clerk will announce the tally.

CLERK:

Senate Bill 226 in concurrence with the Senate

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SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

The Bill passes in concurrence [Gavel]. Will the Clerk please call House Calendar 646?

CLERK:

On Page 49, House Calendar 646 Substitute Senate Bill No. 745 AN ACT REQUIRING A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Higher Education and
Employment Advancement.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Haddad of the 54th, you have the floor.

REP. HADDAD (54TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. Representative Haddad you have the floor.

REP. HADDAD (54TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker the Bill requires both the Board of Regents Institutions and also the University of Connecticut to study the possibility of starting agricultural programs specifically in the area of controlled environment agriculture and organic agriculture. Good Bill, ought to pass. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Will you remark further on the Bill before us? Representative Hall of the 59th.

REP. HALL (7TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We got a lot of great testimony on this Bill, all positive feedback. UConn testified in front of us on it and it passed out of Committee unanimously. Great Bill, ought to pass.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Haddad.

REP. HADDAD (54TH):

Yes, Mr. Speaker if there is no objection I move this to the Consent Calendar.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is adding the Bill to the Consent Calendar? Is there objection? Is there objection? Seeing none, so ordered. Will the Clerk please call House Calendar 464?

CLERK:
On Page 29, House Calendar 464, Substitute Senate Bill No. 812 AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONERS' RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TECHNICAL REVISIONS TO THE EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD STATUTES. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Sanchez of the 25th.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. Representative Sanchez you have the floor.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Mr. Speaker this Bill makes technical and conforming changes to the Education and Early Childhood statues, for example it requires OEC
Commissioner to post notice of her intent to adopt regulations in the E-regulations System rather than the Connecticut Law Journal. I move adoption.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Will you remark further on the Bill before us? Representative McCarty of the 38th, you have the floor, madam.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I to rise in support of the Bill in front of us. It’s just purely technical in nature, has no fiscal note and it went through the Education Committee unanimously so I move in favor of this Bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, madam. Representative Sanchez of the 25th.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Mr. Speaker if there is no objection I ask that this be placed on the Consent Calendar.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):
The Question before the Chamber is adding this Bill to the Consent Calendar? Is there objection? Is there objection? Seeing none, so ordered. Will the Clerk please call House Calendar 471?

CLERK:

On Page 31, House Calendar 471, Substitute Senate Bill No. 932 AN ACT CONCERNING THE STAFF QUALIFICATIONS REQUIREMENT FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Sanchez of the 25th. Sir, you have the floor.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate. Will
you remark?

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Mr. Speaker this Bill gives more time to comply with requirements by adding an additional phase and extending the first phase and delaying implementation of the remaining phases by two years. I move for adoption.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative McCarty of the 38th, you have the floor.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in support of the Bill in front of us. I think the changes are good. It moves out in a timely fashion so that we get the qualifications and requirements in order. It also passed through the Education Committee unanimously and there is no fiscal note. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, madam. Representative Sanchez of the 25th.
REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Mr. Speaker, if there is no objection I ask this be placed on the Consent Calendar.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is adding this Bill to the Consent Calendar. Is there objection? Is there objection? Seeing none, so ordered. Will the Clerk please call House Calendar 473?

CLERK:


SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Stafstrom of the 129th.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Mr. Speaker I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):
Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate. Please remark.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Mr. Speaker, the Bill does exactly what the title says it does. It is probably the most technical and perfunctory thing we have to do this Session but we have to do it. I urge support.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much. Representative Rebimbas of the 70th.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in support of the Proposal before us for all the good reasons that the good Chairman just iterated. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, madam. Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):
If there is no objection, I move this item to the Consent Calendar.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is moving this item to the Consent Calendar? Is there objection? Is there objection? Seeing none, so ordered. Will the Clerk please call House Calendar 506?

CLERK:

On Page 34, House Calendar 506, Senate Bill No. 839 AN ACT CONCERNING THE REVISOR’S TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO THE GENERAL STATUTES. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Stafstrom of the 129th.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Mr. Speaker, I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage
of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate. Will you remark.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Mr. Speaker, technical revisions come to us from our great LCO staff Bill O’Shea and Angela Raman [aphonic]. I urge support.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Rebimbas of the 70th.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I concur and they are amazing individuals that are serving the LCO and I support this proposal.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Mr. Speaker, if there is no objection I move this item to the Consent Calendar.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is adding this Bill to the Consent Calendar? Is there objection? Is there objection? Seeing none, so ordered. Will
the Clerk please call House Calendar 700?

CLERK:

On Page 58, House Calendar 700 Substitute Senate Bill No. 1110 AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO RECORDS BY PERSONS WHO ARE INJURED WHILE IN THE CUSTODY OF THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTION. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Stafstrom of the 129th.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Mr. Speaker, I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence. Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Mr. Speaker the Clerk is in possession of Amendment LCO 10229, Senate “A”. I would ask the
Clerk to please call the Amendment and that I be
grated leave of the Chamber to summarize.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 10229 which
will be designated Senate Amendment Schedule “A”.

CLERK:

Senate “A” LCO No. 10229 offered by Senator
Winfield.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to
summarize the Amendment. Is there objection?

Seeing none, Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Mr. Speaker, this is a Strike-All Amendment. I
move adoption. I’ll summarize after adoption.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Will you remark on the Amendment before us?

Representative Rebimbas on the Amendment.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I support
the Amendment and I will reserve my comments for the
underlying Bill.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

I will try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it, the Amendment [Gavel] is adopted. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the Bill sets parameters by which an individual who is injured while incarcerated in the custody of the Department of Corrections can request records of presumably for future action by next of kin. It also requires the Department to promulgate regulations. I urge support.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Rebimbas of the 70th.
REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I support this proposal; it is a very good Amendment and unfortunately it was a sad situation that lead to it and hopefully it will prevent future ones. Thank you.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you. Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Mr. Speaker, if there is no objection, I move this item to the Consent Calendar.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is moving this item to the Consent Calendar? Is there objection? Is there objection? Seeing none, so ordered. Will the Clerk please call House Calendar 550?

CLERK:

On Page 38, House Calendar 550, Senate Bill No. 951 AN ACT CONCERNING VETERAN ENROLLMENT IN CERTAIN ALTERNATE ROUTE TO CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on
Representative Borer of the 115th, ma’am you have the floor.

REP. BORER (115TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I ask for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. Will you remark? Please proceed.

REP. BORER (115TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What this Bill does it asks the Department of Education to put 15 percent of the fees for the alternative certification, Alternative Route To Certification Program aside for Veterans. With that Mr. Speaker, I am in possession of an Amendment LCO 7891. I would ask the Clerk to please call the Amendment and that I be granted leave of the Chamber so that I could summarize.
SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 7891 which will be designated Senate Amendment Schedule “A”.

CLERK:

Senate Amendment “A” LCO No. 7891 offered by Senator Maroney.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there objection? Is there objection? Seeing none, Representative Borer.

REP. BORER (115TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What this Amendment does it reduces the amount of fees from 15 percent to 10 percent.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Will you remark further on the Amendment before us? Representative Vail on the Amendment, please proceed.

REP. VAIL (52ND):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I fully support the Amendment and support the underlying Bill. The
Connecticut Chapter of Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans and also Deon Thurston, Chairman of the Connecticut Veterans and Military Coalition both support this Bill. It’s a good Bill and I support the Amendment and the underlying Bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

On the Amendment. Will you remark? If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it, the Amendment is [Gavel] adopted. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Representative Borer.

REP. BORER (115TH):

Mr. Speaker if there is no objection I would like to put this on the Consent Calendar.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is adding this item
to the Consent Calendar? Is there objection? Is there objection? Seeing none, so ordered. Will the Clerk please call House Calendar 577?

CLERK:


SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Verrengia of the 20th.

REP. VERRENGIA (20TH):

Mr. Speaker, I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

Representative Verrengia.

REP. VERRENGIA (20TH):
Mr. Speaker, this Bill exempts from liability a law enforcement agency that discloses certain criminal investigation records to another law enforcement agency that is authorized to receive them.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Will you remark further on the Bill before us? Representative Sredzinski.

REP. SREDZINSKI (112TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Great Bill, ought to pass.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much. Representative Verrengia.

REP. VERRENGIA (20TH):

If there is no objection I ask that this be put on the Consent Calendar.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is adding this item to the Consent Calendar. Is there objection? Is there objection. Seeing none, so ordered. Will the Clerk please call House Calendar 551?
CLERK:

On Page 38, House Calendar 551, Substitute Senate Bill No. 1088 AN ACT CONCERNING PARTICIPATION BY A RESIDENT OF A NURSING HOME FACILITY OR RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME IN A RECEIVERSHIP PROCEEDING. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Mr. Speaker, I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate. Will you remark?

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Mr. Speaker, this Bill specifies that a resident of a nursing home who, where the nursing
home is subject to an application for receivership can be heard at the Application for Receivership Hearing before the Superior Court. I urge support.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I support this, what he said.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, madam. Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Mr. Speaker, if there is no objection I ask that this item be placed on the Consent Calendar.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is adding this item to the Consent Calendar? Is there objection? Is there objection? Seeing none, so ordered. Will the Clerk please call House Calendar 557?

CLERK:

On Page 39, House Calendar 557, Substitute
Senate Bill No. 854 AN ACT PROMOTING CAREERS IN MANUFACTURING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS AND ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE DEMAND FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION TEACHERS. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee Commerce.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Simmons.

REP. SIMMONS (144TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. Will you remark?

REP. SIMMONS (144TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Clerk has an Amendment LCO 7973. I would ask the Clerk to please call the Amendment and that I be grated leave of the Chamber to summarize.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):
Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 7973 which will be designated Senate Amendment Schedule “A”.

CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule “A” LCO No. 7973 offered by Senator Hartley, Representative Simmons.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there objection? Is there objection? Seeing none, Representative Simmons.

REP. SIMMONS (144TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a friendly Amendment. It is a Strike-All Amendment that essentially becomes the Bill and it does three things. Overall it aims to support more students interested in careers in manufacturing and it requires exploration of careers in manufacturing being incorporated into student’s success plans. Second it allows school counselors and guidance counselors to provide information about careers in manufacturing to students. And thirdly it requires
that State Department of Education to study the
demand for technical and career education teachers
at our technical high schools. This is a concern we
heard out of the bipartisan manufacturing caucus and
it is a good amendment and I move adoption.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Cummings on the Amendment?

REP. CUMMINGS (74TH):

Yes, Mr. Speaker Thank you. Mr. Speaker this
is a good Amendment. This finally indicates that
children who are going into the trades are just as
successful as their counterparts who are going into
the collegiate world and I encourage by colleagues
to support this Amendment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you, very much madam. Will you remark
further on the Amendment before us? If not, let me
try your minds. All those in favor please signify
by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.
SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it, the Amendment [Gavel] is adopted. Will you remark further. Representative Simmons.

REP. SIMMONS (144TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to thank all the advocates for their support on this Bill and if there is no objection I move that we place this item to the Consent Calendar.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Is there objection to placing on the Consent Calendar? Is there objection? Seeing none, so ordered. Will the Clerk please call House Calendar 652?

CLERK:

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Mr. Speaker, I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. Will you remark.

REP. STALLWORTH (126TH):

Mr. Speaker, this Bill makes minor but important changes to our statues with respect to service of legal process on financial institutions that do not have a branch located within the State of Connecticut and also makes a technical fix with respect to service process on limited liability companies based on the overhaul of the LOC Act we did a couple of years ago. I urge support.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Rebimbas.
REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I support the item before us. It provides for uniformity and clarity. Thank you.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Stafstrom.

REP. STAFSTROM (129TH):

Mr. Speaker if there is no objection I’d ask this item be placed on the Consent Calendar.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is adding this item to the Consent Calendar? Is there objection? Is there objection? Seeing none, so ordered. Chamber will stand-at-ease. [Gavel]

The House come back to Order [Gavel].

Representative Ritter of the 1st District, you have the floor, sir.

REP. RITTER (1ST):

Mr. Speaker I move the Consent Calendar. Thank you.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):
Will the Clerk please call House Calendar No. 646?

CLERK:

Senate Bill 745, Senate Bill 812, Senate Bill 932, Senate Bill 965, Senate Bill 839, Senate Bill 1110 as Amended by “A”, Senate Bill 951 as Amended by “A”, Senate Bill 702, Senate Bill 1088, Senate Bill 854 as Amended by “A”, Senate Bill 1087.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, Mr. Clerk. Will you remark on the Consent Calendar? Will you remark? Seeing none, Staff and guests to the Well of the House. Members take your seats and 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.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Have all members voted? Please don’t run I
will wait. Have all members voted? Have all the members from Westport voted? If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

The Clerk will announce the tally.

CLERK:

Consent Calendar Number 1.

Total Number Voting 149
Necessary for Passage 75
Those voting Yea 149
Those voting Nay 0
Absent not voting 2

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Consent Calendar is adopted [Gavel]. Are there any announcements or introductions? Representative Ferraro of the 117th. Any announcements or introductions? Chamber will stand-at-ease.

[Gavel] Will the Clerk please call House Calendar 544.

CLERK:

On Page 37, House Calendar 544, Substitute
Senate Bill No. 935 AN ACT REQUIRING THE OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD TO DEVELOP A PROPOSED EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR COMPENSATION SCHEDULE. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Sanchez of the 25th, you have the floor.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence. Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This Bill requires the Office of Early Childhood to establish a proposal to reach out to education compensation schedule for state qualified employees of Early Childhood.
education programs and consider certain factors in doing so. Under the Bill the Early Childhood Education Program is any childcare or school readiness program that accepts state funds for infant, toddler and preschool spaces. Under the Bill the compensation schedule is for employees by an early Childhood Education Program and meets the applicable staff qualification requirement and state law. I move adoption. Sorry, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Clerk has Amendment LCO.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

7783?

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH): 7783.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 7783 which will be designated Senate Amendment Schedule “A”.

CLERK:

LCO No. 7783 designated Senate Amendment “A” offered by Senators McCrory and Berthel.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to
summarize the Amendment. Is there objection to summarization? Seeing none, Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Mr. Speaker, this Amendment extends the deadline for OAC to submit the compensation schedule from January 1, 2020 to January 1, 2021. I move adoption.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on adoption of the Amendment. Representative McCarty on the Amendment.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):

Yes, thank you very much, Mr. Speaker and thank you for your patience this evening.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

No problem.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):

I would just like to say that I am in support of the Amendment and it moves out for a year, gives more time to the Department. Thank you.
Thank you very much, madam. Will you remark further on the Amendment before us? On the Amendment before us. If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it, the Amendment is adopted [Gavel]. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Representative Sanchez.

REP. SANCHEZ (25TH):

Mr. Speaker, if there is no objection I ask that this be placed on the Consent Calendar.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

You withdraw that request, thank you very much Representative Sanchez. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Representative McCarty of the 38th, madam you have the floor.

REP. MC CARTY (38TH):

Yes, thank you again, Mr. Speaker. I’m in
favor of this Bill because it is necessary that we set a compensation schedule for our early childhood educators as we are looking to increase requirements as we move out in that direction we also need to know what the compensation schedule will be, so I am very much in favor of the Bill in front of us tonight. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, madam. Will you remark further on the Bill before us? Representative Mastrofrancesco of the 80th District. No? Representative Candelora of the 86th, you have the floor.

REP. CANDELORA (86TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. And just briefly I appreciate the Bills that we’ve had on Early Childhood Education, we’ve done three tonight and I think as we are looking at this and looking at the compensation schedules, having a wife that just entered this field, I think part of our issues right now are the requirements that we put on these early
educators. They don’t, it’s not commensurate with the pay. So we keep just extending these deadlines out because the teachers aren’t getting their certifications and so I think really globally next year I hope we have a much broader conversation of how to make this a more robust program for the State. Thank you.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? If not Staff and guests to the Well of the House. Members 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.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

If all the members voted please ensure your vote has been properly cast. If all members have
voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

The Clerk will announce the tally.

**CLERK:**

Senate Bill 935 as Amended by Senate “A” in concurrence with the Senate

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**SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):**

The Bill as Amended passes in concurrence with the Senate [Gavel]. Will the Clerk please call House Calendar 711?

**CLERK:**

On Page 60, Calendar 711, Substitute Senate Bill No. 1062 AN ACT AUTHORIZING MUNICIPAL CLIMATE CHANGE AND COASTAL RESILIENCY RESERVE FUNDS.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Demicco you have the floor.

REP. DEMICCO (21ST):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence. Representative Demicco you have the floor.

REP. DEMICCO (21ST):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. The Clerk has an Amendment, it is LCO 7978. I would ask the Clerk to please call the Amendment and I be grated leave of the Chamber to summarize.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 7978 which will be designated Senate Amendment Schedule “A”.

CLERK:
LCO No. 7978 designed Senate Amendment Schedule “A” and offered by Senator Cohen.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there objection to summarization? Seeing none, Representative Demicco.

REP. DEMICCO (21ST):

Yes, Mr. Speaker this Amendment is a Strike-All therefore it becomes the Bill. This Bill allows a municipality to establish climate change and costal resiliency reserve fund and the municipality may do this upon the recommendations of it’s Chief Executive Officer and then the approval of it’s budget making authority and by a majority vote of its legislative body. And I will note that this Amendment also eliminates a provision that was in the original Bill that allowed municipalities to levy an annual tax on residents for the benefit of the reserve fund so that tax provision has been eliminated and I move adoption.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):
Question before the Chamber is on Adoption of the Amendment. Will you remark on the Amendment before us? Representative Harding of the 107th, you have the floor.

REP. HARDING (107TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Some very quick questions if I may?

Through you.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Please proceed, sir.

REP. HARDING (107TH):

Thank you. So my understanding is the Amendment does take out the previous underlying provision which allowed a municipality to levy a tax to create this fund. Is that true?

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Demicco.

REP. DEMICCO (21ST):

That is correct, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Harding.
REP. HARDING (107TH):

And through you, Mr. Speaker.

If I may, does a municipality necessarily prohibited from creating this fund currently and does this [Cross-talking], allows them to do that?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Demicco.

REP. DEMICCO (21ST):

I do not know that they are forbidden from doing this currently but this legislation would authorize such action.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Harding.

REP. HARDING (107TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Overall I believe that municipalities should be able to decide how to create their budgets and what is important to them and if this is something that is important to the municipality they should have the ability to decide
to put that in their budge and this is what this Bill allows a municipality to do. I do appreciate the fact that the Amendment did take out the aspect of the tax, so I would support the Amendment and the underlying Bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much. Will you remark further on the Amendment before us? Representative Dubitsky on the Amendment. You have the floor, sir.

REP. DUBITSKY (47TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just one question. Is this a mandate on the towns?

Through you.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Demicco.

REP. DEMICCO (21ST):

No, Mr. Speaker this is not a mandate on the towns. This just allows them to create such a fund if they so choose and going through the procedure that was outlined previously.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.
SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Dubitsky.

REP. DUBITSKY (47TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That was my only question.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Representative Piscopo of the 76th, sir, you have the floor.

REP. PISCOPO (76TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On the Amendment I would think that any town on the shore would of course have a capital reserve fund for any weather event that would affect it’s shoreline and try to shore up it’s infrastructure. This is totally unnecessary and unneeded. Just because you give it a fancy name doesn’t deserve to be in our State statutes. Every town, like I said, every town on the shore has a capital fund and a lot of it, I’m sure is applied to this purpose. So measurements have been made meticulously on the shore and there is not any catastrophic sea level rise but the shore
is the shore, it’s built on sand, it takes a beating in a bad storm, so every town should be prepared but if you give it this name and sub-pseudoscience title, it doesn’t make any sense to me. So I will be voting, no. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Will you remark further on the Amendment before us? On the Amendment before us. Representative Betts.

REP. BETTS (78TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One question.

Through you.

To the proponent. I’m confused, are communities not able to do this now?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Demicco.

REP. DEMICCO (21ST):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

As I mentioned previously this allows the towns to create this special fund and there are certain
conditions and conditions that are attached to this also the money can be, it specifics in the Bill the reasons for which that the money can be spent. So it does have some specifics to it.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Betts.

REP. BETTS (78TH):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Is there any further comments on the Amendment before us? Will you remark further on the Amendment before us? If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it,

[Gavel] the Amendment is adopted. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? If not will Staff
and guests to the Well of the House. Members 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.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Ladies and gentlemen I’d ask you to stay near the Chamber. I know the Minority Leader and the Majority Leader are working very hard with their teams to ensure that we are not here for the entire evening. I would ask you to stay near your seats. Have all members voted? If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

The Clerk will announce the tally.

CLERK:

Senate Bill 1062 as Amended by Senate “A” and in concurrence with the Senate

Total Number Voting 150
The Bill as Amended passes in concurrence with the Senate [Gavel]. Will the Clerk please call House Calendar 327?

CLERK:

On Page 19, Calendar 327, Substitute House Bill No. 7326 AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE STATE CODES OF ETHICS. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Government Administration and Elections.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Fox of the 148th you have the floor.

REP. FOX (148TH):

Good Evening, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Good Evening, sir.
REP. FOX (148TH):

Mr. Speaker, I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. Will you remark?

REP. FOX (148TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Bill contains numerous revisions to the State Code of Ethics. There’s a number of things: One it extends open and public [Inaudible-11:18:03] requirements to quasi-public agency contracts. Number two, it extends prohibited activities to certain quasi-public agency consultants. Number three, it exempts students serving as public officials from certain code provisions. Four it extends the deadline for filing hearing decision violations and make other various changes to the State’s ethic codes. Mr. Speaker the Clerk in is possession of an Amendment LCO 10441. I
would ask the Amendment be called that I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 10441 which will be designated House Amendment Schedule “A”.

CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule “A” LCO No. 10441 offered by Representative Fox, Representative France. Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there objection to summarization? Is there objection to summarization? Seeing none, Representative Fox.

REP. FOX (148TH):

Mr. Speaker, the Amendment strikes Section 16 in its entirety and in fact eliminates the fiscal note that was attached to the Bill. The Bill came out of the Committee with unanimous support, I move adoption.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Will you remark further on the Amendment before us? Representative
France on the Amendment.

REP. FRANCE (42ND):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And just to concur with the good Chair, the Amendment deletes a section that was a question of whether it was actually needed. It’s good change to the Bill. Recommend adoption.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Let me try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it, the Amendment is adopted. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? If not Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. Members 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.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Have all members voted? If all members have voted, please check the board to make sure your vote has been properly cast. If all the members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

The Clerk will announce the tally.

CLERK:

House Bill No. 7327 as Amended by House “A”

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SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

The Bill as amended passes [Gavel]. Will the Clerk please call House Calendar 697?
CLERK:

On Page 58, House Calendar 697, Substitute Senate Bill 978 AN ACT CONCERNING TEACHERS’ RETIREMENT SYSTEM CONTRIBUTIONS. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Finance, Revenue, and Bonding.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Scanlon of the 98th, you have the floor.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Good Evening, Mr. Speaker. I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. Will you remark?

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. The Clerk is in possession of an Amendment LCO 9494. I move acceptance and I be grated leave of the Chamber to
summarize.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 9494 which will be designated Senate Amendment Schedule “A”.

CLERK:

Senate “A” LCO 9494 offered by Senator Lessor, Representative Scanlon.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there objection to summarization? Seeing none, Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Bill makes a very small change but it will make a big change and a big difference in folks lives, folks that are invested in paying the State Employee Retirement Healthcare System after they are fully vested they will no longer have to be double taxed by paying the TRS 1.25 percent salary health contribution to TRS. It is a fairness thing. I think it is the right thing to do and I move adoption.
SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato of the 77th.

You have the floor.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Does this affect all teachers or just tech ed teachers?

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

It involves the Tech Ed teachers and also the teachers in our Department of Corrections.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and how many people exactly or around is that?

Through you.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):
Representative Scanlon.

REP. SCANLON (98TH):

I do not know off the top of my head.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Pavalkock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

And will these teachers still be contributing for ten years until they vest to both systems?

Through you.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Either ten or fifteen years depending on when they actually started working for the State.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Pavalock-D’Amato.

REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO (77TH):

Thank you, that’s all for my questions and I urge my colleagues to support this Bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much. Will you remark further
on the Amendment before us? If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it, the Amendment [Gavel] is adopted. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? If not Staff and guests to the Well of the House. Members 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.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

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

CLERK:

Senate Bill No. 978 as Amended by Senate “A”
in concurrence with the Senate

Total Number Voting 150
Necessary for Passage 76
Those voting Yea 150
Those voting Nay 0
Absent not voting 1

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

The Bill as Amended passes in concurrence with
the Senate [Gavel]. Will the Clerk please call
House Calendar 503?

CLERK:

On Page 33, House Calendar 503 Senate Bill No.
800 AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MEDAL OR MERIT FOR
CIVILIANS. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing
Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Dorinda Borer of the 115th,
madam you have the floor.
REP. BORER (115TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. Will you remark?

REP. BORER (115TH):

Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. This Bill comes at the request of the State Military Department. They currently have a number of many outstanding citizens and civilians that support them in their missions but there is no formal mechanism to recognize them so the Medal of Merit will give them the opportunity to recognize those civilians who support them through their talents and their skills and their resources. And Mr. Speaker, I am in possession of an Amendment LCO 7457 and I would ask the Clerk to please call the Amendment and that I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.
SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 7457 which will be designated Senate Amendment Schedule “A”.

CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule “A” LCO No. 7457 offered by Senator Looney, Senator Duff, eta.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there objection? Seeing none, Representative Borer.

REP. BORER (115TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What this Amendment does is it simply removes the fiscal note. I ask and move adoption.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, madam. Question before the Chamber is on Adoption of the Amendment. Will you remark on the Amendment? Representative Vail of the 52nd District you have the floor.

REP. VAIL (52ND):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in support of
the Amendment and also the underlying Bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Will you remark further on the Amendment before us? If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it, the Amendment is [Gavel] adopted. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Will you remark further on the Bill as amended? If not Staff and guests to the Well of the House. Members 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.
SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Have all members voted? Have all members voted? Please check the board to ensure that your vote has been properly cast. If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

And the Clerk will announce the tally.

CLERK:

Senate Bill No. 800 as Amended by Senate “A” in concurrence with the Senate

Total Number Voting 150
Necessary for Passage 76
Those voting Yea 150
Those voting Nay 0
Absent not voting 1

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

The Bill as Amended in in concurrence with the Senate is passed [Gavel]. Will the Clerk please call House Calendar 616?

CLERK:

On Page 48, House Calendar 616, Senate Bill
861, AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEFINITION OF “SERVICE IN TIME OF WAR” AND STATE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN VETERANS’ SERVICES. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Boyd of the 50th.

REP. BOYD (50TH):

Mr. Speaker, I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. Will you remark?

REP. BOYD (50TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. The Bill does almost exactly what the title says. It removes residency requirements for admission to the residential program and also clarifies in statute the definition of “war time service.” I move adoption.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):
Thank you very much, sir. Will you remark further on the Bill before us? Representative Vail of the 52nd District, sir you have the floor.

REP. VAIL (52ND):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in support of this Bill. The Commissioner supports this Bill and I think it is a good thing and everyone should vote for it. Thank you.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Will you remark further on the Bill before us? Will you remark further on the Bill before us? If not Staff and guests to the Well of the House. Members 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.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Have all members voted? Have all members
voted? If all members have voted, please check the board to ensure your vote has been properly cast. If all the members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

And the Clerk will announce the tally.

CLERK:

Senate Bill No. 861 in concurrence with the Senate

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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absent not voting</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

The Bill passes in concurrence with the Senate [Gavel].

[Gavel] Will the Clerk please call House Calendar 695.

CLERK:

On Page 57, House Calendar 695, Senate Bill 848 AN ACT CONCERNING FUNERAL SERVICE CONTRACTS AND
CEMETERIES. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on General Law.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative D'Agostino of the 91st, you have the floor, sir.

REP. D'AGOSTINO (91ST):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate. Will you remark?

REP. D'AGOSTINO (91ST):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Clerk has an Amendment, it is LCO No 10111. I would ask the Clerk to please call the Amendment and that I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 10111 which
will be designated Senate Amendment Schedule “A”.

CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule “A” LCO No. 10111 offered by Senator Fonfara and Senator Witkos.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there objection to summarization? Seeing none, Representative D’Agostino.

REP. D'AGOSTINO (91ST):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Bill makes two minor changes to our statutes. It increases the amount somebody can put away for an irrevocable service from $8,000 dollars to $10,000 dollars and it allows somebody to prepay for the construction of a mausoleum and I would urge the Chamber to support it.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Will you remark further on the Amendment before us? Representative Cheeseman of the 37th on the Amendment.
REP. CHEESEMAN (37TH):

On the Amendment, yes, Mr. Speaker. One question for the proponent. What change does this Amendment make from the underlying Bill.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative D’Agostino.

REP. D'AGOSTINO (91ST):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

The change takes the amount that will be uncapped and puts the cap on it from $8,000 dollars to $10,000 dollars so an increase of $2,000.

Through you.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Cheeseman.

REP. CHEESEMAN (37TH):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, madam. Will you remark further on the Amendment before us? If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor please signify
by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it, [Gavel] the Amendment is adopted. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Representative Garibay of the 60th, nope? Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? If not Staff and guests to the Well of the House. Members 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.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Have all members voted? If all the members voted please check the board to ensure your vote has been properly cast. If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a
tally.

And the Clerk will announce the tally.

CLERK:

Senate Bill No. 848 as Amended by Senate “A” in concurrence with the Senate

- Total Number Voting: 150
- Necessary for Passage: 76
- Those voting Yea: 150
- Those voting Nay: 0
- Absent not voting: 1

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

The Bill as Amended passes in concurrence with the Senate [Gavel]. Will the Clerk please call House Calendar 6803?

CLERK:

Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Rojas of the 9th District, sir you have the floor.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. Will you remark?

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Clerk is in possession of an Amendment 10851. I would ask the Clerk to please call the Amendment and that I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Will the Clerk pleas call LCO No. 10851 which will be designated House Amendment Schedule “A”?

CLERK:
House “A” LCO No. 10851 offered by Representative Rojas.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there objection to summarization? Seeing none, Representative Rojas.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is our annual failure to file Bill which assists a lot of small businesses who missed a particular filing. I move adoption.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on adoption of the Amendment. Representative Davis of the 57th on the Amendment.

REP. DAVIS (57TH):

Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand in support of the Amendment. It does add a couple of more towns, or business and towns that came to us after we passed it out of Finance and I move adoption of it.
SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Will you remark further on the Amendment before us? If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it, the [Gavel] Amendment is adopted. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? Representative Fishbein of the 90th you have the floor.

REP. FISHBEIN (90TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just briefly, you know, there is a portion of this that is an appropriation to Wallingford it is $176,332 dollars and I just want to say for years there was a part of our town where people lived, they still live, there’s five homes and their water got contaminated and my predecessor here, Mary Fritz, this is one of the last things she was working on before she didn’t run again, before she passed. I know this was very
important to her because it was in the district and these people, we could never tell where the contamination came from, they were starting to lose their hair, their children were being affected and we wanted to do something for them so thankfully we, in the town of Wallington we have our own water company. We put in the connections and this is the State’s portion of that. So, you know, in memory of Mary Fritz and, you know, her everything that she did up here I think was important to point that out. So thank you.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

    Well said, Representative. Very well said. Representative Muchinsky of the 85th, you have the floor.

REP. MUSHINSKY (85TH):

    Through you, Mr. Speaker. As my colleague from Wallington said this is honoring a project that was done by Representative Mary Fritz. The town did the project, they did restore the water to the affected home, however they didn’t do it before the deadline
in the agreement. So this forgives them, gives them additional time to get the reimbursement because the project was completed and the citizens do have clean water now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, madam. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? If not Staff and guests to the Well of the House. Members 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.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Have all members voted? Have all members voted? If all of the members of the City of Hamden have voted. If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

The Clerk will announce the tally.

CLERK:
House Bill No. 7413 as Amended by House “A”

Total Number Voting 150
Necessary for Passage 76
Those voting Yea 150
Those voting Nay 0
Absent not voting 1

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

The Bill as Amended passed [Gavel]. Will the Clerk please call House Calendar 666?

CLERK:


SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Blumenthal of the 147th you have the floor.

REP. BLUMENTHAL (147):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.
Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate. Will you remark?

REP. BLUMENTHAL (147):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Despite this Bill's ominous Calendar number it does very good things. It establishes new filing guidelines, excuse me, deadlines by which reports must be filed, it requires the collection or provision of certain information, it allows the registry to, it requires the registration to be created, it increase certain filing fees by $25.00 dollars. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I urge support.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Only under these conditions I support 666.
Very good, madam. Representative Zullo of the 99th.

REP. ZULLO (99TH):

Mr. Speaker the problem with this Bill is that the devil is in the details. [Groans] I’m just kidding Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the time [Laughter].

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Staff and guests to the Well of the House. Members 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.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Have all members voted? Have all members voted? If all members have voted, please check the board to ensure your vote has been properly cast. If all members have voted, the machine will be
locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

Representative Porter of the 94th for what purpose do you rise, madam.

REP. PORTER (94TH):

How are you doing? I would like to change my vote to the Affirmative please, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Porter of the 94th to the Affirmative.

REP. PORTER (94TH):

Thank you, sir.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, madam. [Laughter]

The Clerk will announce the tally.

CLERK:

Senate Bill No. 1083 in concurrence with the Senate

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Absent not voting 2

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

The Bill is passed in concurrence [Gavel].

Will the Clerk please call House Calendar 512?

CLERK:

On Page 34, House Calendar 512, Senate Bill 585 AN ACT CONCERNING AIR QUALITY MONITORING IN TOWNS NEAR THE CRICKET VALLEY ENERGY CENTER. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Environment.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Demicco

REP. DEMICCO (21ST):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

[Gavel] [Gavel] Ladies and gentleman as we know Representative Damico is quite man, so let’s not make his shout and let’s keep the Chamber noise down. Representative Demicco
REP. DEMICCO (21ST):

Let’s try that again, Mr. Speaker. I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. Will you remark?

REP. DEMICCO (21ST):

Yes, Mr. Speaker this Bill requires the Department of Energy and Environmental protection to provide technical assistance and support to any municipality that purchases, leases, or is provided the use of air monitoring equipment for the purpose of establishing an air quality baseline in such municipality and to determine any effect on such baseline by the Cricket Valley Energy Center in the State of New York.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Will you remark further on the Bill before us? Representative
Harding of the 107th.

REP. HARDING (107TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. And I do support the Bill because there is no fiscal note despite the fact that it is putting a requirement on DEEP and DEEP say they can offer these services, sounds like worthwhile services to the communities impacted. I support this and urge my colleagues to do the same. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Will you remark further on the Bill before us? Will you remark further on the Bill before us? If not Staff and guests to the Well of the House. House Members 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.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):
Have all members voted? Have all members voted? If all the members have voted, please check the board to ensure your vote has been properly cast. If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

The Clerk will announce the tally.

CLERK:

Senate Bill No. 585 in concurrence with the Senate.

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SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

The Bill passed in in concurrence with the Senate [Gavel]. Will the Clerk please call House Calendar 40?

CLERK:

On Page 62, House Calendar 40, Substitute House Bill No. 7102 AN ACT CONCERNING SENIOR CENTERS.
Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Joe Serra of the 33rd District, you have the floor.

REP. SERRA (33RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. Will you remark?

REP. SERRA (33RD):

Mr. Speaker the Clerk has an Amendment LCO 8884. I would ask the Clerk to please call the Amendment and that I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize. Mr. Speaker may I withdraw that 8884? And with that Mr. Speaker will the Clerk please call Amendment 10914.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):
So to be clear, to those on the floor, the Representative is withdrawing his request for LCO No. 8884 to be called and instead is asking for LCO 10914. Will the Clerk please call that Amendment? To be designate House Amendment Schedule "A".

CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule "A" LCO No. 10914 offered by Representative Serra, Representative Turco, Representative Hampton.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the Amendment. Is there objection to summarization? Seeing none, Representative Serra.

REP. SERRA (33RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker what this Amendment does is add the Committee members in Section 4 and that is the only change to the Bill with the purpose to expand and modernize the current municipal agent statue to include senior centers and what they do more accurately reflection the municipal aging service and this Amendment addresses
the issue of who will be on that Committee. With that I move adoption of the Amendment.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Will you remark further on the Amendment before us? Representative Wilson of the 66th, you have the floor, sir.

REP. WILSON (66TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good Bill, ought to pass.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Will you remark further on the Amendment before us? Representative Mastrofrancesco.

REP. MASTROFRANCESCO (80TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a quick question to the proponent of the Bill.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Please proceed.

REP. MASTROFRANCESCO (80TH):

On line 7 of the Amendment, it says that “an agent shall be a staff member of a senior center.”
Is that mandatory?

Through you.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Serra.

REP. SERRA (33RD):

To my knowledge, yes.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Mastrofrancesco.

REP. MASTROFRANCESCO (80TH):

Thank you.

And through you, Mr. Speaker.

Does that staff member have to work in the senior center or can they be working within the townhall?

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Serra.

REP. SERRA (33RD):

Quite frankly, I don’t know if they have to work in the senior center or be part of the agency and goes in and out of the senior center. That I am
not sure of.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Mastrofrancesco.

REP. MASTROFRANCESCO (80TH):

Just through you, Mr. Speaker.

I’m just confused because a lot of municipal agents, some of them, like in our town, they work right in townhall but they work with the senior center. So I just wanted clarification on that. So you don’t know if they have to work in the senior center or they can be work in the town?

Through you.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Serra.

REP. SERRA (33RD):

Either they can work in the senior center or work in the municipality in city hall, back and forth, I mean I’ve had that experience in a municipality I work for.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Mastrofrancesco.
REP. MASTROFRANCESCO (80TH):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Thank you very much.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much. Will you remark further on the Amendment before us? Will you remark further on the Amendment before us? If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Those opposed, nay. The aye’s have it, the Amendment is adopted. Will you remark further on the Bill as Amended? If not Staff and guests to the Well of the House. Members 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
SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Have all members voted? If all members have voted, please check the board to ensure your vote has been properly cast. If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

The Clerk will announce the tally.

CLERK:

House Bill No. 7102 as Amended by House “A”

Total Number Voting 150
Necessary for Passage 76
Those voting Yea 150
Those voting Nay 0
Absent not voting 1

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

The Bill passes as Amended [Gavel]. Will the Clerk please call House Calendar 174?

CLERK:

On page 9, House Calendar 174, House Bill 5053

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO INCREASE
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS RECOVERING FROM SUBSTANCE ABUSE. Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Public Employees.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Porter of the 94th.

REP. PORTER (94TH):

Mr. Speaker, I move for Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Question before the Chamber is on Acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and Passage of the Bill. Will you remark?

REP. PORTER (94TH):

The Bill establishes a task force to investigate strategies to increase employment opportunities for persons recovering from substance abuse. I move adoption.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Poletta of the 68th.

REP. POLLETTA (68TH):
Good Evening, Mr. Speaker.

Through you.

I just rise with fourteen questions for the proponent of the Bill [Laughter]. Just kidding, good Bill, ought to pass.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Will you remark further on the Bill before us? If not Staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. Members 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.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Have all members voted? Have all members voted? Will the members please check the board to ensure that your vote has been properly cast. If all members have voted, the machine will be locked.
and the Clerk will take a tally.

And the Clerk will announce the tally.

CLERK:

House Bill No. 5053

Total Number Voting 150
Necessary for Passage 76
Those voting Yea 144
Those voting Nay 6
Absent not voting 1

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

The Bill passes [Gavel]. Representative Ritter of the 1st District, sir you have the floor.

REP. RITTER (1ST):

Mr. Speaker everybody is running out we will be starting tomorrow at eight o’clock in the morning.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Seven thirty did you say, Mr. Majority Leader.

REP. RITTER (1ST):

As tradition, last day we will start at ten o’clock in the morning. There will be breakfast in the Democratic caucus room for both sides of the
aisle with the cappuccino as well so we look forward
to seeing you there tomorrow. Thank you.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, sir. Any announcement or
introductions Representative Rojas of the 75th.

REP. ROJAS (9TH):

Mr. Speaker I rise for purpose of Journal
Notation for the Democratic party.

In district: Butler, Rosairo, McGee, Reyes, de la
Cruz, Gibson, Baker, D’Agostino and Elliott.

Sick: Orange, Rose and Garibay.

Outside in Chamber: Morin, Sims, Verrengia,
Sanchez, Meskers, Perone, Miller, McCarty-Vahey,
Felipe and Simmons.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Walker and Rojas. Thank you very much, sir.

Representative Betts.

REP. BETTS (78TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Aresimowicz was out of
the Chamber, did you notice that?

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):


Rep. Betts (78th):

I said that you were out of the Chamber, I just wanted to make sure you were covered.

Speaker Aresimowicz (30th):

Thank you, Representative Betts, I appreciate you looking out for me. It really means a lot.

Rep. Betts (78th):

Journal Notation for:

Representative Labriola was in district due to work. Representative Fishbein, Kokoruda, D’Amelio were out of the Chamber on legislative business and Representative Fusco was in district on business.

Thank you.

Speaker Aresimowicz (30th):

Journal so notes. Representative Allie-Brennan of the 2nd District, sir you now have the floor.

Rep. Allie-Brennan (2nd):

Thank you. I just want to remind all freshmen that we will be taking a class freshman photo ten minutes before session tomorrow on the north steps.
So look forward to seeing you guys tomorrow. Thank you.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

    Thank you very much, sir. Are there any other announcements or introductions, announcement or introductions? The most important one of the night. Representative Currey of the 11th.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

    There being no further business, I move that we immediately transmit all business needing further action by the Senate to the Senate immediately.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

    See, I said the most important and he immediately jumped the gun. Question is immediate transmittal to the Senate. Without objection, so ordered [Gavel]. Now, Representative Currey.

REP. CURREY (11TH):

    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, without objection, so ordered. We are adjourned [Gavel].

(On motion of Representative Currey of the 11th District, the House adjourned at 10:31 o’clock p.m., to meet again at the Call of the Chair.)
CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing 658 pages is a complete and accurate transcription of a digital sound recording of the House Proceedings on Tuesday, June 4, 2019.

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

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