JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE

Friday, February 21, 2020

The House of Representatives was called to order at 11:31 o'clock a.m., Representative Godfrey of the 110th District in the Chair.

Prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Christopher M. Fogarty of Oxford, Connecticut.

The following is the prayer:

Let us pray.  Dear Lord, we thank You for this new day and a new opportunity to serve You by serving Your people in a helpful, just and caring way. Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Christopher M. Fogarty of Oxford, Connecticut.

INTRODUCTION OF BILL

On motion of Representative Napoli of the 73rd District, the first reading of the following bills and resolutions was waived, the list of bills and resolutions as prepared by the Clerks was accepted, and the bills and resolutions referred to the committees as indicated thereon in concurrence.

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

H.B. No. 5259 (RAISED) GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS, 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONERS' RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TECHNICAL REVISIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS STATUTES', to make technical revisions to the statutes concerning government administration and elections.

H.B. No. 5277 (RAISED) GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS, 'AN ACT DECREASING FEES FOR COPYING PUBLIC RECORDS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT', to reduce the fees paid by the public for copies of public records.

H.B. No. 5278 (RAISED) GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS, 'AN ACT REVISING CERTAIN ABSENTEE VOTING STATUTES', to revise certain absentee voting statutes to no longer require that an elector be absent from his or her town of voting residence during all the hours of voting at a primary, election or referendum.

H.B. No. 5279 (RAISED) GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS, 'AN ACT REDEFINING PUBLIC OFFICIAL UNDER THE STATE CODES OF ETHICS', to redefine "public official" for purposes of the state codes of ethics to include individuals
appointed by any state-wide elected officer and to exclude certain individuals appointed by a judge.

H.B. No. 5280 (RAISED) GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS, 'AN ACT CONCERNING ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES TO ELECTIONS', to (1) permit candidates or their agents to amend certain election-related filings to correct errors or omissions without penalty if done so within specified time frames, (2) bring certain state laws relating to the circulation of nominating and primary petitions into compliance with federal case law, (3) in the case of nominations for judges of probate and members of Congress, reduce the time by which a person other than a party-endorsed candidate can file a candidacy for nomination in order for a primary to be held, and (4) require that certain disputes concerning elections or primaries be adjudicated by the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford.

H.B. No. 5281 (RAISED) GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS, 'AN ACT CONCERNING UNCLAIMED PROPERTY', to require additional public notice of abandoned property that has been transferred to the Treasurer, to require the Treasurer to give notice to municipalities which have property that has escheated to the state and to authorize the Treasurer to accept electronic claim forms.

H.B. No. 5282 (RAISED) GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS, 'AN ACT CONCERNING POLLING PLACE CHALLENGERS', to eliminate registrar-appointed challengers from who may be present in the polling place during a primary or election.

H.B. No. 5283 (RAISED) GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS, 'AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL ETHICS', to require every municipality to adopt a code of ethics and the Office of State Ethics to develop a model municipal code of ethics for municipalities to adopt.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

H.B. No. 5284 (RAISED) PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY, 'AN ACT CONCERNING SERVICE OF PROCESS FEES', to prohibit state marshals from negotiating fees different from those set in statute.

H.B. No. 5285 (RAISED) PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY, 'AN ACT CONCERNING MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING FOR PARAMEDICS', to eliminate the requirement that applicants for a license as a paramedic complete mental health first aid training.

H.B. No. 5286 (RAISED) PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY, 'AN ACT CONCERNING LEAVE OF LEVEL TWO OR NONESSENTIAL STATE EMPLOYEES ASSISTING IN A CIVIL PREPAREDNESS EMERGENCY', to permit level two or nonessential state employees who volunteer with a local organization for civil preparedness to assist in a civil preparedness emergency or local civil preparedness emergency without loss of pay, vacation time, sick leave or earned overtime accumulation.

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

S.B. No. 233 (RAISED) GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS, 'AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTIONS', to (1) require registrars of voters to certify certain information regarding designated locations for election day registration, permit the Secretary to order any changes deemed necessary for the effective conduct of election day registration and eliminate the requirement to perform a cross-check before admitting an applicant for election day registration, (2) permit applicants in line for election day registration prior to eight o'clock p.m. to be admitted as electors and cast a vote in a regular election, (3) restore, without the payment of certain fines, the electoral privileges of convicted felons who are on parole, (4) establish processes at certain state agencies for eligible individuals to automatically apply for voter registration, and
(5) require the Secretary of the State to develop a system through which election-related forms can be signed electronically.

S.B. No. 234 (RAISED) GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS. 'AN ACT CONCERNING VOTER PRIVACY PROTECTION', to limit the availability of voter registration information to certain purposes and prohibit certain other uses of such information.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

S.B. No. 235 (RAISED) PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY. 'AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CYBERSECURITY TASK FORCE', to establish a cybersecurity task force.

S.B. No. 236 (RAISED) PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY. 'AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO DIAPER CHANGING STATIONS IN PUBLIC AND COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS', to amend the State Building Code to require diaper changing tables that are accessible to women and men in all newly constructed or substantially renovated public or commercial buildings that include at least one restroom open to the public.

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

S.B. No. 237 (RAISED) GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS. 'AN ACT CONCERNING CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DUE TO AN EMPLOYER OTHER THAN THE STATE UNDER THE STATE CODE OF ETHICS', to apply substantial conflict of interest provisions in the state code of ethics for public officials and state employees to conflicts involving the public official's or state employee's nonstate employer or spouse's employer.

S.B. No. 238 (RAISED) GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS. 'AN ACT CONCERNING A DISPARITY STUDY', to require the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities and Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy to conduct a disparity study.

S.B. No. 239 (RAISED) GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS. 'AN ACT CONCERNING AUDITING OF SIGNED STATEMENTS OF ELECTORS PRIOR TO VOTING', to require certain election officials to (1) maintain information about electors who sign statements in lieu of presenting certain identification at the polls when voting in person, and (2) compile a report of such information for submission to the Secretary of the State.

S.B. No. 240 (RAISED) GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS. 'AN ACT CONCERNING DEADLINES FOR MAILINGS IN ANY PROVISION OF THE GENERAL STATUTES', to provide that the postmark date of mailing shall be valid for any statutory deadline.

S.B. No. 241 (RAISED) GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS. 'AN ACT CONCERNING AUDITING OF ELECTION DAY REGISTRATION', to implement several reforms concerning the integrity of election day registration procedures.

S.J. No. 15 (COMM) GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS. 'RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT EARLY VOTING'

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Representative Napoli of the 73rd District, the House adjourned at 11:32 o’clock a.m., to meet again at the Call of the Chair.
CHANGE OF REFERENCE
HOUSE BILL

The following report on the House Bill, recommending a change of reference was received from the committee indicated, the report of the committee accepted, and the bill referred as recommended:

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. Proposed H.B. No. 5166 AN ACT CONCERNING PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES.

The bill was then referred to the Committee on Appropriations.