

# Transportation Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** SB-605

**Title:** AN ACT CONCERNING THE PORT AUTHORITY.

**Vote Date:** 3/26/2021

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable Substitute

**PH Date:** 2/19/2021

**File No.:**

***Disclaimer:** The following JOINT FAVORABLE Report is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose.*

## **SPONSORS OF BILL:**

Sen. Heather S. Somers, 18th Dist.Rep. Devin R. Carney, 23rd Dist.  
Rep. Travis Simms, 140th Dist.Rep. Holly H. Cheeseman, 37th Dist.

## **REASONS FOR BILL:**

To increase transparency and legislative oversight by way of ensuring representation of a port in New Haven, New London, or Bridgeport—as well as an additional town beside whichever of the respective cities is selected; relocating the Connecticut Pilot Commission to within the Department of Transportation to assist on matters pertaining to the Connecticut Pilot Commission's expertise; providing that the payment of Department of Transportation employees who are employed by the Connecticut Port Authority is taken from the Department of Transportation's budget; and encouraging the equitable distribution of grants under SHIPP.

## **RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

### [David Kooris, Chair of the Connecticut Port Authority](#)

David Kooris presented and submitted testimony on this bill on behalf of the Connecticut Port Authority, in which the CPA's thoughts on the respective proposals were elaborated upon. Firstly, it is stated that the CPA welcomes "and support[s] any recommendations from the legislature and the designated appointing authorities, regarding the best possible representation for our Board." Next, it is noted that "The CPA supports the placement of the Connecticut Pilot Commission within an appropriate agency of the State, instead of the Connecticut Port Authority, for administrative purposes only." And lastly, the testimony concludes with the following: "We believe that we have in place a transparent and equitable process for grant selection and disbursement through the Small Harbor Improvement Projects Program (SHIPP)."

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

None expressed.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

None Expressed.

**Reported by: Ian Bond**

**Date: 4/1/2021**