

## Appropriations Committee

### MEETING MINUTES

Friday, May 28, 2021

12:00 PM in Zoom and YouTube Live

The meeting was called to order at 12:02 PM by Chairman, Sen. Osten C. S19.

The following committee members were present:

Senators: Anwar S. S03; Cicarella P. S34; Daugherty Abrams M. S13; Flexer M. S29; Hartley J. S15; Kushner J. S24; Lesser M. S09; Lopes R. S06; Miner C. S30; Osten C. S19; Somers H. S18; Winfield G. S10

Representatives: Abercrombie C. 083; Baker A. 124; Betts W. 078; Bolinsky M. 106; Candelaria J. 095; Currey J. 011; Dathan L. 142; Dillon P. 092; DiMassa M. 116; Felipe A. 130; Ferraro C. 117; France M. 042; Gibson B. 015; Gilchrest J. 018; Gonzalez M. 003; Haddad G. 054; Hall C. 059; Hall J. 007; Harrison C. 069; Hayes R. 051; Howard G. 043; Johnson S. 049; Kennedy K. 119; McCarty K. 038; McGee B. 005; Nolan A. 039; Pavalock-D'Amato C. 077; Reyes G. 075; Rosario C. 128; Ryan K. 139; Sanchez E. 024; Tercyak P. 026; Turco G. 027; Walker T. 093; Wilson D. 066; Zawistowski T. 061

Absent were:

Senators: McCrory D. S02

Representatives: Porter R. 094; Simms T. 140

Rep. Porter missed votes due to illness.

Sen. Osten asked for a Joint Favorable motion for [S.B. No. 1073](#) (RAISED) (File No. 524) AN ACT CONCERNING EQUITY AND OPPORTUNITY IN STATE GOVERNMENT. (GAE,APP) Rep. Walker made the motion that was seconded by Rep. Abercrombie. Rep. France asked if the costs would be added to the budget. Sen. Osten said there was no plan to do so. Rep. Dathan asked if the consultants would be Connecticut based. Sen. Osten said she didn't know. A roll call vote was taken. The bill passed with 32 voting yea, 16 voting nay, 0 abstaining, and 3 absent and not voting.

Sen. Osten called for a Joint Favorable motion for [Substitute for S.B. No. 888](#) (COMM) (File No. 569) AN ACT RESPONSIBLY AND EQUITABLY REGULATING ADULT-USE CANNABIS. (JUD,APP) The motion was made by Rep. Abercrombie and seconded by Rep. Walker. Rep. Dathan expressed concern that the bill didn't appear to encompass increased involvement of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, made no provisions for prevention programs or set potency limits. Rep. France questioned the impact on the spending cap considering the upfront costs, revenue losses and revenue lags. Sen. Osten said that the budget was well below the cap and

that other programs, such as the Paid Family Leave program, had similar upfront costs. Sen. Winfield said that the bill before the Committee was not the final product. Rep. France said that he was unable to support the bill at this point. Rep. Wilson echoed Rep. France adding that he was disappointed that that they were just now seeing such a large and complex bill. He asked where the start up costs would come from. Rep. Nolan said that he would vote to move the bill out of the Committee but would reserve the ability to vote no on the floor. Rep. Nolan said that there were large and small area to be fixed in the bill and that he wanted to be part of that process. A roll call vote was taken. The bill passed with 29 voting yea, 18 voting nay, 0 abstaining, and 4 absent and not voting.

Sen. Osten asked for a Joint Favorable motion for [Substitute for S.B. No. 881](#) (COMM) (File Nos. 327 and 679) AN ACT CONCERNING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT. (As amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A"). (HED,ED,APP) The motion was made by Rep. Dathan and seconded by Sen. Hartley. Rep. France said that because the increased costs to the Department of Labor were not included in the budget, he would be voting no. A roll call vote was taken. The bill passed with 32 voting yea, 15 voting nay, 0 abstaining, and 4 absent and not voting.

Sen. Osten called for a Joint Favorable motion for [Substitute for H.B. No. 6448](#) (COMM) (File No. 542) AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT, THE MODERNIZATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, REGIONAL COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENT AND THE PROVISION OF OUTDOOR DINING. (PD,APP) Rep. Abercrombie made the motion and Rep. Dathan seconded it. Rep. France said that the bill contained unfunded municipal mandates and he would be voting no. Rep. Nolan said that he would vote yes in order to make changes to the bill. Rep. Nolan said that there was need to leave some powers to municipalities to choose. A roll call vote was taken. The bill passed with 31 voting yea, 16 voting nay, 0 abstaining, and 4 absent and not voting.

At 12:39 PM Sen. Osten announced that the meeting would stand in recess until 1:00 PM so that votes could be recorded.

A motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM.

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Susan Keane  
Administrator

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Elizabeth Gillette  
Committee Clerk