

CHAIRPERSONS: Representative Julio  
Concepcion, Representative  
Michael Quinn

SENATORS: Duff, Kushner, Looney, Moore

REPRESENTATIVES: Godfrey, Kennedy, Vargas,  
Yaccarino

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Good morning, everyone. I will officially call the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee's public hearing for Tuesday, April 27th, 2021, to order.

Today, we have three nominees on the agenda. But before we get started, I know Senator Duff or Chairman Duff will be a little late to the Committee meeting, but any opening remarks from my Vice-Chair, Representative Quinn?

REP. QUINN (82ND): No, just good morning, everyone and looking forward to a good meeting today.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): And Ranking Member, Representative Kennedy. Oh, you're on mute.

REP. KENNEDY (119TH): Sorry about that. Good morning, everyone. I'm ready to get started. Thank you.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Great, thank you. So the first item on the agenda is a House Joint Resolution, Resolution confirming the reappointment of John. W. Betkoski, III, of Beacon Falls as Utility Commissioner of the Public Utilities Regulatory--

REP. KENNEDY (119TH): Good morning. How are you?

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Good morning. Oh, Rep. Kennedy.

REP. KENNEDY (119TH): Hang on one second. I'm muted here, there you go.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): There it is. Always a crazy time here on zoom. Mr. Betkoski, good morning. Good to see you.

JOHN BETKOSKI III: Good morning. Nice to be with you.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Am I pronouncing your name correctly?

JOHN BETKOSKI III: Yes, you are, thank you.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Okay. Wonderful, wonderful. Before we get started, would you do me a favor and raise your right hand, please.

Do you promise, swear and affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?

JOHN BETKOSKI III: I do.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Wonderful. The floor is yours.

JOHN BETKOSKI III: Thank you very much, Representative. Good morning, everyone. Good morning, Senator Duff, Representative Concepcion, Senator Looney, Senator Kelly, Representative Quinn, Representative Kennedy, and Members of the Executive and Nominations Committee.

I humbly request reappointment as Utility Commissioner of the Public Utility Regulatory Authority for a term expiring June 30th of 2023.

I would like to thank Governor Lamont for this honor and respectfully ask the support of this Committee. I possess strong professional credentials to continue to serve in this position.

I have established a service record through my work at PURA at the New England Conference of Public Utility Commissioners and at the National Association of Regulatory Commissioners.

By way of background, after 10 years in the General Assembly representing the 105th district, I joined the Department Public Utility Control in 1997 and was elected as Vice Chairman in 2007. My tenure in the role makes me PURA's most experienced Commissioner.

My very extensive service in institution member are valuable to PURA's work, giving the continued breadth and depth of challenges the Authority faces in the electricity, natural gas, water and telecommunications work. In particular, I've been recognized as an expert in the Water Regulatory issues.

And along with my colleagues on the water Planning Council, we led the effort to develop the first comprehensive water plan for the state Connecticut, which I'm extremely proud of. This plan was adopted by the Legislature during the 2019 Legislative Session.

I strive and always have been to adjudicate with open mind, with a diverse array of issues brought before PURA, focusing on the law, weighing evidence carefully and consciously. I carry full workload and willing to take on additional assignments as needed. Moreover, I've earned a reputation of being the dedicated to fair and reasonable judgment.

One distinctive aspect of my tenure and significant benefit to Connecticut is my service and seniority in two major trade organizations, New Netpark and Nairocc.

I served as President in Netpark and consequently developed an extensive network of contacts among New England Regulatory Community. At a national level, I served as the President in Nairoc and continue to serve on the Board of Directors and that Electricity Committee as well.

Technology in the regulatory world is changing more rapidly than we are. It is our mission to ensure that we continue to adjust our regulatory approach to keep up with these ongoing changes.

I never backed away from a challenge or a situation during regulatory tenure. Our hearing room to me has always been a place to hear the public, hear evidence, exchange ideas, and make decisions that are fair or reasonable to all the citizens of Connecticut.

My extensive record of public and community service includes Chair of the Board of Directors of Griffin Hospital, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society of Connecticut, and I have attached my resume and faculty for a more complete indication of my philanthropic work.

I believe that my record of accomplishments and dedicated service to Connecticut ratepayers underscore directly how valuable my reappointment would be to PURA and the state. I really hope sincerely that you with favor upon my request as reappointment as Utility Commissioner. I thank you very much for your consideration and I look forward to your questions. Thank you very much.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thank you very much. And let me start off by congratulating you on your nomination and thanking you for your years of service and those including as a state Legislator here in Hartford. So, thank you very, very much. Just a couple of-

JOHN BETKOSKI III: One of the best years of my life, Representative.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): That's great to hear, that's great to hear. Just a couple quick questions on my end. And I know you mentioned this during your testimony, that you served as President of the New England Conference of Public Utilities Commissioners, you know, working with other states, New England states, how do you think Connecticut fears when it comes to their Public Utility System?

JOHN BETKOSKI III: That's a very good question. I think we are really at the cutting edge for many things that we do in terms of our regulatory approach.

As I said during my remarks, we look at everything on a fair and balanced way. We always look at new ways of streamlining the regulatory process. We want it to be inclusive, we want to work with our utilities, but also hold our utilities accountable, and we-- when we have hearings, we always make sure that the public are invited.

We have an Office of Education Outreach and Enforcement, because I feel very strongly that we need to have the public engage. This is a very complex business we're in. And I've been at it for a very long time and I've never been bored because of the complexities of the issues that we face. So, I want the process to always be inclusive.

We've just went through some, which I can't really get the details because we haven't issued a final decision, but I can say, for example, the Storm Docket, we have hours and hours and hours and hours of hearings from people all over the state that could come in and weigh in on this docket. So, inclusion is very, very important. And we wanna be transparent, so that's why we do have these meetings open to the public so people get engaged.

But I think, when it comes to New England, I think we have very good approach to the regulatory world. And as I say, we try to change, we're the first state in New England to really come up with a State Water plan. And that was quite an ordeal to get that passed.

It took a very long time, Representative Mushinsky, who many of you know that we call her the godfather of water, she was very instrumental in getting that done. So, I think we do a good job.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): One of the issues I think my constituents that I receive the least complaints about are the rates of, you know, whether it's electricity or any other utilities. Are there any-- Is there any-- Are there any other states doing anything particularly around the setting of the rates when it comes to utilities that we can look at?

JOHN BETKOSKI III: The thing with Connecticut, and Connecticut had the wis-- the Legislature had the wisdom in 2000s to deregulate the generation portion of the Bill. That's the generation portion which is in the competitive market.

So people can go out and can search for a competitive supplier. And that helps mitigate the cost of electricity. The power we have-- the problem we have or the challenge we have, let's just say, is twofold.

Number one, it's very difficult to get power into Connecticut, because we're kinda-- we're at the end of the pipeline, if you will. Or if we're trying to get in power through knowing the rapid pipelines or poles and wires, we have to come through everyone in the states.

For example, there was a proposal to do a transmission line and New Hampshire did not like that fact, and it was turned down. Governor Cuomo doesn't like gas pipelines running through his state to come into Connecticut. So that causes us a quandary with that.

So, I think that we just have to be cognizant of the fact that our rates are high. And I think the other thing is the fact that we have, about 20% of a Bill are charges that are on the Bill that are through state and federal policy. The federally-mandated congestion charges that we have, some of the state policy charges, conservation load management, renewable energy, those are all charges on the Bill that add up. And again, as I said, about 20% of the Bill.

Those are all good for public good to contribute to clean air and a clean environment, but it's costly.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thanks for that. And then, just my last question, and you mentioned it a couple of times, the-- where is it here, the Comprehensive State Waterplay. Can you just talk a little bit about what some of the recommendations in that plans were?

JOHN BETKOSKI III: Thank you. That plan, again, I should point out, that was a collective product of myself and my colleagues at the Department of Public Health, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, and the Office of Policy Management to put that into effect. It's a 650 page plan.

And the Legislature, to its wisdom, approved the funding to go along with that, it was over a million dollars. And one of the things we wanna make sure, you know, Connecticut is a water-rich state, and we wanna make sure we stay that way.

And we want to make sure that we continue to have potable water for all the people in the state. And we have to look at the quantity and quality of water supply. So that's why the agencies that were part of that process, Energy and Environment Protection, Public Health, worked very closely together, in terms of developing his plan to make sure that we have water available for economic, for environment, for recreation.

And one of the things, last fall, this part of the state water plan is a drought, we have an inter-agency drought plan, believe it or not, in the fall when we almost had to put some restrictions in place, because as water-rich as we are, really interesting, Southwest Connecticut uses a lot of water and the other parts of the state don't use quite as much. So we always have-- we have this interagency drought group that looks at the water supply on an ongoing basis to make sure that we have it.

So, I'm very excited we have an implementation workgroup that is implementing the plan, we have a Water Planning Council Advisory Group, we meet on a monthly basis. We just had a water rates workshop to look at one of the things we wanted to develop it, is a comprehensive conservation program for water to incent people to conserve water and look at the water regulatory rate setting process and how that might work into a statewide conservation program.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Great. And as I said before, thank you so much for your work on that particular issue. I'll open it up to the rest of my colleagues. Anybody has a question, just raise your hand, please. Representative Kennedy.

REP. KENNEDY (119TH): Good morning, Representative.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Good morning.



REP. KENNEDY (119TH): Or Mr. Chairman, and thank you. And Good morning, Mr. Betkoski. And I believe that Chairman Concepcion touched on most of my questions, but I just wanted to congratulate you and thank you for your willingness to be reappointed.

But more so, thank you for-- As I look at my notes that I just took, continuing you're very good understanding of the technology and the importance of continuing to move Connecticut forward. So I do really appreciate all of your hard work and I wish you much success. And that's all I have, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, sir.

JOHN BETKOSKI III: Thank you, Representative. And I wanna say, I would be remiss if I did not thank the 70+ staff we have working at PURA, lawyers and engineers and technical people that work. Even during this last year of the pandemic, they're working hard as ever, and the many doctors we deal with. And they really do make the Commissioners shine, so I do thank all the dedicated staff at PURA.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thank you, Representative.

JOHN BETKOSKI III: Thank you, Representative.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Representative Yaccarino, followed by Senator Looney.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH): Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank you, Mr. Betkoski, for being here, for stepping up and serving the public.

You mentioned the New Hampshire line, the second transmission line. I served on energy technology for, I think, six years-- six, seven years, actually. And I was always the rob, you know, getting that second line or the hydrovac line. What is-- I understand it's New Hampshire, but are we-- we have the run line now, I already said why don't

we just run it on a parallel line alongside, you know, because it's being run anyway? Is that out of the realm of thought or process? I mean, we do have the one line now. Am I correct?

JOHN BETKOSKI III: No, I don't think that's out of the realm, I think it's a matter. And, of course, you know, we are all part of the New England grid, the Independent ISO in England. And they, you know, one of their charges is to look at alternative routes for getting transmission into the states they serve, so those are always things that they're looking at, and we have the New Eng States for Electricity Council, NESCO, that were part of as well.

So, it's an ongoing dialogue. I don't think it's out of the realm, but it's just a matter of just keeping the-- pushing to make it happen and being aggressive about our approach.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH): Yeah, it's just, to me, it makes sense, but obviously, just me, you know. But, I really wanna thank you for serving, it's a complex issue. I mean, we need energy, we wanna clean energy, obviously, and we-- I don't know if you've even met our 20% goal by 2020. Have we? Of clean energy-- renewable energy?

JOHN BETKOSKI III: No. We're working towards it.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH): I didn't think we did. Yeah, we're trying. But yes, it's a complex issue and the rates keep going up. Like Chairman Concepcion said, it's hard for people that are just scraping by to make a living and their rates are consistently going up, either be a water bill or the electricity.

And, you know, in a perfect world, we-- I know you probably won't agree, but nuclear energy is so clean and efficient today, we're never gonna expand in our country. But they've done it in Europe and it's so

efficient. I know there's fear of it, but it's--  
would probably bring our rates way down.

JOHN BETKOSKI III: Thank you.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH): No comment?

JOHN BETKOSKI III: Well, I mean, again, I'm not  
trying to pass the buck, but we were set up, we have  
the Department of Environmental Protection and  
that's-- they have their comprehensive energy plan,  
and those are the type of things they look at. And I  
don't disagree with you. And that's one of the  
reason we kept the millstones up and running.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH): Yeah.

JOHN BETKOSKI III: Because, exactly what you're  
talking about. So, I don't think-- I think  
everything should be on the table. But, you know, we  
all want clean, green energy, but we also have to  
look at the cost factors associated with all this.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH): Right. I have one more  
question. And I know when I first came in, you know,  
when you first get elected to office you do all this  
research, and I still do research.

Connecticut is the capital of fuel cell technology,  
but we really haven't harnessed it for larger  
buildings or larger facilities for energy  
processing. Is there anything being done with fuel?  
Do you have any knowledge of anything been done with  
fuel cell technology?

JOHN BETKOSKI III: Well, they have, I know that  
they-- And you're right, remember, previous  
administration wanted to make us the fuel cell  
capital of the world-- of the country at one time.

And I think that what's happening is that they've  
had some Epson flows in terms of their expansion in

the state of Connecticut, but they have competitive bid on some projects. And I know there's some projects that are pending and, for example, in Bridgeport, I've been part of a fuel cell project down there. So, it's not moving as fast as we might want, but there's still some programs out there.

And we've been working with the people that come in and look for funding for those, so. And again, it's something that the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection has within their belly, what to take a look at.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH): All right, thank you, sir. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you.

JOHN BETKOSKI III: Thank you, Representative.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thank you, Representative. Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY (11TH): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Good morning, Jack, and congratulations to you on--

JOHN BETKOSKI III: Good morning, Senator.

SENATOR LOONEY (11TH): I wanted to congratulate--

JOHN BETKOSKI III: Thank you very much, Senator.

SENATOR LOONEY (11TH): My dear friend for many years and former Legislative colleague. And wanna thank you for your public service, both in the General Assembly and in community life, and of course, at PURA for so many years. We're very fortunate to have your experience and your length of tenure there in which you have educated yourself so well on so many energy and regulatory issues. So I wanted to thank you for all of that, you are a genuine treasure for the state.

JOHN BETKOSKI III: Thank you, Senator.

SENATOR LOONEY (11TH): The one question I wanted to ask you is, after the storm last summer, the big storm, Isaias in August, as you know, there was a great deal of widespread displeasure with the response of Eversource and the [Inaudible], but mostly with Eversource.

And one of the things that came out at that time was there was a concern, I think, in the General Assembly that Eversource is operating a new model, and have come to depend too much on having a relatively small, ready staff of repairs and service personnel and a plan to rely on bringing in more out-of-state people when necessary whenever there was an emergency.

And that in some cases, I think, delayed response times, we heard anecdotal evidence from, even from the Connecticut National Guard and from some of the out-of-state crews that came in, that they would be waiting at a checkpoint for a long time before someone from Eversource showed up to show them where they should get to work restoring power. Just to your thoughts on that.

Now, of course, Eversource is under new management and a new CEO, but just wanna give your thoughts on the-- in terms of the ready response of the electric utilities in Connecticut.

JOHN BETKOSKI III: Senator, I would like to say more, but that's a pending docket. And tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock, you're going to see everything that we're going to do to make things better.

And I can talk about the logistics of that docket and everything you just talked about, we conducted hearings for weeks on this, and we heard from the public, from, particularly, Southwest Connecticut.

Mayors, and First Selectman, and people that were impacted by the storm, and how it hurt them, and how it hurt them in terms of food being ruined.

And I know the Legislature passed some very good Legislation last fall, so, God forbid, we have something like this in the future, we'll be able to hold the companies more accountable.

But I would like to say more, but stay tuned, tomorrow at 10am you'll get all the answers. And you'll be happy.

SENATOR LOONEY (11TH): Very good, Jack. Thanks so much and congratulations again. And thank you for your service and we're grateful for your continued service.

JOHN BETKOSKI III: Thank you so much, Senator, I appreciate it very much.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thank you, Senator. Any other questions or comments from the Committee? Seeing none, Mr. Betkoski, thanks again for joining us today and answering some of our questions.

Before you go there's one question we ask of every nominee. Is there anything in your past that you believe might prove embarrassing to this Committee, to the Governor, or to the state of Connecticut?

JOHN BETKOSKI III: No, absolutely not.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thanks again, and again, congratulations on your nomination. Thank you for all your hard work on not just the Committee, but as a leader here in the state of Connecticut.

JOHN BETKOSKI III: Thank you so much, I appreciate everybody's time this morning. Thank you.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thank you. All right next up on the agenda we have a second item, which is House Joint Resolution for Review, resolution confirming Nicholas Kapoor of Monroe to be member of the Commission of Human Rights and Opportunities.

Is Nicholas here? Hey, Nichols, how are you?

NICHOLAS KAPOOR: Hi, good morning.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Good to see you. Before you begin, if you can just raise your right hand, please.

Do you promise, swear, and affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?

NICHOLAS KAPOOR: I will.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Mr. Kapoor, the floor is yours.

NICHOLAS KAPOOR: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good morning, Senator Duff, Senator Kelly, Representative Concepcion, Representative Kennedy and Members of the Committee.

My name is Nicolas Kapoor and I am so honored to be here today to discuss my re-nomination by Speaker Ritter, to the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities.

It has been a privilege to serve the people of the state of Connecticut on the CHRO for nearly four years. I have learned the inner workings of a state agency and feel truly honored to be just a small part of fighting for civil rights protections for all Connecticut citizens.

I hold an MBA in finance from Sacred Heart University and a master's degree in Math from Fairfield University. I'm completing my second year

as a visiting instructor at Fairfield University in the Math department after having been an adjunct instructor for four years.

Additionally, I continue to work for my family's business, I-engineering, which is located in Shelton. We build software systems for insurance companies located in the property and casualty space. And we celebrated our 20th anniversary in 2019 and continue to see increased growth.

In 2019, I bought my first home in my hometown of Monroe, and since 2011, I've been involved in the local government and politics here in town. I've served on our Board of Ethics and our town council and I'm currently serving in my first term on the Board of Education.

Being on the Board of Ed over the last 12 months has really been sort of a baptism by fire. But to see the dedication and the hard work of our teachers, staff and administrators create the best environment for our students has really been inspiring.

As I said to this Committee four years ago during my first hearing, I believe it is not only the responsibility of our government to protect us physically, but to also protect us from various forms of discrimination and violations of our human rights in our day to day interactions with different state agencies and organizations, such as housing, employment and public accommodations, and that is why the CHRO is so important.

The CHRO is the longest existing state civil rights agency in the country, and this speaks to the CHRO's importance not only in our state government, but its stature, relative to other civil rights agencies across the nation.

The CHRO his primary mission is to "Eliminate discrimination through civil and human rights law



enforcement and to establish equal opportunity and justice for all persons within the state through advocacy and education."

These are principles that I firmly believe in and hope to continue to fight for and advocate for as a member of the Commission. I'd like to, again, thank speaker Ritter and this Committee for your consideration, and I'm happy to answer any questions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thank you, Mr. Kapoor. First of all, again, congratulations on your re-nomination to the position, and thank you for all you've done not just, again, in this Committee, but obviously in your town of Monroe.

And I can only imagine, you know, when you said, drinking out of a firehouse, particularly this year, when it comes to the Board of Education in any town, which kind of leads me-- I have just a couple questions, leads me to my first question, which is, you know, how has the pandemic really affected the Commission's procedures, rules and procedures, kind of on a day-to-day basis?

NICHOLAS KAPOOR: So, a lot of the agency staff has had to pivot remotely as many other people did. The staff and our Executive Director and Deputy Director did apply for certain state and federal grants to enhance our technology to allow our staff to continue with intakes for discrimination complaints, and also to do all of the other things that the CHRO does, which includes outreach to the community, trainings, contract compliance training, sexual harassment training, outreach, all the different things that we do.

We have gotten more COVID-19 complaints, which has been interesting, discrimination with regards to COVID-19. The staff overall has just had to become more technologically savvy.

I would say that there has been a bit of a loss in the interpersonal connection. Typically, when someone files a discrimination complaint, they go into one of our regional offices and they're able to sit with someone and kind of talk through filling out the forms. A little bit of that has been lost.

However, I think that the staff has done an admirable job in sticking to all of the statutory timelines that are required with all the different filings, not only with discrimination complaints, but also affirmative action plans for state agencies, public hearings, any court cases that the Commission is a party to, and we've done that with technology.

So, a bit has been lost, like I said, in the interpersonal connections, but the staff has kept up. And as all the other agencies are doing, we are we are doing the absolute best that we can.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): What's the average turnaround time for a decision being made on a particular complaint?

NICHOLAS KAPOOR: So, there was some Legislation that was passed in 2019 by the Legislature that extended sexual harassment violence, for example, from 180 days to 300 days.

I think that this was a good law, I think that there's been a couple other areas of extension, especially during COVID, just because of COVID. So I would say that since the pandemic, you'll see that turnaround time on cases has been slightly lengthier, but our aged inventory has been very low. And so, we are turning around case as fast as we can.

Inside the agency, we are starting to see the beginnings of what everybody in the state workforce

is talking about, and that's that coming cliff of the employees retiring in a few years. And so, we are actually in the process of refilling some of our positions to get things going a little bit faster. But it is keeping up.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Great. Thanks for that. And then my last question, and wearing my other hat, I'm the head of the Hartford Chamber of Commerce here. So, when the Legislature in 2019 expanded the requirements for employers when it comes to sexual harassment training, we got a lot of questions about it, have you or has CHRO received any feedback on, you know, the expansion of the requirements when it comes to sexual harassment training?

NICHOLAS KAPOOR: Yes. So, we've received some great feedback about the sexual harassment training. We get a lot of requests for remote and sometimes, now getting into the summer, some in-person training on the sexual harassment on the new statute. We have always complied with the requests for training.

And, you know, there's the online materials that people are really flocking to, they've been viewed over half a million times. So, the Bills that were passed, I believe it was SB 3 that was further amended by another Bill.

The only reason I remember that number is because we have an SB3 person in the agency, that's what they've been designated as. And so, it's been very positive and I think that it's enhancing everyone's awareness about the sexual harassment laws in the state of Connecticut.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): I agree with you 100%, and you guys have done a remarkable job of putting the materials on your website easy to understand, easy to be able to disseminate to the business community here. So when I said we got a lot of questions, it was easy for me to kinda just point to your website

and say, "Well, here's all the information you need." And it's been updated regularly. So thank you for that. No further questions for me.

Are there any questions or comments from other Committee Members? Senator Duff, good morning, sir. Or, Chairman Duff, good morning.

SENATOR DUFF (25TH): Hey, good morning, Mr., Chairman, how are you? Good morning, everybody. Hey, Nick, how are you doing? And, oops, congratulations. My tie is not right.

I wanted to-- I just want to, first of all, congratulate you on your appointment. Secondly, if you can just talk a little bit about in the Legislature this year, as it has been a number of years has been the disparity study and working to get that accomplished finally. Can you talk a little bit about that and the role that you would play at CHRO with that?

NICHOLAS KAPOOR: Sure. The disparity study is very, very important. The disparity study actually helps guide CHRO's sort of where we should be looking.

We have a big update coming to the CHRO's numbers with the new census data that's coming out. So one of the things that we look at when we get state agency affirmative action plans is, our agency sets goals for state agencies when they hire and we get those affirmative action plans for a certain filing period and then we look at how many goals were hit, how many were not hit.

And right now, we're actually working off of 2000 census data. And so, you know, we have been told that the 2020 census data will be uploaded, and so we are-- we will be using that data and we're going to see, I think, a real shifting in our goals. So that we'll be able-- our state workforce, as we kind of approach this upcoming, you know, state workforce

cliff of people retiring at a higher rate than before, that will hit at the same time that we're getting the census numbers.

And so, when we set goals for hiring, refilling positions that are gonna be lost due to retirements, we will be able to have a state workforce that is at parity with the population of the state of Connecticut, and really the population of the different job classes in all the different state agencies.

And the disparity study will help us in that, it will help us in where we need to do more outreach, to what communities we need to do more outreach in.

Another reason I'm really excited for the disparity study is because there are some state statutes that talk about contracts set aside requirements. So, for every state agency, 25% of their allotted funds that are contracted out for different things, 25% go to small business enterprises and 25% of that 25% go to minority business enterprises.

Right now, in statute, the minority business enterprises, there's a specific list, actually, of what counts as a minority business enterprise. This disparity study will allow us to approach the Legislature to extend that minority business enterprise list. And it will give small business owners who identify as minority business owners in the state of Connecticut, the opportunity to apply for certification with DAS a minority business enterprise and bid on those state contracts.

And I'm just scratching the surface about how important that disparity study is.

SENATOR DUFF (25TH): No, I agree, 100%. And I know it's been around for a while. I think this is the year that we need to get it done and we should be

getting done. And there's a number of people who are working very hard to ensure that that happens.

So, I just want to say, congratulations on your re-nomination and I look forward to supporting you. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

NICHOLAS KAPOOR: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Senator Moore, good morning, madam.

SENATOR MOORE (22ND): Good morning, Mr. Chair. Good morning, everyone. Good morning, Nick.

NICHOLAS KAPOOR: Good morning, Senator.

SENATOR MOORE (22ND): I've known Nick quite a while, quite a while. He's a phenomenal young man. So, I wanna congratulate you, first of all, and I just want to say everything that I know about you, you're really a person of honor, you wanna make sure that things are getting done the right way.

You talked to me many times about positions that are open and how important it is to fill those positions at CHRO, so I wanna thank you for that.

I wanted to ask you, so this is your second term. What was your greatest accomplishment in your first term?

NICHOLAS KAPOOR: Oh, that's a great question. I think in my first term, just kind of learning how the agency works, learning the process was really important. But I would have to say, I think one of the CHRO's biggest accomplishments in my first term was, really the passage of SB 3, was the passage of extending the sexual harassment filing deadlines.

And also, very frankly, was being able to keep up in the pandemic. It's not just the CHRO, it's every

state agency that did this. But everybody had to pivot on a dime.

In our agency, just because the pandemic hit didn't mean that discrimination stopped. As a matter of fact, there might be an argument that it increased. And so, the Commission has kept up with cases and like every other state agency, we've been able to stay above water and in a very good way.

And so, I'm looking forward to the second term. There are many, many Bills in front of the Legislature right now, some actually have already been passed, that I have a very-- a personal interest.

Personal interest in being that there are good civil rights Bills for the state of Connecticut, the Parentage Act passed the house yesterday, as an example, and so the work continues. And I look forward to continuing this work.

SENATOR MOORE (22ND): Thank you. I've also had the honor of being before Nick's class at Sacred Heart, also. So, congratulations, I think you're an excellent candidate and I wish you well. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

NICHOLAS KAPOOR: Thank you.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thank you, Senator. Any other questions or comments from the Committee? Seeing none, Mr. Kapoor, thanks so much for being here and for your willingness to serve on such an important Committee here in the state of Connecticut.

As, if you were here with the prior candidate, before you go, there's one question we ask every nominee, is there anything in your past that you believe might prove embarrassing to the Committee, to the Governor of the state of Connecticut?

NICHOLAS KAPOOR: No.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thank you very much, Mr. Kapoor. Good to see you.

NICHOLAS KAPOOR: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Congratulations again.

NICHOLAS KAPOOR: Thank you.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): All right, last item on the agenda. This is a Senate Joint Resolution for review, Resolution confirming the reappointment of Allan. B. Taylor from the great capital city of Hartford as a member of the state of education. Mr. Taylor, great to see you. Oh, you're muted.

ALLAN TAYLOR: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): All right. Mr. Taylor, before we begin, if I can have you raise your right hand, please.

Do you promise, swear, and affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?

ALLAN TAYLOR: I do.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): All right, sir, the floor is yours.

ALLAN TAYLOR: Thank you very much. Good morning Chairman Duff, and Members of the Executive Nomination, Chairman Concepcion, Members of the Executive Nominations Committee. Thank you for this opportunity to appear before you.

I am honored to have been nominated by Governor Lamont for reappointment to the State Board of Education. I'm not an educator, but much of my life



has been deeply committed to public education and fully engaged in public service. I look forward to continuing that commitment for the next four years.

I went to elementary, middle, and high school in the North Haven school system. I then went to Harvard College, from which I graduated with high honors and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa.

I worked for a year in Washington at the former Department of Health Education and Welfare with a woman with whom I fell in love in my second-- in the second semester of my senior year in high school, Finish Smith College. We married a week after she graduated in 1971 and returned to Hartford, where I received my JD and a master's degree in Public Policy.

After two more years in Washington, where I was a law clerk for a judge on the US Court of Appeals and then for Justice Thurgood Marshall at the Supreme Court, we moved to Hartford. We have lived here for 44 years.

For most of that time, I practiced law with a firm of de Pitney and its predecessor, Ted Barry and Howard. For the last approximately two years of my working life, I served as counsel to the Hartford city council and as acting Corporation Counsel.

We raised two daughters, both of whom went through the Hartford school system, graduating from Hartford public high school. They both went on to Harvard College. To our immense joy and retrospective relief, our older daughter and her husband moved from Brooklyn to Hartford a few months before COVID hit, and their older son has started his way through the Hartford public school system.

If confirmed, this will be my seventh and last full term on the SBE, to which I was first appointed by Governor Weicker to fill a vacancy in August 1994.

Prior to my service on the State Board, I served three two-year terms on the Hartford City Council and one four-year term on the Hartford Board of Education.

While I've been on the SBE, I also served on the Board of Directors of the National Association of State Boards of Education, known as NASBE, as the Northeast area director in 2008-09 and again in 2011 and 2012.

I served as President elect of NASBE in 2010 and as its President in 2011. And in 2014, NASBE honored me with its Distinguished Service Award.

In addition, I chaired the Charter Revision Commission that changed Hartford's form of government from the city manager to a strong mayor, and gave the mayor the power and responsibility to appoint a majority of the Board of Education. I believe that change has contributed greatly to stabilizing and improving the governance of the city schools.

We're emerging from a year of disruption and isolation. Our teachers, administrators and other school personnel have earned their admiration of all of us for their efforts to support our students and to keep their education moving forward despite these unprecedented circumstances.

I expect that they and therefore we on the state board, we'll be dealing with the effects of this time for at least the next year or two. Doing so will require that we pay careful attention to what has been missed, not for the sake of holding anyone accountable, but as a prelude to determining how best to recover.

I look forward to working in that spirit with the other members of the State Board of Education, the

Commissioner and staff of the State Department of Education, and the members of our Local Boards of Education to assure that our students are fully prepared to succeed and thrive in the world that awaits them. Thank you.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thank you very much, Attorney Taylor. And again, congratulations on your re-nomination. And thank you for everything you've done here, for the city of Hartford in all your roles.

Just a couple quick questions. You know, I think you mentioned that you've been on the Board since 1994. How have you seen the role of the Board change in the almost three decades that you've served on the State Board of Education?

ALLAN TAYLOR: I don't know if it's been a change in the role of the Board or just a change in the way the Education System works as a whole. Obviously, they both welcomed and much lamented. No Child Left Behind Act created a different level of state accountability and our Board has responded as required by the Act.

I think that's probably been beneficial, overall, but it's certainly had its strains. And yet, I do think that it is important to say that we expect— Well, we need to provide our children in the poorest economically systems in the state is the same as what the students in the richest system of the state have been used to getting for decades. That is an excellent education with a focus on making sure that they are fully equipped to participate in the society and economy of the 21st century.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Senator Moore, actually, asked this to Mr. Kapoor, but I'll ask you the same thing. What do you think has been your biggest accomplishment in your time, your 27 years on the Board of Education?

ALLAN TAYLOR: Yeah. It's difficult to talk about an individual accomplishment, because the State Board of Education works as a collective entity.

So, I think that we have successfully accommodated the shift towards saying what matters, what we need to look at, are not inputs, but how our students are doing. That is, that if our focus of this State Department of Education's focus and our local districts focus has to be on the progress that our students have made, and everything else is intended to serve that progress.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thank you for that answer. And then my last question, you mentioned in your written testimony that this is your seventh and last full term SBE, is that your decision or are there term limits that prevent you from getting reappointed?

ALLAN TAYLOR: No. I think if they were term limits, I probably wouldn't be here right now. It is my recognition of the fact that I am into my mid-seventies and by the end of the term, I will be in my late-seventies, and yeah, there is only so much that one should attempt to do.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Well, we appreciate that and we appreciate, certainly, your commitment for not just the Board of Education, but everything you've done here in the city of Hartford and the Hartford region. So, thank you for that and congratulations again, on your nomination.

I will open it up to my colleagues, and first hand up I see it's, Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE (22ND): Congratulations, Mr. Taylor, on your nomination.

ALLAN TAYLOR: Thank you, Senator.

SENATOR MOORE (22ND): Thank you. I'm glad to be here at this moment while you're up for nomination for this position.

So, my question goes back to what Mr. Chairman asked. I know that everybody works as a team, I'm in the same era as you and I reflect on my life as to what is my contribution to whatever I've been involved in. When I walk away and I look over my shoulder, what can I say that I did that stood out from what everybody else did?

And that's what I kinda look at to ask people, especially people who are about the same age as I am. 'Cause sometimes it's personal, I look at my own self and say, when I walk away or if I'm getting ready to change careers at this point in my life, what do I look at? When I look back what do I see about what I did in my life, previous to that, that I have a challenge in front of me and I'm not just walking a path.

So I go back to asking you as an individual, what do you see as-- if you wanted somebody to remember what you've done in the past while you were at the Education-- State Board of Education, what would you say to them?

ALLAN TAYLOR: I would say that, I have been since I got onto the Board, a very consistent proponent of recognizing that we can have only one set of standards for the state of Connecticut, that we must expect our students in the least resourced public school in the most stressed cities of the state, one of which I've lived in, to be able to be enabled by their school system to enter the same competitive market and succeed as the students from the most richly locally resourced system in the state.

That it is the job of the state to even out the disparities that come with differences in wealth and

differences in housing and all of the things that define our different municipalities. That we can only have one set of standards, because the students coming out of our city schools are going to be competing in the same world as the students coming out of the richest suburban schools.

And I think it's now ingrained in the State Department of Education, and that that is, the only way we can proceed, is to expect that we will be able to produce the same results for all of our children.

SENATOR MOORE (22ND): So then I would ask, what role did you play in that happening?

ALLAN TAYLOR: I would say I played a significant role in that happening, because I believe that because my children went all the way through the Hartford schools, because their friends went all the way through the Hartford schools, because we continue to live the Hartford school-- in the Hartford school district in the city, because my grandchildren are beginning their course through the Hartford schools. So, yes, I think my position has been consistent and I think I played an important role.

SENATOR MOORE (22ND): All right. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Taylor. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

ALLAN TAYLOR: Thank you.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thank you, Senator. Next up, we have, Representative Yaccarino, followed by Representative Kennedy.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH): I could have the Ranking Member go first. I just-- Let her go first. Sorry, Mr. Chair.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): You got it. Representative Kennedy.

REP. KENNEDY (119TH): Thank you, Representative Yaccarino. And good morning, Mr. Taylor, and congratulations on your re-nomination. It's wonderful to see you.

We actually worked together many, many years ago when I was sat on a number of Committees with you when I was the State PTA president.

ALLAN TAYLOR: Yes.

REP. KENNEDY (119TH): So, I applaud and commend all the work that you've done for all of our children throughout the state of Connecticut.

And listening to you this morning, it just might sound corny, but it's very heartwarming, because we do want all of our children to succeed.

So my only really one question, because I've been getting a lot of questions over the last couple of weeks on the dual teaching in the districts and teachers saying that it's been very difficult.

Any thoughts from you on-- Moving forward, what's the State Department of Education, will you be coming out with something or will you just pass it down to the districts? How that's gonna work? And I don't know if I asked that the way you really would.

ALLAN TAYLOR: I'm not sure I know what you mean by the, did you say dual teaching?

REP. KENNEDY (119TH): So, the teachers that I spoken with, with dual teaching, they have students that are actually in the classroom and then they have their students that are coming in. So, through online-- excuse me, so they'll have to be doing their work with their students that are in the

classroom stop to get the video and everything set up.

And I've gotten a lot of conversation from teachers lately that it's just-- they feel like they're losing the kids in between those couple of minutes when they have to detract and go each way. So just wanted to hear your thoughts on that. Thank you, sir.

ALLAN TAYLOR: Thank you, that's a very interesting question, and I don't have an immediate answer. I hope is I'm sure everyone does that--

REP. KENNEDY (119TH): No problem at all. I didn't wanna put you on the spot, I just wanted to kind of put a bug in here. That's what I hear a lot from teachers in my district that I represent, so.

But I know going forward, you're gonna be continue to do great things with State Board of Education. I'm sorry to learn that it will be your last term, because I think very highly of you. So I think that's all my comments. Congratulations again, on your re-nomination. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

ALLAN TAYLOR: Thank you, Representative.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thank you, Representative. Representative Yaccarino.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH): Thank you, Mr. Chair. And thank you, Mr. Taylor. I've heard in your testimony, you grew up in North Haven. I'm our State Rep but I grew up in North Haven. We're proud of you.

ALLAN TAYLOR: Thank you.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH): I'll ask you some questions about education. You grew up where in North Haven, you mind saying or?



ALLAN TAYLOR: I lived on Cooper Road, which backs up to Ridgewell School.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH): Yeah, I grew up in Norberta. I live in Hartford Turnpike. But thank you for serving. And you've had a wonderful experience in life. It's great what you've done in the Public Education.

My question is, and I'm sure you're aware of this, there's gonna be, I think, setbacks over the last year of COVID for children, for education. And does the State Board of Ed work with local Boards of Ed and the teacher's union or just teachers in general, as far as bringing-- trying to bring kids up to speed?

Because, unfortunately, I think when you're not in the classroom, if you don't have the discipline to learn, it's-- people fall back and fall behind. And somehow we have to slowly catch back up.

And I do wanna also commend you, we should have always the same standards. And I think that's the right approach. And so, the standards are great, but is there any planning to bring the kids-- try to bring the kids back up to speed, 'cause I think they've lost a lot.

ALLAN TAYLOR: I fully agree with you, I think they must have. If they haven't, then our schools are defective. And we know they are effective.

So, the State Department of Education and its staff will have a better handle on that at this point than the State Board of Education, of course, I've been in this interim period for the last couple of months, so I haven't been working with the State Department so closely as I would otherwise. But we're gonna have to figure that out.

And it's why I mentioned that I thought we would need to-- and we pay careful attention to what has been missed, and that that's not because we're trying to hold people accountable for something that they couldn't possibly have avoided. But just so that we know how to pick up the pieces and make sure that the children who went through this time are permanently scarred by it, in terms of the quality of their education.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH): I appreciate that. I mean, I know there's talk of-- I don't think they're like either extra programming like summer schooling, but I just don't know if you have to have the parents on board with that also. And it's always a struggle that gets-- if you're lagging behind, you have to pick yourself up somewhere.

ALLAN TAYLOR: Yes.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH): And it's a struggle between the teachers and the parents wanting to rise above that. That's really all this time. That's great you're from North Haven.

You must have had Mr. Riggs as your principal in middle school.

ALLAN TAYLOR: I did, I did.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH): That's good.

ALLAN TAYLOR: his daughter, Jodi, was in my class.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH): I'm friends with Allan. Allan was a firefighter, career firefighter. Now he's a teacher in Lyman Hall. Allan is probably close to, he's got to be in his early 70s. Yeah, Mr. Riggs' oldest son. Well, only son, Allan.

But anyway, thank you for your indulgence. I really appreciate your experience and what you've done for

education, and it's great you're from North Haven, but you've-- I lived in Hartford for two years, years ago. I moved to Hartford and moved back to North Haven. But thank you so much, Mr. Chair, and thank you, Mr. Taylor.

ALLAN TAYLOR: Thank you.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thank you, Representative. We're gonna go Senator Looney, then Vice Chair Quinn, then Representative Vargas.

SENATOR LOONEY (11TH): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Good morning, Mr. Taylor, and congratulations to you on your service, I think you have been one of our state's most outstanding public citizens for almost 50 years now. And I wanna commend you for all that you've done during that time in so many ways.

And I recall a number of conversations with you. I've been a Member of this Committee for a long time and I recall your coming before the Committee a number of times over the years, every four years or so during a good part of that of that tenure.

And I think your service in the city of Hartford and for the state has been one of our great treasures over the decades, it's something that we've been able to rely on your wisdom.

A couple of questions. First of all, from the point of view of someone who's not the State Board of Ed since 1994, do you-- we have a constant tension in the state, do you believe that we have struck the right balance between state control and responsibility for public education versus local control? Or do you think-- I know there's a-- there are many, you know, strong advocates for local control and believe that every decision should be made at the local level, and there are some who believe that there's too much at the local level and

that means that they have sort of too many varying policies happening and that we ought to have a lot more statewide standardization and more state control, because it is, after all, the state has a constitutional responsibilities for public education in the state, which it delegates in part to municipalities, but the fundamental responsibility is the state's. Just your view on that, sir.

ALLAN TAYLOR: I think we are pretty close, at least, to having the appropriate balance. I think that with the said state setting statewide standards, let's say, here is what we expect our children to be able to do to be fully prepared to go out into the world when they leave our school systems.

And then largely, but not entirely, leaving it to the districts to-- they can supplement that if they wish, they can certainly determine how best to accomplish that, but with the state always looking to be sure that the students are moving towards those goals. I think that is an appropriate balancing of the responsibility, and I think it's largely working.

SENATOR LOONEY (11TH): Well, thank you. Just one additional question. How much do you believe that the land use and zoning practices in our state have contributed to the concentration of poverty in our cities and the concentration of the low income, very needy children and those who are educationally behind in our public schools in the urban areas?

ALLAN TAYLOR: Well, obviously not a function of the State Board of Education, but I think anybody who was in Hartford knows the answer to that question. It clearly made a huge difference, it's people in the city cannot afford housing in the suburbs, they will within the city.

SENATOR LOONEY (11TH): All right, good. Well, thank you, sir. And I wanna thank you again, for all of the great work that you have done in so many capacities over the years as a public citizen not only for city of Hartford, but of the state of Connecticut. Thank you again.

ALLAN TAYLOR: Thank you, Senator.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thank you, Senator. Vice Chair Quinn, followed by Representative Vargas.

REP. QUINN (82ND): Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'll defer to Representative Vargas, because he did have his hand up before me and I'll go after him, is fine.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Got it. Representative Vargas.

REP. VARGAS (6TH): Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. I just like to say that I know Mr. Taylor for many, many years. Both residents of the capital city of Hartford for many years, he in the west end me here in the south end. And both of us, our kids went through the Hartford public school system, we're very much involved in public education.

And, you know, from time to time, fate cast is in adversarial positions, but I've always had great respect for all the commitment that you've made, Allan, to the kids in the city of Hartford and the kids throughout the state of Connecticut. And I look forward to working with you in this year, your last term as a member of the Connecticut State Board of Education.

And I wish you well. And I hope that we're able to accomplish some great things before you retire. And I wish you all the great luck and congratulate you on your reappointment by the governor. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

ALLAN TAYLOR: Thank you very much, I look forward to working with you.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thank you, Representative Vargas. Vice Chair Quinn.

REP. QUINN (82ND): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And thank you, Mr. Taylor, for your many years of service and congratulations on your re-nomination.

Just in looking at your resume, the year you spent with Justice Marshall, that's an experience that so few had and I'm sure something that you may not have thought it at the time, but certainly looking back on it, you know, that has to have been just an unbelievable experience.

ALLAN TAYLOR: It certainly was. And I can assure you that every minute of the time I spent of that year, I thought about that and recognize that you can't walk into that building and go into an office there, as opposed to sitting in the courtroom without understanding how remarkable it is and what an essential role the court plays.

And then, of course, with Justice Marshalls', free court record of having changed our country in a way that if it hadn't changed, I don't think would be the democracy we are. Well, we wouldn't be. It was just an extraordinary experience. I consider myself very, very fortunate to have had it.

REP. QUINN (82ND): Oh, absolutely. One area that is important to me, and I've discussed it with other Board of Education nominees that have come for us this term is, do you think we are doing enough to present opportunities to our students in both the vocational, technical and vocational agriculture schools?

I'm a graduate of VOAG program at Lyman Hall, and even though I'm not necessarily doing anything in my

life relative to those four years, it was an invaluable experience for me. Do you think that we have enough slots in these schools or do we have enough schools?

Because I think that whether you're VO-Tech or VO-Ag, I think that you are learning skills that you don't get, necessarily, in the normal curriculum. And, you know, I want your thoughts on what we could be doing to afford more students the opportunities for those programs.

ALLAN TAYLOR: Well, thank you. I should know the vocational schools have been split off from the rest of the schools and have their own Board, so I'm less familiar with what's going on there than I would have been, say, well, before that happened, when it was all one Board.

When I was when I was in North Haven Junior High School and took the mandatory VO-AG courses, I was not particularly pleased, and I was totally incompetent at them.

So, when I got onto the State Board of Education, I started with a little bit of question about the value of that, and I very quickly recognized how extremely important it is and how good our technical education, agriculture education programs are. I think they're just outstanding.

I am not familiar with whether they're oversubscribed now, I know they used to be, and I imagine they still are. Yeah. The resource allocation question is one that we reasonably have, well, we leave to you folks in the Legislature. And we'll work with whatever you provide, and I'm sure that it's true for the Technical Education Board as well. But it's a very good program, it's outstanding nationally.

REP. QUINN (82ND): Thank you. And again, congratulations on your reappointment for what you have decided is going to be your last term, and thank you for your many, many years of service, it really is invaluable. Thank you.

ALLAN TAYLOR: Thank you.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thank you, Representative. Any other questions or comments from the Committee? Seeing none, Attorney Taylor, thanks so much for being with us. Congratulations again, on your nomination. And thank you, as many of my colleagues have said, thank you for everything you've done, not just for the city of Hartford, but the state of Connecticut.

But before we let you go, there is one question we ask of every nominee. Is there anything in your past that you believe might prove embarrassing to this Committee, to the Governor, or to the state of Connecticut?

ALLAN TAYLOR: No, there is not.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thanks again. Thanks again, Attorney Taylor, good to see you.

ALLAN TAYLOR: Thank you. It's been a pleasure.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): All right. With that and seeing no other item on the public hearing agenda, we will adjourn the public hearing. We will officially adjourn the public hearing and wait a few seconds to reconvene as a Committee.

CLERK: Whenever you're ready, Mr. Chair.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Okay, thank you, Madam Clerk. With that I will officially call the Executive Legislative Nominations Committee meeting for Tuesday, April 27th, 2021 to order.



Do I see, Mr. Chairman Duff is not here. Any comments from Vice Chair Quinn?

REP. QUINN (82ND): No, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): And Ranking Member, Representative Kennedy.

REP. KENNEDY (119TH): Ready to go, sir. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Wonderful. So, first item on the agenda is a House Resolution confirming the reappointment of John. W. Betkoski, III of Beacon Falls as Utility Commissioner of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority. Is there a motion?

REP. VARGAS (6TH): So moved.

REP. GODFREY (110TH): Second

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Motion made by Representative Vargas, seconded by Representative Godfrey. Any discussion?

Seeing none, Madam Clerk, please call the roll.

CLERK: Senator Duff. Representative Concepcion.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Representative Concepcion is a Yes.

CLERK: Could you please say that again, sir.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Sure. Representative Concepcion is a-- Representative Julio Concepcion is a yes.

CLERK: Perfect. Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY (11TH): Senator Martin Looney is a yes.

CLERK: Representative Quinn.

REP. QUINN (82ND): Representative Quinn votes yes.

CLERK: Senator Kelly. Representative Kennedy.

REP. KENNEDY (119TH): Representative Kennedy is yes.

CLERK: Representative D'Agostino. Senator Fonfara. Senator Formica. Representative Godfrey.

REP. GODFREY (110TH): And Representative Godfrey votes yes.

CLERK: Senator Hartley. Senator Kushner. Senator Miller. Representative Perillo. Senator Somers. Representative Yaccarino.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH): Representative Yaccarino is a yes.

CLERK: Representative Vargas.

REP. VARGAS (6TH): Representative Vargas votes yes.

CLERK: Thank you. That's your role, Mr. Chair.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thank you, Madam Clerk. Second item on the agenda is a House Joint Resolution confirming Nicolas Kapoor of Monroe to be a member of the Commission of Human Rights and Opportunities. Is there a motion?

REP. KENNEDY (119TH): so moved, Mr. Chairman. Kennedy.

REP. GODFREY (110TH): Second.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Motion made by Representative Kennedy, seconded by Representative Godfrey. Any discussion? Seeing none, Madam Clerk, please call the roll.

CLERK: Senator Duff.

SENATOR DUFF (25TH): I'll vote later, Wendy, as I'm driving. Okay?

CLERK: Thank you.

SENATOR DUFF (25TH): Okay.

CLERK: Thank you. Representative Concepcion.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Representative Concepcion is a yes.

CLERK: Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY (11TH): Senator Looney votes yes.

CLERK: Representative Quinn.

REP. QUINN (82ND): Representative Quinn votes yes.

CLERK: Senator Kelly. Representative Kennedy.

REP. KENNEDY (119TH): Kennedy votes yes.

CLERK: Representative D'Agostino. Senator Fonfara. Senator Formica. Representative Godfrey.

REP. GODFREY (110TH): Representative Godfrey votes yes.

CLERK: Senator Hartley. Senator Kushner. Senator Moore. Representative Perillo. Senator Somers. Representative Yaccarino.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH): Representative Yaccarino votes yes, excuse me.

CLERK: Representative Vargas.

REP. VARGAS (6TH): Representative Vargas votes yes.

CLERK: That's your roll, Mr. Chair.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thank you, Madam Clerk. Last item on the agenda is a Senate Joint Resolution confirming the reappointment of Allan. B. Taylor of Hartford as a member of the State Board of Education. Is there a motion?

REP. VARGAS (6TH): So moved. Mr. Chairman.

REP. KENNEDY (119TH): Second, Mr. Chairman.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Motion made by Representative Vargas, seconded by Representative Kennedy. Is there any discussion?

Seeing none, Madam Clerk, please call the roll.

CLERK: Senator Duff. Representative Concepcion.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Representative Concepcion is a yes.

CLERK: Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY (11TH): Senator Looney votes yes.

CLERK: One more time, Senator.

SENATOR LOONEY (11TH): Senator Looney votes yes.

CLERK: Thank you. Representative Quinn.

REP. QUINN (82ND): Representative Quinn votes yes.

CLERK: Senator Kelly. Representative Kennedy.

REP. KENNEDY (119TH): Kennedy votes yes.

CLERK: Representative D'Agostino. Senator Fonfara.  
Senator Formica. Representative Godfrey.

REP. GODFREY (110TH): And Representative Godfrey  
votes yes.

CLERK: Senator Hartley. Senator Kushner. Senator  
Moore. Representative Perillo. Senator Somers.  
Representative Yaccarino.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH): Representative Yaccarino  
votes yes.

CLERK: Representative Vargas.

REP. VARGAS (6TH): Representative Vargas votes yes.

CLERK: Thank you. That's your roll, Mr. Chair.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Thank you, Madam Clerk. With  
no other items on the agenda, that concludes our  
April 27th meeting of the Executive and Legislative  
Nominations Committee.

Madam Clerk, do we have a date for our next meeting?

CLERK: We do not have a date. There are a couple of  
appointments that are coming from the Governor's  
office, I do not have a date yet.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): So, stay tuned for our next  
meeting. We will try to get that date in time to you  
as soon as possible.

CLERK: Mr. Chairman,

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): Yes, Rep--

CLERK: Will we be holding-- I'm sorry, excuse me, what time will we be holding votes open until?

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): The Committee will stand in recess. I know that Senate has a long day today. We'll stand in recess till 3pm.

CLERK: Three pm. Thank you, sir.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): That works for everybody.

CLERK: Perfect. Thank you.

REP. YACCARINO (87TH): Yaccarino.

REP. CONCEPCION (4TH): So with that, we'll stand in recess till 3 pm. Have a wonderful day. Great to see everybody. Bye now.