



JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE

Friday, January 15, 2021

The House of Representatives was called to order at 2:12 o'clock p.m., in accordance with the provisions of House Rule 50, and under the authority of the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the House Minority Leader.

Prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Mary Alice Hughes of Haddam, Connecticut.

The following is the prayer:

Let us pray. Lord, we call upon Your divine assistance as we strive to formulate the laws of our State. Inspire our Legislators with the desire to seek first and foremost the good of our people and the needs of our poor. Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mary Alice Hughes of Haddam, Connecticut.

Pursuant to House Rule 50, the House of Representatives was called to order, by the Office of the House Clerk under the authority of the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the House Minority Leader.

It was moved that the House agenda dated Friday, January 15, 2021 be adopted, and the items on said agenda - illustrating Business on the Clerk's desk - were acted upon as indicated, and the matters contained in the agenda were incorporated by reference into the House Journal and the House Transcript.

FAVORABLE REPORTS OF JOINT STANDING COMMITTEES HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following House Joint Resolutions were received from the committees indicated, the resolutions read the second time and tabled for the Calendar:

JUDICIARY. H.J. No. 17 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF THE HONORABLE ROBYN STEWART JOHNSON OF GLASTONBURY TO BE A JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

JUDICIARY. H.J. No. 18 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF THE HONORABLE JASON M. LOBO OF SUFFIELD TO BE A JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

JUDICIARY. H.J. No. 19 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF THE HONORABLE ANDREW W. RORABACK OF LITCHFIELD TO BE A JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

JUDICIARY. H.J. No. 20 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF THE HONORABLE HOPE C. SEELEY OF COVENTRY TO BE A JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

JUDICIARY. H.J. No. 21 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF THE HONORABLE CYNTHIA K. SWIENTON OF CHESTER TO BE A SENIOR JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

JUDICIARY. H.J. No. 22 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF THE HONORABLE JAMES G. KENEFICK, JR. OF GUILFORD TO BE A STATE REFEREE.

JUDICIARY. H.J. No. 23 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF THE HONORABLE SHEILA A. HUDDLESTON OF WEST HARTFORD TO BE A JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

JUDICIARY. H.J. No. 24 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF THE HONORABLE JON C. BLUE OF HAMDEN TO BE A STATE REFEREE.

JUDICIARY. H.J. No. 25 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF THE HONORABLE KAREN A. GOODROW OF CHESTER TO BE A JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

JUDICIARY. H.J. No. 26 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF THE HONORABLE HENRY S. COHN OF WEST HARTFORD TO BE A STATE REFEREE.

JUDICIARY. H.J. No. 27 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF THE HONORABLE ANTHONY D. TRUGLIA, JR. OF STAMFORD TO BE A JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

JUDICIARY. H.J. No. 28 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF THE HONORABLE THOMAS G. MOUKAWSHER OF GROTON TO BE A JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

JUDICIARY. H.J. No. 29 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF THE HONORABLE MICHAEL P. KAMP OF HAMDEN TO BE A JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

JUDICIARY. H.J. No. 30 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF THE HONORABLE MICHAEL A. ALBIS OF EAST HAVEN TO BE A JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

JUDICIARY. H.J. No. 31 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF THE HONORABLE CHARLES T. LEE OF STAMFORD TO BE A STATE REFEREE.

**INTRODUCTION OF BILLS
HOUSE AND SENATE BILLS**

Pursuant to House Rule 50, 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.

APPROPRIATIONS

Proposed H.B. No. 5171 REP. CARPINO, 32nd DIST.; REP. BUCKBEE, 67th DIST.; REP. CARNEY, 23rd DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE TIMELY PASSAGE OF THE STATE BUDGET', to prevent legislators and constitutional officers from being paid unless a state budget is passed on time.

Proposed H.B. No. 5172 REP. TURCO, 27th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES TO MUNICIPALITIES FOR MANUFACTURING MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT', to assist municipalities with the cost of providing the manufacturing machinery and equipment exemption, provide property tax relief and encourage growth in manufacturing.

Proposed H.B. No. 5173 REP. CARPINO, 32nd DIST. 'AN ACT PROMOTING VOLUNTEERISM', to promote volunteerism in the state of Connecticut.

COMMERCE

Proposed H.B. No. 5174 REP. GREEN, 55th DIST. 'AN ACT ESTABLISHING A BIZ IN A BOX PROGRAM', to establish a Biz in a Box program to simplify business permitting, licensing and fees and to act as a clearinghouse for start-up businesses.

ENVIRONMENT

Proposed H.B. No. 5175 REP. HORN, 64th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE SITING OF SOLAR FACILITIES ON CERTAIN FARMLANDS', to mitigate the siting of solar facilities on prime farmlands and farmlands of state-wide importance.

Proposed H.B. No. 5176 REP. PERILLO, 113th DIST. 'AN ACT RESTRICTING THE USE OF CERTAIN STATE LANDS DURING THE HUNTING SEASON AND REQUIRING THE USE OF CERTAIN AMOUNTS OF FLUORESCENT ORANGE CLOTHING BY PERSONS ON SUCH STATE LANDS', to provide firearms and muzzleloader permittees with adequate space to perform hunting on state lands used for such purposes and to ensure the safety of all persons present on such state lands during such hunting season.

Proposed H.B. No. 5177 REP. GRESKO, 121st DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE HARVESTING OF HORSESHOE CRABS DURING A FULL MOON', to preserve horseshoe crab populations.

Proposed H.B. No. 5178 REP. TURCO, 27th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF HERBICIDES ALONG STATE HIGHWAYS', to restrict the use of herbicides along state highways.

ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Proposed H.B. No. 5179 REP. BUCKBEE, 67th DIST. 'AN ACT CREATING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE USE OF GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEMS AND OTHER TECHNOLOGIES IN ORDER TO TRACK DRUG OVERDOSES', to create a task force to study the use of global positioning systems and other technologies in order to track drug overdoses and assist first responders.

Proposed H.B. No. 5180 REP. NUCCIO, 53rd DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING A REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM FOR ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANY CUSTOMERS PURCHASING ELECTRIC GENERATORS WHICH POWER NECESSARY MEDICAL EQUIPMENT', to require that the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority initiate a proceeding to (1) develop an electric generator purchase reimbursement program for electric distribution company customers; (2) limit the customers' eligibility for food

and medicine reimbursement under existing programs; and (3) require electric distribution companies to notify the customers about storm-level forecasts.

FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING

Proposed H.B. No. 5181 REP. GREEN, 55th DIST. 'AN ACT EXEMPTING HANDICAP RAMPS FOR RESIDENTIAL USE FROM THE SALES AND USE TAXES', to exempt handicap ramps for residential use from the sales and use taxes.

Proposed H.B. No. 5182 REP. CHEESEMAN, 37th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE CAP ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT TAX CREDITS', to increase the amount of research and development tax credits a biotechnology business may utilize in an income year.

Proposed H.B. No. 5183 REP. CHEESEMAN, 37th DIST. 'AN ACT EXEMPTING PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT FROM THE SALES AND USE TAXES', to exempt personal protective equipment from the sales and use taxes.

Proposed H.B. No. 5184 REP. STEINBERG, 136th DIST. 'AN ACT IMPOSING A TAX ON SUGAR-SWEETENED BEVERAGES', to impose a tax on sugar-sweetened beverages.

Proposed H.B. No. 5185 REP. GRESKO, 121st DIST. 'AN ACT EXEMPTING ALL AIRCRAFT FROM THE SALES AND USE TAXES', to provide a uniform sales and use taxes exemption to all aircraft.

Proposed H.B. No. 5186 REP. TURCO, 27th DIST. 'AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CREDIT AGAINST THE PERSONAL INCOME TAX FOR CERTAIN FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYERS', to establish a credit against the personal income tax for certain first-time homebuyers.

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

Proposed H.B. No. 5187 REP. CARPINO, 32nd DIST. 'AN ACT DESIGNATING KINDNESS WEEK', to promote acts of kindness among the residents of the state.

INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE

Proposed H.B. No. 5188 REP. DELNICKI, 14th DIST. 'AN ACT IMPOSING AN INSURANCE SURCHARGE TO SUPPORT FIREFIGHTERS', to impose a surcharge on certain personal and commercial risk insurance policies for real property to generate revenue that is sufficient to fund: (1) Firefighter recruitment and training; and (2) a state-wide reserve of firefighting equipment and associated materials.

Proposed H.B. No. 5189 REP. TURCO, 27th DIST.; REP. BORER, 115th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING REQUIRED HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR BENEFITS RELATED TO BREAST CANCER', to: (1) Require health insurance coverage for diagnostic mammograms, ultrasound screenings and magnetic resonance imaging of breasts and breast biopsies for both women and men; (2) reduce the minimum age at which an individual or group health insurance policy is required to provide coverage for a baseline mammogram from thirty-five to thirty years of age; and (3) require health insurance coverage for the detection and diagnosis of breast cancer in an individual who has been treated for a childhood cancer, and received radiation treatment that was directed at the individual's chest as part of the treatment for said childhood cancer, regardless of such individual's age.

JUDICIARY

Proposed H.B. No. 5190 REP. CHEESEMAN, 37th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING SEXUAL HARASSMENT TRAINING IN THE WORKPLACE', to reduce duplicative sexual harassment training requirements for certain employees.

Proposed H.B. No. 5191 REP. FISHBEIN, 90th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE DUTY TO RETREAT IN A HOUSE OF RELIGIOUS WORSHIP', to eliminate the requirement that a person in a house of religious worship retreat before using deadly physical force to defend himself or herself or a third person.

Proposed H.B. No. 5192 REP. FISHBEIN, 90th DIST. 'AN ACT ALLOWING OFF-DUTY POLICE OFFICERS TO CARRY FIREARMS USED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF OFFICIAL DUTIES ON SCHOOL GROUNDS', to allow off-duty police officers to carry firearms used in the performance of official duties on school grounds.

Proposed H.B. No. 5193 REP. PETIT, 22nd DIST. 'AN ACT INCREASING THE PENALTY FOR ENGAGING IN SEXUAL CONTACT WITH AN ANIMAL', to increase the penalty for engaging in sexual contact with an animal.

Proposed H.B. No. 5194 REP. GONZALEZ, 3rd DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF COURT-APPOINTED CONSERVATORS AND THE RIGHTS OF CONSERVED PERSONS', to clarify the responsibilities of court-appointed conservators and the rights of a conserved person.

Proposed H.B. No. 5195 REP. BUCKBEE, 67th DIST. 'AN ACT CREATING A THREE STRIKES POLICY FOR RESIDENTIAL RENTERS AND OWNERS UPON WHOSE PROPERTY OPIOID OVERDOSES HAVE OCCURRED', to establish a "three-strikes" policy of criminal penalties increasing in severity for renters and owners of residential property upon which opioid overdoses have occurred.

Proposed H.B. No. 5196 REP. CONLEY, 40th DIST.; SEN. OSTEN, 19th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY THAT IS EXEMPT FROM A JUDGMENT CREDITOR', to increase the value of certain real and personal property that shall be exempt from a judgment creditor and provide that the cash surrender value of life insurance policies shall be exempt from a judgment creditor.

Proposed H.B. No. 5197 REP. BUCKBEE, 67th DIST. 'AN ACT INCREASING PENALTIES FOR THE ILLEGAL DISTRIBUTION OF FENTANYL', to increase the penalties for persons illegally distributing fentanyl and to hold such persons liable for any resulting overdose death.

LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Proposed H.B. No. 5198 REP. YACCARINO, 87th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING REIMBURSEMENT OF CERTAIN EXPENSES INCURRED BY EMPLOYEES DURING THE COURSE OF THEIR EMPLOYMENT', to allow for the reimbursement of certain expenses incurred by employees during the course of their employment.

Proposed H.B. No. 5199 REP. POLLETTA, 68th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX AND THE MINIMUM WAGE', to eliminate the consumer price index from the calculation of the minimum wage.

Proposed H.B. No. 5200 REP. MICHEL, 146th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF CONNECTICUT LABOR', to insure preferred hiring for construction and building trades based in-state on Connecticut-based development projects.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Proposed H.B. No. 5201 REP. PAVALOCK-D'AMATO, 77th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING MUAY THAI AS A FORM OF MIXED MARTIAL ARTS', to give the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection jurisdiction over Muay Thai matches as a form of mixed martial arts.

TRANSPORTATION

Proposed H.B. No. 5202 REP. GREEN, 55th DIST. 'AN ACT REQUIRING AN ANNUAL AUDIT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION', to require an annual audit of the Department of Transportation.

Proposed H.B. No. 5203 REP. DELNICKI, 14th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING FIREFIGHTER STAFFING STANDARDS AT BRADLEY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT', to ensure safety at Bradley International Airport by establishing minimum firefighter staffing standards.

Proposed H.B. No. 5204 REP. ZAWISTOWSKI, 61st DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROVISION OF SECURITY AT BRADLEY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT', to require the Connecticut Airport Authority, instead of the Department of Transportation, to enter into an agreement with the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection concerning the provision of security at Bradley International Airport.

Proposed H.B. No. 5205 REP. STEINBERG, 136th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE DIRECT SALES OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND THE USE OF ELECTRIC AND ZERO-EMISSION VEHICLES IN THE STATE', to permit the sale of motor vehicles directly to the consumer without requiring sales through an existing car dealer and to encourage the adoption of electric and zero-emission vehicles in the state.

BANKING

Proposed S.B. No. 150 SEN. KASSER, 36th DIST. 'AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CONNECTICUT INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY', to: (1) Establish a new quasi-public agency to facilitate and finance the development of public infrastructure projects with the highest quality standards at the lowest cost, (2) prioritize the public's interest in public infrastructure projects and build the foundation of a thriving economy, (3) create and retain construction and maintenance jobs in this state, and (4) encourage the use of innovation, efficiencies, best practices and technology to deliver the most functional, reliable and advanced public infrastructure projects to the residents of this state.

ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Proposed S.B. No. 151 SEN. BERTHEL, 32nd DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING EMERGENCY BACKUP POWER FOR CELL TOWERS', to equip cell towers with seventy-two hours of emergency backup power for use during a power outage.

Proposed S.B. No. 152 SEN. HASKELL, 26th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC DELIVERY TICKETS FOR GASOLINE, KEROSENE, FUEL OILS OR SIMILAR SUBSTANCES', to permit acceptance of electronic delivery tickets for gasoline, kerosene, fuel oils or similar substances.

FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING

Proposed S.B. No. 153 SEN. BERTHEL, 32nd DIST. 'AN ACT EXEMPTING FROM THE PERSONAL INCOME TAX PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF AGRICULTURAL

LAND DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS TO THE STATE', to exempt from the personal income tax proceeds from the sale of the development rights of any agricultural land to the state.

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

Proposed S.B. No. 154 SEN. KASSER, 36th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING VOTING RIGHTS', to (1) implement several changes designed to increase access to absentee ballots, (2) minimize the number of absentee ballots that are rejected, (3) improve timely tabulation of absentee ballots, and (4) prohibit the presence of firearms in or near polling places.

Proposed S.B. No. 155 SEN. HASKELL, 26th DIST.; REP. PHIPPS, 100th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE COUNTING OF INCARCERATED PERSONS FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS', to provide for the adjustment of population data so as to count incarcerated persons as residents of their last town of residence rather than as residents of the town in which the correctional facility is located.

GENERAL LAW

Proposed S.B. No. 156 SEN. DUFF, 25th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING CONSUMER PRIVACY', to protect consumer data privacy from unwanted sale and dissemination.

JUDICIARY

Proposed S.B. No. 157 SEN. HASKELL, 26th DIST. 'AN ACT PERMITTING THE USE OF THE ARBITRATION PROCESS TO RESOLVE CHILD CUSTODY, VISITATION AND SUPPORT ISSUES IN A DIVORCE PROCEEDING', to allow parties to a divorce proceeding to resolve issues relating to child custody, visitation and support through the arbitration process.

Proposed S.B. No. 158 SEN. ANWAR, 3rd DIST. 'AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY EVICTION AND FORECLOSURE PREVENTION ACT', to protect: (1) Tenants from eviction due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and (2) homeowners and certain landlords from foreclosures due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

TRANSPORTATION

Proposed S.B. No. 159 SEN. LESSER, 9th DIST. 'AN ACT REDEFINING "ANTIQUÉ, RARE OR SPECIAL INTEREST MOTOR VEHICLE" TO INCLUDE A REPLICÁ VEHICLE', to promote the interests of automobile collectors and enthusiasts.

Proposed S.B. No. 160 SEN. ANWAR, 3rd DIST. 'AN ACT STUDYING PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FARES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES', to ensure that publicly funded transportation providers are providing persons with disabilities affordable access to public transportation.

ADJOURNMENT

Pursuant to House Rule 50, the House adjourned at 2:14 o'clock p.m., to meet again at the Call of the Chair.