



JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE

Wednesday, February 3, 2021

The House of Representatives was called to order at 3:27 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 humbly come before You to seek Your blessing as we attend to the business of the State. Make us sensitive to the bills before us so that the good of the State may be served. 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 Wednesday, February 3, 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

The following communication was received from the Speaker of the House of Representatives, on the date indicated, read by the Clerk and referred to the Committee on Executive and Legislative Nominations.

January 19, 2021

TO THE HONORABLE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 10a-1a of the Connecticut General Statutes, it is my honor to nominate and submit to you for your advice and consent the name of **RICHARD BALDUCCI** of Deep River, Connecticut to be a member of the Board of Regents for Higher Education, to serve a term beginning immediately and expiring on June 30, 2023.

Matthew Ritter
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Date Received: January 29, 2021

**FAVORABLE REPORT OF HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
HOUSE RESOLUTION**

The following House Resolution was received from the House committee indicated, the resolution read the second time and tabled for the Calendar.

EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE NOMINATIONS. H.R. No. 10 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF ANGEL QUIROS, JR. OF WINDSOR TO BE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTION.

**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.

LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

H.B. No. 5158 (COMM) LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. 'AN ACT CONCERNING BREASTFEEDING IN THE WORKPLACE', to specify certain parameters for a room or other location in the workplace that accommodates employee breastfeeding.

APPROPRIATIONS

Proposed H.B. No. 6357 REP. PALM, 36th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING INCREASES FOR NONPROFIT SERVICE PROVIDERS', to make the state's nonprofits whole through a combination of state and federal dollars after years of underfunding.

COMMERCE

Proposed H.B. No. 6358 REP. HAMPTON, 16th DIST.; SEN. OSTEN, 19th DIST.; SEN. FORMICA, 20th DIST.; SEN. SLAP, 5th DIST.; REP. CASE, 63rd DIST.; REP. ABERCROMBIE, 83rd DIST.; REP. GILCREST, 18th DIST.; REP. EXUM, 19th DIST.; REP. FARRAR, 20th DIST.; REP. CONLEY, 40th DIST.; REP. WOOD, 29th DIST. 'AN ACT REQUIRING BUSINESSES RECEIVING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TO MAKE GOOD FAITH EFFORTS TO EMPLOY PERSONS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER OR INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES', to require businesses receiving financial assistance from the Department of Economic and Community Development to make good faith efforts to employ persons with autism spectrum disorder or intellectual and developmental disabilities.

EDUCATION

Proposed H.B. No. 6359 REP. PALM, 36th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE TEACHING OF CIVICS, DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP AND MEDIA LITERACY IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS', to (1) increase young citizens' understanding of how government operates by requiring the teaching of civics, digital citizenship and media literacy beginning in grade three, (2) help create more astute consumers of the news by educating students on how to discern legitimate news sources from inauthentic sources, and (3) educate students in the uses and misuses of social media platforms.

Proposed H.B. No. 6360 REP. PHIPPS, 100th DIST. 'AN ACT EXPANDING FREE PUBLIC EDUCATION', to ensure that Connecticut residents are fully educated and prepared for civic engagement and workforce participation.

ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Proposed H.B. No. 6361 REP. HUGHES, 135th DIST.; REP. MICHEL, 146th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING SMALL CELL SITING', to provide siting options to municipalities with regard to small cell installation.

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

Proposed H.B. No. 6362 REP. ELLIOTT, 88th DIST.; REP. HUGHES, 135th DIST.; REP. CANDELARIA, 95th DIST.; SEN. HASKELL, 26th DIST.; REP. WINKLER, 56th DIST.; REP. LEMAR, 96th DIST.; REP. GILCHREST, 18th DIST.; REP. PHIPPS, 100th DIST.; SEN. LOPES, 6th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS AND ELECTORAL PRIVILEGES', to implement several reforms regarding voting by incarcerated individuals who have not forfeited their electoral privileges.

HUMAN SERVICES

Proposed H.B. No. 6363 REP. RYAN, 139th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THERAPY DOGS FOR PERSONS WITH MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS', to ensure that individuals with mental health needs may have their therapy dogs certified and afford such individuals the same rights and protections afforded to individuals with other health-related needs who use a service dog.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Proposed H.B. No. 6364 REP. FOX, 148th DIST. 'AN ACT EXTENDING THE TIME OF EXPIRATION OF PERMITS OBTAINED PRIOR TO OR DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC', to extend the time of expiration of certain land use permits.

Proposed H.B. No. 6365 REP. KENNEDY, 119th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES', to enhance the ability of municipalities and the Attorney General to protect and preserve historic properties in the state.

Proposed H.B. No. 6366 REP. HALL, 59th DIST.; SEN. KISSEL, 7th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE REVIEW OF LICENSES FOR DEALING IN OR REPAIRING MOTOR VEHICLES', to require municipal planning and zoning commissions to review and approve applications for licenses for dealing in or repairing motor vehicles pursuant to current zoning regulations, prior to the approval of such licenses by the municipal zoning board of appeals.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Proposed H.B. No. 6367 REP. FOX, 148th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING INSPECTIONS BY LOCAL FIRE MARSHALS AND A DISPOSAL AND REPLACEMENT PROGRAM FOR FIREFIGHTING FOAM THAT CONTAINS PERFLUOROALKYL OR POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES', to (1) authorize a member of a fire unit, in addition to a local fire marshal, to conduct certain fire inspections, (2) establish a pilot program to train and permit other fire inspectors to conduct inspections of residential buildings designed to be occupied by at least three families but not more than six families, and (3) establish a state-funded disposal and replacement program for firefighting foam that contains a perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substance.

Proposed H.B. No. 6368 REP. MCGEE, 5th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW BOARDS', to grant policy implementation authority to municipal civilian police review boards.

BANKING

H.B. No. 6369 (RAISED) BANKING. 'AN ACT CONCERNING ISSUES RELATING TO MORTGAGES AND MECHANIC'S LIENS', to: (1) Require a mortgagee to deliver the mortgage release to the town clerk and a certified copy of such release to the mortgagor; (2) require a mortgagee to accept a payment for mortgage releases from an attorney's IOLTA account; and (3) allow property owners to substitute bonds for mechanic's liens without seeking judicial intervention.

H.B. No. 6370 (RAISED) BANKING. 'AN ACT PROHIBITING CERTAIN MORTGAGE LENDERS FROM CHARGING FEES TO BORROWERS AFTER RECEIVING A PAYMENT TO REINSTATE THE MORTGAGE', to prohibit Connecticut banks and Connecticut credit unions from charging certain fees to borrowers after receiving a payment to reinstate the mortgage.

H.B. No. 6371 (RAISED) BANKING. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRESUMPTION OF OWNERSHIP IN JOINT BANK ACCOUNTS', to protect the interests of elderly or deceased depositors and their heirs from inappropriate use of joint accounts.

H.B. No. 6372 (RAISED) BANKING. 'AN ACT EXEMPTING FROM EXECUTION CERTAIN FUNDS IN A JUDGMENT DEBTOR'S ACCOUNT', to require that financial institutions leave certain exempt funds in a judgment debtor's account.

H.B. No. 6373 (RAISED) BANKING. 'AN ACT PRESERVING THE INTERESTS OF PRIOR TITLE HOLDERS', to protect the interests of prior title holders by requiring the state of Connecticut to record certain liens against real property in the land records of the municipality or municipalities in which the real property is situated.

HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT

H.B. No. 6374 (RAISED) HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING SEXUAL MISCONDUCT ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES', to (1) protect students who report being a victim or witness of sexual assault, stalking or violence from disciplinary action by an institution of higher education, and (2) establish a Council on Sexual Misconduct Climate Survey to approve sexual misconduct climate surveys for use by institutions of higher education in the state.

H.B. No. 6375 (RAISED) HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE UNFUNDED PENSION LIABILITY PORTION OF THE FRINGE BENEFIT COST FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE CONSTITUENT UNITS OF THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION', to require the Comptroller to fund the unfunded pension liability portion of the fringe benefit cost for employees of the constituent units of the state system of higher education.

LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

H.B. No. 6376 (RAISED) LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. 'AN ACT CREATING A RESPECTFUL AND OPEN WORLD FOR NATURAL HAIR', to prohibit discrimination on the basis of ethnic hairstyles historically associated with race, by adopting what is commonly referred to as the CROWN Act.

H.B. No. 6377 (RAISED) LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. 'AN ACT CONCERNING LABOR PEACE AGREEMENTS AND A MODERN AND EQUITABLE CANNABIS WORKFORCE', to require labor peace agreements for the cannabis industry and to ensure a modern and equitable cannabis workforce.

H.B. No. 6378 (RAISED) LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. 'AN ACT CODIFYING PREVAILING WAGE CONTRACT RATES', to codify prevailing wage contract rates.

H.B. No. 6379 (RAISED) LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. 'AN ACT CONCERNING WORKERS' RIGHTS', to protect workers by specifying certain conditions for covenants not to compete.

H.B. No. 6380 (RAISED) LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISCLOSURE OF SALARY RANGE FOR A VACANT POSITION', to require employers to disclose salary ranges for vacant positions and to provide comparable pay for comparable work.

H.B. No. 6381 (RAISED) LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. 'AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE REGARDING THE STATE WORKFORCE AND RETIRING EMPLOYEES', to establish a task force to study the state workforce and retiring employees.

H.B. No. 6382 (RAISED) LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. 'AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE PROBATE COURT SYSTEM', to allow Probate Court employees to be recognized as state employees for the purpose of collective bargaining.

H.B. No. 6383 (RAISED) LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. 'AN ACT CONCERNING CALL CENTERS AND NOTICE OF CLOSURES', to discourage employers from closing call centers in this state.

APPROPRIATIONS

Proposed S.B. No. 819 SEN. FLEXER, 29th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE FISCAL STABILIZATION OF THE TOWN OF SCOTLAND', to increase state moneys to the town of Scotland to ensure the fiscal solvency of the municipality.

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

Proposed S.B. No. 820 SEN. LESSER, 9th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING A STATE VOTING RIGHTS ACT', to implement several changes at the state level designed to fill gaps in the federal Voting Rights Act.

FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING

Proposed S.B. No. 821 SEN. DAUGHERTY ABRAMS, 13th DIST.; SEN. ANWAR, 3rd DIST.; SEN. CABRERA, 17th DIST.; SEN. FLEXER, 29th DIST.; SEN. KUSHNER, 24th DIST.; SEN. LESSER, 9th DIST.; SEN. LOPES, 6th DIST.; SEN. MOORE, 22nd DIST.; SEN. WINFIELD, 10th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE REFORMATION OF CERTAIN TAXES AND TAX EQUITY', to reform certain taxes to reduce taxes for middle-class families and enable investments in education, housing, health care and long-term care services, and to require the Labor Commissioner to make a one-time direct payment of five hundred dollars to individuals who experienced economic hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic and received unemployment compensation benefits between March 15, 2020, and December 31, 2020, inclusive.

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

Proposed S.B. No. 822 SEN. SAMPSON, 16th DIST.; REP. MASTROFRANCESCO, 80th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PHOTO

IDENTIFICATION FOR VOTING', to (1) require that statements signed by electors, in lieu of presenting certain identification at the polls, be audited for accuracy, and (2) make several changes regarding campaign finance.

Proposed S.B. No. 823 SEN. HWANG, 28th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING PRIMARIES FOR NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES', to move primaries held in even-numbered years to the second Tuesday after the General Assembly adjourns sine die.

HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT

S.B. No. 824 (RAISED) HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT. 'AN ACT REQUIRING TRAINING FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BOARDS OF THE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE', to require training for board members responsible for governing any institution of higher education in the state.

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

Proposed S.B. No. 825 SEN. LESSER, 9th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION, ABSENTEE VOTING AND LOCAL ADMINISTRATION OF ELECTIONS AND REFERENDA', to (1) implement automatic voter registration at additional state agencies, (2) allow absentee voting during the COVID-19 pandemic, (3) make permanent the use of absentee ballot drop boxes, (4) increase funding for local election administrators, and (5) make certain changes regarding municipal referenda.

HUMAN SERVICES

Proposed S.B. No. 826 SEN. LESSER, 9th DIST. 'AN ACT CREATING A CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST LICENSED NURSING HOME FACILITIES FOR NEGLIGENCE RELATED TO COVID-19', to establish a new cause of action against licensed nursing home facilities for negligence related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Proposed S.B. No. 827 SEN. FLEXER, 29th DIST. 'AN ACT REQUIRING EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF STATE FUNDS FOR DIAPER BANKS AND AUTHORIZING DIAPER BANKS TO SET THEIR OWN ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR NEEDY PARENTS TO RECEIVE ASSISTANCE', to ensure equitable distribution of state funds to diaper banks state-wide and authorize such diaper banks to set their own eligibility guidelines for needy parents to receive assistance.

JUDICIARY

Proposed S.B. No. 828 SEN. OSTEN, 19th DIST.; REP. ABERCROMBIE, 83rd DIST.; REP. COOK, 65th DIST.; SEN. CASSANO, 4th DIST.; SEN. HARTLEY, 15th DIST.; SEN. MARONEY, 14th DIST.; SEN. NEEDLEMAN, 33rd DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING CHANGES TO PUBLIC ACT 20-1 OF THE JULY SPECIAL SESSION, ALSO KNOWN AS THE POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY ACT', to amend provisions of public act 20-1 of the July special session, also known as the Police Accountability Act.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Proposed S.B. No. 829 SEN. OSTEN, 19th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING USE OF SPACE LOCATED IN A FLOODPLAIN', to allow certain space located slightly below the five-hundred-year flood elevation to be used.

Proposed S.B. No. 830 SEN. OSTEN, 19th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING FORECLOSURE BY MUNICIPALITIES', to grant municipalities title free and clear of all encumbrances in cases of absolute foreclosure.

BANKING

S.B. No. 831 (RAISED) BANKING. 'AN ACT CONCERNING COMMERCIAL MORTGAGE LOAN ORIGINATORS', to exempt certain commercial mortgage loan originators from the provisions of sections 31-76b to 31-76j, inclusive, of the general statutes.

S.B. No. 832 (RAISED) BANKING. 'AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE BANKING STATUTES', to require the Department of Banking to submit recommendations for various revisions to the banking statutes to the General Assembly.

S.B. No. 833 (RAISED) BANKING. 'AN ACT INCREASING THE ELECTION OF REMEDIES THRESHOLD FOR MOTOR VEHICLES AND BOATS', to increase the election of remedies threshold for certain motor vehicles and boats.

PUBLIC HEALTH

S.B. No. 834 (RAISED) PUBLIC HEALTH. 'AN ACT CONCERNING WATER QUALITY NOTIFICATION', to require the owner of a property supplied by a public well or a well for semipublic use to notify each tenant and lessee of such property of the results of certain water quality tests.

S.B. No. 835 (RAISED) PUBLIC HEALTH. 'AN ACT CONCERNING DECEPTIVE ADVERTISING PRACTICES OF LIMITED SERVICES PREGNANCY CENTERS', to prohibit deceptive advertising practices by limited services pregnancy centers. .

LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

S.B. No. 836 (RAISED) LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. 'AN ACT CONCERNING PERMANENT PARTIAL DISABILITY AND PENSION OFFSETS', to prohibit municipal or special taxing district pension systems from diminishing or eliminating certain retiree's rights and benefits.

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

Proposed S.J. No. 13 SEN. LESSER, 9th DIST. 'RESOLUTION PROPOSING A STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO ALLOW SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLDS TO PREREGISTER TO VOTE, REGIONAL VOTING CENTERS AND EARLY VOTING', to amend the Constitution of the state to allow sixteen-year-olds to preregister to vote, regional voting centers and early voting.

ADJOURNMENT

Pursuant to House Rule 50, the House adjourned at 3:29 o'clock p.m., to meet again at the Call of the Chair.

CHANGES OF REFERENCE HOUSE BILLS

The following reports on the House Bills, recommending a change of reference were received from the committees indicated, the reports of the committees accepted, and the bills referred as recommended:

COMMERCE. Proposed H.B. No. 5151 AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR THE RAILROAD MUSEUM OF NEW ENGLAND IN THOMASTON.

The bill was then referred to the Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding.

COMMERCE. Proposed H.B. No. 5218 AN ACT CONCERNING ADVANCED MANUFACTURING WORKFORCE TRAINING AT GATEWAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

The bill was then referred to the Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement.

**BUSINESS FROM THE SENATE
CHANGES OF REFERENCE
SENATE BILLS**

The following reports recommending a change of reference were received from the committees indicated, the reports of the committees accepted in concurrence, and the bills referred as recommended:

COMMERCE. Proposed S.B. No. 166 AN ACT EXTENDING R.E. VAN NORSTRAND NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE ACT TAX CREDITS TO S CORPORATIONS.

The bill was then referred to the Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding.

COMMERCE. Proposed S.B. No. 343 AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEARN HERE, LIVE HERE PROGRAM.

The bill was then referred to the Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding.