



## JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE

Thursday, February 4, 2021

The House of Representatives was called to order at 3:28 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, help us to be attentive to the matters placed before us. Let us listen to the voice of our citizens and put their best interests first. 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 Thursday, February 4, 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.

### COMMUNICATIONS FROM HIS EXCELLENCY, THE GOVERNOR

The following communications were received from His Excellency, the Governor, on the date indicated, read by the Clerk and referred to the Committee on Executive and Legislative Nominations.

February 4, 2021

TO THE HONORABLE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Pursuant to Section 4-1 and 22a-261 of the Connecticut General Statutes, I have the honor and privilege to nominate and, with your advice and consent, appoint **SUZETTE BROWN** of Bloomfield to the Board of Directors of the Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority, as a member, in succession to Robert L. Painter, to serve a term ending June 30, 2024, or until a successor is appointed and has qualified, whichever is longer.

**NED LAMONT**  
Governor

TO THE HONORABLE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Pursuant to Section 4-1 and 22a-261 of the Connecticut General Statutes, I have the honor and privilege to nominate and, with your advice and consent, appoint **BERT J. HUNTER** of Greenwich to the Board of Directors of the Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority, as a person with a high level of expertise in the field of energy, in succession to Patricia Widlitz, to serve a term ending June 30, 2024, or until a successor is appointed and has qualified, whichever is longer.

**NED LAMONT**  
Governor

**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.

**INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE**

**H.B. No. 5013 (COMM) INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE. 'AN ACT CONCERNING MANDATED HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFIT REVIEW'**, to alter the manner in which the General Assembly enacts new mandated health insurance benefits.

**PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY**

**H.B. No. 5412 (COMM) PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY. 'AN ACT NAMING THE TROOP K STATE POLICE BARRACKS IN COLCHESTER IN HONOR OF LINDA A. ORANGE'**, to name the Troop K State Police Barracks in honor of late State Representative Linda A. Orange.

**ENVIRONMENT**

**H.B. No. 6384 (RAISED) ENVIRONMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES' EFFECTS ON LAKES AND RELATED FUNDING'**, to examine, address and decrease the effects of invasive aquatic species on the state's lakes.

**H.B. No. 6385 (RAISED) ENVIRONMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING ENHANCEMENTS TO CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS'**, to (1) include chicken eggs as part of the state-funded Connecticut Farmers' Market/WIC and Senior Nutrition programs, (2) increase fines for violating certain farm product grading and marketing requirements, (3) provide the Commissioner of Agriculture with infraction authority for the violation of statutes under the commissioner's authority, and (4) increase vouchers for said nutrition programs.

**H.B. No. 6386 (RAISED) ENVIRONMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY FOR TIRES, SMOKE DETECTORS AND CERTAIN GAS CYLINDERS'**, to manage and divert items such as tires, smoke detectors and gas cylinders within the state's solid waste stream.

**INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE**

**H.B. No. 6387 (RAISED) INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE. 'AN ACT CONCERNING INSURANCE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST LIVING ORGAN DONORS'**, to: (1) Prohibit certain insurers from engaging in certain discrimination against living

organ donors; and (2) provide that prohibited discrimination against living organ donors constitutes a violation of the Connecticut Unfair Insurance Practices Act.

**H.B. No. 6388 (RAISED) INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING CAPTIVE INSURANCE COMPANIES'**, to: (1) Amend certain definitions concerning captive insurance companies; (2) provide tax amnesty to an insured that establishes a branch captive insurance company in, or transfers the domicile of its alien captive insurance company or foreign captive insurance company to, this state; (3) modify the licensing requirements for certain captive insurance companies; (4) modify the capitalization requirements for certain captive insurance companies; (5) authorize the commissioner to exempt certain branch captive insurance companies from minimum capitalization requirements; (6) authorize foreign captive insurance companies to register to do business in this state; (7) modify the annual financial reporting requirements applicable to captive insurance companies; (8) authorize the commissioner to (A) waive the annual financial reporting requirement for certain alien captive insurance companies and foreign captive insurance companies, (B) less frequently examine the financial condition of captive insurance companies, (C) waive the periodic financial examination of pure captive insurance companies, and (D) adopt additional regulations concerning certain captive insurance companies; (9) provide that a captive insurance company may assume reinsurance from any other insurer regardless of whether such reinsurance is for risks that the captive insurance company is authorized to write directly; and (10) extend the term of certificates of dormancy issued to captive insurance companies and modify the requirements applicable to dormant captive insurance companies.

**H.B. No. 6389 (RAISED) INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE. 'AN ACT CONCERNING EXPLANATIONS OF BENEFITS'**, to: (1) Require health insurers that deliver, issue for delivery, renew, amend or continue certain health insurance policies in this state to (A) issue explanations of benefits to consumers in certain circumstances, and (B) disclose information concerning explanations of benefits to consumers; and (2) require that explanations of benefits be maintained as confidential in certain circumstances.

**H.B. No. 6390 (RAISED) INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE. 'AN ACT CONCERNING HEALTH INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENT PARITY FOR PODIATRISTS'**, to provide that a health insurer shall not pay a reduced reimbursement to a licensed health care provider who provides a covered benefit within the provider's scope of practice solely because the provider is a podiatrist.

**H.B. No. 6391 (RAISED) INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE GENERAL STATUTES'**, to: (1) Modify reporting requirements, and impose a late filing fee and penalty, concerning the public health fee; (2) eliminate an annual report from the Insurance Commissioner to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to insurance concerning (A) fires and explosions caused by arson, (B) the workers' compensation fraud unit within the office of the Chief State's Attorney, (C) motor vehicle insurance fraud, and (D) health insurance fraud; (3) modify the Insurance Data Security Law; (4) modify the payment schedule for assessments against domestic insurance companies and other domestic entities; and (5) modify the procedures governing external and expedited external reviews of adverse determinations and final adverse determinations.

**H.B. No. 6392 (RAISED) INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING CREDIT FOR REINSURANCE'**, to adopt the Insurance Department's recommendations regarding credit for reinsurance.

**H.B. No. 6393 (RAISED) INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS**

**REGARDING SURETY BAIL BOND AGENTS'**, to: (1) Automatically cancel a surety bail bond agent's license if the agent does not pay an annual examination fee; (2) reschedule an annual transfer to the General Fund from the surety bail bond agent examination account; and (3) authorize the Insurance Commissioner to adopt regulations concerning continuing education requirements for surety bail bond agents.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

**H.B. No. 6394 (RAISED) PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY. 'AN ACT CONCERNING INTEREST ON LOTTERY SALES AGENT DELINQUENCY ASSESSMENTS'**, to (1) specify that simple interest is charged on delinquency assessments of lottery sales agents, and (2) allow an agent whose delinquency assessment remains due and was subject to compounding interest to request a hardship waiver from the Commissioner of Consumer Protection to recalculate the interest owed.

**H.B. No. 6395 (RAISED) PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY. 'AN ACT CONCERNING SMALL HOT WATER HEATERS'**, to exempt small hot water heaters from the provisions of chapter 540 of the general statutes.

#### ENVIRONMENT

**H.J. No. 53 (COMM) ENVIRONMENT. 'RESOLUTION PROPOSING THE ADOPTION OF THE LONG ISLAND SOUND BLUE PLAN'**, to approve the Long Island Sound Blue Plan.

#### INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE

**S.B. No. 89 (COMM) INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE. 'AN ACT CONCERNING TRAVEL INSURANCE AND SUICIDE'**, to prohibit insurance companies that issue travel insurance policies in this state from excluding coverage because the insured or the insured's spouse, child, dependent relative who resides in the insured's household or traveling companion commits suicide.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

**S.B. No. 121 (COMM) PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY. 'AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO DIAPER CHANGING STATIONS IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS'**, to amend the State Building Code to require diaper changing tables that are accessible to women and men in all newly constructed or substantially renovated public buildings that include at least one restroom open to the public.

**S.B. No. 122 (COMM) PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY. 'AN ACT ESTABLISHING A UNIT WITHIN THE DIVISION OF STATE POLICE TO INVESTIGATE HATE CRIMES AND CRIMINAL ACTS COMMITTED BY EXTREMIST GROUPS'**, to establish a unit within the State Police to investigate hate crimes and criminal acts committed by extremist groups.

**S.B. No. 123 (COMM) PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY. 'AN ACT INCREASING THE PENALTY FOR THE INTENTIONAL INJURY OF A POLICE ANIMAL OR DOG IN A VOLUNTEER CANINE SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM'**, to increase the penalty for intentionally injuring a police animal or dog in a volunteer canine search and rescue team.

#### ENVIRONMENT

**S.B. No. 837 (RAISED) ENVIRONMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF PERFLUOROALKYL OR POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES IN CLASS B**

**FIREFIGHTING FOAM'**, to prohibit the use of firefighting foam containing PFAS for training purposes and establish a take-back program for such products.

**S.B. No. 838 (RAISED) ENVIRONMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING MINOR REVISIONS TO CERTAIN FISHING PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION'**, to better enable veterans groups to engage in fishing and to otherwise allow for more fishing opportunities.

**S.B. No. 839 (RAISED) ENVIRONMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS AND PESTICIDE REGULATION IN THE STATE'**, to establish an electronic method for the retention and searching of records of pesticide applications made in the state.

**S.B. No. 840 (RAISED) ENVIRONMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING CONNECTICUT'S SHELLFISH RESTORATION PROGRAM AND THE CONNECTICUT SEAFOOD COUNCIL'**, to enhance the state's shellfish restoration program through certain contracting authority and to reconstitute the Connecticut Seafood Council.

#### INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE

**S.B. No. 841 (RAISED) INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT'S RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE INSURANCE STATUTES'**, to: (1) Prohibit insurers, health care centers and fraternal benefit societies from requiring, or using the results of, genetic testing in connection with annuities and certain insurance policies; (2) provide that prohibited requirements for, and uses of, genetic testing violate the Connecticut Unfair Insurance Practices Act; (3) specify the reasons for which certain insurers may cancel certain homeowners insurance policies and manner in which such insurers must cancel such policies; (4) require the Insurance Commissioner to disapprove certain credit life insurance and credit accident and health insurance forms if the loss ratios contained in such forms do not satisfy certain criteria; and (5) reduce the total number of hours of study that an applicant for an insurance producer license must successfully complete for each line of insurance for which such applicant is seeking such license.

**S.B. No. 842 (RAISED) INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE. 'AN ACT CONCERNING HEALTH INSURANCE AND HEALTH CARE IN CONNECTICUT'**, to: (1) Authorize the Comptroller to offer health coverage to plan participants and beneficiaries in this state under a multiemployer plan, nonprofit employers and their employees and small employers and their employees; (2) assess an annual fee against certain insurers, health care centers and exempt insurers; (3) require the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange to (A) administer the "Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange account", (B) consult with the Office of Health Strategy to develop and, if approved, implement a plan to (i) establish a subsidiary, (ii) seek a state innovation waiver, and (iii) use the moneys deposited in said account for the purposes set forth in the plan, (C) consult with the Commissioner of Social Services to develop and, if approved, implement a methodology to determine eligibility for the working persons with disabilities program, and (D) determine whether certain individuals referred to the exchange by the Labor Commissioner are eligible for free or subsidized health coverage or other assistance or benefits and, if such individuals are eligible for such coverage, assistance or benefits, enroll such individuals in such coverage, assistance or benefits; (4) establish the "Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange account"; (5) require certain qualified health plans offered through the exchange to (A) provide coverage for certain benefits, (B) have a minimum actuarial value of at least seventy per cent, and (C) provide enrollees with access to the broadest provider network available under the qualified health plans offered by the health carrier through the exchange; (6) require the Office of Health Strategy to (A) annually determine, and disclose to the Office of Policy and Management, the amount of an annual assessment against certain insurers, health care centers and exempt insurers, and (B) develop, and submit to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to insurance for approval, a plan for the exchange to (i) establish a subsidiary to create a marketplace for health carriers to offer affordable

health insurance coverage to persons who are ineligible for coverage under the qualified health plans offered through the exchange, (ii) seek a state innovation waiver to (I) reduce the cost of health insurance in this state, (II) make health insurance coverage available to persons in this state who are ineligible for coverage under a qualified health plan offered through the exchange, and (III) allow persons to receive coverage under the working persons with disabilities program through the exchange, and (iii) use the moneys deposited in the "Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange account" to (I) reduce the cost of qualified health plans offered through the exchange, (II) make coverage affordable for persons who are ineligible for coverage under a qualified health plan offered through the exchange, and (III) implement the state innovation waiver if the federal government issues su

**S.B. No. 843 (RAISED) INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE REGULATION OF INSURANCE IN THIS STATE'**, to: (1) Provide that certain health carriers (A) shall offer Medicare supplement insurance policies and certificates for plan "D" to persons eligible for Medicare by reason of disability, and (B) may deliver Medicare supplement insurance policies and certificates for plan "D" to qualified Medicare beneficiaries; (2) amend certain provisions of the general statutes to more closely conform to the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015, P.L. 114-10; (3) extend the sunset date for personal risk insurance rate filings; and (4) eliminate the territorial cap on increases for personal risk insurance rate filings.

**S.B. No. 844 (RAISED) INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING VALUE-ADDED PRODUCTS AND SERVICES AND PROHIBITED INSURANCE PRACTICES'**, to: (1) Specify the circumstances under which certain insurance companies, societies, attorneys, agents, insurance producers, solicitors and other persons and parties may (A) offer or provide certain value-added products and services, and (B) offer or give noncash gifts, items or services to, or on behalf of, customers; and (2) prohibit certain insurance companies, societies, attorneys, agents, insurance producers, solicitors and other persons and parties from (A) offering or providing insurance as an inducement to purchase other insurance policies, and (B) using certain words and phrases in advertisements.

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY**

**S.B. No. 845 (RAISED) PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE FIRE PREVENTION AND FIRE SAFETY CODES, MEMBERSHIP OF THE CODE TRAINING AND EDUCATION BOARD OF CONTROL, APPOINTMENT OF A TEMPORARY FIRE MARSHAL AND REPORTS FILED AFTER A FIRE, EXPLOSION OR OTHER FIRE EMERGENCY'**, to (1) rename an advisory committee as the Fire Prevention Code Committee; (2) clarify the application and enforcement of the State Fire Prevention Code and the Fire Safety Code; (3) revise membership of the Code Training and Education Board of Control; (4) allow a municipality to appoint any person with a fire marshal certification to serve as a temporary fire marshal; (5) delete a provision in the report that fire chiefs or local fire marshals must submit to the State Fire Marshal after a fire, explosion or other fire emergency occurs; and (6) make technical changes.

**S.B. No. 846 (RAISED) PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE CERTIFICATION OF INDEPENDENT INSPECTORS AND INSPECTION FIRMS TO PERFORM STATE BUILDING CODE INSPECTIONS'**, to establish a program to certify independent inspectors and inspection firms to perform inspections under the State Building Code.

#### **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:

**VETERANS' AFFAIRS. Proposed H.B. No. 5595 AN ACT EXEMPTING VETERANS FROM THE FEES FOR VETERAN SPECIALTY LICENSE PLATES.**

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

**VETERANS' AFFAIRS. Proposed H.B. No. 5734 AN ACT EXEMPTING CERTAIN ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS FROM PAYING FEES FOR MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATOR LICENSES AND REGISTRATIONS.**

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

**COMMERCE. Proposed H.B. No. 5757 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRESERVATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES.**

The bill was then referred to the Committee on Planning and Development.

**COMMERCE. Proposed H.B. No. 6118 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM FOR RECENT GRADUATES OF INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**

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

**COMMERCE. Proposed H.B. No. 6120 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CONNECTICUT CENTER FOR WORKER OWNERSHIP.**

The bill was then referred to the Committee on Labor and Public Employees.

**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. 622 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO INCREASE THE ABILITY OF EASTERN CONNECTICUT TO PRODUCE FARM-TO-TABLE FOOD.**

The bill was then referred to the Committee on Environment.

**COMMERCE. Proposed S.B. No. 623 AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF AN INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION CENTER IN THE TOWN OF MYSTIC.**

The bill was then referred to the Committee on Transportation.

**HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT. Proposed S.B. No. 651 AN ACT ALLOWING MUNICIPALITIES TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE CONNECTICUT HIGHER EDUCATION TRUST AND 529 PLANS.**

The bill was then referred to the Committee on Children.