



JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE

Thursday, February 25, 2021

The House of Representatives was called to order at 4:29 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. Heavenly Creator, the needs of our constituents are the priority for us every day. Guide us to create legislation that will be beneficial for the good of all our citizens. 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 25, 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 HIS EXCELLENCY, THE GOVERNOR

The following communication was 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 25, 2021

TO THE HONORABLE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Pursuant to Sections 4-5 through 4-7 and 10-1 of the Connecticut General Statutes, I have the honor and privilege to nominate and, with your advice and consent, reappoint **DONALD F. HARRIS JR.** of Bloomfield to be a voting member of the State Board of Education, to serve a term ending February 28, 2025, or until a successor is appointed and qualified, whichever is

NED LAMONT
Governor

**COMMUNICATION FROM HIS EXCELLENCY,
THE GOVERNOR**

The following communication was received from His Excellency, the Governor, on the date indicated, read by the Clerk and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

February 25, 2021

Corrected Letter

TO THE HONORABLE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Pursuant to Article Twenty-Fifth of the Amendments to the Constitution of the State and Sections 51-44a(h) and 51-165 of the Connecticut General Statutes, I have the honor to nominate for appointment by you **MAXIMINO MEDINA, JR.** of Bridgeport to be a Judge of the Superior Court, to serve for a term of eight years from the date of confirmation by you in succession to the Honorable John D. Boland, who reached the age of 70 and elected senior judge status.

NED LAMONT
Governor

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

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

EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE NOMINATIONS. H.J. No. 61 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF THE HONORABLE ANTHONY P. FUSCO OF BROOKFIELD TO BE A MEMBER OF THE JUDICIAL REVIEW COUNCIL AS AN ALTERNATE FAMILY SUPPORT MAGISTRATE.

**FAVORABLE REPORTS OF JOINT STANDING COMMITTEES
HOUSE BILLS**

The following House Bills were received from the committees indicated, the bills read the second time and tabled for the Calendar and printing:

GENERAL LAW. Substitute for H.B. No. 5307 (RAISED) (File No. 3) AN ACT CONCERNING PRICE GOUGING.

GENERAL LAW. H.B. No. 5311 (RAISED) (File No. 4) AN ACT CONCERNING VESSELS, VEHICLES AND IN-STATE TRANSPORTER'S PERMITS FOR ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR.

GENERAL LAW. Substitute for H.B. No. 5312 (RAISED) (File No. 5) AN ACT CONCERNING ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF CURRENCY AS PAYMENT IN LOCAL BUSINESSES.

**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.

HOUSING

H.B. No. 5679 (COMM) HOUSING. 'AN ACT CONCERNING PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT FOR CERTAIN FIRST-TIME HOME BUYERS', to authorize municipalities to abate up to five hundred dollars per assessment year of property taxes for certain first-time homebuyers obtaining a loan from the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority.

HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT

H.B. No. 5902 (COMM) HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT. 'AN ACT AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR ADVANCED MANUFACTURING CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS', to provide funding to the Board of Regents for Higher Education to purchase equipment necessary for students to successfully complete advanced manufacturing certificate programs.

H.B. No. 6517 (RAISED) HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT. 'AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TASK FORCE TO ANALYZE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF LAWS GOVERNING DYSLEXIA INSTRUCTION AND TRAINING', to implement the recommendations of the task force to analyze the implementation of laws governing dyslexia instruction and training.

HUMAN SERVICES

H.B. No. 6518 (RAISED) HUMAN SERVICES. 'AN ACT PROVIDING MEDICAID COVERAGE FOR CERTIFIED DIETITIAN-NUTRITIONISTS', to help Medicaid beneficiaries avoid the consequences of malnutrition by authorizing Medicaid coverage for the services of certified dietitian-nutritionists.

H.B. No. 6519 (RAISED) HUMAN SERVICES. 'AN ACT CONCERNING DATA COLLECTION TO PREVENT MALNUTRITION AMONG SENIOR CITIZENS', to collect data on malnutrition risks for senior citizens and ensure that they have adequate nutritional assistance.

H.B. No. 6520 (RAISED) HUMAN SERVICES. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROVISION OF TEMPORARY STATE SERVICES TO VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE', to provide temporary state assistance to victims of domestic violence regardless of household income.

HOUSING

H.B. No. 6521 (RAISED) HOUSING. 'AN ACT CONCERNING CHANGES TO ZONING AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS AND PROHIBITING LIST-BACK AGREEMENTS', to require municipalities to allow accessory dwelling units and to prohibit list-back agreements.

ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

H.B. No. 6522 (RAISED) ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY. 'AN ACT CONCERNING AN ELECTRIC GENERATOR REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM', to direct the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority to initiate a proceeding to consider the implementation of a reimbursement program for electric distribution company customers who purchase an electric generator due to a medical necessity.

H.B. No. 6523 (RAISED) ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY. 'AN ACT CONCERNING VIRTUAL NET METERING CREDITS FOR MANUFACTURERS IN DISTRESSED

MUNICIPALITIES', to increase the virtual net metering cap and extend the credits to manufacturers in distressed municipalities.

H.B. No. 6524 (RAISED) ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE SOLICITATION OF NEW FUEL CELL ELECTRICITY GENERATION PROJECTS', to expand the existing solicitation process for new fuel cell generation projects.

H.B. No. 6525 (RAISED) ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY. 'AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES', to establish a task force to study (1) electric distribution companies and such companies' accountability and responsiveness to ratepayers, and (2) the introduction of competition in the electric transmission or distribution services industry in Connecticut.

H.B. No. 6526 (RAISED) ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY. 'AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTRIC SUPPLIERS', to mandate provisions in new electric supplier contracts and prohibit the assignment or transfer of customers without approval.

H.B. No. 6527 (RAISED) ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY. 'AN ACT INCREASING THE TOTAL OUTPUT OF CLASS III SOURCES', to increase the total output of Class III sources to five per cent between January 1, 2022, and January 1, 2025.

HOUSING

H.B. No. 6528 (RAISED) HOUSING. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE SEALING OF EVICTION RECORDS', to prohibit landlords from considering the prior eviction records of prospective tenants.

H.B. No. 6529 (RAISED) HOUSING. 'AN ACT CONCERNING HOUSING AUTHORITIES AND ESTABLISHING AN OFFICE OF THE HOUSING ADVOCATE', to create an Office of the Housing Advocate, require training for housing authority commissioners and criminal history records checks for housing authority employees, and require housing authorities to provide certain contact information and notify tenants of their rights.

H.B. No. 6530 (RAISED) HOUSING. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING', to make a technical change and to discontinue the interagency council on affordable housing.

H.B. No. 6531 (RAISED) HOUSING. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE RIGHT TO COUNSEL IN EVICTION PROCEEDINGS', to establish a right to counsel in eviction proceedings.

H.B. No. 6532 (RAISED) HOUSING. 'AN ACT APPROPRIATING STATE FUNDS FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AND HOUSING', to appropriate additional state funds to expand existing programs of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services for mental health services and housing.

H.B. No. 6533 (RAISED) HOUSING. 'AN ACT REQUIRING A STUDY OF METHODS TO PROVIDE HOUSING ASSISTANCE DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC', to require the Department of Housing to conduct a study of methods to assist state residents with housing difficulties due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

EDUCATION

H.B. No. 6534 (RAISED) EDUCATION. 'AN ACT CONCERNING EMERGENCY ACTION PLANS FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC AND INTRAMURAL ATHLETIC EVENTS', to require public and nonpublic schools to develop and implement emergency action

plans for responding to serious and life-threatening sports-related injuries that occur during interscholastic and intramural athletic events.

H.B. No. 6535 (RAISED) EDUCATION. 'AN ACT CONCERNING ISSUES RELATING TO SCHOOL SECURITY', to (1) convene a working group to examine the employment and role of school resource officers in public schools, (2) conduct a study to determine whether classroom doors that can be locked from the inside and outside of the classroom should be included in school safety infrastructure criteria, (3) require the Department of Education to develop a state-wide plan for responding to large-scale school crisis events, and (4) require the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection to conduct random audits to ensure that the school security and safety plans are being developed and implemented in schools.

LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

H.B. No. 6536 (RAISED) LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. 'AN ACT REQUIRING ADEQUATE EQUIPMENT AND REIMBURSEMENT FOR EMPLOYEES WORKING FROM HOME', to require employers to provide adequate equipment and reimbursement to certain employees who work from home.

H.B. No. 6537 (RAISED) LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. 'AN ACT CONCERNING EXPANSION OF PAID SICK DAYS AND DOMESTIC WORKER COVERAGE', to expand paid sick days and domestic worker coverage.

APPROPRIATIONS

H.R. No. 11 REP. RITTER, 1st DIST.; REP. ROJAS, 9th DIST. 'RESOLUTION PROPOSING APPROVAL OF A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE & RESIDUAL EMPLOYEES UNION'

HOUSING

S.B. No. 194 (COMM) HOUSING. 'AN ACT ESTABLISHING A RIGHT TO HOUSING', to establish a right to housing for all residents of the state.

S.B. No. 356 (COMM) HOUSING. 'AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ENERGY EFFICIENCY RETROFIT GRANT PROGRAM FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING', to require the Department of Housing to establish a housing energy efficiency retrofit program.

ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

S.B. No. 937 (RAISED) ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY. 'AN ACT CONCERNING EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANNING AND VIDEO SERVICE WIRE REMOVAL', to create a deployment process and response plan following an emergency involving power outages and to require the removal of video service wire from residential and commercial properties.

HOUSING

S.B. No. 944 (RAISED) HOUSING. 'AN ACT CONCERNING STORAGE OF A TENANT'S POSSESSIONS AND USE AND OCCUPANCY PAYMENTS', to permit landlords to dispose of an evicted or deceased tenant's personal possessions and collect occupancy and use payments.

EDUCATION

S.B. No. 945 (RAISED) EDUCATION. 'AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION', to implement the recommendations of the Department of Education.

S.B. No. 946 (RAISED) EDUCATION. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE MINIMUM BUDGET REQUIREMENT', to extend the provisions of and make revisions to the minimum budget requirement for school districts by excluding from the calculation of a school district's budgeted appropriation for education any funds received or used for COVID-19 related expenses and funds received for school security improvements.

S.B. No. 947 (RAISED) EDUCATION. 'AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO REVIEW THE EFFECTS OF THE EDUCATION COST SHARING GRANT FORMULA ON SMALL AND RURAL TOWNS', to establish a working group to review the effects of the education cost sharing formula on small and rural towns.

S.B. No. 948 (RAISED) EDUCATION. 'AN ACT ADDRESSING EDUCATION FUNDING AND RACIAL EQUITY IN CONNECTICUT', to make revisions to how public education is funded in the state to address issues of equity and systemic racism.

S.B. No. 949 (RAISED) EDUCATION. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MONEY-FOLLOWS-THE-CHILD APPROACH TO FUNDING PUBLIC EDUCATION', to establish a money-follows-the-child approach to funding public education in Connecticut.

ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

S.B. No. 950 (RAISED) ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE REPLACEMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITY POLES AND REVISING VEGETATION MANAGEMENT IN UTILITY PROTECTION ZONES', to mandate a time frame for the placement of lines, conduits, cables, wires and other equipment on replaced public utility poles and expedite certain tree trimming or removal processes.

S.B. No. 951 (RAISED) ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY. 'AN ACT CONCERNING RESIDENTIAL SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS SOLICITATIONS', to mandate procedures that residential solar photovoltaic systems providers and agents of such providers must follow when conducting residential solar photovoltaic systems solicitations.

S.B. No. 952 (RAISED) ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY. 'AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN SOLAR ENERGY PROJECTS', to (1) create solar energy storage goals, (2) increase the virtual net metering cap, (3) permit ownership of solar power generation facilities by electric distribution companies, and (4) direct the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority to investigate solar energy development programs.

HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT

S.B. No. 953 (RAISED) HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT. 'AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE LEARN, WORK, PAY PROGRAM', to establish a Learn, Work, Pay Program to provide loan reimbursement payments to graduates of public institutions of higher education who reside and work in the state and to repeal a tax credit for certain employers who make student loan payments on behalf of employees.

S.B. No. 954 (RAISED) HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT. 'AN ACT REQUIRING THE REPORTING OF ACCIDENTAL DEATHS AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION', to require institutions of higher education to report accidental deaths that occur on campus.

HUMAN SERVICES

S.B. No. 955 (RAISED) HUMAN SERVICES. 'AN ACT CONCERNING OUTDATED DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES STATUTES', to delete outdated or obsolete provisions of statutes concerning the Department of Social Services.

S.B. No. 956 (RAISED) HUMAN SERVICES. 'AN ACT PROVIDING MEDICAL ASSISTANCE TO CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS', to provide medical assistance to certain individuals regardless of immigration status.

S.B. No. 957 (RAISED) HUMAN SERVICES. 'AN ACT EXPANDING ACCESS TO IN-HOME COUNSELING', to expand access to in-home behavioral health counseling provided by social workers employed by home health care agencies by providing Medicaid reimbursement for such counseling.

S.B. No. 958 (RAISED) HUMAN SERVICES. 'AN ACT ALLOWING CERTAIN SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE BENEFICIARIES TO USE ELECTRONIC BENEFIT TRANSFER CARDS AT PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS', to require the Department of Social Services to develop and implement a plan to participate in a federal program that allows certain supplemental nutrition assistance beneficiaries to purchase meals at participating restaurants.

ADJOURNMENT

Pursuant to House Rule 50, the House adjourned at 4:30 o'clock p.m., to meet again at the Call of the Chair.