



JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

The House of Representatives was called to order at 4:48 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, Ann M. Clark of Bloomfield, Connecticut.

The following is the prayer:

Let us pray. Almighty God, bless us as we come together for this Session. Allow our deliberations to result in effective solutions to the State's business and resolve the issues placed before us. Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ann M. Clark of Bloomfield, 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, March 17, 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 BILLS

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

BANKING. Substitute for H.B. No. 5027 (File No. 66) AN ACT REQUIRING THE BANKING COMMISSIONER TO ESTABLISH A FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYER SAVINGS ACCOUNT PROGRAM AND ESTABLISHING A TAX DEDUCTION FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYER SAVINGS ACCOUNTS.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. Substitute for H.B. No. 6102 (RAISED) (File No. 67) AN ACT CONCERNING A SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT WITHIN THE CITY OF WEST HAVEN.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. Substitute for H.B. No. 6104 (RAISED) (File No. 68) AN ACT CONCERNING REGIONAL PLANNING AND COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. Substitute for H.B. No. 6106 (RAISED) (File No. 69) AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES AND NONRESIDENTIAL HYDROPOWER FACILITIES.

BANKING. Substitute for H.B. No. 6369 (RAISED) (File No. 70) AN ACT CONCERNING ISSUES RELATING TO MORTGAGES AND MECHANIC'S LIENS.

BANKING. H.B. No. 6371 (RAISED) (File No. 71) AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRESUMPTION OF OWNERSHIP IN JOINT BANK ACCOUNTS.

ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY. Substitute for H.B. No. 6409 (RAISED) (File No. 72) AN ACT CONCERNING THE SOLICITATION OF BIOGAS INJECTION PROPOSALS FROM ANAEROBIC DIGESTION FACILITIES.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. Substitute for H.B. No. 6419 (RAISED) (File No. 73) AN ACT CONCERNING VOTING REQUIREMENTS FOR ESTABLISHING A DISTRICT TO MAINTAIN WATER QUALITY IN A LAKE OR LAKES.

AGING. H.B. No. 6456 (RAISED) (File No. 74) AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO PROTECT SENIOR CITIZENS FROM FRAUD.

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. 5377 (COMM) LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE REMOVAL OF COVID-19 RELATED LAYOFFS FROM THE UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION EXPERIENCE ACCOUNT', to remove COVID-19 related layoffs from the unemployment experience account.

COMMERCE

H.B. No. 6119 (COMM) COMMERCE. 'AN ACT CONCERNING ARTS, CULTURE AND TOURISM FUNDING', to strengthen the arts, culture and tourism sector in the state by directing additional funds into the Tourism Fund, and renaming the fund to better represent the full scope of the sector.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

H.B. No. 6638 (RAISED) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND EMPLOYMENT', to make a technical change.

H.B. No. 6639 (RAISED) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. 'AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM REGARDING BUILDING OFFICIALS AND RESOURCES RELATED TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE STATE BUILDING CODE', to establish a pilot program regarding building officials and resources related to the administration of the State Building Code.

H.B. No. 6640 (RAISED) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE CEDAR HILLS INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT', to modify the organization of the Cedar Hills Infrastructure Improvement District.

H.B. No. 6641 (RAISED) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE REMOTE AND ONLINE PROVISION OF MUNICIPAL SERVICES', to permit remote and online access to certain municipal services.

H.B. No. 6642 (RAISED) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF ACCESS TO MUNICIPAL-OWNED BEACHES AND PARKS ADJACENT TO MARINE OR TIDAL WATERS', to conduct a study of access to municipal-owned beaches and parks adjacent to marine or tidal waters.

H.B. No. 6643 (RAISED) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL TAXATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND THE MUNICIPAL PROPERTY TAX WAIVER', to authorize municipalities to (1) offer programs for the deferment of tax and certain other payments and for lower interest rates on such payments, and (2) waive any property tax due in an amount less than one hundred dollars.

H.B. No. 6644 (RAISED) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF CERTAIN PROPERTY TAX REFORMS', to study the fiscal impact and feasibility of municipalities, certain taxing districts and regional school districts establishing a cap on annual property tax growth.

H.B. No. 6645 (RAISED) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT', to (1) amend the process timeline for the revision and adoption of the state plan of conservation and development, and (2) extend to 2024 the application of the plan intended to cover 2018 to 2023, inclusive.

H.B. No. 6646 (RAISED) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING CRUMBLING CONCRETE FOUNDATIONS', to (1) permit any owner of a residential building with a foundation made with defective concrete to obtain a reassessment of such building which shall remain valid until such foundation is repaired or replaced, (2) eliminate the termination date of the captive insurance company established pursuant to section 38a-91vv of the general statutes, (3) require quarries that produce aggregate for use in concrete to annually prepare a geological source report, (4) require the Commissioner of Consumer Protection to adopt regulations concerning standards for the testing of aggregate produced by quarries for use in concrete, (5) authorize the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority to make loans to the captive insurance company, and (6) require the captive insurance company to submit a report concerning the damage caused by the presence of pyrrhotite to the concrete foundations of nonresidential buildings in the state.

H.B. No. 6647 (RAISED) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS', to (1) create a Geographic Information Systems Advisory Council to consult with the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, and (2) require the secretary to designate a Geographic Information Officer to oversee a Geographic Information System Center.

JUDICIARY

H.B. No. 6648 (RAISED) JUDICIARY. 'AN ACT CONCERNING SEXUAL ASSAULT AND THE ABSENCE OF CONSENT', to clarify that a victim of sexual assault in the first degree is compelled to submit to, rather than engage in sexual intercourse by the use of force, define "consent" for purposes of sexual assault statutes and clarify that sexual intercourse without consent is a crime.

LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

S.B. No. 141 (COMM) LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. 'AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY CANCER RELIEF BENEFITS FOR FIREFIGHTERS', to establish a task force to study cancer relief benefits for firefighters.

JUDICIARY

S.B. No. 1058 (RAISED) JUDICIARY. 'AN ACT CONCERNING COMPASSIONATE PAROLE RELEASE BY THE BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES AND CONCERNING STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION', to modify standards used by the Board of Pardons and Paroles to determine when an inmate may be eligible for compassionate parole release and to clarify that whistle blower protections apply to staff of the Department of Correction who report suspected unlawful uses of force by other staff members.

S.B. No. 1059 (RAISED) JUDICIARY. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE CORRECTION ACCOUNTABILITY COMMISSION, THE OFFICE OF THE CORRECTION OMBUDS, THE USE OF ISOLATED CONFINEMENT, SECLUSION AND RESTRAINTS, SOCIAL CONTACTS FOR INCARCERATED PERSONS AND TRAINING AND WORKERS' COMPENSATION BENEFITS FOR CORRECTION OFFICERS', to (1) establish the Correction Accountability Commission, (2) enhance correction ombuds services, (3) restrict the use of isolated confinement and restraints in correctional facilities, (4) increase transparency concerning restrictive housing measures and the use of restraints in correctional facilities, (5) develop policies concerning social contacts for incarcerated persons, and (6) provide training and certain workers' compensation benefits to correction officers.

S.B. No. 1060 (RAISED) JUDICIARY. 'AN ACT CONCERNING COURT PROCEEDINGS INVOLVING ALLEGATIONS OF COERCIVE CONTROL OCCURRING BETWEEN FAMILY OR HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS', to strengthen state laws relating to allegations of coercive control occurring between family or household members.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

S.B. No. 1061 (RAISED) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL ISSUES AND DECISIONS OF CERTAIN MUNICIPAL AGENCIES', to make a technical change.

S.B. No. 1062 (RAISED) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING USE OF SPACE LOCATED IN A FLOODPLAIN', to allow certain space that is located in a floodplain, in the city of Norwich, to be used for residential and commercial purposes.

S.B. No. 1063 (RAISED) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AND NOTICE OF CERTAIN ACTIONS OR DECISIONS', to make a technical change.

S.B. No. 1064 (RAISED) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING A WAIVER OF INTEREST ON PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS FOR CERTAIN REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY AND THE INTEREST RATE FOR CERTAIN TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS', to (1) allow municipalities to waive the interest on property taxes due for the 2020 tax year for real or personal property used for certain purposes, and (2) reduce the rate of interest for certain taxes and assessments.

S.B. No. 1065 (RAISED) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF MUNICIPALITIES AND HOMEOWNERS WITH WELL

WATER CONTAMINATED WITH URANIUM', to conduct a study of municipalities and homeowners with well water contaminated with uranium.

S.B. No. 1066 (RAISED) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPALITIES AND SHARED SERVICES', to make a technical change.

S.B. No. 1067 (RAISED) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF CERTAIN HOUSING IN THE TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR', to conduct a study concerning the establishment of certain housing in the town of South Windsor.

S.B. No. 1068 (RAISED) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING PROPERTY TAXES AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING', to require each municipality to impose an assessment rate, in addition to that provided for under chapter 204 of the general statutes, on all residential real property in such municipality depending on the amount of certain affordable housing in such municipality.

JUDICIARY

S.B. No. 1069 (RAISED) JUDICIARY. 'AN ACT CONCERNING FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION', to study and recommend ways to identify public health interventions that might result in the elimination of any procedure conducted as part of the practice of female genital mutilation.

ADJOURNMENT

Pursuant to House Rule 50, the House adjourned at 4:49 o'clock p.m., to meet again at the Call of the Chair.