

Public Safety and Security Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, January 21, 2021

1:00 PM in Zoom and YouTube Channel 2C

The meeting was called to order at 1:11PM by Chairman, Rep. Horn M. 064.

The following committee members were present:

Senators: Bradley D. S23; Cassano S. S04; Champagne D. S35; Cicarella P. S34; Fonfara J. S01; Osten C. S19

Representatives: Allie-Brennan R. 002; Barry J. 031; Borer D. 115; Boyd P. 050; DiGiovancarlo M. 074; DiMassa M. 116; Felipe A. 130; Genga H. 010; Gonzalez M. 003; Green R. 055; Hall C. 059; Hayes R. 051; Horn M. 064; Howard G. 043; McGorty B. 122; Paolillo A. 097; Quinn M. 082; Sredzinski J. 112; Vail K. 052

Absent were:

Senators:

Representatives:

Meeting was called to order at 1:11PM by Rep. Horn and immediately recessed to address technical issues. Meeting reconvened at 1:14PM

Rep. Horn welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited Senator Bradley to make any comments. She then introduced members of committee who were not able to attend the organizational meeting.

Rep. Horn reviewed procedures and zoom etiquette

Concepts: Motion made to raise concepts by Sen. Osten, second by Rep. Paolillo. Discussion followed with Rep. Vail stating these are concepts that are being raised and that by voting for them does not mean you will support out of committee. AAC Online Lottery Draw Games have come before committee before and he has reservations.

Voice Vote: All in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

Vote to Draft: Rep. Horn stated these bills will be addressed separately.

SB 119 motion to draft as a committee bill made by Rep. Paolillo and seconded by Rep. McGorty.

Discussion: Sen. Champagne's bill he explained the bill to committee members. Voice vote all in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

SB120 motion to draft as committee bill made by Rep. Paolillo, seconded by Sen. Osten.

Discussion: Rep. Vail concerned we are legislating what certain police departments should do. Also has concerns after being on committee for 6 years this being his 7th.and having dealt with police issues and they are often being sent to Judiciary Committee. There is an utter lack of consistency on what police bills are sent to that committee. Please clarify why police bills being handpicked on what stays in Public Safety. Public Safety has in the past dealt with police bills.

Rep. Horn addressed his concerns. This is the first committee meeting that we are raising bills and there are some police bills that are being tabled. We are waiting for agency proposals. We look at these as a package. Public safety will take up some and Judiciary will pick up some. She acknowledged his point.

Rep. Vail: this is a new session we will how things go, but this has been a trend. He would like to see the committee be the committee of cognizance. He also has concerns about this bill and that individual police departments can make these decisions for themselves.

Rep. Horn reminded the committee a vote to draft is not a vote to support.

Rep. Hayes also stated he will vote to move forward, but major concerns about overstepping police departments. Will be interested in public hearing. Committee voted by roll call.

Rep. Horn suggested SB 121 and SB 123 on a consent calendar.

SB 122 motion to draft as committee bill by Sen. Bradley and seconded by Rep. Paolillo.

Rep. Vail is concerned this is overreach again. Police Departments are better suited to make these decisions. He would be opposed to this.

Sen. Champagne was concerned we may be causing departments to create something that is already in place.

Rep. Horn I look forward to a public hearing if we move forward.

Rep. Boyd asked for clarification that voting to draft is not a vote endorsing the bill.

Rep. Horn clarified for Rep. Boyd
Committee voted by roll call.

SB 146 motion to draft made Sen. Bradley, seconded by Rep. Paolillo.
No discussion. Committee voted by roll call.

Public Hearing: HB 5162 motion made to reserve for a subject matter hearing by Rep. Paolillo, seconded by Sen. Bradley. No discussions.

Motion to put on consent calendar by Rep. Howard, seconded by Rep. DiMassa.

Bills to be referred to other committees: HB 5077 motion for change of reference to Judiciary by Rep. Paolillo, seconded by Sen. Bradley

Rep Vail again discussed why these bills are referred to Judiciary. These issues are all issues that Public Safety took on in the past. He will oppose all these bills going to Judiciary.

Rep. Cicarella also felt referring to another committee makes no sense.

Rep. Horn said that they are trying to limit number of bills to avoid cognizance over the same matter.

Committee voted by roll call.

SB125 motion for change of reference to Judiciary by Rep. Paolillo and seconded by Rep. DiMassa.

Rep. Vail continued to voice his concern that these bills are being referred to Judiciary when in the past they were handled through Public Safety. Public Safety is not just gaming.

Sen. Bradley stated that we do not want to have duplicitous.

Committee voted by roll call.

SB5080 motion for change of reference to Judiciary by Sen. Bradley, seconded by Rep. DiMassa. No discussion. Committee voted by roll call.

SB145 motion for change of reference to Judiciary by Rep. Paolillo and seconded by Rep. DiMassa. No discussion. Committee voted by roll call.

Consent Calendar: Proposed to draft SB 121, SB123 and HB5162 for public hearing. Motion to move forward with items on consent calendar made by Rep. DiMassa, seconded by Rep. Paolillo. Voice vote all in favor. No opposed. Motion carries.

Rep. Horn announced there will be a committee meeting on January 28th, 2021 at 1:00PM.

Also, an Informational meeting on January 26, 2021 regarding gaming at 1PM.

Meeting recessed until 4PM to allow people to vote and will adjourn at 4PM.

Bonnie Gray, Asst. Clerk/Gina McDowell,
Clerk

Administrator

Committee Clerk