

Labor and Public Employees Committee

JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: HB-5355

AN ACT CONCERNING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE POSTING IN THE

Title: WORKPLACE.

Vote Date: 3/22/2022

Vote Action: Joint Favorable Substitute

PH Date: 3/8/2022

File No.: 280

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

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Rep. Corey P. Paris, 145th Dist.,
Rep. Aimee Berger-Girvalo, 111th Dist.,
Rep. Christine Palm, 36th Dist.,
Rep. John-Michael Parker, 36th Dist.,
Rep. Jillian Gilchrest, 18th Dist.,

REASONS FOR BILL:

Sexual Violence has been a prevalent issue, not only in Connecticut, but throughout the country. Increasing awareness about domestic violence, providing information, and providing training will help protect survivors and potential victims both in and out of workplaces.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities; supports this bill stating that with domestic violence on the rise, bring awareness to the issue can eliminate stigma around discussions around domestic violence and allow victims to get the help they need.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Public Policy - CT. Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Director, Liza Andrews; supports this bill stating that the physical and emotional impact of domestic violence on a victim can significantly impact everyday aspects of life and work performance. Domestic violence is a far-reaching issue and Andrews believes that employers "can and should play an important role in protecting their employees by creating a workplace culture of support and resilience".

Prudence Crandall Center, Counseling Services Coordinator, Emily Cintorino; supports this bill stating that the impact of domestic violence is significant and can impact every aspect of a victim's life. Cintorino believes that awareness needs to be increased as it will benefit the safety of all state employees.

CWEALF, MSW Policy Intern, Brandi Kennedy; supports this bill stating that sexual and domestic violence are widespread problems, especially in the workplace. Kennedy states that increasing awareness and providing resources will save businesses money and keep employees safe.

SEIU, Representative, Stacey Zimmerman; supports this bill.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

David Godbout; opposes this bill by reason of virtual public hearings being violations of the fourth amendment, and therefore making any bills voted on by way of Zoom unconstitutional.

Reported by: Joy Lee

Date: 4/6/2022