

Judiciary Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-444

Title: AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF THE CIVIL LAWS OF THIS STATE.

Vote Date: 3/31/2022

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 3/25/2022

File No.: 451

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Judiciary Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

The bill creates a working group to study the civil laws of the state. The group is to be made of (1) one appointment by the speaker of the House of Representatives; (2) one appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate; (3) one appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives; (4) one appointed by the majority leader of the Senate; (5) one appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives; and (6) one appointed by the minority leader of the Senate. This group is to submit its findings and recommendations not later than January 1, 2023.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

State of Connecticut Division of Public Defender Services, Office of Chief Public Defender, Legal Counsel, Deborah Del Prete Sullivan

The Office of Chief Public Defender (OCPD) supports the bill. They request that the Chief Public Defender be added to the membership of the group as they carry out their charge to study the civil laws of the state. OCPD also requests that the committee consider the inclusion of the Division of Criminal Justice in the membership of the group. Having substantial experience in the Connecticut courts, OCPD has a unique perspective on civil laws in the state and requests to be included in any group participating in the study prescribed by this legislation.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

None Expressed.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None Expressed.

OTHER:

CT Resident, David Godbout

Mr. Godbout opposed the bill, stating that the virtual committee process constitutes a violation of his Fourth Amendment rights.

Reported by: Luke Tressy

Date: 04/14/2022