

Labor and Public Employees Committee  
Taskforce on Domestic Workers

MEETING MINUTES

Friday, September 12, 2014

1:00 PM in Room 2B of the LOB

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 PM by Chairman Gary Holder-Winfield,

The following committee members were present:

Senator Gary Holder-Winfield, Rep. Peter Tercyak, Natasha Pierre, Deputy Cmmr. Dennis Murphy, Rep. Hilda Santiago, Atty. James Bhandary-Alexander, David Denvir, Maria Lima Rodriguez, Lorna Barrows, Atty. Anika Singh Lemar, Natalicia Tracy

Absent were: Mark LeClair

Chairman Senator Gary Holder-Winfield introduced his Co-Chairman, Representative Peter Tercyak. They both explained that they were excited to explore the topic of domestic workers and they share a vision for legislation on the topic to be presented during the 2015 session.

Holder-Winfield asked each of the taskforce members to introduce themselves and provide background information about them.

Holder-Winfield and Tercyak then discussed the goals of the taskforce in more detail. They both explained that their first task per Special Act 14-17 was to define *domestic worker*. Once they had a definition they could then better establish a domestic workers' bill of rights for the State of Connecticut.

Holder-Winfield went on to explain the background of current domestic worker related legislation in the country. He spoke briefly about labor history and how certain event outcomes in the field of labor have resulted in legislation that has aimed to curb bad labor related practices and ensure that workers have safe and fair working environments. He cited that most recently California, Hawaii, Massachusetts, and New York have been the first states in the nation to pass legislation on the topic.

Tercyak stated that each of the task force members would be asked to think about what their definition of a domestic worker would include. He cited that each member had been given a packet of definitions that have been established by the four states with enacted legislation. He asked that members review these definitions and begin to craft their own for the next meeting.

Holder-Winfield announced that the next meeting would take place in about a month. He also said that with a topic so complex he would like to see sub groups formed within the task force membership. He explained that these assignments would be forthcoming and each subgroup would work on certain subcategories of domestic workers and work. A motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:19 PM.

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Administrator

Danielle Palladino  
Committee Clerk