

Legislative History for Connecticut Act

SB 36 P.A. 382 1993

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GEN. ASSEMBLY
SENATE

PROCEEDINGS
1993

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2601-2947

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THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much, Senator. Would anybody else wish to remark on Senate Calendar 440? Are there any other remarks? If not, Senator Milner, would you be willing to entertain a motion to place this item on the Consent Calendar if there's no objection?

SENATOR MILNER:

So moved, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much. Is there any objection to placing Senate Calendar No. 440, Substitute for Senate Bill No. 59, as amended by Senate Amendment "A" on the Consent Calendar? Is there any objection? Hearing none, so ordered. Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

Madam President, it's my understanding that the next item to be called is on Calendar Page 30, Calendar No. 260.

THE CHAIR:

30, Page 30?

THE CLERK:

I'm sorry, Page 31, Calendar No. 260, File No. 387, Substitute for Senate Bill 36, AN ACT CONCERNING THE SMALL BUSINESS RECOVERY ACT OF 1993.

Favorable Report of the Committee on

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Appropriations.

The Clerk is in possession of one amendment.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much. The Chair would recognize
Senator Crisco.

SENATOR CRISCO:

Thank you, Madam President. I move adoption of the
Committee's Joint Favorable Report and passage of the
bill.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much, Senator.

SENATOR CRISCO:

May I call the amendment which is LC06581, Madam
President?

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much. Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

LC06581, which will be designated Senate Amendment
Schedule "A". It's offered by Senator Crisco of the
17th District.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much. The Chair again would
recognize Senator Crisco.

SENATOR CRISCO:

Thank you, Madam President. I move adoption of the

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Senate Amendment, LCO6581, and ask that the reading be waived and I be given permission to summarize.

THE CHAIR:

Please proceed, Senator. Thank you.

SENATOR CRISCO:

Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, it gives me a great honor to bring out this amendment which will become the bill. This amendment reflects some seven major bills that were worked on by the Commerce Committee and before I continue, I just would like to express my appreciation to Senator Cook, Senator Lovegrove, Senator Maloney and Senator Balducci for their assistance and support in producing some of the major legislation for the Commerce Committee.

This particular amendment, Madam President, sets a new direction in regards to the state's efforts to address our economic revitalization program. Instead of a general approach, it focuses on specific areas, such as small business. It examines business infrastructure, specific advance technologies and accountable lending practices, but more importantly, Madam President, it accomplishes all this without any additional new funding, but by shifting state money presently available.

There are four major components of the amendment.

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Number one, the Economic Accountability Act. This act threatens the reporting and accountability requirements under the state's economic development program. It helps us create more assurance in regards to the job creation and job retention claims made by grant and loan recipients.

Number two, it also includes the Base and Plant Closure Act based on potential -- some very severe economic negative happenings throughout the state, particularly in New London or East Hartford and other places. This part of the amendment prepares us to address these issues whence and if they should occur.

In addition, we added the Technology Deployment Act, which is basically our application and commercialization principle. Basically what we do, Madam President, we look at the new cutting edge of applying technology and making it available for commercialization. It also creates a manufacturing application center to link the state's university system to the state business community and there are also specific centers created for technology efforts and energy, environmental, education, biotechnical, materials, protonics, marine sciences and pharmaceuticals.

And last but not least, Madam President, very

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importantly, during all of our campaigns and throughout the state we heard the cries of small businesses. This particular segment of the bill addresses the small business assistance and financial recovery parts. It creates a partnership between a consortium of banks and the state to make available to small businesses funds that are not available now. It provides capital assistance and cash flow. It creates a one-stop registry for small businesses. It seeks to establish a technical extension service for small business, and very importantly, it creates additional tax credits for small businesses.

And finally, it requests that the Department of Revenue Services become more customer oriented and I just am pleased, Madam President, to have the opportunity to present this and express my appreciation to my leadership for all their assistance.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much, Senator Crisco. Would anybody else wish to remark on LCO No. 6581, designated by the Clerk as Senate Amendment "A"? Are there any further remarks on this amendment? Senator Peters.

SENATOR PETERS:

Thank you, Madam President. I also would like to commend the Commerce Committee for what I consider to

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be a fine piece of legislation. Throughout my district and I know you've heard many times in the Circle that the defense cutbacks and diversification being the key buzzword in the 20th, this piece of legislation will be very helpful, very useful.

We have had a focus for some time on medium and large sized businesses, but we haven't had the kind of programs that offer the kinds of incentives and assistance that we need with smaller businesses and the smaller businesses quite clearly in my mind are what makes the world go around. So from the 20th, I thank you.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much, Senator Peters. Yes, Senator Milner.

SENATOR MILNER:

Madam President, just briefly, I would like to join my colleagues in commending the Commerce Department and The Honorable Senator Joseph J. Crisco, Jr. and also our distinguished leader, Senator Larson, for their work in making this bill a good comprehensive bill for all of the residents of the State of Connecticut.

I'm very, very proud to see the extent that they went to make this bill one that will address the many,

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many concerns that we have on economic development and recovery within the State of Connecticut. This is a far reaching bill and it should go a long way in addressing the many concerns that we have in talking about economic recovery, job retention, job training and job development. Thank you.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much, Senator Milner. Yes, the Chair would recognize Senator Cook.

SENATOR COOK:

Thank you, Madam President. As the Ranking Member of the Commerce Committee, I rise to support the comments that have been made around the Circle and to add that I am also particularly proud of the bipartisan piece of legislation that this represents. This is a combination of many bills, of a great deal of work that we all participated on together.

We all know and certainly have recognized that small businesses are the stable stalwart of our state and how we can help them with the problems that they have experienced in getting lines of credit and being able to expand, doubling their employment from four to eight and multiplying that beyond and this will go a long way to help.

On the Base and Plant Closure Act that is included

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in this omnibus piece of legislation that we've all partnered on, I am particularly pleased that it is going to support and help the regional efforts in Southeastern Connecticut and in other regions to show the town so they can do it together and how they can work together better than they can be on their own, suffering some of the changes that are part of the defense downsizing.

I think one of the things that particularly needs to be highlighted is the technology applications part of the Technology Deployment Act within this omnibus piece. That is going to be a wonderful partnership of creating existing technology that no one thought about how to piece together to make a new, wonderful unusual product that can be part of our economic change and this piece -- this omnibus bill will go a long way to help create those within Connecticut joint ventures that are going to be part of our new economic future.

So it's with a great deal of pride that I participated in the development of this and I really recognize Senator Crisco who has shown a great deal of leadership along with Representative Betkoski and Representative LeBeau and Representative Young who were the leadership of the Commerce Committee who really spent a great deal of time and effort working on this

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and I urge my colleagues to give it their great support. Thank you.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much, Senator Peters. The Chair would recognize Senator Penn.

SENATOR PENN:

Thank you, Madam President. I too rise to associate myself with the remarks of my colleagues in a bipartisan effort that went into particularly the hard work by Senator Crisco and Senator Larson. Bridgeport long recognizes the fact that it's not the only city that's in distress in any municipality at any given time, but only through recovery of small businesses and other municipalities can we all get together as sister cities and regain our status in the State of Connecticut and help move it along and the small businesses have been the backbone of what we have to do and what our endeavors are of putting people back to work.

And the inclusionary parts of the bill which makes sure that everybody prospers in the city, and that's everybody working together to bring the State of Connecticut back to what it should be and I also would like to urge the passage of this bill. Thank you, Madam President.

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THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much, Senator Penn. Would anybody else wish to remark? Yes, Senator Harper.

SENATOR HARPER:

Thank you, Madam President. I am not one who can say I contributed to the composition of this bill, but I feel compelled to join those who urge in support of the bill and I would just like to add a few appropriate words of recognition and acknowledgement.

I think it's important to note in these times, the difficult times that we face in the State of Connecticut that leaders in our state are not sitting around waiting for manna from heaven or from Washington, as some people more appropriately call it.

I think it's highly commendable that we have the leadership and the creativity present here in this General Assembly to be able to in a multi-faceted way address various problems confronting the state's economy through a comprehensive approach as evidenced in the bill here today.

In no little way do I think we owe gratitude certainly to many people, but I would like to particularly note the leadership of Senator Larson, not only on this particular bill, but going back in the last session when the Commerce and Exportation

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Committee was created as a new Committee of Cognizance of this Assembly to in fact focus on these very types of problems and I think it's important that Senator Larson be given special recognition for not only that accomplishment, but following through in this second term of the existence of this committee in providing direction and ideas that have come to fruition clearly by the efforts of many, but certainly brought together by his leadership and I think it's important to note that. Thank you.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much, Senator Harper. Senator Crisco.

SENATOR CRISCO:

Yes, Madam President, may I request a roll call vote on the amendment please.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much. Are there any further remarks to be made? Any further remarks? If not then, Mr. Clerk, would you please make the necessary announcement for a roll call vote as requested by Senator Crisco.

THE CLERK:

An immediate roll call has been ordered in the
Senate. Will all Senators please return to the

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Chamber. An immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much, Mr. Clerk. The issue before the Chamber is an amendment to Substitute for Senate Bill No. 36. It is Senate Amendment "A" and it is LCO No. 6581 and the machine is on and you may record your vote.

Have all Senators voted and are your votes properly recorded? Have all Senators voted and are your votes properly recorded? The machine is closed.

The result of the vote:

36	Yea
0	Nay
0	Absent

The amendment is adopted.

Senator Crisco.

SENATOR CRISCO:

Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, at this time I move acceptance of the Committee's Favorable Report and passage of the bill as amended by Senate Amendment "A".

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much. Do you wish to remark on the

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bill any further, sir?

SENATOR CRISCO:

No, Madam President. Basically I summarized the amendment which is the major part of the bill. I just wanted to express my appreciation once again to all my colleagues around this great Circle for all their support and their kind words.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much, Senator. The Chair would recognize Senator Larson.

SENATOR LARSON:

Thank you, Madam President. I rise to associate myself with the remarks of Senator Crisco and first and foremost commend the committee for the outstanding job that they have done in putting forth this legislation, both individually and now collectively in terms of fashioning a package that I think clearly sets a new direction for the State of Connecticut and for those of us, particularly Senator Eads and I, who I think now five years ago started on a business opportunity task force in a bipartisan nature and went around the State of Connecticut seeking input, this is an important step in that process.

Yesterday Governor Weicker offered an incentive package to Pratt & Whitney in an effort to keep the

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2,300 manufacturing jobs here in the State of Connecticut. The state has made a number of such offers to other companies in a well intentioned effort to stop the hemorrhaging of jobs that has been bleeding our economy for nearly four years now.

Some of these packages have helped. Others simply haven't made any difference, but as we move from one economic fire to another, it has become more and more evident to me that we need to establish a clear and focused direction for our economic development efforts.

The new Connecticut "Money Store" approach just has not done the job of turning the corner on this vicious recession. We have to stop loaning money to any business that walks through the door and start investing our resources on the jobs of the future and the technological highways that will take us there.

This is what the Economic Reformation Act of 1993 is all about, a new direction for the State of Connecticut. This \$111 million program makes use of existing resources, takes us out of the lending business and into the investing business by targeting small business, business infrastructure, specific, practical advanced technologies and accountable lending practices.

It is a textbook example of what reinventing

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government, of what retooling our economy should be all about. It's investment in our infrastructure which has a direct impact on business, investment in our institutions of higher education and their direct impact on business, investment in our homegrown small businesses, the source of more than 80 percent of all new job creation and next week will be followed by investment in our workforce with job training initiatives to invest directly in our people.

In this global economy I think it's easy to assess that it's become abundantly too apparent to all of us how easy it is for corporations and companies to move or to leave.

What this new direction provides for us is an opportunity through investment to lure companies here, but in the event that those who decide to leave do, we're left with an infrastructure, we're left with investment in our people, we're left with investment in our small businesses.

Nearly 60 years ago Franklin Delano Roosevelt called for a New Deal. This is not a New Deal, the Economic Reformation Act of 1993, but clearly, in conjunction with the job training investment bill that we will see in a few days, this bill does establish a new direction and I believe that it offers a better

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deal than our current economic development policies. The new Connecticut needs new direction, but with all of us working together as witnessed yesterday with Executive Branch, Legislative Branch, pulling together to try to solve a problem for an impacted industry like Pratt & Whitney here in this state, I believe that that can be accomplished.

I urge passage of the bill and thank you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much, Senator Larson. Yes, Senator Crisco.

SENATOR CRISCO:

Thank you, Madam President. Before I ask this be put on the Consent Calendar, let me express my appreciation to the members of the Circle who have served in the last session of the General Assembly. They provided the opportunity for us to continue our work.

It quite annoys me, Madam President, to hear throughout the business community that this General Assembly, particularly the Senate, has not recognized the plights of the business community. Going back before this committee, the Commerce Committee was established, the various redefinition of manufacturing

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act and also property tax exemptions for new machinery and equipment are just a small part of the many efforts that were put out by members of the Circle who served previous to us and I just wanted to personally express my appreciation to all of them and thank them for all their work and may I ask that this be put on the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much, Senator. Would anybody else wish to remark? Senator Mustone? No. Any further remarks? If not, then is there any objection to placing Senate Calendar No. 260, Substitute for Senate Bill No. 36, as amended by Senate Amendment "A" on the Consent Calendar? Is there any objection? Any objection? Hearing none, so ordered.

Mr. Clerk. Senator DiBella. Would you like to call the Consent Calendar. Mr. Clerk, would you make the necessary announcement.

THE CLERK:

An immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate on the Consent Calendar. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber. An immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate on the Consent Calendar. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber.

THE CHAIR:

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Thank you very much, Mr. Clerk. The issue before the Chamber is Consent Calendar No. 2 for today, Wednesday, May 26, 1993. Mr. Clerk, would you please read off the items that have been placed on the Consent Calendar.

THE CLERK:

The second Consent Calendar begins on Calendar Page 8, Calendar No. 394, Substitute for House Bill 7060.

Calendar Page 16, Calendar No. 487, Senate Bill 1047.

Calendar Page 18, Calendar 497, Substitute for House Bill 6980.

Calendar Page 29, Calendar No. 69, Substitute for Senate Bill 900.

Calendar Page 29, Calendar No. 201, Substitute for Senate Bill 1064.

Calendar No. 194 -- excuse me, Madam President, Calendar No. 201 is not on the Consent Calendar. Calendar 194 on Page 29 is on the Consent Calendar, Substitute for Senate Bill 989.

Calendar Page 31, Calendar No. 259, Substitute for Senate Bill 1006.

Calendar Page 260, Substitute for Senate Bill 36.

Calendar Page 33, Calendar No. 326, Substitute for

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Senate Bill 472. Calendar 330, Substitute for Senate
Bill 905.

Calendar Page 36, Calendar No. 397, Substitute for
Senate Bill 930. Calendar 407, Substitute for Senate
Bill 1094.

Calendar Page 37, Calendar No. 420, Substitute for
Senate Bill 959.

Calendar Page 38, Calendar No. 428, Substitute for
Senate Bill 805. Calendar 440, Substitute for Senate
Bill 59.

Madam President, that completes the second Consent
Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much, Mr. Clerk. You've heard the
items that have been placed on Consent Calendar No. 2
for today, Wednesday, May 26, 1993. The machine is on.
You may record your vote.

Senator Fleming. Senator Penn. Have all Senators
voted and are your votes properly recorded? Have all
Senators voted and are your votes properly recorded?
The machine is closed.

The result of the vote:

36	Yea
0	Nay
0	Absent

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Consent Calendar No. 2 has been adopted.

The Chair would recognize Senator DiBella.

SENATOR DIBELLA:

Thank you, Madam President. I'd move we suspend the rules to send this -- today's actions directly to the House.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much. There is a motion to suspend the rules for the purposes of sending those bills upon which you have acted today to the House. Is there any objection to that motion? Any objection to that motion? So ordered.

Are there any announcements? Senator Eads.

SENATOR EADS:

Madam President, just an announcement. There will be a Republican Caucus at 11:00 tomorrow morning.

Thank you.

THE CHAIR:

At 11:00?

SENATOR EADS:

Yes.

THE CHAIR:

Are there any further announcements? If not, the Chair would recognize Senator DiBella.

SENATOR DIBELLA:

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Thank you very much, Senator DiBella.

THE CLERK:

Calling from Senate Agenda #2, Senate Bill No. 36,
AN ACT CONCERNING THE SMALL BUSINESS RECOVERY ACT OF
1993. (As amended by House Amendment Schedules "A",
"B", "C" and "D").

The House rejected Senate Amendment Schedule "A".

Favorable Report of the Committee on Legislative
Management.

THE CHAIR:

The Chair would recognize Senator Crisco.

SENATOR CRISCO:

Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, I
move acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable
Report and passage of the bill in concurrence with the
House.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much.

SENATOR CRISCO:

Madam President, this was a bill that was before
the Circle earlier. It's the Economic Reparation Act.
it addresses four major areas in regards to
accountability, plant and base closings which we now
address as a regional approach, the Technology
Deployment Act and also the Small Business Financial

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Assistance Act.

Through some very excellent deliberations between members of the House and the Commissioner of DED and the staff and the Governor's office, we feel that what was a good bill is now a better bill and I move its adoption.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much, Senator Crisco. Would anybody else wish to remark on Substitute for Senate Bill 36? Are there any further remarks? Any further remarks?

SENATOR CRISCO:

Madam President, may I request a roll call vote?

SENATOR CRISCO:

Thank you very much. If there are no further remarks, Mr. Clerk, would you please make the necessary announcement for a roll call vote.

THE CLERK:

An immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber. An immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much, Mr. Clerk. The issue before

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the Chamber is on Senate Agenda #2 under Disagreeing Actions. It is Substitute for Senate Bill 36. The machine is on. You may record your vote.

Senator Penn and Senator Colapietro. Senator Colapietro and Senator Penn. Senator Penn, vote. Thank you very much. Have all Senators voted and are your votes properly recorded? Have all Senators voted and are your votes properly recorded? The machine is closed.

The result of the vote:

36 Yea
0 Nay
0 Absent

The bill passes.

Senator Crisco.

SENATOR CRISCO:

Thank you, Madam President. I move for immediate transmittal to the Governor's office.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much. Senator Crisco has made a motion for the immediate transmittal of Substitute Senate Bill 36 to the Governor's office. Is there any objection? Any objection? Hearing none, so ordered. Thank you very much.

THE CLERK:

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House of Representatives

Wednesday, June 2, 1993

Committee on Approps.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COLEMAN:

Representative Schiessl.

REP. SCHIESSL: (60th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd move that this item be referred to the Joint Committee on Legislative Management.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COLEMAN:

Motion is for referral to Legislative Management.

Is there objection? Seeing none, so ordered.

CLERK:

Calendar 688, on Page 13, Substitute for Senate Bill 36, AN ACT CONCERNING THE SMALL BUSINESS RECOVERY ACT OF 1933, as amended by Senate "A". Favorable Report of the Committee on Appropriations.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COLEMAN:

Representative Schiessl.

REP. SCHIESSL: (60th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd move that this item be referred to the Joint Committee on Legislative Management.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COLEMAN:

Motion is for referral to Legislative Management.

Without objection, so ordered.

CLERK:

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House of Representatives

Wednesday, June 9, 1993

our friends upstairs to the Senate. The Clerk please continue with the Call of the Calendar. 688.

CLERK:

Calendar 688, Page 14, top of the page, Substitute for Senate Bill 36, AN ACT CONCERNING SMALL BUSINESS RECOVERY ACT OF 1993, as amended by Senate "A". Favorable Report of the Committee on Legislative Management.

SPEAKER RITTER:

The Honorable Chair of the Commerce and Exportation Committee, Representative Jack Betkoski from the 105th, you have the floor, my friend.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Mr. Speaker, I move acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and passage of the bill.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Motion is on acceptance and passage. Please proceed, Sir.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Clerk has an amendment, LCO Number 6581. Will he please call.

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SPEAKER RITTER:

The Clerk has an amendment, LCO6581. If he may call and Representative Betkoski would like to summarize.

CLERK:

LCO6581, Senate "A".

SPEAKER RITTER:

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Yes, Mr. Speaker. House "A" which I am going to offer very shortly basically replaces the contents of this Senate "A" amendment, and I would urge rejection.

SPEAKER RITTER:

The question is on rejection. Will you remark further? If not, I'll try your minds. All in favor of rejection signify by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Opposed, nay. Senate "A" is hereby rejected.

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Yes, Mr. Speaker. The Clerk has an amendment, LCO Number 9509. Would he please call and may I take leave to summarize.

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SPEAKER RITTER:

The Clerk has an amendment, LCO Number 9509. If he could call, Representative Betkoski would like to summarize.

CLERK:

LCO9509, House "A" offered by Representative Betkoski and LeBeau.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this bill is a major bill coming out of the Commerce Committee. It establishes a mechanism to address regional needs growing out of base and plant closures. It creates a series of centers and grants to speed deployment of existing technologies to manufacturers, creates a new small business lending program, grants, tax credits and certain types of business investments, streamlines reporting requirements for the State's economic development agencies by requiring greater detail in their reporting and establishes a very much needed, I might add, computer based one-stop business registry.

It requires the State to help small contractors access federal surety bond guarantees, transfers administration of a research financing program and

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requires studies and ways to make the Department of Revenue Services a more friendly to business, taxpayers and a feasibility of establishing a small manufacturing extension service.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption.

SPEAKER RITTER:

The question is on adoption. Will you remark further?

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Yes, Mr. Speaker. Before we proceed with the debate on the bill, I would like to thank members of the Commerce Committee, particularly my vice-chairman, Gary LeBeau and our ranking member, Les Young. This piece of legislation was not drafted by one individual, it was drafted by many individuals, people from the Department of Economic Development. The administration supports this proposal.

Individuals from the Legislative Commissioner's Office and also Legislative Research, committee staff have been invaluable in putting this piece of legislation together. It's a coalition, it's a partnership. Many of us have heard from our constituents, the need for continued economic recovery in the State of Connecticut. We've worked hard and many long hours and debating and putting this bill

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together and I hope we can come to closure on this most significant piece of legislation today.

It develops a strategic plan for the people of the State of Connecticut and I look forward to passage today.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Thank you for your hard work, Sir. The Chamber thanks you. Will you remark further on this bill? Representative Winkler.

REP. WINKLER: (41st)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in support of the legislation before us and my compliments to the Commerce Committee for a job well done. Groton as being 70% defense related, has been hard hit by the economy with the cuts in defense spending. This particular piece of legislation will give many options not only to southeastern Connecticut, but to Connecticut as a whole and I urge the Chamber's adoption. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Thank you, Madam. Anybody else before we go to the Minority Leader? Representative Prelli.

REP. PRELLI: (63rd)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, through you a couple of questions to Representative Betkoski.

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SPEAKER RITTER:

Representative Prelli.

REP. PRELLI: (63rd)

Starting right on Page 1, Section e which I think is line 33, it's a little hard to read on my copy, it says, whether the recipient is a minority or a woman owned business, are those the common definitions used for the minority business where minority business would also include, I think, any business owned by disabled persons? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Representative Betkoski, Sir.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, yes, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Representative Prelli.

REP. PRELLI: (63rd)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, some of these questions I'm asking are for legislative intent because I know we're in the last day of the session. I know we don't want to change this and that's why we're asking these.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Absolutely, Sir. I appreciate the courtesy of explaining why you're it. It's absolutely very

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important for the program, Sir.

REP. PRELLI: (63rd)

And there's a point in line 1704, Representative Betkoski. We're changing from the commissioner of Economic Development to the corporation which I assume is CII and we're saying they're going to have written procedures through section 121. Does that give us close to the protection that regulations would give us? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Quasi-public agencies have similar procedures and that's what we intend on implementing through this legislation. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Representative Prelli.

REP. PRELLI: (63rd)

I'm sorry. I got the quasi-public agencies and I didn't get anything else.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Representative Betkoski, if you could repeat.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

I apologize, Mr. Speaker, through you, I said,

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quasi-public agencies have similar procedures and that's what we plan on implementing through this legislation. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. PRELLI: (63rd)

Thank you, Representative Betkoski. And the other one I was looking for really quickly is, on line 1150, is the intent of, it says there that we shall not exceed \$20 million of State funds plus any federal funds. Is the intent of that to be \$20 million of State funds and then plus any additional federal funds, or is it meant to be that we would not exceed \$20 million in total? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, that reflects \$20 million plus any additional funds that we might get through the federal government.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Representative Prelli.

REP. PRELLI: (63rd)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, again that is one I wanted to make sure we were all reading it the same way.

One other question, through you, Mr. Speaker, there's been some transferring of funds from the

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original amounts, not necessarily making it any more of a larger bond package, but putting the bond packages in different areas from earlier versions of this.

In the original version there was \$88 million in the base plant closure recovery act. That has been reduced to \$60 million. Where's that \$28 million? Where has that gone? Is that in the, let me, is that in the industrial mortgage insurance fund? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, yes it does.

REP. PRELLI: (63rd)

And through you, Mr. Speaker, Representative Betkoski, could you explain why we decided to do that and is the money basically going to be used for the same thing? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, it's my understand that there was not much activity within that fund over the past several years and that's one of the reasons that that was the fund that we looked into, utilizing for

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the particular programs, the regional economic programs that we plan on implementing. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Representative Prelli.

REP. PRELLI: (63rd)

Seeing that I asked you about two funds I'm assuming that the fund you were talking about and that final answer was the industrial mortgage insurance fund. Is that correct? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, and for clarification, I believe he's asking why some money was left in the industrial mortgage fund?

SPEAKER RITTER:

Is that the question, Representative Prelli.

REP. PRELLI: (63rd)

Not quite, Mr. Speaker. The question was, why \$28 million was taken from the plant closure recovery act and put into the industrial mortgage insurance fund and would we basically be doing the same thing, but why was that money switched? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

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Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, because the commissioner thinks there might be a need to, the commissioner thought that that was an area of potential need within the Department of Economic Development and all those negotiating this legislation chose to leave it there. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Representative Prelli.

REP. PRELLI: (63rd)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that we've expanded this quite a bit from our plant closure act to include this and I just wanted to make sure exactly why we were spending the money on different funds. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Thank you, Sir. Will you remark further?

Representative Radckliffe.

REP. RADCLIFFE: (123rd)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A question, through you, to the proponent of the amendment.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Please proceed.

REP. RADCLIFFE: (123rd)

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In section 32, talking about the Connecticut Innovations Corporation, and we're allowing eligible institutions to apply for grants, on line 1251, eligible institutions seems to be restricted to institutions within the Connecticut State university system.

Through you, Mr. Speaker, why have we excluded private colleges from this particular program? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, I believe the consensus of those discussing this legislation was that because our State universities have such a strong focus in terms of manufacturing businesses in the State of Connecticut, in terms of research and development, in terms of assisting manufacturing companies in the State of Connecticut already, we felt that the State universities should be the ones that would be able to qualify for these funds. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Representative Radcliffe.

REP. RADCLIFFE: (123rd)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. All of those seem to be

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reasons why perhaps when the process were concluded, an institution within the State University system would in fact be chosen. That may well be the end result of the entire process.

But through you, Mr. Speaker, my question is, why have private colleges in this State such as Fairfield University, Sacred Heart University, New Haven University and others, been precluded even from making application. Why have we decided before we even start the process that it must be a State university and excluded private colleges who may also have a commitment in these areas? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, I'm not trying to shirk my alma mater, Sacred Heart University, through this legislation, that's for sure. But in terms of consistency and continuity with existing programs that we have within the State university systems, we felt that the program as it only applies to the manufacturing application center, we felt that the State universities were the ones that were most equipped to handle this particular piece of legislation. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

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REP. RADCLIFFE: (123rd)

Thank you. And through you, Mr. Speaker. It seems that many of the areas to be undertaken by the Innovations Corporation would place a premium on being in at least reasonably close proximity to an urban area. The University of Connecticut of course would not be such an institution.

Through you, Mr. Speaker, is there any particular university or particular institution within the Connecticut State university system that perhaps already has been targeted for this particular assistance and therefore it was written to accommodate that institution? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker. It's my understanding that the universities will be chosen through a competitive process regarding this legislation and all of the State universities will compete with each other when money is granted.

I do not know of one particular institution at this point that has been screened to participate in this program. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. RADCLIFFE: (123rd)

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Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I won't belabor this but I guess I'm a little bit disappointed that we decided in advance before we even began the process, that the institution that can best serve the needs here must be a State institution, must be part of the State university system, cannot under any circumstances be one of the many very fine private institutions in this State who might be able to compete, and just might be able to come forward with a better program than that being offered by one of the State universities.

It seems to me that if we're going to get into a program like this, it's in our interest to cast a net as widely as possible and use as much expertise as possible and we have many private institutions that are endowed that might be able to access endowment funds from various private sources in the business community who might also benefit from such a system that might very well feel that it was in the interest of that institution to give this Innovation Center a permanent home in a private university.

So I don't think anyone can question the work that's contemplated here. I'm just a little disappointed that private institutions haven't been given the same opportunity to compete on an equal footing with the State university system.

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REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Representative Krawiecki.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask Representative Betkoski a series of questions if I could.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Frame your serious questions, Sir.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Thank you. Representative Betkoski, let's start with page 4, the report that's going to be produced by CDA to the commissioner is requesting information or included in the information is supposed to be all activities to assist small businesses and minority business enterprises in their activities and to make recommendations for legislation.

Through you, Mr. Speaker, is it contemplated the Committee will meet during the interim, between this session and next, to collect interim reports from the commissioner and perhaps the director of CDA with perhaps regard to this aspect?

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Representative Betkoski.

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REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, I assume that Representative Krawiecki is referring to the Commerce Committee and I would anticipate that we may meet during the interim session to discuss various reports.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, has the Chairman discussed those interim meetings perhaps, with the CDA director and the commissioner?

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Representative Jack Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, no I have not. Not at this point, but of course, any Joint Standing Committee can call for meetings at any time during the interim and if we have to, we certainly will. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Thank you, Representative Betkoski. The reason for that question is, as you know, we heard an awful lot of testimony in the Committee this year that said we haven't been spending as much time as we need to on small businesses and I would just like to in as early a stage as possible, work with the executive branch on trying to move legislation and ideas and whatever we

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need in order to try and improve the economic climate for our small businesses in the State and our minority owned businesses in the State as quickly as possible.

Moving over to page 5, there's a referencing that the authority shall furnish additional reports upon written request to any such committee who makes a request. Through you, Mr. Speaker, the way in which reports and committees operates is that it operates directly through the chairman of a committee. Would you have any objection if there was an amendment to be offered, and there's a series of different locations that says any such committee or any legislative leader to request those reports?

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker. If the, I assume the Minority Leader is talking about, if he wanted to have something done, I as chairman certainly would consider doing whatever he wanted to do. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Thank you, Representative Betkoski. You can anticipate an amendment shortly.

Going over to Page 7, line 237, Representative

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Betkoski, line 237, the section 6 indicates the Commissioner of Economic Development in consultation with the executive directors of the designated organizations shall by July 1, 1995 develop, improve, objectives, so on and so forth.

Is there a reason why we deferred until July 1 of 1995 which follows, follows the next long legislative session to receive that information. In particular, what I'm wondering is, why we wouldn't want to have that report by July 1 of 1994? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, a plan is not going to be put in place until February, 1994. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Representative Krawiecki.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Right, I understand that. And is there a reason why we wouldn't want to get the materials prior to July 1 of 95. 95 will have wasted the entire long legislative session, and what I'm asking is, wouldn't it make more sense to make a change in those dates to

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1994, July 1, 1994 so that the Legislature would then be able to begin the process and the new Legislature that will be elected in November of 1994 will then have an opportunity with frankly a new Governor who is elected in 1994, to move a legislative package that makes some sense. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, I agree with what Representative Krawiecki is saying, but why we framed in that date was the fact that, as he knows, the Program Review and Investigation Committee is in the process of looking at the Department of Economics and we wanted to push back the date until we got their findings because I could well imagine there will be some type of legislation recommended from their findings, so that's why we locked into that date, Sir. Through you.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Thank you, Representative Betkoski. I think it's a little unfortunate that we would wait so long, and I understand what Program Review and Investigation is doing. It would seem to me, however, that we could obtain information from them on a periodic basis,

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certainly by at least monitoring what they're doing in their Committee and perhaps incorporate some of that material in the 1995 legislative session, which as you know is the one we just came through and we've accomplished quite a few different things in the business area.

I just wouldn't want to move another year and a half out and say, well, now we're going to sit back and wait a year and a half before we get to that area.

Mr. Speaker, moving on to page 31, Representative Betkoski, there's a reference to the Regional Economic Development Act, just to confirm. That is the old, what was called once upon a time, the base closing fund? Is that correct?

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, yes.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

And going over to Page 32, there are a couple of references to eligible projects, meaning a public or private improvement or acquisition which in the sole judgment of the commissioner, will significantly do whatever it does.

You also recollect, I'm sure, out of the Committee that we had some discussions about the judgments that have been made on some of the loans that went out

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earlier. Are you troubled by the reference to the sole judgment of the commissioner in regard to these projects rather than having some corroborative involvement of say, the Committee on Commerce or some other groupings. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, I'm not particularly troubled by it, but I know that the Minority Leader is, and I will accept his amendment later on as a friendly amendment. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Representative Krawiecki.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Thank you, Representative Betkoski. It's going to be a successful afternoon, I think.

Moving over to page 33, sub b, lines 1143 and following, there's a reference in the formula to not more than 75% of the total project costs, so on and so forth. It's my impression that that may in fact weigh the projects towards the larger cities. Is that the reason why we included that piece of information to go to our central core cities, the ones that have, generally speaking, been more economically deprived and

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have had greater difficulties, not necessarily the only difficulties, but greater difficulties in some of our smaller communities? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, yes, that was the intent of the legislation, to have those troubled municipalities, the targeted cities, to link up with those that are in less difficulties in an economic sense. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Thank you. And Representative Betkoski, in section c and then following in section 27, so that's 26c and section 27, there's a reference to \$20 million of State funds plus any federal funds in section c, and then there's a reference to State monies of not more than \$60 million in the aggregate.

Through you, Mr. Speaker, are those consistent in terminology? Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, the aggregate is \$60 million and any particular project cannot get up to more

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than \$20 million, so those are correct and consistent.
Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, I'm sorry, I didn't catch
the whole answer.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the answer to the
question is yes. No project can receive more than \$20
million and the \$60 million is correct, through you,
Mr. Speaker.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Okay. And Representative Betkoski, section 28 of
the file, page 35 on line 1191 there's a reference
indicating that any unrestricted funds available for
capital improvements received on or after January 1,
1993 by the State from the federal government, under
any program for defense conversion or general economic
assistance, it reads may be made available for purposes
of section 26, the section we were just talking about.

Wasn't it the intention, I thought, of the
Committee, that any monies we do get from a defense
diversification program would be used for those
purposes? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, the answer is yes. But

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there are other programs that are available as well, and that's why that particular legislation is incorporated into the amendment. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, let me repeat that. This section says that if we get any federal money from any program for a defense conversion or general economic assistance and it reads now, may be available, it had been my understanding that if we got any monies, we were in fact going to use them for these kind of conversion programs because it was such a crisis.

This seems to infer, this seems to infer that the commissioner or the Governor or somebody, could take the monies and move them out and do something else with them. And it had been my understanding that we wanted to absolutely prohibit that activity and that we wanted it to go right to the towns, East Hartford, New London, whatever the towns are, Bristol, I don't know, Southington, wherever it is, you know, that have been negatively impacted.

But this seems to give wiggle room so that you don't have to do that. And I was contemplating offering an amendment that frankly would change the language to shall be made available.

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So, through you, Mr. Speaker, I'm trying to remember what our intent was in the Committee and I don't remember it being possibility.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, that was not the legislative intent. The intent was to give flexibility to target other communities that might be in need of defense diversification or conversion money. Through you.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

I guess I'm not asking this the right way. I'm not troubled by other towns. I'm not troubled by who's going to get into the loot. What I'm troubled by is the fact that these monies are specifically stated for conversion projects, conversion communities and the like.

This language does not state that when you receive those monies, they must be used to help the Town of East Hartford, as an example, or New London, or one of those towns that had been negatively impacted by defense cutbacks and the like. This allows a Commissioner to yank money out of there, I presume, and then after the fact come back and say, gee, I used it for a small business program.

So, through you, Mr. Speaker, I thought our

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intention was that these monies would absolutely be used in these communities for these purposes, and I obviously have a misunderstanding then with the Chairman. Is that correct?

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you. This would give the Commission, the reason the language was used so that we may be able to participate in other types of diversification projects through perhaps federally funded projects, or monies that might become available. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Well, let's move on. Moving over to page 36, Representative Betkoski under the technology deployment act of 93, the purpose of this act is to deploy, toward the deployment of advanced available technologies in Connecticut manufacturing. We wanted to really juice it up and force out the door new technologies.

When you go down into the definition sections, it then says on line 1240, advanced available technology means a technology or process that can be applied to a manufacturing operation without substantial modification.

Again, I thought our intention was to try and

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attract new and innovative and advanced technologies that have heretofore never been talked about, not to just simply modify existing manufacturing. This definition seems to say that if I'm a, I don't know, a spring maker and I make a modification to whatever my existing activity is, as long as it goes into maybe a new engine or a new piece, that it fits this advanced technology, whatever it's called, technology deployment act. Is that correct? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Yes, through you, Mr. Speaker. The purpose is to take basic products off the shelf products and turn them into other manufacturing products that are marketable, that will be able to sustain existing manufacturers in the State. Through you.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

So through you, it's not meant to only go toward new, advanced technology, it can in fact be existing products that are just being modified? Is that correct? Through you.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, the latest existing products, yes, absolutely. Representative Krawiecki is absolutely

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correct.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, something that I haven't had on the market before? Is that correct? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, yes.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Okay. Going over to subsection 5 where it defines an eligible institution. Clearly, the University of Connecticut is excluded, excluded from this program?

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

At this particular point, yes, Mr. Speaker.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

And through you, that was not our intention, was it?

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, in that particular section I believe it was.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

And through you, Mr. Speaker, why?

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Do you care to respond, Representative Betkoski?

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Yes, UConn, through you, Mr. Speaker, at a later

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date we certainly, later section we certainly address how UConn will be part of this legislative proposal.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Well, through you, Mr. Speaker, I used UConn as an example. What happens if Yale University or Connecticut College or Fairfield University or, I don't know, Northwest Community College, or you name it, I don't know where, one of these institutions have a program for developing this kind of technology and what happens if they end up doing a pairing system with local industries that they need to incorporate in this regard?

Why would we not want to include, frankly, any educational institution of higher education in the State of Connecticut. It doesn't make any sense to me to simply only include the Connecticut State University system.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, the State universities historically have a stronger tie to the manufacturing community and industry and companies in the State of Connecticut. Other institutions of higher education are not excluded in other areas of the legislation. It

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is through this particular, the manufacturing application center that they are. But we felt that the historical relationship between the university and the manufacturing network in the State of Connecticut warranted not including colleges from the private sector in this particular section of the legislation. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, let me just make an observation first and then whack you. The State college university programs don't even have an engineering program. They have no involvement in this aspect of research. The engineering program operates out of the University of Connecticut.

Now, we've also got other institutions, and I respect your input concerning private colleges versus, you know, public colleges, but it seems to me absolutely insane for us to give a specific little program to State universities that may or may not in fact have programs. It's illogical, frankly, and it seems to me that as we try to build better and better relationships with our manufacturers in the State of Connecticut, and as we try to improve our relationship with our colleges of high technology, we've passed a couple of bills this year dealing with the University

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of Connecticut's agriculture center so that we could develop manufacturing for agriculture. That would be, I assume, advanced technologies.

We talked about aquaculture down along the coastline. In fact, we debated that at great length. What we're saying here is the schools that teach those programs are absolutely excluded from the program, if I understand your answer. So, through you, Mr. Speaker, do I misunderstand your answer?

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, he does not misunderstand my answer.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

I was afraid I didn't misunderstand you. Let's move on. In line, and by the way, I am doing this, again, Mr. Speaker, for legislative intent. I don't mean to belabor this. I happen to support the bill. I want everybody to understand that.

In line 1255 there's a reference to a nonprofit coalition. Does that mean that the consortium or the whatever gets set up, needs to be a 501C3 kind of operation, or can it just be a bunch of towns operating in some kind of a coalition fashion? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

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REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, it's my understanding it could be either. It could be either a consortium of municipalities and towns working together or it could be a 501C3 organization as well. Through you.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, does it have to be designated as such?

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, no.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Going over to page 38, lines 1293, a little bit later on, 1317, there's references to minority students, minority owned businesses. Is this, are these, there are two different sections. One is in section 33. One is in section 34. Do we mean to exclude women owned businesses there?

Or is the definition of minority owned businesses meant to include women at that point?

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, it's certainly not our intention to exclude women. It is my understanding that women are included in the definition of minority owned businesses. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

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So, through you, Mr. Speaker, when we talk about throughout this act, any minority owned business, we mean minority owned in the classic sense it would be all the protected classes by race and you know, creed and all that sort of thing. Is that correct?

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, yes, Mr. Speaker.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

And in the job, moving over to section 36, the last line on page 39 deals with the job training technology deployment center and the like, any idea on how much staff is needed to make this work and what we're contemplating and that sort of thing?

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, it's very difficult for us to anticipate what type of staffing would be required for that particular area of the legislation since it would be a competitive process and people will be applying for the money, so it's hard for us to ballpark you know, what type of support staff might be needed. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

And moving over to line 1370, and 71, Representative Betkoski, through you, Mr. Speaker, there's a reference to software, hardware and that sort

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of thing. Are there any special industries that we're intending to provide a little kick to here?

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, not to my knowledge.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

We are simply including it because you assume that this is the wave of the future and people need to know how to use computers? Is that the reason why this language is uniquely included or is there a different reason?

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, yes, Mr. Speaker, that's basically the reasoning behind the legislation. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Thanks, Representative Betkoski. I think with that, well, let me ask one more question. Near the back of the bill on Page 50, there's a reference in section 51, there's established within the Department of Economic Development a manufacturing extension service program for the purpose of awarding a grant to private nonprofit or public entities seeking to establish within the State a manufacturing extension service for small and medium sized manufacturers.

What is, what is a manufacturing extension service?

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Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

It's very, through you, Mr. Speaker, it's very similar to what we presently have in existence, like an agricultural extension service where manufacturers will have a program to be able to facilitate them, to assist them with varied problems that they might have within their particular business. It's to make life a little bit easier for the manufacturers in the State of Connecticut and to serve as hopefully, a very positive resource for them so we can sustain them within the State of Connecticut.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

And through you, Mr. Speaker, is manufacturing extension service program defined anywhere?

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, it is only referred to and defined somewhat in section 51 of the bill.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Okay, thank you, Representative Betkoski. I would then take your answer to mean that no, it is not defined. So if I came up with some innovative

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manufacturing idea, I suppose I could make an application, suggest that I'm setting up a manufacturing extension service and I probably would be eligible to come in and apply.

So that leads me to my last question, and that is, what's the criteria going to be for selection of my program when I come in there? I mean, how is this commissioner going to decide whether to accept, you know, the Krawiecki plan, or you know, the Betkoski plan, or whatever it is, the Polish plan? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, it's a very good question. There's nothing in the statute, but again, I think it would be something that I think would be looked at in terms of innovativeness and competitiveness and goals and objections of the particular proposal, the past record, what type of potential continuity we might have with this particular proposal. I would assume that the Department of Economic Development would do their usual job in assessing this.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Thank you, Representative Betkoski. I apologize to the Chamber for taking the time, but I thought some of

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those questions should at least be explored. I didn't hear you do those in the summary of the bill when you brought it out and I'll sit down and listen to other debate on this bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Will you remark further on "A". Representative Buonocore.

REP. BUONOCORE: (102nd)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Representative Betkoski, in your summary, did I hear you say that the objective of this operation was for training, retraining, for an employment, and maintain an employment. Is that one of the primary objectives of this program?

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, some of that I mentioned during my introductory remarks, but there's no retraining program in this particular, we passed a major piece of legislation last Saturday with our job training, our voucher system program which is a \$5.2 million program which we passed, which gets involved in job training. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. BUONOCORE: (102nd)

If I may, through you again, Mr. Speaker, for clarification purposes only. Is this restricted again to one university, or one college, whichever?

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REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, I'm a little bit unclear as to what Representative Buonocore is asking.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Representative Buonocore, could you please rephrase your question.

REP. BUONOCORE: (102nd)

Well, maybe I can come directly to the point, and the point I'm trying to make. What I've been hearing here in the last 15 minutes is simply addressing programs that are currently available here in the State, and they have been available in the State for many, many years.

There has been a cooperation between industry and the colleges to train, retrain, and bring students abreast of the latest technologies. These programs had been run through the community technical colleges, and they've been going on for years. The programs were held in the colleges or at the businesses, or at any location when there were sufficient number of students.

So to me it seems very remiss that in looking to train and move forward and to adjust for the loss of the military applications and employment, that we bypass the only body that has experience and the capability to perform that function, and that is the

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technical colleges. I thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Will you remark? Will you remark further on "A".

Representative Simmons.

REP. SIMMONS: (43rd)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, a question or two to the proponent of the bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Frame your question, Sir.

REP. SIMMONS: (43rd)

Thank you. Representative Betkoski it's my understanding from reading through the bill that there is no language in this bill that deals with the issue of foreign trade zones. Is that correct? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, that is correct.

REP. SIMMONS: (43rd)

And yet, I think the Commerce Committee did discuss the issue earlier this year. We had some hearings on it. We had a bill reported out and the idea seemed to have broad based support in the Commerce Committee. Is that correct? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, yes.

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REP. SIMMONS: (43rd)

I have an amendment that I've drawn on this bill that deals with foreign trade zones, but it would be my inclination unless you say otherwise, not to draw it if on the understanding there may be an avenue coming out of the Senate that might be better to deal with that issue. Through you, Mr. Speaker, could I receive some clarification on the subject?

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Yes, through you, Mr. Speaker, there is another, I understand exactly what Representative Simmons is talking about and I would be in agreement to support the amendment that will hopefully be coming down from upstairs. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. SIMMONS: (43rd)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I think we all want to move this bill along. It seems to be a good bill, a comprehensive bill with only perhaps a few problems and I would be happy to accommodate the process based on the assurances that I've received that if our proposal comes down from upstairs, and I assume it will, that it will be happily received by this Body and in particular by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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Thank you, Sir. Will you remark further on "A".
If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor
signify by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Opposed, nay. The amendment is adopted. Will you
remark further on the bill? Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Clerk has an
amendment, LCO8562, House "B". Will he call and may I
please have permission to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Will the Clerk please call 8562. 8462, House "B".

CLERK:

LCO8562, House "B".

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

The gentleman has asked leave of the Chamber to
summarize. Hearing no objection, proceed, Sir.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker at the very
end of the bill on 1758, we were in error in terms of
when this act shall take effect, and we want to say
that this act should take effect July 1, 1993 except
that sentence 42 shall apply to taxable years of

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corporation commencing on or after January 1, 1995 and section 57 should take effect July 1, 1995 which means essentially this will not cause any type of revenue reduction during the next biennial budget.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

The question is on adoption. Will you remark? If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor of House "B" signify by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Opposed, nay. The ayes have it. Will you remark further? Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Yes, Mr. Speaker, at this point I'd like to yield to Representative Knierim for the purpose of an amendment.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Yes. Representative Knierim, do you accept the yield, Sir?

REP. KNIERIM: (16th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I do. The Clerk has an amendment, LCO Number 9212. Would the Clerk please call and may I be permitted to summarize.

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The Clerk please call LC09212, House "C".

CLERK:

LC09212, House "C", offered by Representatives
Knierim, McCavanagh and Betkoski.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Representative Knierim, will you summarize.

REP. KNIERIM: (16th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This amendment would authorize the Banks Department to license and regulate a new entity that would be a non-bank lender for the sole purpose of writing small business administration loans. I think it would significantly improve the credit situation for small businesses in Connecticut and I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

The question is on adoption. Will you remark?

REP. KNIERIM: (16th)

Mr. Speaker, thank you. We've all heard an awful lot about the pervasive credit crunch that is one of the most significant components of our chronic recession in Connecticut.

One of the sources of this problem is the fact that our banking institutions are operating under a cumbersome set of regulations, many of which are federal, that prevent them from writing loans to many

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of the small businesses that are so much in need of credit if they're going to be able to continue operations and to expand their operations so that they can create jobs.

What this amendment does is establishes for Connecticut a new type of entity called a business and industrial development corporation. It would be a non-bank lender and it therefore would not be subject to some of those federal regulations that are designed to protect bank depositors.

The amendment is narrowly structured as is the licensure provision so that we're talking only about entities that would be established for the purpose of writing small business administration loans.

Historically, Connecticut has been weak in the amount of loans that we have been able to issue under the small business administration loan programs and by creating a new type of entity with somewhat more flexibility, I think we could greatly enhance the number of loans and thus capitalize on an existing federal program that is geared very much to providing credit to small businesses.

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It's significant that the Banks Department and the banking industry generally, all different types of banks are very supportive of this proposal, understanding that it's a way to get capital to small businesses in Connecticut.

So I think it's a very good piece of legislation and I'd urge the Chamber's support.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

The question is on the adoption of "C". Will you remark? If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor of "C" signify by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Opposed, nay. "C" is adopted. Will you remark? Will you remark further on the bill as amended? Representative Young.

REP. YOUNG: (143rd)

Mr. Speaker, the Clerk has an amendment, 7468. Will he call and may I please be allowed to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

The Clerk please call LCO7468, House "D".

CLERK:

LCO7468, House "D" offered by Representative Krawiecki, Ward and Rell.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Hearing no objection, please summarize, Sir.

REP. YOUNG: (143rd)

Mr. Speaker, earlier in the conversation we discussed the fact that perhaps the wording which said the commissioner of Economic Development should be the sole arbiter of whether or not a project is qualified with this program. This amendment simply removes the word sole from the section of the bill, subsection 4 of section 25 of the bill which refers to it. It's a very simply amendment. It doesn't take away the power of the commissioner, it just makes it a little bit softer, a little bit better. I move its adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

The question is on adoption of "D". Will you remark?

REP. YOUNG: (143rd)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I think my summation is sufficient.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Will you remark further on "D"? Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Mr. Speaker, we consider this a friendly amendment and have no objections.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Will you remark further on "D". If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Opposed, nay. "D" is adopted. Will you remark further on the bill as amended? Will you remark? Representative Ward.

REP. WARD: (86th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Based on the discussion with regard to the University of Connecticut not participating in part of the program, we have drawn an amendment, LCO9368. If the Clerk would please call and I be given permission to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

The Clerk please call LCO9368, House "E".

CLERK:

LCO9368, House "E".

REP. WARD: (86th)

Mr. Speaker, what the amendment does is strike out subsection 6 of section 32 of the bill. It redefines an eligible institution to include the Connecticut State University or the University of Connecticut if either are operating programs on that date. I move adoption

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of the amendment.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

The question is on the adoption of "E". Will you remark?

REP. WARD: (86th)

Mr. Speaker, based on the earlier discussion, it is my understanding that Connecticut State University and specifically, I believe, Central Connecticut, has a good program that this bill intends to tap into. We have no reason to want to not do that.

The University of Connecticut also does a great deal of things, very innovative things in terms of connections to small business, in fact has a small business development center, if I'm saying the name right, there seems no reason to leave them out of this program.

It doesn't mandate that they do any specific thing but certainly, our State University ought not to be excluded from participation, and I urge the Chamber to accept the amendment.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

The question is on adoption of "E". Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Mr. Speaker, in all due respect to Representative

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Ward, it's my understanding that the passage of this amendment would cause big problems upstairs, if you will, and that along with that, is that we would also, we feel that this particular legislation that way it is presently written, incorporates the State University systems who have a history with this and I would promise him that as Chairman of the Commerce Committee that I would revisit this particular issue next year.

Mr. Speaker, I would request a roll call vote. I would request a roll call vote, please.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Let me try your minds. All those in favor of a roll call vote signify by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER PUDLIN:

Twenty percent has been met. We'll have a roll call vote when the time comes.

Representative Ward.

REP. WARD: (86th)

It sounds to me like there's a very big problem, but there's a personality problem, not a merits problem on the bill. I really think the bill is better with this. I would have settled for a voice vote, but since there's a roll call I certainly urge members to support

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the amendment. I see no reason to exclude the University of Connecticut from this aspect of the program for fear that somewhere in the Senate, somebody's going to decide that we shouldn't do this bill at all. It just doesn't seem to make any sense whatsoever.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Will you remark further on House Amendment "E"? If not, staff and guests come to the well of the House. The machine will be opened.

CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by roll call. Members to the Chamber please. The House is voting by roll call. Members to the Chamber.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Have all members voted? If all members have voted, the machine will be locked. The Clerk please take the tally. The Clerk please announce the tally.

CLERK:

House "E" to Senate	Bill 36.
Total number voting	146
Necessary for adoption	74
Those voting yea	64
Those voting nay	82
Those absent and not voting	5

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SPEAKER RITTER:

House "E" fails.a Representative Krawiecki.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Clerk has an amendment, LCO8655. Would he please call and read?

SPEAKER RITTER:

The Clerk has amendment LCO8655, House "F". If he may call, and Representative Krawiecki would like to summarize.

CLERK:

LCO8655, House "F" offered by Representative Krawiecki et al.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Representative Krawiecki.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Did the Clerk read the amendment?

SPEAKER RITTER:

I'm sorry, the Clerk please call and read it, too.

CLERK:

Strike out section 55 in its entirety and renumber the remaining sections accordingly.

SPEAKER RITTER:

I thought that was a little bit long for the Clerk, Sir. You have the floor.

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

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I move adoption.

SPEAKER RITTER:

The question is on adoption. Will you remark further?

REP. KRAWIECKI: (78th)

Yes, members of the House. What this amendment does is delete section 55 of the bill which is the establishment of an advisory board consisting of Connecticut executives.

Let me be honest. The commissioner can do, and I hope he listens to me, the commissioner can certainly set up any advisory panel he would love to set up and he can include any executives he wants to set up with, any utility company, any manufacturing company, anybody he wants on the face of the earth, and I don't think there's any prohibition against it. I just don't think we need to set this up in our statutes. It seems to me that we're just adding to the statutes a requirement that the commissioner do something that he already has the perfect authority to do.

I would urge the Chamber to adopt the amendment.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Representative Betkoski.

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REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Representative Betkoski.

REP. BETKOSKI: (105th)

Yes, Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose the amendment. This is something that is in existence already. It includes a public-private partnership between the State and as Representative Krawiecki said, the private sector.

It's something that has already been in existence. The commissioner feels that we need to get this in statute so that we can have more bite, if you will, in terms of legislative intent when soliciting in kind contributions from utilities and it also would include other companies and would provide for us a firmer footing to deal with the type of things that we like to deal with within these corporations in the private sector.

I urge rejection.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Will you remark further on this amendment?

Representative Prelli.

REP. PRELLI: (63rd)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise to

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support the amendment. I think that Representative Betkoski already answered his own question on this why we don't need it. Or answered our question why we don't need it. They're already set up. They're already there working and now we're passing legislation.

Well, this seems to me, if we already have something up and running, why do we need legislation, if they could already be established. It seems to me that this isn't necessary. So I think the question has been answered, and I'd like to yield to the Minority Leader who's going to get me in trouble.

SPEAKER RITTER:

The distinguished Minority Leader, do you accept the yield, Sir?

REP. PRELLI: (63rd)

Absolutely, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, notwithstanding my opinion that the commissioner can do anything he feels like doing, including having 52 advisory committees if he'd like, I'm reminded that I had indicated a different position on this section at a late hour last evening which I frankly don't remember, but maybe anything's possible.

So, Mr. Speaker, I'd like, with the indulgence of the Chamber, to withdraw the amendment.

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SPEAKER RITTER:

The Chamber is very appreciative and the amendment is so withdrawn.

Will you remark further on this bill as amended?

If not, staff and guests -

REP. YOUNG: (143rd)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER RITTER:

I'm sorry, Representative Young. I apologize, Sir.

REP. YOUNG: (143rd)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before we vote, just a couple of comments on this bill, which is a rather substantial bill, as we know.

First of all, I had an amendment to remove section 5 of the bill from the file which is the section that requires the executive head of each agency subdivision, etc. to report a plan of action to the, planning to the commissioner of Economic Development. I don't think this is necessary. I think it's kind of a redundancy. I was going to call it. I won't at this point.

This bill is not a perfect bill. There's a lot of, it does do some things that are important. It does access regional planning authorities. It does allow the commissioner to engage in some activities which we could not previously engage in the regional activities.

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Even though it's not perfect, it's a lot better than it was. At one point it was a program brought to us by our friends upstairs which was going to build a lot of infrastructure in places where we had a plant closing, and I didn't think it was very smart to build a road to broken down or empty plant or submarine base or what have you.

So we were able to change the bill to come up with what it is now, which will do some things to tighten up our control over the economic development department which I think all of us have felt a little unhappy with. We haven't been able to get the reports we wanted to see and we got them in different forms and one form goes to the Bonding subcommittee and one form comes to the Commerce Committee.

I think tightening up the reports will make all of us in the Legislature feel better about being able to see what's going on with this large amount of money and programs being run, I think quite successfully by DED.

I think the, finally, I think the continuing access of the regional development authorities will be of good to us. I urge its adoption, Mr. Speaker, and I support it.

SPEAKER RITTER:

Will you remark further? If not, staff and guests

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to the well of the House. The machine will be opened.

CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by roll.

Members to the Chamber, please. The House of Representatives is voting by roll. Members please report to the Chamber.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COLEMAN:

Have all members voted? Have all members voted and is your vote properly recorded. Please check the board to determine if your vote is properly recorded. If all members have voted, the machine will be locked. The Clerk will take a tally. The Clerk will announce the tally.

CLERK:

Senate Bill 36 as amended by House Amendments "A", "B", "C" and "D".

Total number voting	146
Necessary for passage	74
Those voting yea	146
Those voting nay	0
Those absent and not voting	5

DEPUTY SPEAKER COLEMAN:

The bill as amended is passed. Representative Luby.

REP. LUBY: (82nd)