

PA10-143

HB5392

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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2010**

**VOL.53
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members take your seats. The machine will be open.

THE CLERK:

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

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Have all the members voted? Have all the members
voted? Please check the board to make sure your vote
is properly cast.

If all the members have voted, the machine will
be locked. Would the Clerk please take and announce
the tally. Will the Clerk please announce the tally?

THE CLERK:

House Bill 5495.

Total Number voting 145

Necessary for adoption 73

Those voting Yea 145

Those voting Nay 0

Those absent and not voting 6

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

The bill passes.

Would the Clerk please call Calendar 293.

THE CLERK:

On page 20, Calendar 293, House Bill Number 5392,

AN ACT CONCERNING NONAPPROPRIATED FUNDS AND PERSONNEL STATUS REPORTS BY QUASI-PUBLIC AGENCIES, favorable report of the Committee on Appropriations.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Heinrich of Madison, you have the floor, madam.

REP. HEINRICH (101st):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

The question before the Chamber is acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

Please proceed, madam.

REP. HEINRICH (101st):

Thank you, sir.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is an important measure regarding oversight of our tax dollars with regard to how they are being used within quasi-public agencies. In July of 2009, the State of Connecticut instituted reporting requirements for quasi-public agencies. Now they are required to report quarterly to the Office of Fiscal Analysis. The requirements are very broad,

requiring them to report on their expenses and their revenues.

This bill specifies exactly what we mean by reporting on expenses and revenues. It clarifies what we're looking for and it specifies the formats. I urge my colleagues to support these measures in order to improve our oversight of the finances and tax dollars that are utilized by quasi-public institutions.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Thank you.

Representative Heinrich.

Further on the bill? Further on the bill?

Representative Cafero of the 142nd, you have the floor, sir.

REP. CAFERO (142nd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Question, through you, to the proponent of the bill.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Please proceed, sir.

REP. CAFERO (142nd):

Yes, thank you.

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Representative Heinrich, I note on several of our summary sheets as we try to digest that those of us who are not on the various committees of cognizance, there was some opposition to this bill. Is it fair to ask what -- how that opposition was characterized, through you, Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Heinrich.

REP. HEINRICH (101st):

Yes, thank you for the opportunity. Mr. Speaker, I believe that the opposition that I heard centered on the thought that this would require more reporting. And, in fact, what this bill does is it clarifies what report -- how we format the reporting that they are already required to do.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Cafero.

REP. CAFERO (142nd):

Thank you.

Through you, Mr. Speaker. In light of the fact that it seems to me to add certain more requirements that need to be reported, is there -- I guess you've indicated there was concern expressed that it's, sort

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of, adding, for lack of a better term, more
bureaucracy to the process. How does the requirement
of more information being recorded -- reported --
excuse me -- translate into less reporting?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Heinrich.

REP. HEINRICH (101st):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

It -- it is not more reporting, it's a
clarification of the format of how we want them to
report. It -- it requires them to report their
expenses within funds and accounts. And it -- it
requires them to report their balances at the
beginning and the end of the quarter. And it pretty
much conforms how they are reporting to how we require
all non-appropriated funds to report.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Cafero.

REP. CAFERO (142nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, how would that differ
from what they're currently obligated to do?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Heinrich.

REP. HEINRICH (101st):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

It -- what they are required to do does not specify how they are required to do it. So it is the same -- they are the same numbers but now they -- they -- we are specifying a format that those numbers will come to us.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Cafero.

REP. CAFERO (142nd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Through you, Mr. Speaker, does this reporting touch upon any or relate to any privacy issues with regard to the information that these various agencies might possess?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Heinrich.

REP. HEINRICH (101st):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

That is an issue that I have -- have heard. And

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to my knowledge, no, it does not.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Cafero.

REP. CAFERO (142nd):

Thank you. Through you, Mr. Speaker. In what context did you hear the privacy issues as a concern with regard to this bill?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Heinrich.

REP. HEINRICH (101st):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Generally, exactly how you asked it of me.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Cafero.

REP. CAFERO (142nd):

I'm sorry. I -- I didn't hear the response.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Heinrich, would you care to repeat your response, please.

REP. HEINRICH (101st):

Certainly, through you, Mr. Speaker, similar

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question as to what was just asked of me.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Cafero.

REP. CAFERO (142nd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

We have a number of bills this session that require various information being given to either certain commissions or being reported out by certain agencies. And a lot of that information, in some cases, contains private information of individuals, et cetera. And what my concern is, or a concern that has been brought to my attention, is that this bill might require the reporting of some -- what some might consider private information.

And I guess I would be asking for the purposes of legislative intent and also assurance to the Chamber that that would not be the case. If I may ask that through Representative Heinrich.

Through you?

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

You may.

Representative Heinrich.

REP. HEINRICH (101st):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Through you, I -- I'd like to answer the question. I'm -- I'm a little bit unclear as to what private information he is worried about being reported.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Cafero.

REP. CAFERO (142nd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I thank the gentlelady for answering my questions.

REP. HEINRICH (101st):

Okay.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Further on this bill? Further on this bill?
Further on this bill?

Representative Hetherington of the 125th.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, through you, if I may ask a question to the proponent?

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

You surely may, sir, please proceed.

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REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

Thank you. Okay. I -- I'm wondering what is in the quarterly personnel status reports.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Heinrich.

REP. HEINRICH (101st):

If I could restate your question to make sure I understand what you're asking, through you, Mr. Speaker.

You're asking what would be reported on the quarterly personnel reports.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Hetherington.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

That's it, Mr. Speaker.

Thank you.

REP. HEINRICH (101st):

Okay.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Heinrich.

REP. HEINRICH (101st):

Okay, thank you.

Through you, Mr. Speaker, my understanding is the quarterly personnel reports would include which positions are filled and which positions are vacant, how many employees they have and what they do.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Hetherington.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, is this a -- a report of the number of positions, those that are filled and unfilled, or does it name any employees?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Heinrich.

REP. HEINRICH (101st):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

My understanding is this does not name individuals.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Hetherington.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

I see. Thank you. And -- and what -- what is the purpose, through you, Mr. Speaker, of -- of the

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quarterly reports, specifically?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Heinrich.

REP. HEINRICH (101st):

Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, I -- I am really glad that this question was asked because I think it's a very important one that I'd like to address.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, last year we worked very hard to get information on nonappropriated funds so that we could look at where our tax dollars were going and what they were being used for in accounts that were not regularly reviewed by the Appropriations Committee because they were nonappropriated. They were off budget.

And, Mr. Speaker, these accounts include accounts for quasi-public agencies. And we found that it was often difficult to get information in a timely manner concerning very important expenditures and fund balances and information on programs, et cetera. And so we've tightened up the reporting requirements so this information would be available through the Office of Fiscal Analysis, and that was the impetus for

passing the bill that went into effect on July 1st, 2009. And this bill we have before us specifies the format for that reporting.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Hetherington.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

I see. And is it -- is it the intent that by requiring the report we bring some discipline into the quasi-public agencies in terms of hiring people?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Heinrich.

REP. HEINRICH (101st):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, I do not feel that the intent of this bill has to do with hiring within the quasi-publics. The intent of this bill is to bring us more information regarding how our tax dollars are being spent.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Hetherington.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

I see. Would it be fair to say that personnel

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costs are the largest element of those taxpayer dollars that are spent?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Heinrich.

REP. HEINRICH (101st):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, I think that totally depends on the agency and the quasi-public agency.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Hetherington.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

I see. Okay. Thank -- thank you. I thank Representative Heinrich.

And thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Thank you, sir.

Further on the bill? Further on the bill?

If not, staff and guests please return to the well. House members take your seats. The machine will be open.

THE CLERK:

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

roll call. Members to the chamber please.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Have all the members voted? Have all the members voted? Please check the roll call board to make sure your vote has been properly cast.

If all the members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will please take a tally. Would the Clerk please announce the tally? Would the Clerk please announce the tally?

THE CLERK:

House Bill 5392.

Total Number voting 145

Necessary for adoption 73

Those voting Yea 145

Those voting Nay 0

Those absent and not voting 6

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

The bill passes.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar 130?

THE CLERK:

On page 9, Calendar 130, House Bill Number 5215,
AN ACT CONCERNING MODIFICATIONS TO THE PURCHASED GAS,
ENERGY AND TRANSMISSION RATE ADJUSTMENT CLAUSES,
favorable report of the Committee on Energy and

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SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President.

Calendar page 9, Calendar 445, House Bill 5202, move
to place on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Without objection, so ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President.

Calendar page 9, Calendar 447, House Bill 5392, move
to place on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Without objection, so ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President.

Calendar -- calendar page 9, Calendar 450, House
Bill 5529, move to place the item on the consent
calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Without objection, so ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President.

Calendar 451, House Bill 5535, move to place the
item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

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Calling from Agenda Number 4, Substitute for Senate Bill 201.

Senate Agenda Number 8, Substitute for House Bill 5398, Substitute for House -- Senate Bill 175, Substitute for Senate Bill 302.

Returning to the calendar -- beginning on calendar page 5, Calendar Number 315, House Bill 5264.

Calendar page 6, Calendar 378, Substitute for or -- correction -- House Bill 5197.

Calendar page 8, Calendar -- correction, returning back to page 5, Calendar 295, Substitute for House Bill 5114 -- correction, not Calendar 295, it's Calendar 294, House Bill 5391.

Returning to calendar page 6, Calendar Number 378, House Bill 5197.

Calendar page 8, Calendar Number 440, Substitute for House Bill 5113. Calendar page 441 -- Calendar 441, Substitute for House Bill 5109.

Calendar page 9, Calendar 444, House Bill 5500.
Calendar 5 -- 41 --

Calendar page 9, Calendar 444, House Bill 5500;
Calendar 4555, House Bill 5202; Calendar 445, House Bill 5392; Calendar 450, House Bill 5529.

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Calendar page 10, Calendar 461, House Bill 5207;
Calendar 483, House Bill 5244.

Calendar 484, on page 11, House Bill 5383; Calendar
487, House Bill 5220; Calendar 488, House Bill 5297;
Calendar 490, 5425 -- House; Calendar 496, House Bill
5497; Calendar 509, House Bill 5126.

Calendar page 14, Calendar 511, House Bill 5527;
Calendar 514, House Bill 5426; Calendar 516, House Bill
5393.

Calendar page 15, Calendar 520, House Bill 5336;
Calendar 521, House Bill 5424; Calendar 523, House Bill
5223; Calendar 525, House Bill 5255.

Calendar page 16, Calendar 531, House Bill 5004.

Calendar page 17, Calendar 533, House Bill 5436;
Calendar 540, House Bill 5494; Calendar 543, House Bill
5399.

Calendar page 18, Calendar 544, House Bill 5434;
Calendar 547, House Bill 5196; Calendar 548, House Bill
5533; Calendar 549, House Bill 5387; Calendar 550, House
Bill 5471; Calendar 551, House Bill 5413; Calendar 552,
House Bill 5163; Calendar 553, House Bill 5159.

Calendar page 19, Calendar 554, House Bill 5164.

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Calendar page 20, Calendar 556, House Bill 5498;
Calendar 557, House Bill 5270; 559, House Bill 5407; 562,
House Bill 5253; and House Bill -- Calendar 563, House
Bill 5340; Calendar 567, House Bill 5371; and Calendar
573, House Bill 5371.

Mr. President, I believe that completes the items

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk, could you please give me on Calendar 567,
do you have 5516, sir?

THE CLERK:

What -- what calendar?

THE CHAIR:

567 on page 22.

THE CLERK:

It's 5516.

THE CHAIR:

Yes, sir. Okay.

Machine's open.

THE CLERK:

An immediate roll call vote has been ordered in the
Senate on the consent calendar. Will all Senators please
return to the chamber. Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate on the
consent calendar. Will all Senators please return to the chamber.

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THE CHAIR:

Have all Senators voted? Please check your vote. The machine will be locked. The Clerk will call the tally.

THE CLERK:

Motion is on adoption of Consent
Calendar Number 2.

Total number voting	35
Necessary for Adoption	18
Those voting Yea	35
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	1

THE CHAIR:

Consent Calendar Number 2 passes.

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Yes, Mr. President.

Mr. President -- Mr. President, before moving to adjourn, I would like to ensure the entire chamber will wish Laura Stefon, Senator McDonald's aide, my former intern, a happy birthday.

And with that -- and with that, Mr. President, I would move the Senate stand adjourn