

PA12-169

HB5307

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meat, but whether it's dairy, whether it's chickens, whether it's things that are grown, whether it's any component, it could be even Christmas trees, you know, we want to try to promote the use of this land that we have done such a great job of preserving.

So I look forward to having this continue to move forward, this decision. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

REP. TABORSAK: Thank you, Senator. With that, thank you - -

REP. MINER: I just wanted to thank you for that comment. I did have - - I have had a conversation with some of the members of that commission, and they've not taken a position on the bill yet. But we had a very frank conversation about the implications in the bill, both pro and con.

And so as I said to you earlier, I'd be happy to try and work my way through those. I think that the best change legislation like this has with moving forward is a good, positive dialogue, and what I've heard today is a good indicator of things to come. Thank you.

REP. TABORSAK: Thank you for your testimony. Moving onto the public portion. Our first speaker is John Arabasos, or Arabatos. Apologies, followed by Alex Lanuk, followed by Karen Buckley Bates, followed by Eric Schoonmaker. Good afternoon.

JOHN ARABALOS: Good afternoon, Senator Doyle, Representative Taborsak, and respected members of the General Law Committee. My name is John Arabalos, I am a registered interior designer, small business owner in West Haven, and interior design educator at the University of

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New Haven.

I am here today with my colleague, Alex Lanuk, also a registered interior designer, small business owner in Stanford, and an interior design educator at Norwalk Community College, in support of H.B. 5307.

Interior design is an involving profession that includes many aspects of technical expertise. In the practice of interior design, education and skill sets vary in relation to specific education qualifications and specialized knowledge of building codes, preparing plans and specifications for non-load bearing interior construction, and design solutions for those with special needs to creating personal living environments. Registered interior designers working in residential settings must comply with state and local building codes, while registered interior designers working in more heavy regulated spaces, such as office, hospitality, health, education and retail must comply with building and energy codes, indoor air quality and the Americans With Disabilities Act requirements, among other health and safety issues.

A federal court decision declared that it was unconstitutional to enforce legislation or regulation that restricted the use of the words interior designers as it has been used in the public domain in Connecticut for over a century. At the same time, the court reaffirmed that creating a licensed, registered or a certified interior designer, in order to provide necessary public - - excuse me - - necessary oversight for public health and safety needs while expanding practice opportunities was permissible and provided a benefit to the state and the

consumer.

Based on this ruling, the state of Connecticut now regulates the title registered interior design, yet statute clearly prohibits use or display of the registration number by qualified individuals. The passage of H.B. 5307 will rectify that prohibition, thus allowing registered interior designers to utilize the registration number to identify their specialized skill set, affirming to the specific knowledge and abilities while in turn it provides accountability for consumers and awareness of the various levels of design services available in order to make an appropriate selection of the design professional to retain for a specific project.

In selecting a registered interior designer, consumers will know they're working with qualified, responsible, professionals that utilize the latest information regarding health, safety and welfare and who have met specific nationally accepted standards of minimum competency and testing.

Use of the registration number also - - should I just wrap this up?

REP. TABORSAK: That's fine. You can continue. I think you're - -

JOHN ARABALOS: Thank you. Tell me when to stop. Use of the registration number also promotes opportunity for clients to work directly with interior design professionals on code-based interior projects, thus reducing consumer cost by eliminating expensive, unqualified and or incorrect document processing.

H.B. 5307 aligns registered interior designers with other major participants in the

construction industry, such as home improvement contractors and landscape designers who are also required to display their license.

It also provides building and fire officials with confidence that qualified individuals are submitting the appropriate non-strictly plans, drawings and specifications for permitting purposes, and assists municipalities in identifying qualified respondents in bidding procedures on local and state levels.

H.B. 5307 safeguards the public by creating accountability with and credentials, offering the consumer legal recourse against negligent or unethical designers who violate the law and in addition provides consumers with a venue for redress of grievances. Further, it identifies registered interior designers who maintain high ethical standards and voluntarily partake in continuing education, a critical necessity in this fast-moving field. It provides career development through professional partnership opportunities, while ensuring that registered interior designers will benefit from reciprocity when working on out-of-state projects.

And lastly, in retrospect, allowing registered interior designers to display their registration number far better serves the state's interest in protecting consumers. We ask that you support H.B. 5307, and thank you for allowing me to go over.

REP. TABORSAK: Not a problem. Just so the member of the public know we have the first two speakers here together, so I allowed them a little latitude on the three-minute rule. So I think we'll save some time. The testimony that you've given is very helpful. Thank you

for the detail. With that I'll take any questions from the members of the committee here, that they may have. Representative Baram.

REP. BARAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just am looking to clarify something. It sounds like you're advocating the use and preservation of your certificate number, that licensing registered interior designer is a good thing. But then, if I'm reading it correctly, you're saying that that certificate number can't be used as part of an advertisement. And I'm just, again, trying to reconcile.

JOHN ARABALOS: Well, firstly we're not licensed. We're title registered. And our registration card looks just like a license. It's the exact same form. And we are advocating for use of that titled registration number to get put on all of our legal documents, from construction documents to anything that is business related to assure the public, like the contractors and whatnot, that we are interior designers.

Currently we're not allowed to -- I'm answering your question -- that registration number cannot be used, it cannot be posted. It's on our registration certificate and on our cards and wallets, but that's where it goes.

REP. BARAM: So you're just clarifying that that certificate number should not be in an advertisement.

JOHN ARABALOS: If I may --

ALEX LANUK: It should be in an advertisement.

REP. BARAM: Should be.

ALEX LANUK: Should be. Registered interior designer should be able to use their registration number that they've paid for and filed with the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection in order to identify themselves as a registered interior designer and to define their scope of practice.

REP. BARAM: So in other words we're excluding Section 5 that prohibits the use of the number. I see. And your position is it should be allowed now in general advertising.

JOHN ARABALOS: Especially since the court hearing that had occurred and it was recognized that it was of value and a necessity to have a registered interior designer practice in the state of Connecticut apart from the reflection that we feel that it's comparative that that registration number now appears so people can differentiate between us and those that are not qualified.

REP. BARAM: Thank you.

REP. TABORSAK: Are there any other questions from the committee members? Yes, Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon. Just curious, do you know what the purpose at that time to actually put in the legislation to rescript the use of the number?

ALEX LANUK: I don't. It dates back 20 or more years. I was not involved with interior design legislation at that time. I don't really know if it was a bargaining chip or whether it was felt that it wasn't necessary at the time. In today's standards most note the home remodelers, building contractors,

left to quote, everyone need to display their registration number or license to identify their credentials.

REP. REBIMBAS: Thank you. And during the testimony there was some reference to reciprocity. Are we talking about reciprocity with other states? And if you could just give me a little bit more information in that regard as to how this may assist with your business and or having reciprocity or being able to do business in other states.

ALEX LANUK: Well, with reciprocity there's 26 jurisdictions in the United States that have legislation, whether it's licensure or title registration for interior designers. Being that I'm able to utilize my credentials it will easily allow me to practice in that state. It will also benefit me so that I will be able to advertise my business.

I'm an independent contractor in Stanford with a small business. It will allow me to say I have registered interior designers with their credential number to show that I'm qualified to do a certain scope of practice versus someone else.

REP. REBIMBAS: And just a quick follow up. Do you foresee any impact, whether positively or negatively on your industry if this requirement was eliminated regarding other interior designers coming into the state of Connecticut and doing the same work.

JOHN ARABALOS: Can you say that again please?

REP. REBIMBAS: The proposed legislation that you're proposing here today, do you see what are the benefits or negatives as a result of other businesses coming into the state of

Connecticut and doing the same work that you do.

JOHN ARABALOS: Different states have different regulations as it relates to their own title and registration, and with reciprocity from different states, we are able to - - would be able to post our registration over in those states and likewise I would assume that that would allow others to do that here as well. That is what I think you're asking.

ALEX LANUK: I think the practice, if someone is coming into the state and they're doing the non-load bearing construction interior design work that we are doing, they would have to have met the qualification, and if they are licensed or registered in their state their license would actually grandfather them in to become, you know, roll them in for reciprocity here.

I don't think it would hurt us. I think it brings a competitive edge, it allows the best professional. Hopefully if someone selected from within state to get the job, but it assures that there is a professional doing the work of that specific scope for that specific client.

REP. REBIMBAS: Thank you for your testimony.
Thank you, Mr. Chair.

REP. TABORSAK: Representative Reed.

REP. REED: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good what are we -- afternoon. So is this part of the interior designer versus interior decorator conundrum? I mean, what you're really asking is to show that you have a value-added that you have designers, certified designers on board?

ALEX LANUK: It's no longer a conundrum. It's more of a differentiating and identifying the individual. A federal court ruled there's a difference, and we're looking to specifically make the difference so that a consumer that is going to be investing in services for interior design or whether it's for their home, whether it's for their business, whether it could be for an educational facility or a state facility is getting the proper individual to do that specific work that they're qualified to do.

JOHN ARABALOS: It does clear up the air, so to speak, as to who is qualified to do this type of work, especially when you're dealing with codes, fire regulations, et cetera, et cetera, which the decorating community does not have that background.

REP. REED: Thank you very much for your testimony. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

REP. TABORSAK: Thank you, Representative. Thank you for your testimony.

ALEX LANUK: Thank you.

REP. TABORSAK: Next speaker is Karen Buckley Bates, followed by Eric Schoonmaker, followed by Michelle Hamilton, followed by Kerensa Mansfield, and then Chris Herb.

KAREN BUCKLEY BATES: Good afternoon, Representative Taborsak.

REP. TABORSAK: Good afternoon.

KAREN BUCKLEY BATES: And members of the General Law Committee. My name is Karen Buckley Bates, and I am the director of government

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make sure that the right medication was drawn and that there's a clear then distinction as to whether or not there was some issue with the medication as being wrong, or in error, or just the patient had an adverse reaction.

It still would have the appropriate license people on site to deal with adverse reactions. It really is just looking at the pilot is looking at whether the pharmacist is on site or doing that review from another location.

REP. REED: One quick follow up. So I'm a little -- I'm confused. So is there a doctor anywhere around who can be immediately brought to the location?

KAREN BUCKLEY BATES: I would ask Lori Lee to maybe answer that question. There are nursing staff on site at the place that I was -- I visited, but I am not sure if there is always a doctor on site. I'm not sure that this would change that, but Lori may know the answer to that question because she helped design the (inaudible).

REP. REED: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

REP. TABORSAK: Thank you. Any further questions from the committee? I'm seeing none, thank you very much, Ms. Bates. The next speaker is Eric Schoonmaker, then Michelle Hamilton, Kerensa Mansfield, Chris Herb, and Jason - - Representative Rojas, if he shows up. Good afternoon.

ERIC SCHOONMAKER: Good afternoon. Senator Doyle, Representative Taborsak, and respective members of the General Law Committee. I am Eric M. Schoonmaker, a registered interior designer, and the current president of the Connecticut Coalition of Interior Designers.

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I first want to thank you for allowing me to testify in support of H.B. 5307. Professional exams separate those who have achieved the level of professionalism from those who haven't. Like medical boards separate doctors from paramedics, and the Bar exam separate lawyers from paralegals, the National Council for Interior Design Qualification, NCIDQ exam, separates trained interior designers from lesser-educated designers and decorators.

This is why Connecticut, like other states who register and license interior designers, requires the passing of the exams of prerequisite to registration. Since I passed my NCIDQ Professional Exam and became a registered interior designer in 1988, many changes have taken place in this -- the business of interior design. One of the most notable, yet subtle, is society's trend to change the titles of various trades into designer. This nebulous cloud lumps us, as professionals, in with graphic artists, landscapers and others.

A few years ago, the firm I was a partner in lost out on designing a prototype store for one of our retail clients. The retailer hired the designer of their logo and letterhead to design the store and provide interior construction drawings and documents. This graphic design firm had no understanding of interior construction, ADA accessibility, building, fire or life safety codes. This uninformed decision cost the retailer several hundred thousand dollars in additional construction and fit-out costs and six months of lost sales by the delayed opening. Allowing registered interior designers to utilize the registration number makes the public aware of both the education and

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professional standards expected of a registered interior designer. It differentiates the professionally educated and trained interior designed from a designer without the formal education and training.

It also exemplifies the safe and consistent approach to construction with all of the design professionals joining the licensed contractors and home improvement contractors and being required to display their registrations. This provides protection of Connecticut residents and allows homeowners and businesses to wisely choose the designer most appropriate for their project. Thank you for hearing my testimony on this vitally important issue.

SENATOR DOYLE: Thank you. Perfect timing.

Any questions from the committee?

Seeing none, thank you very much.

ERIC SCHOONMAKER: Thank you.

SENATOR DOYLE: Next speaker is Michelle Hamilton then Kerensa Mansfield, Chris Herb, Lori Lee, Michele Devine, Tim Phelan.

Ms. Hamilton. Thank you.

MICHELLE HAMILTON: Good afternoon. Thank you, Senator Doyle, Representative Taborsask -- Taborsak, members of the General Law Committee. My name is Michelle Hamilton. I'm the senior program coordinator for the Ledge Light Health District and the coordinator of the Groton Adolescent Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition, also known as the GASP coalition.

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SENATOR DOYLE: All right, the next speaker is Marissa Heglin. I don't know if Marissa wanted to come up with the other three students and Mr. Champlin will maybe show me a little -- we'll save you for last. Is that okay?

A VOICE: The best.

SENATOR DOYLE: I'll make -- I'll make sure the Committee members don't go anywhere but if Marissa could come up with the three other students, Rachael, Emily and Heather, maybe you can kind of present a united front. Thank you.

MARISSA HEGLIN: Good afternoon, Senator Doyle, Representative Taborsak and the rest of the respected members of the General Law Committee. My name again is Marissa Heglin. We're here to add our testimony that -- in addition to what you heard earlier from John Arabalos, Alex Lanuk and Eric Schoonmaker regarding H.B. 5307.

As a student studying to become a professional interior designer at the University of New Haven, I'm here in support of H.B. 5307 in order to enhance my professional career. As -- as a senior looking for a job after graduation, I put high importance on living and working in a state that has passed legislation recognizing interior designers as professionals.

It is extremely important to me to get a job in the state that recognizes all of the effort I have put into my -- getting my education and that, after I pass the MCIDQ exam, I will also be recognized as a professional registered interior designer entering the workforce in this state.

To become a professional interior designer requires four years university degree education, two years of verifiable work experience and subsequent passing of the NCIDQ exam. As a young and emerging interior designer this is the path I have chosen and this is the minimum standard for me to become a registered interior designer in the State of Connecticut.

Being able to utilize my interior design registration number will differentiate me from those that do not have the education or minimum qualifications and assures me a competitive edge for employment within the state. It also opens access for me to work independently to develop new business opportunities and advance my career through professional partnership opportunities in the state.

I ask the General Law Committee to approve this bill to assure the educational value and skill set for all the interior design students who are entering the profession of interior design.

Thank you for hearing me.

SENATOR DOYLE: Thank you.

Do any other students want to add something too?

HEATHER KONISH: Good afternoon, my name is Heather Konish. Currently I'm a freshman studying at the University of New Haven and the future fields are -- I'm sorry -- the future of the field of interior design is very important to me as well. I would love to see that once I graduate the field I will be entering will

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have standards that are far more advanced than they are today.

The registration number would ensure that I received apt credit for my work and that it would protect it and the people that I'm serving more fully. The -- this protection would also make me more likely to stay within the State of Connecticut once I graduate to live and to work.

And now my classmate Rachael would like to offer her perspective on this bill as well.

RACHAEL PIROLI: Good afternoon. My name is Rachael Pirolli.

SENATOR DOYLE: Rachel just pull the mic over towards you.

RACHAEL PIROLI: Oh okay thank you. My name is Rachael Pirolli. As a student studying to become a professional interior designer at the University of New Haven I am here to support H.B. 5307 in order to enhance the degree that me and my parents have spent thousands of dollars on.

I am also from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania where we do not have a title registration. Having a title registration in Connecticut is important to me because, after I graduate, I could stay here and be recognized as a professional designer in the state.

My classmate -- my classmate Emily also has something to add to our testimony.

EMILY BOELSEMS: Hello my name is Emily Boelsems and I am also a senior studying interior design at UNH. I am here in order -- I am here in support of H.B. 5307 in order to point

out there is a huge difference between a professional licensed interior designer and an individual who calls themselves an interior designer -- interior decorator.

I want to know that the state recognizes and distinguishes that a person who goes to school for four years or more for interior design does not compare to a person who reads multiple books on interior design.

Thank you for listening to our testimony. Are there are any questions that we could answer for you?

SENATOR DOYLE: Thank you.

Any questions from the Committee?
Representative Baram.

REP. BARAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Thank you all for coming. I'm impressed how you stuck together in your testimony. Just a quick question. At the University, do they offer courses in just interior decorating? Is there some kind of a lesser division or degree that you can get for that?

MARISSA HEGLIN: No we have a four year Bachelors program to become an interior design maj -- interior designer and we also offer a degree for interior design with pre-architecture but we don't offer any sort of certificate program to become an interior decorator at all.

REP. BARAM: Thank you and -- and good luck to all of you.

MARISSA HEGLIN: Thank you.

SENATOR DOYLE: Any other questions from the

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Committee? Representative Reed.

REP. REED: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Very well done, very well done.

MARISSA HEGLIN: Thank you.

REP. REED: Leave your cards. We want to make sure you stay in Connecticut. I'm just wondering if in your sort of studying this, why this law is needed? I -- we were trying to figure out where it came from that you were actually prohibited from listing your license the way the statute is currently written. Did -- did you discover that in your studies why?

MARISSA HEGLIN: You know the -- from what I understand the legality issues -- legal issues have been going on for quite a few years and I've only been in the State of Connecticut for four years so I'm still learning more about this. But I'm not exactly sure what prohibited registration but I know definitely it's beneficial.

REP. REED: Yeah it feels like a no-brainer.

MARISSA HEGLIN: Yeah.

REP. REED: Good luck.

MARISSA HEGLIN: Thank you.

REP. REED: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

SENATOR DOYLE: Any other questions? I just have one -- I had a question and maybe I'm a little ignorant but can you give me an example of what a project you -- you guys would work on? Say you graduate, give me a type of standard project if you can.

MARISSA HEGLIN: For school or after we graduate?

SENATOR DOYLE: No, no your first new job. Your -- once you get to work, what type -- what type of -- of building would you work on, what's typical?

MARISSA HEGLIN: You know it depends on what we want to go into. I know personally I would like to go into hospitality design working on designing hotels and restaurants and things like that. I know other people want to go into residential design, just designing homes for people. A few other students are interested in aging in place and that's designing for people who are growing older and need special requirements in their own home. So it really just depends on what kind of things people want to do with it.

SENATOR DOYLE: And if you were like designing a hotel, like what you're interested in, would you -- would you have -- would the engineer do the structural and you do -- or you do everything on it?

MARISSA HEGLIN: While an engineer would do the structural, it depends on what the state requires and what I'm capable of doing within each state, it varies. But I would -- yeah -- engineer would do structural and I would be more space planning, picking out finishes, layout design and things of that nature.

And as students going through these programs we learn about building codes. We learn about accessibility issues and more of that. So going into like public projects and stuff like that we're qualified to do that sort of thing. Whereas somebody who hasn't gone to school will have -- may not have the experience with

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learning about codes and issues like that.

SENATOR DOYLE: Thank you.

Representative Reed called this a no-brainer but I think -- I haven't told the Committee but we may make a condition of moving the bill along that you four agree to stay and work in Connecticut. That -- our -- our big concern of the Legislature is young people leaving Connecticut. So I don't know if we can enforce it but we're going to try to see if you'll stay in Connecticut for us and work here.

MARISSA HEGLIN: Well it would definitely give us a strong incentive to stay here.

SENATOR DOYLE: Good -- good answer, very good answer.

All right well thank you very much.

Thank you. Any other questions?
Seeing none, thank you very much ladies.

MARISSA HEGLIN: You're welcome. Thank you.

SENATOR DOYLE: Okay the next speaker and the last signed up is Cameron Champlin and we all have to give him rapt attention because he was just -- he allowed us to -- to allow the four ladies to come at the same time so Committee pay close attention.

CAMERON CHAMPLIN: I'm sure you'd rather be looking at them than me. Senator Doyle, Representative Taborsak, members of the Committee, thank you for letting me testify today on this important issue. You have some written testimony be -- before you that myself and Joyce Wojtas put together.

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Connecticut Coalition of Interior Designers

50 Washington Street • South Norwalk, CT 06854 • Tel 203 322 2263 • Fax 203 329 7452

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Sen. Doyle, Rep. Taborsak and respected members of the General Law Committee:

My name is John Arabolos, I am a Registered Interior Designer, Small Business Owner in West Haven and an Interior Design Educator at the University of New Haven. I am here today with my colleague Alex Lanuk, also a Registered Interior Designer, Small Business Owner in Stamford and an Interior Design Educator at Norwalk Community College in support of HB5307.

- Interior Design is an evolving profession that includes many aspects of technical expertise.
- In the practice of Interior Design, education and skill sets vary in relation to specific education qualifications and specialized knowledge of building codes; preparing plans and specifications for non-load bearing interior construction and design solutions for those with special needs to creating personal living environments.
- "Registered" Interior Designers working in residential settings must comply with state and local building codes. While "Registered" Interior Designers working in more heavily regulated spaces such as office, hospitality, health, education and retail must comply with building and energy codes, indoor air quality and the American's with Disabilities Act requirements, among other health and safety issues.
- A federal court decision declared that it was unconstitutional to enforce legislation or regulation that restricted the use of the words "Interior Designer" as it has been used in the public domain in CT for over a century. At the same time the court reaffirmed that creating a licensed, *registered* or certified Interior Designer in order to provide necessary oversight for public health and safety needs while expanding practice opportunities was permissible and provided a benefit to the State and consumer.
- Based on this ruling the State of Connecticut now regulates the title *Registered Interior Designer* yet statute currently prohibits use or display of the registration number by qualified individuals.

The passage of HB 5307 will rectify that prohibition thus allowing Registered Interior Designers to utilize their registration number to identify their specialized skill set - affirming specific knowledge and abilities. While, in turn it provides accountability for Consumers and awareness of the various levels of design service available in order to make an appropriate selection on the design professional to retain for a specific project. In selecting a Registered Interior Designer, consumers will know they're working with qualified, responsible professionals that utilize the latest information regarding health, safety, and welfare and who have met specific, nationally accepted standards of minimum competency and testing. Use of the registration number also

promotes opportunity for clients to work directly with Interior Design Professionals on code-based interior projects thus reducing consumer costs by eliminating expensive, unqualified and /or incorrect document processing

HB 5307 aligns Registered Interior Designers with the other major participants in the construction industry such as home improvements contractors and landscape designers who are also required to display their license. It also provides Building & Fire Officials with confidence that qualified individuals are submitting the appropriate non-structural plans, drawings and specifications for permitting purposes and assists municipalities in identifying qualified respondents in bidding procedures on local and/or state levels.

HB 5307 safeguards the public by creating accountability and credentials – offering consumer's legal recourse against negligent or unethical designers who violate the law and additionally provides consumers a venue for the redress of grievances.

Further, it identifies Registered Interior Designers who maintain high ethical standards and voluntarily partake in continuing education, a critical necessity in this fast-advancing field. It provides career development through professional partnership opportunities while ensuring that Registered Interior Designers will benefit from reciprocity when working on out of state projects.

In retro spec, allowing Registered Interior Designers to display their registration number far better serves the State's interest in protecting consumers We ask that you support HB 5307.

Thank you.

John Arabolos ASID
Principal, Arabolos Design Associates
Registered Interior Designer – CT
Professional Interior Designer in Residence
Department of Art and Design
University of New Haven

Alexandria Lanuk ASID
Principal, ATL Environments LLC
NCIDQ Certificate #15357
Registered Interior Designer – CT
Adjunct Faculty, Norwalk Community College

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Senator Doyle, Representative Taborsak & respected members of the General Law Committee:

My name is Heather Konish. As a student studying to become a professional interior designer at the University of New Haven, I am here in support of SB 5307 in order to ensure my future as an interior designer in the state of Connecticut. Currently, I am a freshman at the University, and the future of this field is very important to me. I would really love to see that, when I graduate, the field I am entering will have standards more advanced than today's standards. This registration number would ensure that I receive apt credit for my work, and to protect it more fully. This protection would also make me more likely to stay within the state of Connecticut after I graduate to live and work.

To become a *Professional* Interior Designer it requires a four year university degreed education, two years of verifiable work experience and the subsequent passing of the NCIDQ exam. As a young and emerging Interior Designer, this is the path I have chosen and is the minimum standard for me to become a Registered Interior Designer in the State of Connecticut.

Being able to utilize my Interior Designer registration number will differentiate me from those that do not have the education or minimum qualifications and assures me a competitive edge for employment within the State. It also opens access for me to work independently to develop new business opportunities and advance my career through professional partnership opportunities in the state.

I ask the General Law Committee to approve this bill to assure the educational value and skill set for all Interior design students who are entering the profession of Interior Design.

Sincerely,

Heather Konish

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Senator Doyle, Representative Taborsak & respected members of the General Law Committee:

My name is Marissa Heglin. As a student studying to become a professional interior designer at the University of New Haven, I am here in support of SB 5307 in order to enhance my professional career. As a senior looking for a job after graduation I have put high importance on living and working in a state that has passed legislation recognizing Interior Designers as professionals. It is extremely important to me to get a job in a state that recognizes all of the effort I have put into getting my education and, that after I pass the NCIDQ will also recognize me as professional Registered Interior Designer entering the work force in this State.

To become a *Professional* Interior Designer it requires a four year university degreed education, two years of verifiable work experience and the subsequent passing of the NCIDQ exam. As a young and emerging Interior Designer, this is the path I have chosen and is the minimum standard for me to become a Registered Interior Designer in the State of Connecticut.

Being able to utilize my Interior Designer registration number will differentiate me from those that do not have the education or minimum qualifications and assures me a competitive edge for employment within the State. It also opens access for me to work independently to develop new business opportunities and advance my career through professional partnership opportunities in the state.

I ask the General Law Committee to approve this bill to assure the educational value and skill set for all Interior design students who are entering the profession of Interior Design.

Sincerely,

Marissa Heglin
President – Student Chapter ASID
Senior - Interior Design Program
Department of Art and Design
University of New Haven

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Senator Doyle, Representative Taborsak & respected members of the General Law Committee:

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My name is Rachel Pirolli. As a student studying to become a professional interior designer at the University of New Haven, I am here in support of SB 5307 in order to enhance the degree that me and my parents have spent over thousands of dollars on. I am also from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania where we do not have a title registration. Having a title registration in Connecticut is important to me because after I graduate I can stay here and be recognized as a professional designer.

To become a *Professional Interior Designer* it requires a four year university degreed education, two years of verifiable work experience and the subsequent passing of the NCIDQ exam. As a young and emerging Interior Designer, this is the path I have chosen and is the minimum standard for me to become a Registered Interior Designer in the State of Connecticut.

Being able to utilize my Interior Designer registration number will differentiate me from those that do not have the education or minimum qualifications and assures me a competitive edge for employment within the State. It also opens access for me to work independently to develop new business opportunities and advance my career through professional partnership opportunities in the state.

I ask the General Law Committee to approve this bill to assure the educational value and skill set for all interior design students who are entering the profession of Interior Design.

Sincerely,

Rachel Pirolli

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March 6, 2012

Senator Doyle, Representative Taborsak & respected members of the General Law Committee:

My name is Emily Boelsems. As a student studying to become a professional interior designer at the University of New Haven, I am here in support of SB 5307 in order to point out there is a significant difference between a Professional Licensed Interior Designer and an individual who calls themselves an Interior Decorator. I want to distinguish that a person who attends college for four years or more for an Interior Design degree does not compare to a person who reads multiple books on Interior Design.

To become a *Professional* Interior Designer it requires a four year university degreed education, two years of verifiable work experience and the subsequent passing of the NCIDQ exam. As a young and emerging Interior Designer, this is the path I have chosen and is the minimum standard for me to become a Registered Interior Designer in the State of Connecticut.

Being able to utilize my Interior Designer registration number will differentiate me from those that do not have the education or minimum qualifications and assures me a competitive edge for employment within the State. It also opens access for me to work independently to develop new business opportunities and advance my career through professional partnership opportunities in the state.

I ask the General Law Committee to approve this bill to assure the educational value and skill set for all Interior design students who are entering the profession of Interior Design.

Sincerely,

Emily Boelsems



P O Box 6114
Wallingford, CT 06492
(203) 605-8082

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Sen. Doyle, Rep. Taborsak and respected members of the General Law Committee I am Eric M. Schoonmaker, a Registered Interior Designer and current President of the Connecticut Coalition of Interior Designers, and first want to thank you for allowing me to testify in support of HB5307.

Professional exams separate those who have achieved a level of professionalism from those who haven't. Like Medical boards separate Doctors from Paramedics and the Bar Exam separates Lawyers from Paralegals, the National Council for Interior Design Qualification (NCIDQ) exam separates trained Interior Designers from lesser educated designers and decorators. This is why Connecticut, like other states who register or license Interior Designers, requires the passing of the exam as a prerequisite to registration.

Since I passed my NCIDQ professional exams and became a Registered Interior Designer in 1988, many changes have taken place in this, the business of Interior Design. One of the most notable, yet subtle, is society's trend to change the titles of various trades into 'Designer'. This nebulous cloud lumps us as professionals in with graphic artists, landscapers, and others.

A few years ago, the firm I was a partner in lost out on designing a prototype store for one of our retail clients. The Retailer hired the "Designer" of their logo and letterhead to design the store and provide interior construction drawings and documents. This graphic design firm had no understanding of interior construction, ADA accessibility, building, fire or life safety codes. This uninformed decision cost the Retailer several hundred thousand dollars in additional construction and fit out costs and 6 months of lost sales by the delayed opening.

Allowing Registered Interior Designers to utilize their registration number makes the public aware of both the education and professional standards expected of the Registered Interior Designer. It differentiates the professionally education and trained Interior Designer from a designer without the formal education and training. It also exemplifies the State taking a consistent approach to construction with all of the Design Professionals joining the Licensed Contractors and Home Improvement Contractors in being required to display their registrations. This provides protection of Connecticut residents and allows homeowners and businesses to wisely choose the Designer most appropriate for their project.

Thank you for hearing my testimony on this vitally important issue.

Sincerely yours,

Eric M. Schoonmaker

Eric M. Schoonmaker, NCIDQ
Registered Interior Designer CT, IL
NCIDQ Certificate # 7040

H – 1128

**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2012**

**VOL.55
PART 6
1746 – 2095**

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On Page 4, Calendar 95, substitute for House Bill
Number 5307, AN ACT CONCERNING REGISTERED INTERIOR
DESIGNERS, favorable report by the Committee on General
Law.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Taborsak. Good afternoon, sir.

REP. TABORSAK (109th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I move for acceptance of the joint committee's
favorable report and passage of the bill.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

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

Representative Taborsak.

REP. TABORSAK (109th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, the Bill before the house, House
Bill 5307, AN ACT CONCERNING REGISTERED INTERIOR
DESIGNERS, was brought to us by the industry of
registered interior designers in our state.

And what it seeks to do is end a prohibition against registered interior designers in current law which prohibits them from using their registration certificate number in any advertisement that they may do in the course of their business.

The bill before you would change that prohibition and allow registered interior designers to include his or her certificate of registration number in any advertisement or written communication.

This bill provides consumers with the knowledge that they're hiring a registered professional who's registered and regulated by the State of Connecticut. And it allows the registered interior designers to differentiate themselves from those in the design field that do -- that have not met these state requirements and are not registered.

Madam Speaker, the Clerk has an amendment, LCO 3379. I would ask the Clerk to please call the amendment and I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Will -- will the Clerk please call LCO Number 3379, which will be -- will be designated as House Amendment, Schedule "A."

THE CLERK:

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LCO 3379, House "A," offered by Representative

Taborsak and Rebimbas.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

The Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize. Is there objection? Is there objection?

Hearing none, Representative Taborsak, please proceed, sir.

REP. TABORSAK (109th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Just for clarification, I do move passage of the bill.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to summarize the amendment. The amendment is quite simple. What it does is in line 13 -- what it does is instead of making it an -- absolutely mandatory that registered interior designers place their certificate number in every advertisement or communication, what it does is it limits the requirement to advertisements. It makes it permissive as to whether or not the interior -- the registered interior designer wishes to use their certificate of registration number in other communications.

I move adoption.

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SPEAKER ORANGE:

The question before the Chamber is on adoption of
House Amendment Schedule "A."

Will you remark on House Amendment Schedule "A"?

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70th):

Thank you, Madam Chair. Good afternoon.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Good afternoon.

REP. REBIMBAS (70th):

Some questions to the proponent of the bill, which
I certainly do stand in support of, just for
clarification purposes.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

The bill or the amendment?

REP. REBIMBAS (70th):

I'm sorry. The amendment.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

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Representative Taborsak, prepare yourself.

Prease -- please proceed, Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Through you, Madam Speaker. Regarding this amendment, could you again just clarify for me the purpose of the amendment as to why we are changing the word, "shall" to "may " in the location that it appears?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Taborsak.

REP. TABORSAK (109th):

Through you, Madam Speaker.

Basically, the change is meant to only -- to make it abundantly clear that registered interior designers are only required to include their certificate of registration number in advertisements, not in every single communication that they may have in the course of their business. We felt that that was the intent and the spirit of the bill, to make sure that it was included in advertisements, but not in every single communication,

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not necessarily in letters and less formal
communications. Hopefully, that clarifies the question.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

And through you, Madam Speaker. IS this amendment
supported by the industry, so the actual interior
designers?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Taborsak.

REP. TABORSAK (109th):

Through you, Madam Speaker, yes, it is.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

And just one follow up clarification question.

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Is it my understanding and through your earlier testimony regarding the intent of the amendment, is that, in fact, we do support the fact that it's going to be "shall" show the registration number in advertisements but then there is actually a leeway, we're using the word "may" for any other form of communications that may seem to be advertisements but not necessarily?

So in other words, just to provide some examples. If an advertisement such as let's say a holiday card. So if an interior designer company wanted to send out a holiday card that could be perceived to be as an advertisement, but not necessarily, without this amendment, they would be required to, with the word, "shall," but with this -- without this amendment. And with this amendment now the holiday card, again, can be for the purpose of simply sending out a greeting and not necessarily an advertisement, so not being overly burdensome on the industry in having to add a license number. Is that correct?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Taborsak.

REP. TABORSAK (109th):

Through you, Madam Speaker.

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I think in that example a greeting card wouldn't probably constitute an advertisement. But if I were to advise somebody in the industry, I would advise them -- I would give them the most conservative advice and if it looks like advertisement, smells like advertisement include that registration number. I appreciate the question.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

And I do stand in support of the amendment because it think it does allow the industry to have some leeway as to what they're actually advertising versus any other type of materials that they may put out there through the company, that they may or may not want to be putting the licensing number on.

And again, as the chairman provided in his testimony, certainly there's certain qualities that we can flush out during the bill as to what would qualify as an advertisement.

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But again, I think this is very important that it is supported by the industry and it does allow them again, whether it's a -- through a greeting card or a tee shirt or some type of printed other memorabilia materials -- that there is the ability to decide that that's not an advertisement. Therefore, they will not be printing the licensing number on that.

So again, Madam Speaker, thank you for your indulgence in this regard. Thank the chairman for his responses. And I do stand in support of this amendment. Because, again, I do believe that it is supported by the industry and it will be easier for the industry to conduct business.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, madam.

Will you care to remark further on the amendment?

Representative Ackert of the 8th, you have the floor, sir.

REP. ACKERT (8th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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I just -- clarification on the advertisement, I believe. Through you.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Please proceed.

REP. ACKERT (8th):

The advertisement -- and then because I -- I've been very familiar with the contracting field and the requirements for advertising. If somebody had a vehicle that they used for their business and on the vehicle it had the name of the business, would that require the registration number on the vehicle. Even though it's just for work but it does have the name of the company on that vehicle. Would that be an advertisement?

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Taborsak.

REP. TABORSAK (109th):

Through you, Madam Speaker.

In that scenario, I would advise the person to use the number. Because I think usually -- and I -- I understand what you're referring to, the placards and -- and vehicle stickers that people have. It's usually I think if you look at the intent of what they're doing,

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they are trying to advertise their business through using those kinds of merchandise.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Ackert.

REP. ACKERT (8th):

So would this be consistent in terms of intent for like the HVAC contractors, home builders, home remodelers, would this be consistent with the requirements of those?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Taborsak.

REP. TABORSAK (109th):

Through you, Madam Speaker.

I think there's a distinction in this amendment. I believe that in -- in the other statutory schemes you've referred to there isn't the distinction that we have in this amendment where we're making a distinction between advertisement and other communications that really aren't advertisement.

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I don't think that there's the same clarity in that statutory scheme. So hopefully, this is an improvement for folks in this field.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Ackert.

REP. ACKERT (8th):

I'd like to thank the Representative for his answers and his clarity. Thank you.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, sir.

Will you care to remark further on House Amendment "A"? House Amendment "A."

if not, let me try your minds. All those in favor, please signify by saying "Aye."

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

All those opposed, nay.

The ayes have it.

The amendment is adopted.

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Will you care to remark further on the bill as amended?

Representative Taborsak.

REP. TABORSAK (109th):

No, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Will you care to remark further, Representative Rebimbas?

REP. REBIMBAS (70th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Just some further clarification on the underlying bill. Through you to the chairman of the General Law committee.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Please proceed, madam.

REP. REBIMBAS (70th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Through you, just for some clarifications in this regard. Currently interior -- interior designers are under current law required, if they wanted to hold

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themselves out to be registered interior designers, they
have to register themselves, is that correct?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Taborsak.

REP. TABORSAK (109th):

That is correct.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

This proposed bill does not make any changes to any
fees associated with the renewal of that certification or
the actual application for the certification. Is that
correct?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Taborsak.

REP. TABORSAK (109th):

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That is correct.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

And again, just for legislative intent, through you, Madam Speaker, is this a proposal that was brought to us by the industry, specifically the interior designers?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Taborsak.

REP. TABORSAK (109th):

Through you, Madam Speaker.

Yes, that is correct.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Rebimbas.

REP. REBIMBAS (70th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

And I want to thank the gentleman, chairman from the General Law committee for the clarifications.

I do rise in support of this legislation that's before us because very often what we do in this Chamber and what we should continue to do is look at this legislation and see how is this going to impact the business community.

And I'm sure for many of us, when we're out there in our districts and going to the different Chamber of Commerce meetings, we hear often, over and over again, just let the business community do our jobs and you guys stay out of our lives.

But certainly when the business community comes to us and contacts us and informs us of a way in order to promote themselves, in order better to support their businesses right here in the State of Connecticut, then we all need to listen. And I do believe that the General Law committee jointly has provided a very responsible amendment, listened to the business community and that's what's here before us.

I think, again, through the testimony it was clarified as to the components of what would be considered an advertisement.

Now these are businesses that under current law were not allowed, they were barred from putting their licensing number in advertisements. And they want to be proud of the qualifications and education and training that they obtained, and want the ability to put that license number in their advertisements. We should not step in their way in doing so. So this piece of legislation allows them to do so.

At the same time, it does bal -- there is a balance in not putting an over burdensome requirement on them to make sure that their license is on every piece of material or item that goes out of the business, such as the holiday cards we heard -- heard earlier. If that is not for as -- advertisement purposes and just simply to send a greeting card to say "Hello," then they shouldn't be required to put their licensing. It would be, again, up to them to do so.

So I do support this bill, very much so in the sense of it is a very good bill for the business community.

I also would like to point out that we had some very bright students from the University of New Haven that testified before the General law committee. And these were students in the interior design program there that came before us and testified and asked for support

in passing this legislation. Because they were hoping to someday practice in the state of Connecticut and they wanted to be proud to be able to put their licensing number in their advertisements, because again, it exposed and advertised the hard work and training that they obtained.

So certainly, Madam Speaker, once again, I do support and I hope that all the members of the Chamber will also support this piece of legislation.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, Representative Rebimbas.

Will you care to remark further on the bill that's -- as amended? Will you care to remark further on the bill as amended?

If not, staff and guests, please come to the well of the 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 taking a roll call vote. Members to the Chamber, please.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

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Have all members voted? Have all members voted?

If all the members have voted, please check the board to determine if your vote has been properly cast.

If so the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

And will the Clerk please announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

House Bill 5307, as amended by House "A."

Total Number Voting 140

Necessary for Passage 71

Those voting Yea 140

Those voting Nay 0

Those absent and not voting 11.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

The bill as amended passes.

Are there any announcements or points of personal privilege?

Representative Joseph Aresimowicz. You have the floor, sir.

REP. ARESIMOWICZ (30th):

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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SENATE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2012**

**VOL. 55
PART 14
4223 - 4505**

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SENATE

314
May 9, 2012

THE CLERK:

The Clerk is in possession of Senate Agendas Numbers 4 and 5, both dated Wednesday, May 9, 2012, copies have been distributed and they're on Senators' desks.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Yes. Thank you, Madam President.

Madam -- Madam President, move that Senate Agendas Numbers 4 and 5, be -- dated Wednesday, May 9, 2012, be adopted pursuant to our rules.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objection, so ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Thank you, Madam President.

One final item to add to the consent calendar. Calendar 393, House Bill 5307, move that that item be placed on the consent calendar.

And if the Clerk would now call the items on the consent calendar so that we might proceed to a vote on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Okay, Senator, we need one moment. We are checking it out right now, sir.

(Chamber at ease.)

SENATOR LOONEY:

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May 9, 2012

(HB 5283)

On page 3, Calendar 240, House Bill 3283; page 3, Calendar 299, House Bill 5437; page 5, Calendar 349, Senate Bill 374; page 6, Calendar 375, House Bill 5440; page 6, 362, House Bill 5011.

On page 7, Calendar 376, House Bill 5279; on page 7, 387, House Bill 5290; on page 8, 394, House Bill 5032; on page 8, 396, House Bill 5230.

Also on page 8, Calendar 398, House Bill 5241; on page 8, Calendar 393, House Bill 5307; on page 9, Calendar 403, House Bill 5087; on page 9, Calendar 406, House Bill 5276; on page 9, 407, House Bill 5484; on page 11, Calendar 424, House Bill 5495; on page 12, Calendar 435, House Bill 5232; on page 13, Calendar 5 -- excuse me Calendar 450, House Bill 5447; on page 14, Calendar 455, House Bill 3 -- I'm sorry -- House Bill 5353.

On page 14, Calendar 453, House Bill 5543; on page 14, Calendar 459, House Bill 5271; on page 15, Calendar 464, House Bill 5344; on page 15, Calendar 465, House Bill 5034; on page 16, Calendar 469, House Bill 5038; on page 17, Calendar 475, House Bill 5550; on page 17, Calendar 474, House Bill 5233; on page 17, Calendar 477, House Bill 5421.

Page 18, 480, House Bill 5258; on page 18, Calendar 479, House Bill 5500; page 18, Calendar 482, House Bill 5106; on page 18, Calendar 483, House Bill 5355; on page 19, Calendar 489, House Bill 5248; on page 19, Calendar 488, House Bill 5321; on page 20, Calendar 496, House Bill 5412.

On page 21, Calendar 504, House Bill 5319; page 21, Calendar 505, House Bill 5328; on page 22, Calendar 508, House Bill 5365; on page 22, Calendar 510, House Bill 5170; on page 23, Calendar 514, House Bill 5540; on page 23, Calendar 517, House Bill 5521.

Page 24, Calendar 521, House Bill 5343; page 24, Calendar 518, House Bill 5298; page 24, Calendar 523, House Bill 5504; page 29, Calendar 355, Senate Bill 418; on page 13, Calendar 444, 5037; and Calendar 507, House Bill 5467.

THE CHAIR:

Senator -- Senator Suzio.

SENATOR SUZIO:



State of Connecticut

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STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591
(860) 240-0500

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CLERK OF THE SENATE
ERNEST J. COTNOIR
ASSISTANT SENATE CLERK

TIMOTHY B. KEHOE
PERMANENT ASSISTANT
CLERK OF THE SENATE

Bills placed on the Consent Calendar on May 9, 2012

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(860) 240-0500

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(860) 240-0500

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CLERK OF THE SENATE
ERNEST J. COTNOIR
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CLERK OF THE SENATE

Bills from Senate Agenda Number 3 from the May 9th Senate Session that were placed on the Consent Calendar

HB5304
HB 5342

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May 9, 2012

Good evening, Madam President.

I just want to clarify. I thought I heard the Clerk call House Bill 5034? Is that on the consent calendar?

THE CHAIR:

Do you know what page that is, sir?

SENATOR SUZIO:

No I -- he was reading so fast, Madam, I couldn't get it.

THE CHAIR:

It's -- yes it's 53 -- I don't know.

SENATOR SUZIO:

5034.

THE CHAIR:

5034, yes sir.

SENATOR SUZIO:

I object to that being put on the consent calendar, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Okay, that will be removed.

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Yes, just seeing that -- ask to remove that item from the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered.

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At this time we'll call a roll call vote on the consent calendar.

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate.
Senators please return to the Chamber. Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Coleman, we need your vote, sir.

Senator Kissel, Senator Kissel. Senator Kissel, will you vote on the consent calendar please?

All members have voted?

If all members have voted, the machine will be closed.

Mr. Clerk, will you call the amendment -- I meant the tally.

THE CLERK:

On today's consent calendar.

Total Number Voting	36
Necessary for Adoption	19
Those Voting Yea	36
Those Voting Nay	0
Those Absent and Not Voting	0

THE CHAIR:

The consent calendar has passed.

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, I believe the Clerk is in possession of Senate Agenda Number 6 for today's session.