

PA12-183

HB5342

Commerce	433-434, 489-490	4
House	7788-7791, 7852-7854	7
<u>Senate</u>	<u>4485, 4497A-4497C, 4498-4499</u>	<u>6</u>

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

**COMMERCE
PART 2
284 - 565**

2012

53
amg/gdm/gbr COMMERCE COMMITTEE

March 6, 2012
10:00 A.M.

SENATOR LEBEAU: Thank you.

REP. BERGER: Thank you, Senator. Thank you for your testimony.

Helen Rosenberg.

HELEN ROSENBERG: Good morning, Chairmen Berger and LeBeau, and members of the committee. My name is Helen Rosenberg. I'm an economic development officer with the city of New Haven's Office of Economic Development. And I am speaking on behalf of the City to express support for House Bill 5342, which will expand the eligibility for providing brownfield loans to include projects that produce, among other types of housing, affordable housing units and workforce housing.

While the current law includes housing to serve the needs of first-time homebuyers, the revised language recognizes the high demand for work -- workforce housing in our communities. There are many brownfields in New Haven and other communities that are not suitable for industrial use because of their location. And, as a matter of fact, there's several manufacturing -- foam manufacturing sites that have been successfully converted to rental housing in the city.

In New Haven, the economy is picking up and New Haven has the third lowest rental vacancy rate in the country, so there's an increasing need for workforce and market rate housing. In order to attract and retain residents to live and work in New Haven, we need individual and multifamily housing at 80 percent to 120 percent of the adjusted median income in close proximity to public transportation.

These revisions will add a new incentive to

help close the gap in financing these projects at this time when the economy is picking up. Moreover, we urge the committee to consider additional revision to the statute to mirror the criteria used in the Jobs Bill Public Act 11-1 of the October Special Session. This act, which develops a program for the remediation of state-owned brownfields, gives priority to projects which include the following elements, have economic development viability, have a predetermined end use, are located in a municipality with an unemployment rate that exceeds the state average unemployment rate, have access to transportation or other infrastructure, and are of an environmentally urgent nature -- nature, among others.

(Inaudible) these priorities -- I have thirty seconds -- will help to incentivize the principles of smart growth to a new sprawl. We further urge the committee to consider additional criteria that prioritizes projects that are consistent with regional (inaudible) or support reinvestment in state enterprise zones and rehabilitation areas.

Thank you for your continued commitment to the redevelopment of Connecticut's brownfields.

REP. BERGER: Thank you for your testimony. Questions from the committee members?

Seeing none, thank you.

HELEN ROSENBERG: Thanks.

REP. BERGER: Preston Whiteway.

PRESTON WHITEWAY: Good morning. I am Preston Whiteway, the executive director of the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center in Waterford. I'm here

SB123



COMMERCE COMMITTEE

March 6, 2012

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 90% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate the opportunity to testify on bills of interest to towns and cities.

CCM supports House Bill 5342 "An Act Concerning Revisions to the State's Brownfields Remediation and Development Statutes."

HB 5342 would provide targeted Brownfield loans for affordable housing projects.

This proposal would provide additional opportunities for addressing two major issues facing municipalities across Connecticut. Providing low-interest loans to brownfield landowners and redevelopers for this purpose will ease the pressure to utilize "greenfields" for the next building project.

CCM has long been a supporter of measures that would help encourage affordable housing, as well as the remediation and redevelopment of blighted or contaminated brownfield properties. Brownfield remediation is an important part of Connecticut's efforts to 1) spur development in places where the infrastructure to support it already exists, 2) improve blighted areas, 3) limit sprawl and preserve open space in outlying areas, and 4) clean up our environment.

CCM urges the committee to **favorably report HB 5342.**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

If you have any questions, please contact Donna Hamzy, Legislative Associate of CCM via email dhamzy@ccm-ct.org or via phone (203) 498-3000.



12

CITY OF NEW HAVEN
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
165 Church Street, New Haven, CT 06510
Phone (203)-946-8200, Fax (203)-946-7683



John DeStefano, Jr.
Mayor

Testimony of the City of New Haven
Before the Commerce Committee

Regarding

H.B. No. 5342 AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE STATE'S BROWNFIELD
REMEDIATION AND DEVELOPMENT STATUTES

Submitted by

Helen Rosenberg

Office of Economic Development, City of New Haven
March 6, 2012

The City of New Haven would like to express support for HB 5342, which will expand the eligibility for Brownfield loans to include projects that produce "affordable housing units, suitable for first-time home buyers, incentive housing zones, workforce housing and other residential purposes, as approved by the commissioner." While current law includes housing to "serve the needs of first-time home buyers" the revised language recognizes the high demand for workforce housing in our communities.

It is important to recognize that there are many environmentally contaminated properties in center cities. Not all of them are suitable for industrial reuse and some are in fact suitable for housing, subject of course to a high cleanup standard. In New Haven, with the economy continuing to grow, there is an increasing need for workforce and market rate housing. In order to attract and retain residents to live and work in New Haven, there is strong demand for individual and multi-family housing at 80% to 120% of the adjusted median income (AMI) in close proximity to public transportation. These revisions will add a new incentive to help close the gap in financing these projects at a critical time for urban redevelopment.

Moreover, we urge the committee to consider additional revisions to the statute to mirror the criteria used in the jobs bill, PA 11-1 of the October Special Session. This act which develops a program for the remediation of state owned Brownfield gives priority to projects that "(1) have economic development viability, (2) have a predetermined end use, (3) are located in a municipality with an unemployment rate that exceeds the state's average unemployment rate, (4) have access to transportation or other infrastructure, (5) are of an environmentally urgent nature" among others. Mirroring these priorities will help to incentivize the principles of smart growth to reduce sprawl. We would further urge the committee to consider additional criteria that prioritizes projects that are consistent with regional CEDS or support reinvestment in state enterprise zones and rehabilitation areas.

We thank the committee for their continued commitment to rehabilitating Connecticut's Brownfields.

H – 1145

**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2012**

**VOL.55
PART 23
7514 - 7863**

If not, I will try your minds.

All those in favor signify by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ:

Those opposed, nay.

The ayes have it.

The amendment adopted.

Will you remark further on the bill as amended?

Will you remark further on the bill as amended?

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Mr. Speaker, I would move to consent.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ:

Motion before the Chamber is to place this item on the consent calendar.

Is there objection? Is there objection?

Hearing no objection, the item is placed on the consent calendar.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar 338.

THE CLERK:

On page 39, Calendar 338, Substitute for House Bill Number 5342, AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE STATE'S BROWNFIELD REMEDIATION AND DEVELOPMENT STATUTES, favorable report by the Committee on

cd/sg/lg/sd/ev
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

611
MAY 8, 2012

Appropriations.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ:

Representative Berger of the 73rd, you have the floor, sir.

REP. BERGER (73rd):

Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I move for acceptance of the joint committees' favorable report and passage of the bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ:

The question is on acceptance of the joint committees' favorable report and passage of the bill in concurrence with the Senate.

Will you remark, sir?

REP. BERGER (73rd):

Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The bill continues the work of the Brownfields Working Group, improves the State's policy and programs for identifying and investigating and remediating brownfields.

The Clerk is in possession of Amendment LCO Number 5280. I ask that he call, and I be allowed to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ:

cd/sg/lg/sd/ev
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

612
MAY 8, 2012

Clerk please call LCO Number 5280, which will be designated House Amendment Schedule "A."

THE CLERK:

LCO 5280, House "A" offered by Representative Berger, Camillo, et al.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ:

Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize amendment.

Is there objection to summarization? Is there objection to summarization?

Hearing none, Representative Berger, you have the floor, sir.

REP. BERGER (73rd):

Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The amendment before us is a strike-all amendment and makes the conforming changes to what is described in the underlying bill.

I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ:

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

Will you remark? Will you remark further?

If not, I'll try your minds.

All those in favor signify by saying aye.

cd/sg/lg/sd/ev
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

613
MAY 8, 2012

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ:

Those opposed, nay.

The ayes have it.

The amendment is adopted.

Will you remark further on the bill as amended?

Will you remark further on the bill as amended?

Representative Berger.

REP. BERGER (73rd):

Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I'd like to move this item to consent.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ:

The motion before us is to place the item on the consent calendar.

Is there objection? Is there objection?

Hearing none -- no objection? The item is placed on the consent calendar.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar 345.

THE CLERK:

On page 14, Calendar 345, Substitute for House Bill Number 5462, AN ACT REQUIRING THE SUSPENSION OF A MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATORS' LICENSE FOR MULTIPLE OCCURRENCES OF OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE WITHOUT A

cd/sg/lg/sd/ev
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

674
MAY 8, 2012

On page 7, Calendar 219, House Bill Number 5148,
AN ACT CONCERNING AN ACT CONCERNING COMMUNICATIONS TO
VICTIMS OF THE CURRENT OPERATION OF A MOTOR VEHICLE
THAT RESULTS IN DEATH OR SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY.
DEPUTY SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ:

The distinguished Majority Leader, Representative
Sharkey.

REP. SHARKEY (88th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Good to see you up there.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ:

Thank you, sir.

REP. SHARKEY (88th):

Mr. Speaker, this represents the consent calendar
and for everyone's edification, I will be listing off
the calendar numbers in numerical order so that
everyone can follow. I'll try keep it -- and make
sure that I do it in numerical order. Thank you.

These will be: Calendar Number 90, Number 155,
Number 219, Number 223, Number 290, Number 320, Number
338, Number 345, Number 389, Number 430, Number 444,
Number 455, Number 467, Number 470, Number 475, Number
481, Number 485, Number 488, Number 489, Number 494,

cd/sg/lg/sd/ev
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

675
MAY 8, 2012

Number 496, Number 497, Number 505, Number 510, Number 513, Number 525, and Number 531.

I move adoption, I move adoption.

And with that, Mr. Speaker, I move adoption of the consent calendar. I move the consent calendar.

(Speaker Donovan in the Chair.)

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

The question before us is on passage of the bills on today's consent calendar.

Will you remark?

If not, staff and guests please come to the well the House. Members take their 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 today's consent calendar by roll call. Members to the chamber please.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Have all members voted? Have all members voted?

Please check the roll call board to make sure your vote has been properly cast.

cd/sg/lg/sd/ev
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

676
MAY 8, 2012

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

The Clerk please announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

On today's consent calendar

Total number voting	144
Necessary for passage	73
Those voting Yea	144
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	7

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

The consent calendar passes.

Any announcements or introductions? Any announcements or introductions?

Is there any business on the Clerk's desk?

THE CLERK:

A list of Senate bills, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Representative Brendan Sharkey.

REP. SHARKEY (88th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I move that we waive -- waive the reading of the bills and have these items placed immediately on the House calendar.

S - 649

**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SENATE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2012**

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

rgd/tmj/gdm/gbr
SENATE

306
May 9, 2012

Please proceed, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, the first item appears on Senate Agenda Number 1, Substitute House Bill Number 5342, move to place on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

On Senate Agenda Number 3, Madam President, under -- under House Bills Favorably Reported, first is House Bill 5326, move to place the item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Calendar 5025, move to place the item on the consent calendar.

HB5025

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

And Calendar 5534, move to place the item on the consent calendar.

HB5534

THE CHAIR:



State of Connecticut

SENATE CLERK'S OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591
(860) 240-0500

GAREY E. COLEMAN
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

5358
5148
5394
5326
5025
5534
5539
5320
5462
5394
5511
5283
5437
374
5011
5440
5279
5290
5307
5032
5230
5241
5087
5276
5484
5495
5232
5447
5543
5353
5271
5344
5038



State of Connecticut

SENATE CLERK'S OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591
(860) 240-0500

GAREY E COLEMAN
CLERK OF THE SENATE
ERNEST J COTNOIR
ASSISTANT SENATE CLERK

TIMOTHY B KEHOE
PERMANENT ASSISTANT
CLERK OF THE SENATE

- 5233
- 5550
- 5258
- 5106
- 5355
- 5521
- 5248
- 5412
- 5319
- 5328
- 5365
- 5170
- 55440
- 5521
- 5298
- 5343
- 5504
- 418
- 5037
- 5467
- 5022
- 5259
- 5496
- 5360



State of Connecticut

SENATE CLERK'S OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591
(860) 240-0500

GAREY E. COLEMAN
CLERK OF THE SENATE
ERNEST J. COTNOIR
ASSISTANT SENATE CLERK

TIMOTHY B. KEHOE
PERMANENT ASSISTANT
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

rgd/tmj/gdm/gbr
SENATE

319
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.

rgd/tmj/gdm/gbr
SENATE

320
May 9, 2012

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.