

PA12-083

HB5237

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| House | 5501-5516 | 16 |
| Labor & Public Employees | 14, 176-177, 320-322, 427 | 7 |
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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
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REP. RYAN (139th):

Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Will the Clerk please call Calendar 81.

THE CLERK:

On page 3, Calendar 81, Substitute for House Bill Number 5237, AN ACT CONCERNING PAYMENT OF WAGES FOR EMPLOYEES OF A PRIVATE SCHOOL IN THE STATE, favorable report of Committee on Labor.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

The distinguished chairman of the Labor Committee, Representative Zalaski.

REP. ZALASKI (81st):

Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Good afternoon, sir.

REP. ZALASKI (81st):

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

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Question is on acceptance and passage. Would you explain the bill, please, sir.

REP. ZALASKI (81st):

Mr. Speaker, first, I'd like to have the Clerk

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call LCO 4219, please, and I would ask the Clerk to please call and I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

The Clerk is in possession of LCO Number 4219, which we designate as House Amendment Schedule "A". Will the Clerk kindly call the amendment.

THE CLERK:

LCO 4219, House "A," offered by Representative Zalaski.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

The gentleman has asked leave of the Chamber to summarize.

Is there any objection?

Hearing none, Representative Zalaski.

REP. ZALASKI (81st):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

This bill just changes the -- it turns out that we weren't allowed to use the school by name, the American School for the Deaf, so it just changes the -- the intent of that.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Question is on the adoption of House Amendment
Schedule "A."

Will you remark further on House Amendment
Schedule "A"?

The distinguished Representative Zalaski, did you
want to remark further?

REP. ZALASKI (81st):

Sure, yes. The -- the -- well --

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

The distinguished ranking member of the Labor
Committee, Representative Rigby.

REP. RIGBY (63rd):

Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, good afternoon.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Good afternoon, sir.

REP. RIGBY (63rd):

Good evening.

Mr. Speaker, if I may, a question or two for the
proponent of the amendment.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Please proceed, sir.

REP. RIGBY (63rd):

Mr. Speaker, the -- the language of the original

bill considered by the Labor and Public Employees Committee specifically mentioned a private institution, a private school in the town of West Hartford.

For legislative intent, why are we changing the language now to read "a state-aided institution pursuant to Section 5-175 of our state statutes"?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Zalaski, do you care to respond?

REP. ZALASKI (81st):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Because changing it to the "state-aided institution" clarifies -- because we -- we weren't really allowed to use their name, per se, in the bill.

Through you, Madam Speaker -- Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Rigby. Representative Rigby.

REP. RIGBY (63rd):

Thank you.

I appreciate the clarification.

Does -- through you, Mr. Speaker, does this meet the concerns that were brought up during the public hearing by the -- the commissioner's office about the

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bill?

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Zalaski.

REP. ZALASKI (81st):

Through -- through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes. The main concern for these workers is that -- that they're not allowed to bargain to -- right now, they have to have their wages paid in ten months when they actually -- as many teachers do, but they're not allowed to try to negotiate that they get it in a 12-month period instead.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Rigby.

REP. RIGBY (63rd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I'm actually commenting only on the amendment before us, not the underlying bill, but let me rephrase my question for the representative.

We -- we heard concerns from the commissioner's office that naming the school in the bill itself might pose a problem for legislative intent. And my -- I want to make certain that the language that the proponent is suggesting will address those concerns,

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and it sounds like they will. I -- I think that we'll be fine going forward if -- if the amendment is adopted.

My next question would be, are there any other institutions affected now that we've -- we've changed the language to stay -- to say "state-aided institution pursuant to Section 5-175"?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Zalaski.

REP. ZALASKI (81st):

Yes, through you, Mr. Speaker.

That's a good question in that it does cover three other -- besides the Connecticut Institute for the Blind, it will also cover the American -- I mean besides the American School for the Deaf, it will also cover the Connecticut Institute for the Blind and the Newington Children's Hospital, which we all know has been merged into the Hartford Hospital.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Rigby.

REP. RIGBY (63rd):

Thank you.

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Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the clarification offered by the -- the distinguished House chair of the committee, and I urge my colleagues to support the amendment.

Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Thank you, sir.

Will you remark further on House Amendment Schedule "A"? Will you remark further on House Amendment Schedule "A"?

If not, let me try your minds.

All those in favor signify by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Opposed, nay.

The ayes have it. The amendment is adopted.

Remark further on the bill as amended?

Representative Rigby.

REP. RIGBY (63rd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

This change Representative Zalaski mentioned in his comments that it simply allows this institution and the other two that were mentioned the ability to

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change their pay period in the process of collective bargaining. Regional and local boards of education currently have that ability under current statute to make those -- to make that change.

And right now, it can be done, but it requires special permission of the Labor Commissioner's office. So this is a -- a very straightforward bill. It has no fiscal impact, and I urge my colleagues to vote in the affirmative.

Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Thank you, sir.

The not quite as dapper as he was earlier today, Representative Williams.

REP. WILLIAMS (68th):

Trying to confuse you here, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Oh, wow, from red to blue.

REP. WILLIAMS (68th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, through you.

Just a question to the proponent of the bill, if I may?

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Please proceed.

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REP. WILLIAMS (68th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I understand that this allows them to change the way that they negotiate with respect to pay periods. What is it about our current law that -- I don't mean from a procedural standpoint but from a policy standpoint that -- that prohibits that currently and why are we changing it?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Zalaski.

REP. ZALASKI (81st):

Through you, Madam -- through you, Mr. Speaker.

Under current law, employers must pay employees on a regular pay that must not be more than eight days after the last day counted in a pay period, so they have to have an exception made for this.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Williams.

REP. WILLIAMS (68th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And I don't object to the bill that we're discussing here, but I -- why are we making this

special circumstance for this organization?

There must be some policy reason why our law reads the way that you just explained it, and I'm curious as to why we're making that change.

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Zalaski.

REP. ZALASKI (81st):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

All of the schools have that option. It's just these schools specifically didn't.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Williams.

REP. WILLIAMS (68th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the gentleman for his answers.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Thank you, sir.

The gentleman from Waterbury, Representative Noujaim.

REP. NOUJAIM (74th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Good afternoon to you, sir.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Good afternoon.

REP. NOUJAIM (74th):

Mr. Speaker, I do not have a problem with this piece of legislation. I do intend to support it, but, through you, Mr. Speaker, just a simple question to Representative Zalaski.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Please proceed, sir.

REP. NOUJAIM (74th):

Representative Zalaski, I understand the intent of this piece of legislation. Would this, in any way, affect any contracts or labor agreements that are currently in place at this time, insofar as having to renegotiate those contracts or the terms of those contracts, or is it just simply changing the pay period from 10 months to 12 months?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Zalaski.

REP. ZALASKI (81st):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

To my good friend from Waterbury, the -- no, it will not change. It's -- it's all going forward in

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their next negotiations.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Noujaim.

REP. NOUJAIM (74th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Just to make sure I fully understand it,
contracts that are currently in place will not be
impacted by this legislation. It will be just future
contracts going forward to the future.

Am I correct?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Zalaski.

REP. ZALASKI (81st):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Noujaim.

REP. NOUJAIM (74th):

Thank you, sir.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Thank you.

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Representative Shaban of the 135th.

REP. SHABAN (135th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Question, if I may, through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Proceed.

REP. SHABAN (135th):

Through you.

If the -- and the gentleman's response before triggered this question. If the nine or some-odd months of normal wage payments pursuant to the law -- you have to get paid within about a week after you finish your -- your time allotment -- we're making an exception for that.

Was there an analysis of how that might affect overtime payments under the Fair Labor Standards Act or the state -- the state equivalent, i.e., if you're owed overtime in, you know, week 42, but you've elected to extend your nine months of -- of work into 12 months, you know, how does the overtime fit in? When does it get paid?

Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Zalaski.

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REP. ZALASKI (81st):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

I gather during teaching years, they don't teach during those two months, so therefore, it's like being a legislator. We get to pick whether we want to be paid in five months or paid in a -- in a year or a 12-month period, so that's what they're asking to do.

Through you, Mr. Speaker, if that answers your question.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Shaban.

REP. SHABAN (135th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I think -- I understand that and I appreciate it and I intend to support this bill. I'm just trying to figure out, you know, if during the month of April a teacher is entitled to overtime because they work in excess of the minimum hours, but that typical payment of April wages has now been extended with the rest of the year, over 12 months, how does the overtime payment get grabbed?

Does it go -- is it paid in April or is that also stretched out?

Through you.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Zalaski.

REP. ZALASKI (81st):

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

It's the month that's worked.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Shaban.

REP. SHABAN (135th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I appreciate the answer.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Thank you, sir.

Will you remark further on the bill as amended?

Will you 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.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Have all the members voted? Have all the members voted?

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

And the Clerk will announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

House Bill 5237 as amended by House "A",

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Total Number Voting | 142 |
| Necessary for Passage | 72 |
| Those Voting Yea | 142 |
| Those Voting Nay | 0 |
| Those Absent and Not Voting | 9 |

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

The bill as amended has passed.

(Deputy Speaker Orange in the Chair.)

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Will the Clerk please call Calendar Number 174.

THE CLERK:

On page 6, Calendar 174, Substitute for House Bill Number 5106, AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRIVATE RENTAL INVESTMENT MORTGAGE AND EQUITY PROGRAM, favorable report by the Committee on Housing.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Berger.

**JOINT
STANDING
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make sure you know where the exits are. If there's any kind of an emergency, you could go out either door. Please act in an orderly manner if it comes to that. Thank you.

Moving right along. We all know why we're here as a public hearing. We're going to start with, the first hour will be speakers from the Legislature, constitutional officers, agency heads or municipal elected officials.

We're going to start first with Speaker Donovan is going to speak first. Thank you.

SPEAKER DONOVAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of the Labor Committee. It's good to see you all here today. I'm quite familiar with the Labor Committee as having served six years as chair and also served many years on the Committee as a member. Thank you for all the work you do, and I'm looking for your Co-Chair, Senator Prague, so I can say hello to my Co-Chair as well.

Just for the record, my name is Chris Donovan. I'm a State Representative from the 84th District in Meriden, and I'm here to speak in favor of the act increasing the minimum wage.

In addition, I'm supporting a number of other bills that are fine bills that are on your list for today, which is Senate Bill 181, Senate Bill 182, House Bill 5199 and House Bill 5237.

When I first came to Connecticut as a State Representative, I served on this Committee, the minimum wage was \$4.27 an hour. Since then we've raised our minimum wage on a regular basis, actually, and it's actually gone up twelve times in the last twenty years.

HB5291

REP. RIGBY: Thank you very much for your answers.

STAN SORKIN: You're welcome.

REP. ZALASKI: I think there's no other questions.
Thanks for coming in today; appreciate it.
Neal Alper and then Liz Dupont.

NEAL ALPER: Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee.
I'm Neal Alper, field representative with AFT
Connecticut. I am here speaking in particular
on behalf of AFT Connecticut, local 4230. We
represent the teachers and other certified
staff at the American School for the Deaf in
West Hartford.

HB 5237

As some of you are aware, the ASD provides
critical services to the deaf community around
the state both at its West Hartford campus as
well as through outreach programs at various
public schools around the state. Although the
school receives a significant, if not a
majority of its funding from public sources,
the staff and administration of ASD are not
governed by the Teachers Negotiations Act and
associated statutes.

The statute in question tonight concerns the
manner in which teachers have the ability to
spread their salary over either 10 or 12 months
of the year. So, they're academic year
employees, but they have the option of
receiving their year's payment in 22 or 26
paychecks. The way the statutes read, public
school teachers are specifically exempted to --
exempted from certain wage and hour laws in
order to benefit from these alternative pay
arrangements.

For decades, ASD did the same -- we have had
the same pay schedule that public school

teachers have had. No party attempted to alter this arrangement. Recently, certain administrators at the school asked for and received an opinion from wage and hour basically stating that we weren't in compliance with the statute because we're not technically a public institution.

So, basically what H.B. 5237 would do would carve an exemption out for ASD to allow its teaching staff to go back to the old way in which we had the ability to choose our pay arrangements. It would have no financial impact to the school, and in fact, the school has signaled repeatedly that they have no issue with returning to the former practice as long as they're in statutory compliance. Any questions?

REP. ZALASKI: Are there any questions from the Committee? I don't believe so, but, we really appreciate you coming in. And, I think I have to comment that my father actually went to that school in the early 40's and God rest his soul, yes. And, he wasn't even deaf, but they thought he was, I guess, but he was good in basketball. Thanks for coming in today. We really appreciate it. Next Liz Dupont. She what? She's not here anymore? Ralphie is he here? Raphie? Okay. He could answer a lot of questions. John Murphy, where is he? He could have got on camera for free. Sorry. Stacey Zimmerman?

STACEY ZIMMERMAN: Chairman Zalaski, members of the Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to testify. As you know, I'm with SEIU State Council. We have about 55,000 members in the State of Connecticut. We're here to support both the minimum wage Bill 5291 and the standard and prevailing wage bill, Senate Bill

SB181
SB155

**JOINT
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HEARINGS**

**LABOR AND
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
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2012



Senator Edwin A. Gomes

AMERICAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF*Edward F. Peltier, Executive Director*

February 28, 2012

The Honorable Edith G. Prague
The Honorable Bruce Zalaski
Members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee
Room 3800, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: HB No. 5237 An Act Concerning Payment of Wages for Employees of the American School for the Deaf

Dear Senator Prague, Representative Zalaski and Members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee,

I am writing as the Executive Director of the American School for the Deaf (ASD) in regards to an issue related to HB No. 5237. I am writing to ask that the ASD's name be removed from the title of this bill. The title is misleading since the bill actually changes the payment of wages for all private schools, not just ASD.

I also wanted to let you know that ASD's current method of salary payment for teachers is in compliance with section 31-71b that this bill would amend. Of course, we would be willing to bargain payment of wages if this section of the statute was amended.

Thank you for considering removing the American School for the Deaf's name from the title of this bill.

Sincerely,

Edward F. Peltier
Executive Director

EFP/k



AFT Connecticut
AFT, AFL-CIO

Healthcare
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Testimony of Neil Alper, Field Representative AFT-CT

Labor and Public Employees Committee
February 28, 2012

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**H.B. No. 5237 AN ACT CONCERNING PAYMENT OF WAGES FOR
EMPLOYEES OF THE AMERICAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF.**

Sharon Palmer
PRESIDENT

Melodie Peters
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Leo Canty
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Charles Morrell
SECRETARY-TREASURER

Good afternoon Senator Prague, Representative Zalaski and members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee. I appreciate the opportunity to speak with you this afternoon in support of the proposed adjustments to the salary schedules of teachers and other certified staff at the West Hartford based American School for the Deaf. I'm Neil Alper, Field Representative with AFT CT and speaking today on behalf of the nearly ninety (90) members of AFT CT Local 4230.

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As some of you are surely aware, the American School for the Deaf provides critical services to the deaf community, pulling students of varying ages, backgrounds, and abilities at its West Hartford campus as well as onsite throughout various public schools around the state. Although the school receives a significant percentage of its funding from the State, its staff and administration aren't specifically governed by the Teachers Negotiations Act or associated statutes. One such statute concerns the manner in which teachers and other certified staff in the public schools around the state receive their salaries. Generally speaking such staff have the opportunity to receive their salary over either 10 or 12 months of the year – 22 or 26 paychecks. At the beginning of a given academic year teachers will generally notify their employer of their decision for the upcoming year. State statute specifically allows Public School Boards and their employees a statutory exemption from certain wage and hour laws to engage in this pay practice.

For decades, various collective bargaining agreements between the American School for the Deaf and AFT CT Local 4230 have governed a similar pay schedule for members of this particular bargaining unit. Neither party attempted to alter this benefit through negotiations or otherwise. Simply put – the salary schedule was not an issue of concern to either party. This Fall however, administrators of the School, after querying the State Department of Labor received an opinion from the Wage and Hour division at





the Department of Labor stating the practice was technically in violation of applicable statutes as the Employer isn't a formally recognized Public Board of Education.

This is not an attempt to gain legislatively a benefit the staff couldn't otherwise attain at the bargaining table. Rather, House Bill 5237 is merely an effort to reinstate a long standing pay practice between the parties. The proposed change will have no financial impact on the School itself, and is practice that the School itself is willing to reinstate and abide by – once it can be assured of statutory compliance.

Given that the School, and its staff is largely funded from the public purse, surely its staff should be afforded the same choices over its pay schedule as similarly situated teachers around the state – particularly given the unique niche the staff at the American School for the Deaf occupy in the larger public educational landscape of the State.

Thank you for your continued support and attention to this matter.

AFT Connecticut
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STATE OF CONNECTICUT
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



CHRISTOPHER G. DONOVAN
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

Good afternoon Senator Prague, Representative Zalaski, Ranking Members and distinguished Members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee.

My name is Chris Donovan and I represent the 84th district of Meriden. I am here today to speak in support of HB 5291, An Act Increasing the Minimum Wage. In addition to all the fine bills you're hearing today, I am also in support of: SB 181, S.B. 182, HB 5199, HB 5237.

When I first came to the Capitol as a State Representative in 1992, the minimum wage was only \$4.27 per hour. Since then, we have made good progress and Connecticut has raised the minimum wage 12 times over the last 20 years. While we have established incremental increases in the past at the state and federal levels in 1996, 1997, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2006, 2007, 2009, and 2010, indexing the minimum wage now will allow for an automatic increase in the minimum wage based on the cost of living. There is still more work to do.

At a time when we desperately need to get people back to work, we also need to recognize that those who do have jobs also need to make ends meet. Right now, a family of four, earning minimum wage at a full-time job, is still earning substantially less than the federal poverty limit. Experts have determined that to be self-sufficient in Connecticut, this same family must earn \$19.61 per hour just to cover the expenses of housing, child care, food, transportation, health care and minor emergency savings accounts. It is clear that a family earning minimum wage will not be able to meet its most basic needs.

We have 106,000 people in Connecticut earning the minimum wage, which is just \$8.25 an hour. A majority of them are women, at 53 percent and 80 percent of those 106,000 workers are over the age of 20.

This proposal would help hard-working families in Connecticut and will stimulate our economy to get it back on track. The National Federation of Independent Businesses indicate weak sales and lack of demand as some of the biggest hurdles businesses face in this economic climate. This is a form of economic stimulus that does not add to our state debt. Let us help both families and businesses.

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Thank you, Madam President.

On calendar page 23, Calendar 485, House Bill 5237. Madam President, move to place this item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Moving to calendar page 25, Calendar 497, House Bill 5512. Move to place this item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

On calendar page 26, Calendar 502, House Bill 5497. Move to place the item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Also on calendar page 26, Calendar 503, House Bill 5409. Move to place the item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

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On page 13, Calendar 426, House Bill 5443; on page 14, Calendar 438, House Bill 5347; Page 14, Calendar 439, House Bill 5388; page 15, Calendar 441, House Bill 5501.

Also on page 15, Calendar 442, House Bill 5536; page 16, Calendar 445, House Bill 5145; page 16, Calendar 446, House Bill 5395; on page 16, Calendar 448, House Bill 5414; page 17, Calendar 451, House Bill 5548; page 18, Calendar 456, House Bill 5285.

Also on page 18, Calendar 458, House Bill 5031; on page 20, Calendar 468, House Bill 5217; page 21, Calendar 471, House Bill 5164; page 22, Calendar 476, House Bill 5263.

On page 23, Calendar 485, House Bill 5237. On page 25, Calendar 497, House Bill 5512; page 26, Calendar 502, House Bill 5497; page 26, Calendar 503, House Bill 5409.

On page 28, Calendar 512, House Bill 5424. And on page 30, Calendar 522, House Bill 5289.

THE CHAIR:

That seems correct.

Mr. Clerk, would you please call for a roll call vote on the consent calendar. (Inaudible.)

THE CLERK:

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

THE CHAIR:

Senator Gomes, would you like to vote, please. Thank you.

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

Mr. Clerk, would you please call a tally.

THE CLERK:

On today's consent calendar,

rc/law/gdm/gbr
SENATE

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| | | |
|-----------------------------|----|---|
| Total Number Voting | 35 | |
| Necessary for passage | 18 | |
| Those Voting Yea | 35 | |
| Those Voting Nay | 0 | |
| Those Absent and Not Voting | | 1 |

THE CHAIR:

The consent calendar passes.

Are there any points of personal privilege or announcements? Are there any points of personal privilege or announcements?

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Yes, Madam President, if there are no announcements or points of personal privilege, we will, of course, be in session tomorrow -- or actually it's later today but -- but not on Thursday. But --

THE CHAIR:

Okay. Promise?

SENATOR LOONEY:

-- we will -- we will convene later this morning. We will have a -- announce the Democratic caucus at eleven followed by session at noon today.

Thank you, Madam President.

With that, would move the Senate stand adjourned, subject to the call of the chair.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir. Everybody drive safely.

On motion of Senator Looney of the 11th, the Senate, at 12:32 a.m. adjourned subject to the call of the chair.