Navigating the General Assembly

A Tutorial on Researching, Monitoring, and Participating in the Legislative Process

Christopher S. Wood, AICP
Chair, CCAPA Government Relations Committee
Why Vigilance is Necessary

Plan of Conservation and Development
- Plan Consistency Requirements – 2006
- Plan Update Fiscal Penalties – 2007

Zoning Standards
- Floodplain – 2004
- Dealers and Repairers Licenses – Every Other Year
Why Vigilance is Necessary

► Procedures

- Hearing Procedures and Application Processing
  Time Limits – 2003
- Subdivision Zoning Compliance – 2004
- Ethics Standards (post minutes) – 2008
- New Funding and Grant Opportunities
Starting Out - The Basics
How A Bill Becomes A Law In Connecticut
How A Bill Becomes A Law In Connecticut

1. Proposed bill

2. Bill is sent to the clerk of the House of the sponsoring legislator for numbering.

3. Bill title, number and sponsors are printed in the House and Senate Journals.

4. Bill is sent to the appropriate joint standing committee of the General Assembly, depending on the bill's subject matter.

- Bill requiring action by another committee is referred to that committee, e.g., a bill requiring expenditure is referred to the Appropriations Committee.

- Committee may report the bill favorably, defeat the bill or issue no report (the bill fails).

- Committee holds public hearings for the public, state agency representatives and legislators on all bills it wishes to consider.

- Committee may:
  1. Have the bill drafted in legal language;
  2. Combine it with other bills and have it drafted as a committee bill;
  3. Refer the bill to another committee;
  4. Take no action, so the bill fails.

- The committee may also write a new "raised" committee bill.
Starting Out - The Basics

Welcome to the Connecticut General Assembly - Mozilla Firefox

Quick Search: Bill | Number: | Year: 2008 | GO

Search
Session Information
House
Senate
Legislative References
Citizen Guide
CT Hall of Fame

2008 Regular Session
Convened: February 6, 2008
Adjourned: May 7, 2008

LEGISLATION EFFECTIVE
October 1, 2008

CGA Today
Bulletin (9/18)
List Of Bills Passed (9/25)
Starting Out - Bulletin
SPECIAL SESSION BULLETIN NO. 5

MEETINGS SCHEDULED AT THE STATE CAPITOL/LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING FOR THE PERIOD OF SEPTEMBER 22, 2008 THROUGH OCTOBER 5, 2008

Monday, September 22, 2008

8:00 AM Commission on Children: Connecticut Governor’s Forum - Linking Ready Kids to Ready Schools

10:00 AM Appropriations, Human Services & Public Health Committees Public Hearing Re: Block Grants, Meetings to Follow (ATTACHMENT)

11:00 AM Latino & Puerto Rican Affairs Commission: U.S. Civil Rights Commission Meeting with Advisors of State of CT

4:30 PM Public Health Committee: Evolving Role of School Nurses Task Force Meeting

Tuesday, September 23, 2008
Find and Follow Bills

Search by Topic or Action
Find and Follow Bills

Monitor Bill Introduction
Find and Follow Bills

►► Use Quick Search by Bill Number
Find and Follow Bills

► Enroll in Bill Tracking
Monitor with “My Bills”

►► Add Bill
►► Add Notes
Monitor Progress

By Bill

AN ACT CONCERNING RESPONSIBLE GROWTH.

To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

Rep. Lawrence F. Cafero, 142nd Dist.

New today
Text of Bill
- GAE Joint Favorable [pdf]
- File No. 355 [pdf]
- PD Joint Favorable Substitute [pdf]
- Governor Bill [pdf]

Called Amendments
- Senate Schedule A LCO# 5631 [pdf]
- Senate Schedule B LCO# 4833 [pdf]

Committee Actions
- GAE Joint Fav. Rpt
- GAE Vote Tally Sheet [pdf]
- PD Joint Fav. Rpt
- PD Vote Tally Sheet-A [pdf]
- PD Vote Tally Sheet [pdf]

Votes
- Senate Roll Call Vote 299
Monitor Progress

By Committee
Monitor Progress

By Calendars
Research - Statutes
Connecticut General Assembly
Office of Legislative Research

On The Front Burner

*2008 PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY BOOK (pdf)*

2008 REGULAR AND JUNE SPECIAL SESSION BILL TRACKING REPORT

*Use this report to find out whether a provision from a bill that died passed as part of another bill. Track provisions using its original bill number or committee of origin.*

2008 VETO PACKAGE

2008 ACTS AFFECTING . . . updated 9/15

2008 MAJOR ACTS (PDF)

2008 MAJOR ISSUES (pdf)
Influence - Find Committee
Influence - Find Your Legislator
Influence - Contact

### Senate Members (listed alphabetically)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Web</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Bill Introduced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S16</td>
<td>Caliguiri, Sam S.F.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>View List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S24</td>
<td>Cappiello, David J.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>View List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S31</td>
<td>Colapietro, Thomas A.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>View List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S02</td>
<td>Coleman, Eric D.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>View List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S17</td>
<td>Crisco, Joseph J.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>View List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S33</td>
<td>Daly, Eileen M.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>View List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S21</td>
<td>DeBiccara, Dan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>View List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S06</td>
<td>DeFronzo, Donald J.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>View List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S09</td>
<td>Doyle, Paul R.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>View List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S25</td>
<td>Duff, Bob</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>View List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S34</td>
<td>Fasano, Leonard A.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>View List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S01</td>
<td>Fonfara, John W.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>View List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S26</td>
<td>Freedman, Judith G.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>View List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S12</td>
<td>Garvey, Thomas P.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>View List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S23</td>
<td>Gomes, Edward A.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>View List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S35</td>
<td>Guglielmo, Anthony</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>View List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S04</td>
<td>Handley, Mary Ann</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>View List</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Influence - Testify
Influence - Testify

Your Voice Matters at the Connecticut General Assembly

A Guide for Reaching State Legislators and Testifying at Hearings

Your elected state legislators want to know what you think of proposed legislation before they vote on it. You can telephone them or write them letters to express your views. Another effective way of getting your point across is speaking at a public hearing. Here's how:

GETTING READY

It will help to know the number of the bill you're interested in. To find out, call the bill status information room at (860) 240-0555, or call one of the toll-free numbers listed below and ask to be transferred to the Information Room.

The Connecticut General Assembly's internet site (www.ct.gov) will allow you to retrieve the bill status information on the bill you are interested in, including current text, up-to-date actions on the bill, introducer, statement of purpose and co-sponsors.
Influence - Testify

Legislative Action

Government Relations Committee Chair:
Christopher S. Wood, AICP
Town Planner
Woodbury, Connecticut
woodplanning@charter.net

Connecticut Chapter Legislative Activity

2008 Legislative Session Underway

"Responsible Growth" Concepts Need Help

With the 2008 session underway, several proposals intending to promote responsible growth management are under consideration. In addition to offering assistance to the Planning and Development Committee to craft legislation that can be effective, CCAPA has identified an opportunity to address a growing concern to many communities that are seeking to implement development plans but facing resistance by State agencies based on the State's "Locational Guide Map."
Contribute

- Vigilance – Report discoveries to the CCAPA Government Relations Committee
- Alert CCAPA members via the Connecticut Planners List Serve
- Lobby – Contact your legislator directly; inform and advise local officials
- Intelligence – Provide analyses, case examples, and facts in support of CCAPA positions
CCAPA’s Government Relations Mission

“To actively participate in the legislative process and in public policy making as these issues affect planning practice and community development.”