



## **Public Safety & Health Committee - Board of Representatives**

Jeffrey Stella, Chair

Eric Morson, Vice Chair

# **Committee Report**

**Date:** Monday, October 21, 2019

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

**Place:** Republican Caucus Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Government Center,  
888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford CT

The Public Safety & Health Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Stella and Committee Member Reps: Giordano, Lutz, Matherne, McMullen and Sherwood. Absent or excused was Vice Chair Morson, and Reps. Kolenberg and Pratt. Also in attendance were two members of the public from Moms Demand Action.

Chair Stella called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee Action</b>
1. <a href="#">PS30.024</a>	ORDINANCE <u>for public hearing and final adoption</u> ; Amending Chapter 159 of the Code of Ordinances, Massage Establishments, Section 159-4 Inspections. 11/08/18 – Submitted by Dr. Calder 11/13/18 – Moved to Pending 03/25/19 – Held by Committee 5-0-0 05/30/19 – Held by Committee 7-0-0 <b>09/26/19 – Approved as Amended 5-0-0</b>	<b>Approved 5-0-0</b>

Chair Stella opened the public hearing. There being no one from the public wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed.

A motion approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5-0-0 (Reps. Stella, Giordano, Matherne, McMullen and Sherwood in favor).

2. <a href="#">PS30.023</a>	RESOLUTION <u>and public hearing</u> ; Concerning Massage Therapy Establishment Licensing and Inspections Fees. 11/08/18 – Submitted by Dr. Calder 11/13/18 – Moved to Pending 03/25/19 – Held by Committee 5-0-0 5/30/19 – Held by Committee 7-0-0 <b>09/26/19 – Approved as Amended 4-1-0</b>	<b>Approved 4-1-0</b>
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Chair Stella opened the public hearing. There being no one from the public wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed.

Rep. McMullen stated that he would be voting against this item because Stamford continues to have the first or second highest costs in the area for doing things. This is positioning the City to price itself out of competition with neighboring areas.

A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 4-1-0 (Reps. Stella, Giordano, Matherne and Sherwood in favor; Rep. McMullen opposed).

3. PS30.047      REVIEW; Plan Regarding the Position of Fire Safety Officer.      **Held 5-0-0**  
10/08/19 – Submitted by Rep. Stella

A motion to hold this item due to the unavailability of the invited guest was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5-0-0 (Reps. Stella, Giordano, Matherne, McMullen and Sherwood in favor).

- <sup>1</sup>4. [PS30.046](#)      RESOLUTION; Urging the US Congress Regarding Gun Violence Protection Measures.      **Approved as Amended 5-1-0**  
10/03/19 – Submitted by Reps. Stella and Pratt

A motion was made and seconded to discuss amending the language as follows:

*“The Board of Representatives calls on the United States Congress to ~~immediately reconvene~~ take up pending gun legislation in order to fund federal research on gun violence prevention and to adopt comprehensive gun reform, including universal background checks, a ban on high-capacity assault weapons, a federal “red flag” law allowing police to confiscate firearms from people who are deemed to be a danger to themselves or to others, and a federal registry for dangerous weapon offenders”.*

A motion to approve the amended language was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5-0-1 (Reps. Stella, Giordano, Lutz, Matherne and Sherwood in favor; Rep. McMullen abstaining).

There was discussion on this item.

- Gun violence must be curbed from many different angles, and this resolution is one angle.
- Mental health reforms and education are needed regarding gun violence.
- This resolution is outside the purview of the BOR.
- “Red flag” laws are important because they allow weapons to temporarily be taken away from someone, possibly avoiding a tragic outcome.
- There needs to be recourse for an innocent person in a frivolous “red flag” report.
- Heavier penalties are needed for weapons violations.
- Gun education is important.
- This spirit of this resolution is broad enough to help protect people from gun violence and not infringe on anyone’s rights.

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<sup>1</sup> Video Time Stamp 00:05:00

A motion to approve the item as amended was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5-1-0 (Reps. Stella, Giordano, Lutz, Matherne and Sherwood in favor; Rep. McMullen opposed).

Chair Stella adjourned the meeting at 7:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeffrey Stella, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).