

Legislative History for Connecticut Act

PA 17-67

SB949

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Transcripts from the Joint Standing Committee Public
Hearing(s) and/or Senate and House of Representatives
Proceedings

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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2017**

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cf
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

327
June 2, 2017

CLERK:

House Bill 7312 as amended by House "A".

Total Number Voting	147
Necessary for Passage	74
Those voting Yea	124
Those voting Nay	23
Those absent and not voting	4

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

The bill passes as amended. (Gavel)

Representative Ritter, the fine majority leader of the 1st district. You have the floor.

REP. RITTER (1ST):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that we immediately transmit calendar 511 to the Senate.

Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER COOK (65TH):

Thank you very much, sir. The question is on immediate transmittal. Without objection, so ordered. Will the clerk please call House Calendar

603?

CLERK:

On page 40, Calendar 603, Senate Bill 949, AN

ACT CREATING AN ADVISORY COUNCIL RELATING TO DIGITAL
CITIZENSHIP, INTERNET SAFETY AND MEDIA LITERACY.

Favorable report of the Joint Standing Committee on
Education.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Fleischmann.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move acceptance of
the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage
of the bill.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

The question before the chamber is on
acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report
and passage of the bill. Please proceed.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This bill establishes
a digital citizenship, internet safety, and media
literacy authority council in the State Department
of Education. Mr. Speaker, the clerk is in
possession of amendment LCO 7910, previously
designated Senate "A". I ask the clerk please call
it and I be given permission to summarize.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

329
June 2, 2017

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Will the clerk please call LCO Number 7910
which will be designated as House Amendment Schedule
"A"?

THE CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule --

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Senate "A".

THE CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule "A", LCO Number 7910,
offered by Senator Slossberg, Senator Gerratana.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative seeks leave of the chamber to
summarize the amendment. Is there objection?
Seeing none. Please proceed.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The amendment before
us eliminates the fiscal note of the underlying bill
by clarifying that there shall be no mileage
reimbursement or transportation allowance. I move
adoption.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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June 2, 2017

The question before the chamber is on adoption of the amendment. Representative Lavielle. Oh no, not on the amendment. Let me try your minds. All those in favor, please signify by saying, "Aye".

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Those opposed, "Nay". The "ayes" have it. The amendment is adopted. Now Representative Lavielle.

I apologize for before. You have the floor, Madam.

REP. LAVIELLE (143RD):

Thank you. Hello. You can recognize me as often as you want, Mr. Speaker. Thank you. This is a good bill. The landscape with the new media and technology and how it affects our schools and our students is moving all the time and this creates an advisory council that's there at the disposal of the Education Commissioner to make sure that we deal with it properly. Thank you very much. It's a good bill. It ought to pass.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Thank you very much, Madam. 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 to your seats. The machine will be open. (Ringing)

CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by roll.

Members to the Chamber. The House of Representatives is voting by roll. Members to the Chamber.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Have all the members voted? Typically when I'm on the dais it usually means we're trying to wrap up, so you may want to stay close. If all the members have voted, please check the board to ensure your vote's been properly cast. If all the members have voted, the machine will be locked. The Clerk will take a tally.

The Clerk will announce the tally.

CLERK:

Senate Bill Number 949 as amended by Senate "A"
in concurrence with the Senate.

Total Number Voting	147
Necessary for Passage	74
Those voting Yea	144
Those voting Nay	3
Those absent and not voting	4

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

The bill passes in concurrence. (Gavel) Will
the Clerk please call House Calendar 41?

CLERK:

On page 43, House Calendar 41, Substitute House
Bill Number 6989, AN ACT PROVIDING PROTECTIONS FOR
CONSUMERS APPLYING FOR REVERSE MORTGAGES. Favorable
report of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ (30TH):

Representative Joe Serra. The great city or
town or Middletown. You have the floor, sir.

REP. SERRA (33RD):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move
for acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable
report and passage of the bill.

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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SENATE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2017**

**VOL .60
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1580 - 1989**

cf
Senate

May 25, 2017

House Bill Number 7114.

Total number voting	36
Those voting Yea	31
Those voting Nay	5
Absent and not voting	0

THE CHAIR:

The bill passes. (Gavel) Mr. Clerk.

CLERK:

Page 24, Calendar 300, Senate Bill Number 949, AN
ACT CREATING AN ADVISORY COUNCIL RELATING TO DIGITAL
CITIZENSHIP, INTERNET SAFETY AND MEDIA LITERACY.
And there are amendments.

THE CHAIR:

Good evening, Senator Slossberg.

SENATOR SLOSSBERG (14TH):

Good evening, Madam President. Almost happy
tomorrow, in a few minutes. I move the Joint
Committee's favorable report and passage of the
bill.

THE CHAIR:

Motion is on acceptance and passage. Will you
remark, Ma'am?

SENATOR SLOSSBERG (14TH):

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Senate

May 25, 2017

Yes. Thank you, Madam President. The bill before us will establish a digital citizenship, internet safety, and media literacy advisory council within the Department of Education. The council will be comprised of teachers, librarians, representatives from PTOs, a variety of folks. And the purpose of the council is to provide recommendations to the State Board of Education for best practices relating to the instruction in digital citizenship and internet safety, media literacy, and the best practices for instruction.

The Education Committee received a decent amount of testimony in regard to this, in support of it, from our media specialists around the state, many of whom expressed a similar sentiment that our public schools are responsible for cultivating the skills needed in an increasingly competitive economy and that the digital age has brought a new set of obstacles to prepare students to face the creation of this advisory council will set the tone for best practices across Connecticut and ensure a high quality learning experience for all students. The clerk has in possession an amendment. It is LCO 7910. I would ask that it be called.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

CLERK:

LCO Number 7910, Senate "A". It's offered by Senators Slossberg and Gerratana.

SENATOR SLOSSBERG (14TH):

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Senate

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Thank you. I move adoption.

THE CHAIR:

Motion is on adoption. Will you remark, sir --
Ma'am.

SENATOR SLOSSBERG (14TH):

Yes. Thank you, Madam President. This amendment simply makes sure that this advisory council will not cost the state any money. It will be housed within the State Department of Education and the members will be receiving no compensation and I would urge the support of the chamber.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark further on Senate "A"? Will you remark further on Senate "A"? If not -- I'll try your minds. All those in favor of Senate "A", please say "Aye".

SENATORS:

Aye.

THE CHAIR:

Opposed? Senate "A" is adopted. Will you remark further on the bill? Senator Suzio.

SENATOR SUZIO (13TH):

Thank you, Madam President. I just have one question for the proponent of the bill.

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THE CHAIR:

Please proceed, sir.

SENATOR SUZIO (13TH):

I would like to have an understanding of what digital citizenship consists of. Through you, Madam President.

SENATOR SLOSSBERG (14TH):

Thank you, Madam President. Through you. Digital citizenship is just the way that we teach our children about how to behave on the internet to make sure that they are good citizens, that they don't things they're not supposed to be doing.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Suzio.

SENATOR SUZIO (13TH):

This is indeed strange. I'm looking at you, talking to her next to me. [Laughing] Thank you. I just was wondering if it was some form of citizenship to a club or a country or whatever, but it's obviously just a term of expression. Thank you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you. Will you remark further on the bill?
Senator Boucher. Senator Boucher.

SENATOR BOUCHER (26TH):

Yes. Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, I rise to support the bill as amended. In a new age that we are living in, there are greater areas of exposure for our students, particularly on the internet. Some of it very, very good but also there are quite troubling and it is time that we do work to address this not just from the standpoint of the many debates that we've had over bullying or how to use it responsibly, but some people also use it to target young students and there are areas to beware of.

No longer is it just the concern that children might be a target when walking to school or on the street, but now it's when they're also surfing the internet as well. We've heard too many negative stories in that regard and I think it's the responsible direction for us to take in our educational system. So I urge everybody's support as well and I thank the good chairwoman for bringing the bill out. Thank you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you. Will you remark further? Senator Miner.

SENATOR MINER (30TH):

Thank you, Madam President. I just have one question, if I might, for the proponent of the bill as amended, please --

THE CHAIR:

Please proceed.

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SENATOR MINER (30TH):

Thank you, Madam President. So I think it was last year, I requested some legislation which actually passed that made it clear that the responsibility for controlling internet access -- internet activity within a public school was vested with the school board. And that it didn't -- wasn't vested with any individual or any organization. Does anything in this change that policy to your knowledge? Through you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Slossberg.

SENATOR SLOSSBERG (14TH):

Thank you. Through you, Madam President. No, it does not change that policy in any way.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Miner.

SENATOR MINER (30TH):

Thank you, Madam President. I thank the lady for her answer.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you. Will you remark further on the bill?
Senator Gerratana.

SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

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Senate

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Thank you, Madam President. I just rise to speak in favor of the bill before us. It was actually some constituents had come to me and made me aware of some of the dangers that children and our students of course in our school system were engaging in on the internet and the work that they had done to advocate and work with these youth to educate them.

And we took this idea, actually, last year and started with some components and legislation last year, working with the State Department of Education and this year is the advisory council with which the SDE is very happy to accommodate. So I just want to say thank you very much to Senator Slossberg and the Education Committee for bringing this forward. Thank you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you. Will you remark further? Will you remark further on the bill? Senator Slossberg.

SENATOR SLOSSBERG (14TH):

Sorry. [Laughing] Thank you, Madam President. If there's no objection, I would ask this item be placed on the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objection. So ordered. Ma'am. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK:

On page 15, Calendar 199, Substitute for Senate Bill Number 948, AN ACT CONCERNING DIGITAL DISCOUNTS TO

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Thank you, Madam President. If the clerk can now call the items on the Consent Calendar, followed by a vote of the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

CLERK:

On page 9, Calendar 115, Senate Bill 544, page 11, Calendar 130, Senate Bill 826. Page 13, Calendar 171, Senate Bill 35. Page 15, Calendar 198, Senate Bill 870. Page 16, Calendar 210, Senate Bill 835. Page 16, Calendar 215, Senate Bill 635. On page 17, Calendar 231, Senate Bill 605, and Calendar 233, Senate Bill 572. On page 19, Calendar 257, House Bill 7159. On page 21, Calendar 267, House Bill 7237.

On page 23, Calendar 289, Senate Bill 1038. On page 24, Calendar 300, Senate Bill 949. Page 26, Calendar 315, Senate Bill 1002. Page 30, Calendar 360, Senate Bill 1041. Page 35, Calendar 398, House Bill 6002. Also on page 35, Calendar 400, House Bill 7015. On page 36, Calendar 403, House Bill 7037. Page 43, Calendar 451, House Bill 7299. Page 48, Calendar 484, House Bill 7309. And on page 56, Calendar 325, Senate Bill 246.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk, please call for a roll call vote. The machine will be open on the third Consent Calendar.

CLERK:

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Senate

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~~Immediate Roll Call has been ordered~~ in the Senate
on the third Consent Calendar for today. Immediate
Roll Call in the Senate.

THE CHAIR:

Senator McCrory, wanna vote?

If all members have voted, all members have voted.
The machine will be closed. Mr. Clerk, call the
tally.

CLERK:

Consent Calendar No. 3.

Total number voting	36
Those voting Yea	36
Those voting Nay	0
Absent and not voting	0

THE CHAIR:

~~The Consent Calendar's passed.~~ (Gavel) At this
time Senator -- Mr. Clerk, do you have anything on
your desk? Senator Duff. I'm sorry.

SENATOR DUFF (25TH):

Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, I'll
yield for points of personal privilege, please.

THE CHAIR:

Are there any points of personal privilege? Seeing
none. Senator Duff.

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

**EDUCATION
PART 2
596 - 995**

2017

PUBLIC MEETING

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18TH): I think you might have been listed under two bills but if you spoke.

JESSICA CURRAN: I did. I'm happy to answer any other questions on the food allergy legislation.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18TH): I think we're good. Thank you again.

JESSICA CURRAN. Thank you.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18TH): Anyone else who would was here whose name has not been called at who is ready to testify on House Bill 7200? If not, we will move along to Senate Bill 949, AN ACT CREATING AN ADVISORY COUNCIL RELATING TO DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP, . INTERNET SAFETY AND MEDIA LITERACY. Is Marcus Stallworth still here? Your hours of patience has been rewarded.

MARCUS STALLWORTH: Little evening humor, so Good Moring, evening Education Committee. Yes, yes, I appreciate the opportunity to be here so I am having a Pavlovian experience with bells, so I am going to try to be very quick so we can meet that today. My situation is really kind of short. I am here in support of Raised Bill 949 that speaks directly to putting together an Advisory Committee or Council with regards to digital citizenship, media literacy and internet safety. So I know independently that you might be very familiar with some of those terms, there has been a lot of conversation about cyberbullying, mid-trafficking, things of this nature but we are in a position where our youth are in a space that probably none of us were ever in, so about 15 years ago, these major devices, social media outlets, things of that nature were

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nonexistent and in some of our travels, myself as a licensed Master Level Social Worker, as an adjunct professor in multiple universities throughout the state and through my national travels as a trainer with the Child Welfare League of America this is not something that is just indigenous to Connecticut.

So we were at the table last year and we worked very closely with Senator Gerritano who helped us get a Bill passed 962, which got consolidated with a larger bill, which in part mandated some type of social media educations in the schools which was fantastic. What we learned was, it was very, very broad, it was very open, it was very vague so there is incredible work that is happening in school, outside of school, etc., etc. My guys were not the only experts in the state doing this work but it just kind of seems fragmented and even in some other research that we've done, the new research is telling us that on average, parents are spending less than one hour a week of purposeful time with their children. So if the children aren't spending it with the parents, who has our children's ear? Nine times out of ten our kids have a cellphone that they carry with them, that they go to sleep with, they wake up on an alarm, they bring it in the bathroom, they bring it to the dinner table. So with that level of access it just gives them a level of maturity that otherwise we might not present in a certain way. So we recognize some of the benefits, we see some of aggressive characteristics that can be very, very similar to people who are experiencing withdrawal symptoms from drugs and narcotics and we just want to put together an effort that we can get experts throughout the community who have some background and not just putting it on educators, so it looks like another extra job that they have to do

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and maybe we could do some of that heavy lifting and give some advice back to the Education Committee and see what they would decide makes the best sense. So thank you very much and I am more than happy to answer any questions you might have.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18TH): Thank you for that very thoughtful, well-explained testimony. Are there questions from members of the Committee?
Representative McCarthy Vahey.

REP. MC CARTHY VAHEY (133RD): Thank you Mr. Chair and thank you for staying here with us and hanging in today. Just wondering as he heard testimony earlier about student data privacy, which isn't exactly the same thing but is related, if there has ever been any conversation about perhaps integrating the two because in a sense the data privacy is in away about educating educators and administrators and this piece which I think is really critical and in to have it before us, with students, and in a way to combine that. Have you had any conversations with anyone about that?

MARCUS STALLWORTH: That is a really good question, thank you. So we haven't had any specific conversation with regards to that, perhaps if a council is put together, maybe that is some of the dialogue that would be exchanged. A lot of our work that we do with young folks is kind of predicted on the notion of be mindful of what you post online. So we spend a lot of conversation about your digital footprint, what that looks like because we are noticing that it has a direct impact on what colleges look for in terms of acceptance, creditors often look at this and even for employability. So we kind of have that type of conversation and

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dialogue and I don't want to make this something different than what it is but I mean you can turn on the news any day of the week and see how adults are still struggling how to navigate this thing with technology and social medias. So, if I am seeing it at the collegiate level very frequently it just makes sense that maybe we need to revisit this a little earlier in the game so that we could be proactive.

REP. MC CARTHY VAHEY (133RD): Thank you for that. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18TH): Senator Slossberg.

SENATOR SLOSSBERG (14TH): Thank you for being here for your testimony. I have two questions. The first is did you submit written testimony to us.

MARCUS STALLWORTH: Yes I did.

SENATOR SLOSSBERG (14TH): There is a lot of paper up here so unfortunately I don't have it in front of me. Would you see this task force as part of its focus also dealing with issues of, for lack of a better word, screen addiction?

MARCUS STALLWORTH: Absolutely, so a portion of what often gets overlooked is the subconscious component to this. So in some of the work that we do again, it is not about me but I am in a fortunate position, I do the work nationally. It is not just here in Connecticut. But the amount of time the kids spend online, watching videos, watching movies, how many times they see sexualized behavior, violent acts and it desensitizes them in such a way that it become, uh, not a big deal, so even when they see their

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peers in person, or online, you say, Hey it doesn't have nothing to do with me, not my problem. So part of that digital citizenship really speaks to that to have a level of humanity, not just in the day-to-day personal component but also when you are online because we know those ramifications often times will overlook because we can't see them and touch them, just as you know, opposed to somebody who might be picking on you in the neighborhood.

SENATOR SLOSSBERG (14TH): Okay, that is very helpful. I mean one of the areas that I think I am also interested in and I don't know if it would be in the prevue of this task force or group, however we are going to put it together, is the affect though that we see of many young people now, especially I think more often boys than girls, living in a digital world instead of, you know, actually interacting with other people and that suddenly becomes their whole life and their, you know, inability. It is like a drug addiction and it's got different consequences, but it is a very significant, I think dilemma or disease, quite frankly I think of this younger generation. Would you see that as something that this group could touch on.

MARCUS STALLWORTH: Absolutely and that is a great perspective. So the company own is called Welcome2Reality and we cover things specifically which are related. We are in the process of getting the curriculum published, speaking to all those things directly. However, I am very aware that there are other folks throughout the state that are also doing incredible work so this is an impersonal sale, but collaboratively we could pool our resources and our data together collectively, I

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think we would be in a really good place to address a lot of those issues, specifically as it relates to soft skills, communication skills, engagement, ownership, responsibility. There is a very, very disconnect when folks are using television and technology because there is that vicarious separation that takes place and this is the first generation that has no framework without social media and Wi-Fi and technology, so it is all very new for them.

SENATOR SLOSSBERG (14TH): Very true, thank you for that comment. I just remember growing up, I'm fairly old I guess, but I remember growing up and my parents, you know there was a certain amount of television you were allowed to watch and then the TV went off or daddy got the TV at that point and we just weren't, we had to go off and play outside or do something else. Our kids never, ever go anywhere without their phone, ever. It is by their bed when they go to bed, it's the first thing they see when they get up in the morning, have it with them everywhere and in fact most of us probably do, except you kids see that, it's never on, it's never not on. It is nonstop. I mean I can remember when my kids were little and we did turn off the TV week. We never say turn off your phone week. Can you even imagine like everybody starts laughing to even think about it, but we used to have an event called turn off the TV week from PTA and every night we would go to the school and we would play board games and can you imagine, it sounds so irrelevant now doesn't it?

MARCUS STALLWORTH: Right.

SENATOR SLOSSBERG (14TH): But we recognize that so I think this is a very interesting topic. Thank you

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very much for your testimony. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18TH): Thank you. Are there any other questions for the witness. I think I saw Representative Candelaria to be followed by Representative Kokoruda.

REP. KOKORUDA (101ST): Mr. Chairman, I just have a very quick question. I was just curious if Senator Slossberg had electricity when she did those board games? (Laughter)

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18TH): I believe that electricity predated the television. Representative Candelaria.

REP. CANDELARIA ((95TH): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Just a quick question, do know if there is any type of, I was reading the language on the Bill, is there anything currently being taught in the schools?

MARCUS STALLWORTH: Currently, right now? So that is a great question. The question is there anything specifically taught in schools? So yes and sort of. So we work with some constituents that are outside of Connecticut that have done some phenomenal work across the country. So you might be familiar with them, they are called Media Literacy Now. They actually assisted us with the legislative component to get us to get Bill 962 passed last year. But they are achieving a variety of success throughout the country and some of it has been mandated that social media education is a fundamental bona fide evidence based curriculum that is being disseminated, trained by the staff and then there is other situations where schools are having other folks from the outside who have a whole body of

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knowledge and expertise that are coming in with their skill set to offer a different level of engagement once again. So it is not increasing the load that educators already have which is already enormous.

REP. CANDELARIA (95TH): Thank you for that.

MARCUS STALLWORTH: Yea, sure.

REP. CANDELARIA (95TH): Thank you Mr. Chairman.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18TH): Thank you, any other questions? If no, thank you for your time. I hope you judge this trip has been worth your while?

MARCUS STALLWORTH: It was alright. (Laughter) Thank you.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18TH): Anyone else here to testify on SB 949?

Anyone here for House Bill 7203 AN ACT CONCERNING REVIEW OF THE IMPACT OF RACIAL IMBALANCE LAW?

Anyone here for testimony on Senate Bill 955, AN ACT CONCERNING STATE ASSISTANCE TO CERTAIN UNDERPERFORMING SCHOOL DISTRICTS. If not, is anyone here for testimony on Bills we previously heard who was overlooked? I believe that was Mr. Scarduzio, if you would like to come forward and give your testimony that would be great.

JOSEPH SCARDUZIO: Good evening, my name is Joseph J. Scarduzio of Townsend Avenue, Waterbury, Connecticut. I am here to testify against House Bill 7202 as written. I am Department Head at the Stratford School for Aviation Maintenance

Good Morning,

My name is Marcus Stallworth, LMSW and I am writing to express my support regarding proposed Bill 949. I am co-owner of Welcome2Reality, LLC and part of the group who approached Senator Gerritano on the importance of this matter. In my role as a national trainer with the Child Welfare League of America, adjunct professor, and as a parent, I see countless occurrences where children (and adults) are winding up on the wrong side of Social Media and Technology. Shaming, cyberbullying, and online cruelty are at an all-time high. Children are getting inundated with imagery and messaging hundreds of times a day and are being left to their own devices to decipher the purpose and intentions of what they see and hear. The research tells us some children are spending less than an hour of purposeful time with their parents a week leaving it up to social media, entertainment, and advertisement, to shape opinions and values. Media Literacy and Digital Citizenship are necessary components to help educate youth how to include critical thinking, self-assessment, and due diligence, in order to assign credibility to media content. Without education and guidance teens are also creating digital footprints which can have the ability to impact employment, college acceptance, and even credit opportunities. I believe these things need to be taught not only to kids, but also to the adults entrusted to provide academic knowledge and educational support to them. By assembling this committee it will enable like-minded individuals to assemble a strength based, solution focused, and approach to meeting these needs for Connecticut citizens. We would hope to create something that would be viewed as additional support, not "added work".

Please also consider this as my willingness to participate in the coordination efforts, and I would consider it a privilege to be a part of the finalized cohort.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcus Stallworth, LMSW