

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

SOCIAL EQUITY COUNCIL | Policy Committee – **DRAFT**

Meeting Date and Time: January 19, 2023, 10:00 AM

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting of the SEC Policy Committee

Location: Microsoft TEAMS

Committee Chair: Edwin Shirley

Members Present: Michael Jefferson, Ojala Naeem, Edwin Shirley

Members Absent: Subira Gordon

Staff: Ginne-Rae Clay (SEC), Komla Matrevi (SEC), (SEC), Kristina Diamond (SEC)

Call to order Meeting was called to order at 10:06 am

Committee Chair Ed Shirley

First order of business review and approve the December minutes. I'll ask for a motion to approve.

Moved by Member Naeem

Second by Member Jefferson.

In Favor: all

Nye's: None

Abstentions: None

Chairman Shirley moved to discussion of the 2023 legislative proposals.

Members of the committee received the most recent legislative recommendations as a part of the meeting package .

Chairman Shirley, asked for a motion to accept the 2023 legislative recommendations.

Moved: Michael Jefferson

Second: Ojala Naeem

Discussion:

Council Member Jefferson asked Kristina Diamond to provide an overview of the recommendations, so the members were clear about what we're voting on.

Kristina Diamond, provided that this proposal, it clarifies the definition of control for social equity applicants as well as the equity joint ventures. And it eliminates the need for the Council to annually recertify the DIA map. Recommendations allows the Council to add in a poverty rate and eliminate the unemployment rate when calculating the DIA.

Member Jefferson inquired how often the Council would review the DIA information.

Kristina Diamond explained the Council would recertify the map in August of 2023 and in terms the legislation the Council would not recertify the map again unless legislation was put in place to mandate the council to do so. The Council may feel the need to recertify later and then we would have to put in legislation for that.

Member Jefferson questioned if the recertification was going to be annual review still by the Council based on the legislative existing legislation.

Kristina Diamond further explained that this new proposal, would only recertify the map in August of 2023 this year and then that's it. That's the only mandate.

Michael Jefferson asked if there is some changes in the poverty rate or some other existing measure that the Council uses, we would have to put in additional legislation in order to make the necessary changes to reflect.

Diamond, Kristina explained if the Council wanted to recertify the map again or look at new data, the Council would need to re-introduce legislation.

Additional discussion ensued.

All in favor: All

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Michael Jefferson, inquired if this vote was to bring the recommendations to the full Council or if the was vote adopting the recommendations on behalf of the full Council?

Chairman Shirley clarified the vote bringing it to the Council.

Director Clay confirmed the recommendations were going to the Council at a special meeting on January 24th.

Chairman Shirley asked if there was anything for the good of the order.

Member Naeem asked for clarification from Director Clay on other recommendations coming in at the General Assembly around the lottery process. She asked specifically about a bill was introduced by Representative Rojas and it brings in a sort of graduated payment structure. Member Naeem, requested to be updated on this and other proposed bills related to keeping the lottery process equitable because of.

Discussion ensued.

Director Clay explained that Kristina Diamond will be tracking bills and providing updates to the committee and council and seeking council feedback. Kristina Diamond concurred and stated that she planned on sending, an update of the bills that are relevant to the Social Equity Council and allow the Council an opportunity to give feedback on that.

Kristina Diamond indicated that she is reaching out to Representative Rojas' office and has requested a meeting with him. She would provide updates.

Discussion ensued.

Chairman Shirley asked for a motion to adjourn. A

Moved by Michael Jefferson Seconded by Member Naeem

Meeting adjourned 10:16 am

This minutes are draft until approved by the Policy Committee at its next meeting