

DAVID S. BENTZ
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
18TH District



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE OF DELAWARE
LEGISLATIVE HALL
DOVER, DELAWARE 19901

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House Sunset Committee Meeting Minutes

5.15.2019

Chair Bentz called the meeting to order at 1:07 pm. Members present include: Reps Dorsey-Walker, Spiegelman and Rep Yearick.

Rep. Kendra Johnson introduced **HB 160, AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF LOBBYIST IDENTIFICATION BADGES**. She stated that the bill assigns the responsibility of issuing lobbyists badges to the Public Integrity Commission (PIC), which regulates the profession within the State of Delaware. She added that there are security implications as current badges have no expiration date.

Chair Bentz expressed his support for the legislation as it increases efficiency. He then opened the floor for public comment.

Kim Gomes stated that the intent of the bill is unclear and felt that the proposed changes are achievable through the regulatory process. She requested more time for relevant stakeholder input.

Rep. Yearick stated that this legislation would increase convenience and safety for lobbyists. Kim Gomes stated that the only DMV that currently issues badges is the Dover DMV.

Deborah Moreau from PIC expressed concern that the DMV issues badges without access to the database that includes information about lobbyists, such as late fees and employer confirmation. She added that the new badges would change color yearly to help Capital Police identify active badges. Additionally the legislation would increase contact between lobbyists and PIC.

Rep Kendra Johnson emphasized that this bill was common sense legislation that would increase safety and efficiency.

Robert Maxwell stated that that safety concerns should be addressed more comprehensively and asked for additional stakeholder input.

Chair Bentz felt that there was no sufficient reason given that proved the bill was bad public policy. He added that time for stakeholder input was possible.

Rep. Spiegelman suggested delaying the bill from being heard on the House floor to allocate time for stakeholder input. Rep. Kendra Johnson stated that she would try to follow up on the request.

Chair Bentz requested a motion. A motion was made by Rep Spiegelman and seconded by Chair Bentz to release HB 160 from committee; motion carried. Yes= 3 (Bentz, Spiegelman, Yearick) No= 0 Absent = 2 (Bennett, Dorsey-Walker). HB 160 was released from committee with an F =0 M=3 U=0 vote.

Chair Bentz adjourned the meeting at 1:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted by: Wanjia Thuku

Attendance List

Deborah Moreau (PIC)

Kim Gomes (Byrd Group)

Robert Maxwell