

Senate Executive Committee (Meeting No. 2)

153rd General Assembly
Wednesday, January 29, 2025
Senate Chamber/Virtual Meeting
2:04 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Senate Executive Committee Meeting Recording, Jan. 29, 2025, Meeting No 2

Committee Members Present:

Senator David P. Sokola, Chair	David.Sokola@delaware.gov
Senator Bryan Townsend, Vice-Chair	Bryan.Townsend@delaware.gov
Senator Gerald Hocker	Gerald.Hocker@delaware.gov
Senator Russell Huxtable	Russell.Huxtable@delaware.gov
Senator S. Elizabeth Lockman	Elizabeth.Lockman@delaware.gov
Senator Brian Pettyjohn	Brian.Pettyjohn@delaware.gov
Senator Marie Pinkney	Marie.Pinkney@delaware.gov

Other Senators Present:

Senator Spiros Mantzavinos	Spiros.Mantzavinos@delaware.gov
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Staff Present:

Kiki Evinger, Policy Director, Majority Caucus	
Valerie McCartan, Office of Sen. Sokola	Valerie.McCartan@delaware.gov
Carolyn Martin-Pettaway, Admin. Asst., Majority Caucus	
Wyatt Patterson, Office of Sen. Townsend	Wyatt.Patterson@delaware.gov

Agenda

- I. Cabinet Nominations
SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
Appoint:
The Honorable Josette D. Manning

SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SERVICES FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND THEIR FAMILIES
Appoint:
The Honorable Steven E. Yeatman

II. Legislation

HB 40 w/ HA 1 (Griffith) AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER 459, VOLUME 84 OF THE LAWS OF DELAWARE AND TITLES 6, 29, AND 30 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE REGISTRATION OF TRADE NAMES.

Introduction

Senator Sokola commenced the meeting at 2:04 p.m. and reviewed the hybrid meeting protocol. Sens. Hocker, Lockman, Pettyjohn, Pinkney, Sokola, and Townsend were marked present. He provided introductory instructions to the nominees and called forward the first nominee, The Hon. Josette D. Manning to be appointed Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Services.

Cabinet Nominations

The Hon. Josette D. Manning [Start time: 2:05:10 PM]

This nomination was reported out of committee: 7 Favorable

Senator Huxtable was marked present at 2:12 p.m.

Senator Sokola called forward the final nominee of the nomination portion of this hearing, The Hon. Steven E. Yeatman to be appointed Secretary of the Department of Services for Children, Youth, and Their Families.

The Hon. Steven. E. Yeatman [Start time: 3:02:23 PM]

This nomination was reported out of committee: 7 Favorable

Legislation

HB 40 w/ HA 1 (Griffith) AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER 459, VOLUME 84 OF THE LAWS OF DELAWARE AND TITLES 6, 29, AND 30 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE REGISTRATION OF TRADE NAMES. [Start time: 3:55:00 PM]

Synopsis: This Act modifies the effective date of Chapter 459, Volume 84 of the Laws of Delaware from February 1, 2025 to June 2, 2025, which was enacted to allow One-Stop business registration by making trade name registrations fully online. It codifies existing practice with respect to the registration of trade names for corporations and LLCs and adds a \$25 annual license fee for Delaware corporations and LLCs not doing business in Delaware but desiring a Delaware trade name registration.

HA 1 makes the effective date of Sections 2 through 4 June 2, 2025.

Sen. Sokola yielded the floor to Sen. Townsend as the Senate sponsor of HB 40.

Sen. Townsend invited Jamie Johnstone, Deputy Director of Revenue, Department of Finance to speak regarding the bill.

Jamie Johnstone said SB 291 in the 152nd General Assembly transferred doing business as (DBA), or deviating name registration management, from the Superior Court to the Division of Revenue. This is scheduled to go live on February 1, 2025. During implementation and design, it was discovered that the Division had not been given authority to license or register all entities currently being registered by the Court. HB 40 ensures that all existing DBA name licensing processes are authorized in the Division of Revenue and modifies the effective date to ensure a seamless rollout. The new effective date under HB 40 would be June 2, 2025. The Court is supportive of this delay and is ready to continue the process as it currently stands until the June 2, 2025 date.

Sen. Townsend asked Mr. Johnstone if there was any opposition from anyone to this change and modification of implementation date.

Mr. Johnstone indicated that he knows of no opposition.

Sen. Sokola asked for public comment on HB 40.

Members of the public who provided comments in support of HB 40 were Tina Lipko and Alan Stachura. **[Start time: 3:11:03 PM]**

HB 40 w/ HA 1 was reported out of committee: 0 Favorable; 6 On Its Merits; 0 Unfavorable.

Conclusion

Senator Sokola asked for a motion of adjourn the meeting. A motion was provided by Sen. Townsend and seconded by Sen. Pettyjohn. Sen. Sokola adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes prepared by Valerie McCartan, Executive Assistant, 2/11/2025

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Sen. Pettyjohn; Second by Sen. Townsend, Senate Executive Committee meeting, 3/12/2025

Appendix A: *Members of the public pre-registered for virtual webinar and in-person sign-in sheet attendees.*

<u>Tina Lipko</u> , NRAI Services, LLC (virtual)
<u>Alan Stachura</u> , CT Corporation (virtual)
Michelle Singletary-Twyman, DHSS, DSAMH (virtual)