Legislative & Rules Committee – Board of Representatives

Michael McKeown, Chair Karen Camporeale, Vice-Chair

Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, October 27, 2026
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: *This meeting was held in the Democratic Caucus Room and remote on Zoom.*

The Legislative & Rules Committee met as indicated above. Present were Chair McKeown, Vice Chair Camporeale, and Committee member Reps. Blank, Boudreau, Hughes, Hyatt, Lapine, Stone, and Weinberg. Also present were Reps. Adams, Gardner, Clerk Johnson, Pelliccia, Pollack, and President Shaw; John Harness, Assistant Corporation Counsel; Cynthia Anger, Assistant Corporation Counsel; Leah Kagan, Director of Economic Development; Rex Morris, Fire Chief; Steve Parenti, Deputy Assessor; and Lou DeRubeis, Director of Public Safety, Health and Welfare.

Chair McKeown called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. LR32.021	**RESOLUTION;** Urging the Connecticut General Assembly to enact statewide window safety legislation for the protection of children. 08/04/2026 – Submitted by Reps. Stone, Pollack, Field, Price, Graham, Gross, Yeager, Sylvestre and Shaw 08/25/2026 – Recommitted to Steering by Committee 9-0-0 **09/29/2026 – Recommitted to Steering by Committee 8-0-0**	**RECOMMITTED TO STEERING AS AMENDED 9-0-0**

Rep. Stone made a motion to substitute the October 26, 2026, revised resolution for the August 4, 2026, version. Said motion was seconded, and approved by a vote of 8-0-1. (Reps. McKeown, Camporeale, Blank, Hughes, Hyatt, Lapine, Stone and Weinberg in favor; Rep. Boudreau abstained).

The Committee continued discussion of LR32.021.

Fire Chief Rex Morris expressed concerns that window restrictions could interfere with emergency access, rescue, and escape during fires. Director Lou DeRubeis emphasized public education and avoiding unintended public safety concerns and suggested exploring an option for tenants to request window safety devices rather than mandating installation.

Members raised the following concerns:

- Whether the resolution should advocate for specific window safety requirements or request that the State further study the issue.
- The need to balance child safety with fire safety, including emergency access and egress.
- Concerns regarding the enforcement of requirements for units where children under age 10 reside or frequently visit.
- Whether the proposed language should be less specific to allow for additional review and input from public safety officials.
- The need for further revisions and discussion before advancing the resolution.

During the discussion, additional amendments to the resolution were suggested, including removing a specific window safety requirement; however, no formal motion was made on those proposed changes. The Committee agreed that additional time was needed for revisions and input from public safety officials

A motion to recommit was made, seconded, and approved by a vote of 9-0-0. (Reps. McKeown, Camporeale, Blank, Boudreau, Hughes, Hyatt, Lapine, Stone and Weinberg in favor).

2. LR32.023	**ORDINANCE; for publication;** Establishing an urban grocery store development district of the City of Stamford 09/10/2026 – Submitted by Reps. Adams, Boudreau, Didelot, Gardner, Graham, Gross, Hughes, Johnson, Pelliccia, Shaw, Sylvestre and Weathers **09/29/2026 – Recommitted to Steering by Committee 7-0-0**	**RECOMMITTED TO STEERING 8-0-0**

Chair McKeown disclosed a conflict of interest concerning LR32.023 and exited the meeting after delegating the Chair to Vice Chair Camporeale. Vice Chair Camporeale presided over the discussion.

The Committee discussed the October 9, 2026, revised draft ordinance, which changed the original proposal from a neighborhood-specific grocery store development district to a citywide tax abatement program. Assistant Corporation Counsel Cynthia Anger explained concerns regarding the legal authority to establish designated districts. Director Leah Kagan discussed how the proposed tax abatement could provide financial incentives for mixed-use developments with ground-floor grocery stores.

Members raised concerns about whether the tax abatements would primarily benefit developers or grocery store operators, and whether a citywide program would encourage new grocery options in underserved urban neighborhoods or simply benefit areas already well-served. The Committee recognized the need for further review and revisions before moving forward.

A motion to recommit was made, seconded, and approved by a vote of 8-0-0. (Reps. Camporeale, Blank, Boudreau, Hughes, Hyatt, Lapine, Stone and Weinberg in favor).

Vice Chair Camporeale adjourned the meeting at 10:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Michael McKeown, Chair

This meeting is available on video