

# *31<sup>ST</sup> BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES CITY OF STAMFORD*

President  
**JEFF CURTIS**

Clerk of the Board  
**MEGAN COTTRELL**

Majority Leader  
**NINA SHERWOOD**

Minority Leader  
**MARY L. FEDELI**

## **RESOLUTION NO. 4324**

### **REGARDING DESIGNATION OF OUTSIDE COUNSEL PURSUANT TO CHARTER SEC. C1-90-1 TO HELP DETERMINE THE BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES COURSE OF ACTION REGARDING THE STATEMENTS OF REPRESENTATIVE ANABEL FIGUEROA**

**WHEREAS**, during the recent primary for State Representative in the 148<sup>th</sup> District Representative Anabel Figueroa (D-8), according to published reports, made a series of statements regarding the religious affiliation of her colleague, Representative Jonathan Jacobson (D-12), which statements caused controversy and disharmony in our community; and,

**WHEREAS**, on August 16th, in the immediate aftermath of the reported statements, Representative Figueroa resigned from the Board of Representatives only to rescind such resignation a week later; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Office of the Corporation Counsel determined that since the resignation was not submitted to "...the mayor as provided for in Section C5-20-19 of the city's charter" and since she "subsequently rescinded the resignation in a reasonably prompt fashion.... Ms. Figueroa is currently a member of the Board of Representatives;" and,

**WHEREAS**, there are a number of factual, procedural and legal issues which arise from the statements of Representative Figueroa and, subsequently, have been raised by members of the Board of Representatives, legal representatives of Representative Figueroa and other community leaders regarding the appropriate course of action to be taken by the legislative body; and,

**WHEREAS**, the ongoing discord in our community underscores the belief of the leadership of the Board of Representatives, that the time is right, if not overdue, for the Board of Representatives to retain legal assistance to address the myriad of issues that may arise; and,

**WHEREAS**, the leadership of the Board, after conducting a search and interviews of several law firms who comply with the qualification standards of Section C1-90-1, have come to a conclusion regarding choice of attorneys for this purpose; and,

**WHEREAS**, Sec. C1-90-1 provides a framework for the consideration of appropriate legislative actions, if any, pertaining to the described statements and incidents as well as due process protections for the rights of both members of this body.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Attorney Steven G. Mednick and Halloran Sage, through Attorney Richard Roberts, are hereby designated as counsel, qualified under Sec. C1-90-1, to represent the Board of Representatives with respect to issues arising from the reported statements of Representative Figueroa; and,


**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Attorneys Mednick and Roberts shall analyze, review and recommend, based upon facts known and to be discovered, a course of action which may include presentation of charges pertaining to the removal of an elective officer of our City; and,


**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Corporation Counsel enter into an agreement for legal services by the two firms so designated herein, including the ability to utilize litigation services of a member of Halloran Sage who qualifies under the Charter standard.

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This resolution was approved by a vote of 31-1-5 at a Special Meeting of the 31<sup>st</sup> Board of Representatives held on Wednesday, October 16, 2024.

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Jeff Curtis, President  
31<sup>st</sup> Board of Representatives

  
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Megan Cottrell, Clerk  
31<sup>st</sup> Board of Representatives

cc: Mayor Caroline Simmons  
Thomas Cassone, Esq., Law Department  
Lyda Ruijter, Town & City Clerk  
Elda Sinani, Director of OPM  
Benjamin Barnes, Director of Administration  
Matthew Quiñones, Director of Operations  
Bridget Fox, Chief of Staff  
Leah Kagen, Director of Economic Development  
Lou DeRubeis, Director of Public Safety, Health & Welfare  
Anita Carpenter, Grants Officer  
Frank Petise, Transportation Bureau Chief