

Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee
Tricia Melillo 271-3077

HB 1125, relative to requiring public notice and comment at all county commissioner and delegation meetings.

Hearing Date: April 2, 2024

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Gray, Murphy, Abbas, Soucy and Perkins Kwoka

Members of the Committee Absent : None

Bill Analysis: This bill requires public notice and comment at all county commissioner and delegation meetings.

Sponsors:

Rep. Burroughs
Rep. Thackston

Rep. Maggiore
Rep. Hunt

Rep. Stavis

Who supports the bill: Rep. Anita Burroughs, Janet Lucas, Daniel Richardson

Who opposes the bill: Julie Smith

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Representative Anita Burroughs

- The goal of this bill is to allow public comment at all county commissioner and delegation meetings.
- In Carroll County they always have a good number of people who want to come out and give their opinions.
- She believes it is a good thing for our democracy when people show up to testify.
- HB 1125 ensures that people who come to these meetings will have the ability to speak for up to 3 minutes.
- The commissioners are not required to take questions.
- Senator Murphy asked what was taken out of the original bill.
 - Rep. Burroughs replied that the ability to have remote testimony was taken out.
- Senator Soucy asked if there was any discussion of the County Delegation having their meetings here in Concord for a specific discussion.
 - Rep. Burroughs replied that there was no discussion of that, only that it has to comply with 91:A and the meeting needs to be noticed. The same process could happen if the meeting was here.

Summary of testimony presented in opposition: None

TJM

Date Hearing Report completed: April 8, 2024