



## **Policy Subcommittee Minutes**

Monday, April 21, 2025  
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
Zoom

**Members Present:** Werner Oyanadel, Michael Gailor, Chief Neil Dryfe, Chelsea-Infinity Gonzalez

**Staff:** Ken Barone, Erica Escobar

### **I. Welcome & Introductions**

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m.

### **II. Approval of the March 3, 2025, meeting minutes**

The minutes were not approved, as there was not a quorum.

### **III. Old Business**

#### **a. 2025 Legislative Updates**

A legislative update was provided on S.B. 1436, An Act Concerning Police Data Reporting Requirements. The bill passed out of committee unanimously.

The subcommittee has been tracking H.B. 7132, An Act Concerning Non-Safety Related Traffic Stops. The bill passed out of committee with several changes. In particular, headlight violations would be a warning on the first offense. Additionally, language was added to allow police to stop a vehicle if they see the consumption of cannabis and smell the odor of cannabis.

While no formal position was taken on H.B. 7132, feedback was provided suggesting that the warning-then-citation model be applied consistently to other infractions, such as taillights and stop lamps. Additional feedback recommended standardizing the grace period for renewing vehicle registration and licenses to 60 days across all scenarios, including when residents move from out of state.

Concerns were raised about the practicality of enforcing warnings, as there is no centralized or cross-jurisdictional system for tracking them. In practice, officers often already issue warnings for minor equipment violations, so the proposed changes may reflect current norms rather than shifting enforcement practices.

#### IV. New Business

##### a. Review Draft Bylaws

The subcommittee met to review proposed updates to the board's bylaws, focusing on clarifying language, refining membership composition, and improving governance processes. The plan moving forward includes making adjustments to agency references and role descriptions to ensure accuracy and consistency. For police departments serving populations under 25,000, the bylaws will refer specifically to the "Chief of Police," without including "or designee." Language for the Department of Motor Vehicles will be updated to read "Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles or their designee," matching the structure already in place for the Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP).

Membership updates were discussed, and the subcommittee identified several individuals and entities to be added to the board. These include a representative from the ACLU of Connecticut, the Colonel of the Connecticut State Police or their designee, the Under Secretary for Criminal Justice Policy and Planning from the Office of Policy and Management (OPM)—with confirmation needed as to whether this role is already established in statute—and both a representative of the State's Attorneys and the Chief State's Attorney or their designee. For organizations such as the NAACP, ACLU, and the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CIB), the bylaws will use the phrasing "a representative from [organization]" without including the option of a designee.

Changes to community representation were also considered. The subcommittee discussed reducing the number of community members from three to two or, alternatively, using flexible language such as "three community members" or "three community members as prescribed by the board." Additionally, appointment procedures will be clarified. The bylaws will specify who appoints the chiefs of police representatives, and for the CIB, language will confirm that the representative is appointed by the Chief Court Administrator.

Regarding board leadership, it was agreed that the chairperson does not need to be a prior board member, and this requirement will be removed. The judiciary co-chairs will appoint the chairperson. The term of the chairperson

will not require formal reappointment every two years; instead, the chair will serve until resignation or until a new appointment is made by the judiciary co-chairs.

The subcommittee also proposed changing the board's meeting frequency from "monthly" to "at least quarterly," with additional meetings as needed. Clarifications will be added stating that only official board members may vote, and designees must be formally designated to do so. Informal substitutes will not have voting rights. The board will consider setting a minimum number of voting members (e.g., eight or nine) for quorum and may differentiate thresholds for routine matters, like approving minutes, versus substantive decisions, such as making legislative recommendations.

A consensus-based model will be adopted for voting, both at the board level and within subcommittees. Under this model, the board would operate based on broad support rather than a simple majority (50% + 1), following definitions such as those used by the Connecticut Sentencing Commission. This model does not require unanimity but should reflect agreement that extends beyond basic majority support. Subcommittees will have clearly defined scopes of responsibility, and the bylaws will include standard language allowing the board to establish ad hoc committees for specific issues. All committees must include board members and will also use the consensus voting model.

Updates to the bylaws will clarify that the removal of board members is to be carried out by the judiciary co-chairs, rather than the full legislative committee. Additionally, a clause will be added stating that "Dissolution may occur due to changes in state law."

The subcommittee found the initial round of feedback helpful and productive. The goal is to finalize a draft of the updated bylaws for presentation to the full board by the June meeting. If that timeline proves too ambitious, the revised bylaws will be presented at the September meeting, as the board will recess during July and August. In the coming week, while the discussion is still fresh, a revised draft will be circulated to members for additional review, and the subcommittee will reconvene to continue refining the language.

There was no further discussion, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.