

**COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION JOINT WITH
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY
MINUTES: July 14, 2008**

LEGISLATION

MEMBERS: Chair: Burton; Legislators: Bronz, Myers, Jenkins, Nonna, Harckham, Oros

PUBLIC SAFETY

MEMBERS: Chair: Pinto; Legislators: Burton, Myers, Nonna, Burrows, Jenkins, Harckham, Oros

IN ATTENDANCE: **CE:** B. Randolph, A. Neuman; **CA:** M. Nicolas-Brewster, L. Cipollo; **DPS:** M. McGwynn T. Belfiore; **BOL:** S. Bass, M. Montalto, D. Pyne, L. Goldstein, R. Pezzullo, K. Delgado, C. Giliberti, M. Melbourne, T. O'Connell; **PRESS:** G. McKinstry (J. News)

With a quorum present, the Committee on Legislation and the Committee on Public Safety was called to order at 1:40 p.m.

BANNING HAND HELD WIRELESS DEVICES

(Burrows, Myers) move for all purposes for the Committee on Public Safety and Security (Nonna, Oros) move for all purposes for the Committee on Legislation to prohibit the use of wireless handsets to compose, read or send text messages while operating a motor vehicle.

Public Safety Commissioner Belfiore, Public Safety Chief of Operations, Chief Inspector McGwynn, Associate County Attorney Nicolas-Brewster and Andrew Neuman representing the County Executives Office answered questions and discussed the proposed legislation with committee members.

(Nonna, Harkham), move for the Committee on Legislation and (Burrows, Myers) move for the Committee on Public Safety and Security to amend 599.02 2c to read: A person using a wireless handset inside a motor vehicle while such motor vehicle is parked, standing or stopped and is removed from the flow of traffic in accordance with applicable laws, rules or ordinances, or is stopped due to the inoperability of such motor vehicle.

Motion to amend is approved by the Committee on Legislation 7-0 and is approved by the Committee on Public Safety and Security 8-0.

Chairman Pinto asked that our New York State delegation be notified that this bill was passed by the Board of Legislators and signed by the County Executive.

Main motion approved by the Committee on Legislation 7-0. Main motion approved by the Committee on Public Safety and Security 8-0.

Chairman Pinto asked Melanie Montalto to write a letter to the President of the Westchester Chiefs Association asking him to get feed back from the Chiefs and to express any concerns they may have to the committee.

(Burrows, Jenkins,) Move to adjourn The Committee on Public Safety and Security. Motion approved for 8-0. The Committee on Public Safety and Security adjourned at 2:21 p.m.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

(Bronz, Oros) move to approve appointments: B57, B58, B61, B64, B66-B69, B73, B74 and B77.

Motion approved 7-0.

Mr. Nonna requested the committee discuss providing volunteer firefighters property tax exemptions at an upcoming meeting. He requested the state enabling legislation and to find out which municipalities have enacted similar laws.

Chairman Burton requested a legal opinion on what the proper procedure is to appoint members to county boards and commissions. Can the Board of Legislators appoint multiple people to the same board in one resolution?

(Harckham, Bronz) move to adjourn the Committee on Legislation. Motion approved 9-0. Committee on Legislation adjourned at 2:32 P.M.

AUDIO RECORDING ON FILE FOR REVIEW UPON REQUEST