

Legislative History for Connecticut Act

HJR 234	PA 68	Scan	1909
Education:	47-51		5
Total Pages: 5			

Transcripts from the Joint Standing Committee Public Hearing(s) and/or Senate and House of Representatives Proceedings

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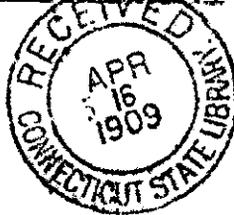
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JOINT  
STANDING  
COMMITTEE  
HEARINGS

EDUCATION

CONN.  
GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY

1909



B. V. B.

## COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

Senator Luther, Chairman,                      Committee present except  
Mr. Brinsmade, House Chairman,      Senator Luther, Mr. Grosvenor.  
Mr. Bliss, Clerk.

Thursday, April 15, 1909, 1.30 P.M.

H. J. R. #234 (Rogers) Concerning time for holding elections  
of members of town school committee in certain towns.

H. B. #239 (Mayes). Amending charter of Waterbury concerning  
board of education.

Mr. Brinsmade, Chairman.

The first bill we have before us today is H. J. R.  
#234, Is there anyone to speak on this Bill?

Secretary Hine.

I have prepared a brief, a sort of substitute, which I  
will pass around so you may see what it is.

In several towns, I think twelve, elections are held  
biennially. It follows that the boards of school visitors  
who are elected annually fail to election on alternate years.  
There is no provision for it and it is complicated somewhat  
by the fact as indicated in the first part of this sub-  
stitute that the board of school visitors are elected for  
three years, and a class is elected each year. This bill so  
provides a method by which hereafter towns electing biennially  
will keep their classes full. I will read this substitute  
in order that you may better understand what is meant. ~

#2

(Reads Substitute).

When a town school committee consists of three it is elected for one year only. In towns that are consolidated they are elected for one year only, so in order that the matter be made complete there had to be another provision providing for the election of three annually. I think that covers everything that is necessary in order to carry out the provisions of the law.

Mr. Payne.

It seems to me that figures cannot be printed on official ballots. Would'nt the words have to be spelled out for the whole year. I may not be right, but the thought lingers in my memory that such is the case.

Mr. Hine.

I should not wonder if you are right, Mr. Payne. I am not sure of that myself.

Mr. Payne.

I think the word has to be spelled out, I'm pretty sure it is so.

Mr. Hine.

Anyway this provides distinctly for the figures and they can be put on. I think this would cover the case. Of course it would be better to follow the general policy of the election law.

Mr. Brinsmade.

Would it not be a matter for the clerk of Bills to look over?

#3

Mr. Mine.

Yes, I think it is.

Mr. Humphrey.

Could it be specified that the one having the highest number of votes could take office immediately?

Mr. Mine.

In towns under the consolidated system if they have three the law provides that they shall hold office for one year only. It has to be carefully complied with so the terms will expire at the proper time.

Rep. Rogers, Danbury.

I wish to say in connection with this that the town counsel, Mr. Walsh, is unavoidably detailed in New York and cannot be here today. I have not familiarized myself with the conditions of this Bill, and I thought Mr. Mine and Mr. Walsh could fix it up all right. I think you will see the necessity of this measure. I think this would be satisfactory, although ~~if~~ there is anything that is different from the other Bill I would be glad to have Mr. Walsh see it.

Mr. Odgen.

How would it be to submit it to the town counsel and see how it is. I think the Committee is willing to let it lie on the table.

Mr. Tomlinson, Danbury.

I am not familiar with this at all, and with your permission we would like to consult Mr. Walsh, the town

#4

counsel, regarding the matter, and we will see you later,  
say Tuesday next.

Mr. Brinsmade.

We will be glad to hear you on it, or it may be all right  
to submit what you have to say to us at our Executive  
session. We will leave the matter in this way, and  
if there is nothing further to be heard we will consider  
the hearing on this Bill closed.

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## ACT CONCERNING BIENNIAL ELECTION OF SCHOOL OFFICERS

Whenever (in towns holding biennial elections as provided in chapter 227 of the public acts of 1907) town school committees or boards of school visitors are divided into classes under provisions of sections 2132 & 2216 of the general statutes at the next town meeting after the passage of this act and at each biennial town meeting thereafter there shall be elected a number sufficient to fill two classes. On the ballots shall be printed or written above the names constituting each class the words "town school committee" or "board of school visitors" as the case may be and directly underneath said words shall be written or printed the words "terms begin in (the figures designating the year)". Whenever the number of the town school committee shall be three to hold office for one year as provided in section 2215 of the general statutes on the ballots above three names shall be printed the words "town school committee" and directly underneath the words "terms begin in (the figures designating the year)" and above a second three names shall be written or printed the words "terms begin in (the figures designating the year)".

Whenever vacancies occur a majority of the remaining members may fill the vacancy until the next town meeting. Whenever a vacancy is to be filled by election on the ballots shall be printed or written the words "town school committee" or "board of school visitors" as the case may be and directly underneath the words "vacancy (one year or two years)" as the case may be.