

Legislative History for Connecticut Act

HB 1608	PA 428	1937
Banks	503-507	

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

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

THURSDAY, MAY 6th, 1937

Senate Chairman, Senator Frank L. McDermott, Senator
Joseph P. Downes

House Chairman, Mr. Frederick H. Holbrook, Madison; Clara
W. M. Lewis, (Clerk), Monroe; William R. Mess-
enger, Granby; Frederick B. Allyn, Ledyard;
Elizabeth P. Renshaw, Darien; Edmund W. Courtney,
Rocky Hill; Mildred A. Fallmore, Hebron; Margaret
C. Hurley, Windham; Grace H. Schenherr, Norfolk.

✓ COMMITTEE BILL (House Bill No. 1623)

AN ACT CREATING THE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DIS-
TRICT NO. 1 of LITCHFIELD COUNTY

SENATOR FRANK L. MC DERMOTT,
Chairman:

This is a committee bill, to take care of those
people up in Litchfield County.

REP. FREDERICK B. ALLYN,
Ledyard:

How does this differ from the present law?

SENATOR McDERMOTT:

This provides for the district to form its own
high school, and gives them authority to go ahead
without regard to the 5% provision. That is the
only change.

REP. MARGARET C. HURLEY,
Windham:

Why not read each section and we can discuss it
in that way?

SENATOR McDERMOTT:

"Sec. 1. Any three or more of the towns of Sharon,
Salisbury, North Canaan, Canaan, Cornwall and Kent
may, by vote, in a town meeting warned and held for
such purpose, establish a district, to be known as
the "Regional High School District of Litchfield
County"

That should be "Regional High School District No. 1
of Litchfield County"

Executive Session - May 6, 1937

SENATOR McDERMOTT, cont'd:

"Said district may be enlarged from time to time by the Regional High School Board provided for in Sec. 2, on request of any adjoining town.

Sec. 2. Said district shall purchase a site for building and equipping a regional high school for the benefit of the towns belonging to said district. The affairs of such high school shall be administered by a regional high school board, to be composed of one person from each of the towns belonging to said district, to be appointed by the board of education for such town. Each of the members of such regional board first appointed shall serve for such period as may be determined by such town boards of education, and each of their successors shall serve for a term of three years, and until their successors shall be appointed and shall have qualified. Such regional board shall appoint a chairman, and also a secretary and treasurer, who may or may not be the same person. Such treasurer shall give a bond to such board to the satisfaction of the members thereof. Such regional board shall perform the duties which would otherwise be performed by the town boards of education with reference to providing for the residents of such district educational opportunities beyond those of the elementary grades.

Sec. 3. Such regional board shall employ teachers and other persons necessary for the conduct of such high school, and shall make necessary contracts in relation thereto.

Sec. 4. All provisions of the General Statutes relating to high schools, including those relative to supervision, transportation, and tuition, shall apply to said district, and to each town belonging thereto, and transportation shall be provided within the town in which such school is located to the same extent as in other towns belonging to the said district."

REP. GRACE H. SCHENHERR,
Norfolk:

Will there be a tuition charge?

REP. FREDERICK H. HOLBROOK,
Chairman:

There will be if they take from outside the district. There probably won't be any - that is just a provision.

Executive Session - May 6, 1937.

SENATOR McDERMOTT:

"Sec. 5. Each town which shall join said district shall pay its proportionate share of the cost of building, equipping and operating a regional high school until such cost shall have been paid in full. Such payments shall be made annually on a date fixed by such regional high school board, and shall be pro-rated among the towns comprising said district on the basis of the average attendance at such school of pupils from each of such towns during the preceding year, provided that until such school shall have been in operation for one year, such pro-rating shall be based on the average attendance of pupils from each of such towns in any high school during the preceding year.

Sec. 6. No pupil from any town belonging to said district shall at the expense of such town attend any high school other than such regional high school."

That means they can't go to any other high school. They have to go to the regional high school.

"Sec. 7. Such regional high school district shall be a body politic and corporate, with power to issue bonds in the name and upon the full faith and credit of said district and of the towns comprising the same, in an amount not to exceed \$200,000, to be used by said district in acquiring a site, in the erection of building and installing equipment for a regional high school, as provided in this act. Such bonds shall be denominated "Bonds of the Regional High School District No. 1 of Litchfield County".

Sec. 8. Such bonds shall be serial bonds with coupons attached, and registerable as to principal and interest, or as to principal alone, shall be signed by the chairman and treasurer of the regional high school board, and shall bear such rate of interest, mature in such substantially equal amount installments, that the whole amount thereof will be paid not later than 30 years from the date of issue, and be issued in such denominations and at such time or times and place or places as shall be determined by such district board."

What do you think of the section giving them power to issue bonds?

Executive Session - May 6, 1937

REP. HOLBROOK:

They have to take care of that. We don't have to worry about it.

REP. CLARA W. M. LEWIS,
Monroe:

Do you suppose other towns will feel badly about this?

REP. SCHENHERR:

They can all have it, but they have to take care of that 5% provision.

REP. ALLYN:

It is the same thing we have on the books except the 5%.

REP. SCHENHERR:

I asked Mr. Kugeman what they are going to do about the first year. It will have to be incorporated in the bill.

REP. HOLBROOK:

The first year's expenses and interest will have to be pro-rated on the basis of the number of high school pupils in each town the preceding year.

REP. SCHENHERR:

I understand there are three high schools already in that district - three separate little high schools. They need the buildings for grammar schools, but they don't have enough high school pupils to make a worth while high school. They are very poor.

SENATOR McDERMOTT:

"Sec. 9. Such bonds when executed, issued and delivered shall be obligatory upon said district, and upon the towns comprising the same and the inhabitants thereof, according to the tenor and purport.

Sec. 10. The provisions of sec. 99c of the 1935 Supplement to the General Statutes relating to the 5% limitation of indebtedness shall not apply in the case of any bonds issued under the provisions of this act."

Executive Session - May 6, 1937

SENATOR McDERMOTT:

I see no objection to the bill.

REP. HOLBROOK:

I move a favorable report. We are giving them what they want.

REP. ALLYN:

Support that motion.

SENATOR McDERMOTT:

Any remarks? In favor? (Aye) Opposed?

REP. HURLEY:

I wish we could raise a bill to repeal that part in the Cumulative Supplement charging tuition to Teachers College and the Normal Schools. It is \$50 a year. And they have to pay room and board anyway. One part of the law says it shall be free, and when they got State Teachers College they charged tuition. They are operating under both.

REP. SCHENHERR:

Mr. Smith was talking about it yesterday, and he said it was not a tuition charge.

REP. HURLEY:

Get your Cumulative Supplement and see.