

Legislative History for Connecticut Act

<u>SB 276</u>	PA 317	<u>FAX</u>	<u>1967</u>
Senate p. 1282			(1)
House p. 2956-57			(2)
Public Welfare p. 292-93			(2)

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

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CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE

PROCEEDINGS

1967

VOL. 12

PART 3

1015 - 1565

May 22, 1967

Joint Committee on Insurance.

SENATOR MARCUS:

Mr. President, I move the acceptance of the committee's favorable report and passage of the bill. The bill constitutes a technical change in the statutes.

THE CHAIR:

All those in favor of the acceptance of the committee's favorable report and passage of the bill, indicate by saying Aye. AYE. Opposed?

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK:

Calendar 663, file 780, SB 276, An Act concerning the Reporting of Instances of Child Abuse. Favorable report of the Joint Committee on Public Welfare and Humane Institutions.

SENATOR BARBATO:

Mr. President, I move the acceptance of the committee's favorable report and passage of the bill. This extends the list of people who can report child abuse to nursery school teachers, principals and social workers.

I think it's a good bill and should pass.

THE CHAIR:

All those in favor of acceptance of the committee's favorable report and passage of the bill, indicate by saying Aye. AYE. Opposed? The bill is passed.

THE CLERK:

Calendar 664, file 781, SB 625, An Act Naming a Portion of Route 8 The James H. Darcey Memorial Highway. Favorable report of the Joint Committee on Roads and Bridges.

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CONNECTICUT
GEN. ASSEMBLY
HOUSE

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2719-3267

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Friday, May 26, 1967

these super market drug stores that we have today. However, we're putting the pharmacist to its support, a friend or neighbor who deals personally with him on the right side of the law. This is a very good bill and should pass.

MR. CLARK (14th):

Through you may I ask a question? What is a Class A drug?

MR. STROFFOLINO (143rd):

A Class A drug is mainly codain, demerol or any pain-relieving drug. It's a narcotic, and today we can't sell them without having a prescription in our hands.

MR. MAYER (40th):

I would rise to support this measure. Actually it's legitimizing many of the pharmacists in the area. We've had recent cases where the pharmacist, because they were trying to help a person in pain, went beyond the actual law and were suspended from their licenses. I think that this bill will correct this measure and provide some humane treatment of people seeking relief in the middle of the night, or late at night, where they cannot get to their personal physician and get a hand written prescription. It's a good measure and I urge its passage.

THE SPEAKER:

Will you remark further? Those in favor? Opposed? The bill is passed.

THE CLERK:

Calendar 812, Substitute for S.B. 276, An Act concerning the Reporting of Instances of Child Abuse. Favorable report of

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Friday, May 26, 1967

Committee on Public Welfare.

MRS. GRISWOLD (109th):

I move acceptance of the committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

THE SPEAKER:

The question is on acceptance and passage. Will you remark?

MRS. GRISWOLD (109th):

This takes the protection of abused children into the schools. At present the only people who can report injuries to children inflicted by their parents or other responsible persons are doctors. Any other person is liable to a law suit or slander. The state medical society is for this bill. It would make it mandatory for teachers, nurses, principals and social workers to report suspected abuses of children to the Commissioner of Health.

THE SPEAKER:

Those in favor? Opposed? The bill is passed.

THE CLERK:

Calendar 813, Modified S.B. 462, An Act concerning Programs for Mentally Retarded Children and Adults. Favorable report of the Committee on Public Welfare.

MR. CLARK (14th):

I move acceptance of the committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

THE SPEAKER:

The question is on acceptance and passage. Will you remark?

MR. CLARK (14th):

JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS

PUBLIC WELFARE

1967

THURSDAY

APRIL 20, 1967

PUBLIC WELFARE AND HUMANE INSTITUTIONS

Representative Cohen, Presiding

Members present:

Senators: Finney, Barbato
Representatives: Chagnon, Simens, Curtis, Griswold
Vestal, Cohen, Ciarlone, Morgan, Hill, Ryan

Rep. Cohen:

I want to apologize for being late. I left my glasses at the office and had to return for them. I'm afraid without glasses I couldn't do much for you. Are there any legislators that wish to speak briefly?

Rep. Moskas:

I support bill no. 4492, AN ACT ESTABLISHING A REHABILITATION CENTER FOR ALCOHOLICS. I feel that this center will restore these people to their former positions in society. I would appreciate your favorable consideration. Thank you.

Rep. Cohen:

Are there any other legislators? If not we will open the hearing on bill 276, AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 17-38a OF THE GENERAL STATUTES CONCERNING THE REPORTING OF INSTANCES OF CHILD ABUSE.

Joseph Cooney:

I drew this bill 276, AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 17-38a OF THE GENERAL STATUTES CONCERNING THE REPORTING OF INSTANCES OF CHILD ABUSE, at the request of the state medical society. The legislature previously had adopted a child abuse bill which required a hospital or physician to report instances of child abuse. This has served a very good purpose. I think the department has made a report on the number of cases reported. Now the society felt the law does not go far enough. The purpose of this bill, as you can see from the underlined portion, is to include in those people that shall report, be anyone who examines, attends or treats a child under eighteen, or any registered nurse, school teacher, principal or social worker. It is apparent on this basis, Dr. Freedberg is here from the Medical Society and I would like to have him say a word.

Dr. Freedberg:

From Newington speaking for the Medical Society. We sponsored this bill, AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 17-38a OF THE GENERAL STATUTES CONCERNING THE REPORTING OF INSTANCES OF CHILD ABUSE. We supported the previous bill, it would be an addition and we feel very, very strongly that this is a good bill. A bill which has been effective in the past, but this bill has not given enough people the opportunity to report. It opens up another area of interest, because it permits registered nurses, social workers, school teachers and principals to report. It takes this out of the offices in the hospital. Puts it into the school's where I think you will all agree that there is the closest grouping of the general adolescent population of the state. I want to bring this strongly to your attention, that we feel that all though the bill has originally passed is a good

THURSDAY

PUBLIC WELFARE AND HUMANE INSTITUTIONS

APRIL 20, 1967

bill and an effective one. This bill will open the areas in which we can expect reporting abuse. Thank you.

Rep. Curtis:

Have you had instances where teachers and social workers wanted to report and were afraid to report?

Dr. Freedberg:

Yes, as a matter of fact, this very situation occurred in my own community. I'm school physician in Newington. The school nurse called me and said a child had appeared in school with bruises on the face and wanted to know what to do. They didn't know how to handle this situation and I suggested this report be given directly to Dr. Foote. This would encourage wide spread use of this mechanism and would really help the intent of this law considerably. Protection against law suits, slander that sort of thing. The ladies of the Medical Society would also like to register their feelings on this bill.

Mrs. O'Connell:

President of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Connecticut State Medical Society, 1141 women. Our organization's objective is to assist the Connecticut State Medical Society in its program for advancement of medicine and public health. As wives of physicians, we are only too well aware of the tragedies that can come to the unprotected child. At the risk of sounding trite, they are the foundation and future of a great state and deserve our constant vigilance for the protection of their human rights. Thank you.

Mrs. Mandillo:

Representing the 186 members of the Woman's Auxiliary of the New Haven County Medical Association. We wish to go on record as being in favor of bill no. 276, AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 17-38a OF THE GENERAL STATUTES CONCERNING THE REPORTING OF INSTANCES OF CHILD ABUSE. We think it is of the utmost importance that all cases of suspected Child Abuse be reported to the proper authorities. We find that this bill requiring nurses, teachers, principals, and social workers to do so is a step in the right direction.

Mrs. Edward Zyla:

West Hartford representing the Woman's Auxiliary to the Hartford County Medical Association. We feel that passage of bill 276, AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 17-38a OF THE GENERAL STATUTES CONCERNING THE REPORTING OF INSTANCES OF CHILD ABUSE, would afford the legislators and opportunity to protect the health of the future generations, as was the intent of the original legislation, for with it goes our thanks.

Joseph Cooney:

There are other bills in the legislation that extend this to one person, but we believe in Sen. Jackson's bill. We believe this is a better drawn bill and would accomplish a better purpose.

Rep. Cohen:

Any more proponents? Any opposition to this bill? Hearing none we will close the hearing on S.B. 276