

Act Number	Session	Bill Number	Total Number of Committee Pages	Total Number of House Pages	Total Number of Senate Pages
PA 71-138		639	1	7	4
<u>Committee Pages:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Environment 232</i> 				<u>House Pages:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1896- 1902</i> 	<u>Senate Pages:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1154 1165- 1167</i>

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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

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and female, or to a total population of the jail, or are they separated so that it wouldn't matter? It's a question of information, please.

MR. SPEAKER:

Does anyone care to respond to the inquiry of the gentleman?

JOHN D. PRETE:

Mr. Speaker, the 5% would be a percentage of any institution, and since the sexes are separated in the institutions, this would be the defect that the gentleman is looking for. I'd also like to comment on the fact that the Commissioner is restricted to 5%. It's very possible that a very permissive Commissioner can wind up in control of the Department, in which case, he could award this outstanding meritorious time to a very large number of persons, and I'm not so sure that this would be the best thing to do.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further on the Bill. If not, the question's on acceptance and passage. All those in favor will indicate by saying "aye". All those opposed. The Bill is passed.

THE CLERK:

Calendar No. 554, Substitute for S.B. No. 639, an Act concerning tidal wetlands. (As amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A").

FRANCIS W. CIAMPI:

Mr. Speaker, I move the acceptance of the Joint

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Committee's favorable report and passage of the Bill as amended by Senate Amendment "A". EFH

MR. SPEAKER:

Question is on acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage, as amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A". Will the Clerk please read the Amendment.

THE CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule "A". In Line 1 at the beginning insert Section 1. In Line 63 add Section 2. This Act shall take effect from its passage.

MR. SPEAKER:

Question is on adoption of the Amendment. Will you remark.

FRANCIS W. CIAMPI:

Mr. Speaker, the reason for this Amendment is that we seem to be losing an awful lot of wetlands before the entire mapping is going to be taken effect in 1971. Many marshes are being destroyed right this minute. They should be preserved. So I'd like to see this Bill be enacted immediately upon approval.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further on the Amendment.

JOSEPH T. GORMLEY:

Mr. Speaker, I wish...oh, excuse me, voting on the Amendment first.

MR. SPEAKER:

The question before the Chamber right now is Senate

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Amendment Schedule "A".

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JOSEPH T. GORMLEY:

Well, I'm in favor of the Amendment, but I'm also in favor of the Bill, so I'll sit down until you're talking about the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further on Senate Amendment Schedule "A". If not, the question's on adoption of the Amendment. All those in favor will indicate by saying "aye". All those opposed. The Amendment is adopted. The motion as previously relayed is before the Chamber for acceptance and passage.

HOWARD A. NEWMAN:

Mr. Speaker...

MR. SPEAKER:

The gentleman from the 89th, the gentleman who offered the main motion.

FRANCIS W. CIAMPI:

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to comment on the Bill please.

MR. SPEAKER:

Please proceed.

FRANCIS W. CIAMPI:

Mr. Speaker, this Bill corrects a defect in the 1969 Wetlands Act by establishing a procedure whereby by the Commissioner of Agriculture finds that a wetland area is in danger of being filled which would require a permit, that he may establish a moratorium for 60 days. During this 60-day period the

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Commissioner can map the area under the Wetland Bill. But if he does not complete the mapping within the moratorium period, the owner has a right to proceed with whatever project he wanted without restriction of the Wetland Act. This Bill would be one of the most important pieces of environment legislation of this Session. At present the State of Connecticut has lost 50% of its tidal marshes. Since the passing of the Wetlands Act in 1969, there has been unprecedented filling of tidal marshes to get them completed before the provision of the Act can protect them. It is anticipated that all of Connecticut's tidal marshes will be mapped by the end of 1971, but in the meantime this Bill is needed to prevent a destructive of some of our prime wetlands. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further on the Bill as amended.

JOSEPH T. GORMLEY:

Mr. Speaker, I wish to speak in favor of this Bill. It is needed very urgently. Since the passage of the Wetlands Act, Public Act 695, in 1969, the State of Connecticut has seen an unprecedented destruction of its tidal wetlands. This is being done in order to beat the mapping requirements under the Wetlands Act when such projects will require a hearing and a permit. Inasmuch as Connecticut has lost nearly 50% of its tidal wetlands, it is imperative that the remaining marshes be retained in their natural state in the interest of all of the people of our State. This Bill is needed as a stopgap for the next eight months as the

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Agricultural Department anticipates that all the wetland mapping will be completed by January, 1972. This is a needed Bill. I hope it'll pass. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further.

HOWARD A. NEWMAN:

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this Bill. Mr. Speaker, when Public Act 695, the so-called wetlands Act, was passed by the 1969 Legislature, it was our legislative intent that the wetlands of this State should be promptly mapped to implement and carry out the purpose of conserving and protecting our priceless wetlands. In fact, 695 by its own verbiage uses the word "promptly" in charging the mapping...that the wetlands should be promptly mapped. The protective procedures of 695 cannot be put into use according to an opinion of the Attorney General until the mapping of all the wetlands in the State are completely mapped, public hearings held and protected wetlands declared as such. And yet, Mr. Speaker, here we are two years later well into 1971, and the wetlands are still not completely mapped and the procedures of Public Act 695 are still not in effect, and this, although some of our shoreline communities have offered help, local technical manpower and cooperation to the Wetlands Commissioner, and the Agriculture Department, to speed the operation to a conclusion. In the interim, since 1969, Mr. Speaker, fast-buck operators have proliferated and have entered into a race to complete projects detrimental to these wetlands. Unless we do something, and do it

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right now, we won't have much wetlands left to protect and conserve by the time Public Act 695 becomes operable. The Bill before us will give us this temporary protection. We sorely need this Bill, and I urge its passage. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further on the Bill as amended.

RUFUS C. ROSE:

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support this Bill. I'd merely like to note that I have a similar Bill in the House Bill 6220, which was processed to this Bill, and it would not have required the Amendment to be effective upon passage. I'm fully in favor of the Bill, and hope it passes.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further.

FRANCIS J. COLLINS:

Mr. Speaker, I'm glad to see the broad support for this particular Bill that's part of Governor Meskill's environmental package, and I'm sure that it will be signed into law as soon as the Majority Leader will get it over to his office.

JOHN D. PRETE:

Mr. Speaker, not to re-echo the words of our distinguished Judiciary Chairman, this is also a Democratic platform item and a Bill that was introduced by the Democratic leadership.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further on the Bill as amended.

CARL R. AJELLO, JR.:

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Mr. Speaker, I'd like to indicate that it is my very intention to send it along to the Governor as fast as possible and to emphasize the remarks just made by the gentleman from West Haven, which are that we have brought this forth as part of a continuing policy that began even before that august personage was on the scene here in Connecticut as part of our desire to improve and protect the wetlands in the State of Connecticut, and I will, in fact, ask the Chamber for a suspension for transmittal as soon as the Bill is passed, in the event that it is.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further.

MARILYN PEARSON:

Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to see that the leak in the Wetlands Bill has finally been corrected.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further on the Bill as amended. If not, the question is on acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of the Bill as amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A" in concurrence. All those in favor will indicate by saying "aye". All those opposed. The Bill is passed.

CARL R. AJELLO, JR.:

Mr. Speaker, I move suspension of the rules for immediate transmittal of Calendar No. 554, Substitute for S.B. No. 639, the item we just passed, to the Governor.

MR. SPEAKER:

Is there objection for...to suspension for purposes of

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THE CHAIR:

Question is on passage. Will you remark further? If not, all those in favor signify by saying, "aye". Opposed, "nay". The ayes have it. The bill is passed.

THE CLERK:

CAL. NO. 229. File No. 253. Favorable report of the joint committee on the Senate Bill 639. Substitute for Senate Bill 639. An Act Concerning Tidal Wetlands.

SENATOR PAC:

Mr. President, I move adoption of the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

This bill would give the Commissioner of Natural Resources a little more flexibility. During the process of mapping these wetlands, if he feels there is an immediate danger of their being spoiled, he can declare it a wetlands area. But, he must complete the mapping within sixty days. If he hasn't done this by sixty days, the area reverts to its previous status.

I think it is a good bill. It will stop some of this spoilation.

THE CHAIR:

Question is on passage. Will you remark further? If not, all those in favor signify by saying, "aye". Opposed, "nay". The bill is passed.

THE CLERK:

CAL. NO. 233. File No. 253. Favorable report of the joint committee on the House Bill 5590. An Act Concerning the Regulation of Bicycles and Tricycles.

SENATOR PAC:

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The Senate was called to order at 1:45 P.M., the President Pro Tempore in the Chair.

Devotion was offered by Father Speer. The following is the prayer:

God, bless us as we undertake as representatives of our people. Give us to be men and women of wisdom, to know our problems thoroughly and to work out their solution with sincerity, honesty and dignity. Grant us the time, the energy and the courage to contribute our talents to the building of a better society, a society conducive to the health and happiness. Amen.

SENATOR

Mr. President, as a member of the prevailing vote, yesterday, on Calendar No. 229, File No. 253, Senate Bill 600, entitled, An Act Concerning Tidal Wetlands, I'd like to move to reconsider.

THE CHAIR:

Question is on the motion for reconsideration. All those in favor indicate by saying, "aye". Oppose. The ayes have it. The bill will be reconsidered and restored to the Calendar.

SENATOR CALDWELL:

Mr. President, the Clerk has an amendment. Will he please read it?

THE CLERK:

AMENDMENT 1 offered by Senator Cashman:

In line 1, at the beginning insert Section 1. At line 63, add Section 2. This act shall take effect September 1, 1971.

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SENATOR CASHMAN:

Mr. President, I think it's fitting that on Earth Day, we would correct what I see as an oversight in this piece of legislation. As you know, its purpose is to halt the filling of the wetlands for 60 days, so that we can get the mapping completed and then preserve the wetlands of the State of Connecticut.

My amendment is simply a technical amendment, it simply will have the bill take effect upon passage and I move the passage of the amendment.

THE CHAIR:

Question is on adoption of the amendment. Will you remark further?

SENATOR EDDY:

Mr. President, I rise to commend this amendment and commend the Senator for his contribution. I think this is an excellent amendment, he's done.

THE CHAIR:

Any further remarks? All those in favor of the adoption of the amendment indicate by saying, "aye". Opposed? The ayes have it. The amendment is adopted. The Chair will rule that it is a technical amendment. We can proceed with the bill.

SENATOR CASHMAN:

Mr. President, I move for suspension of the rules and immediate transmittal of this important legislation to the House.

Excuse me. I move the passage of the bill.

THE CHAIR:

Question is on adoption of the committee's favorable report and passage of the bill, as amended by the committee, including Module A.

All those in favor indicate by saying, "aye". Opposed? The ayes have it.

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it. The bill is passed, as amended.

SENATOR CABINMAN:

Now, Sir, may I please move for the bill to be transmitted to the House?

THE CHAIR:

Question is on suspension of the rules for immediate transmittal to the House. Is there any objection? No objection, the rules are suspended. The bill may be transmitted to the House, lawfully.

THE CLERK:

Clerk has received communications from the Governor:

TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

I have the honor to nominate, and with your advice and consent appoint, Mrs. Elsie Fetterman of Middletown, to be a member of the Consumers Advisory Council, for a term of four years from July 1, 1971.

Thomas J. Meskill, Governor

THE CLERK:

Referred to the Committee on Education and Pensions.

THE CLERK:

TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

I have the honor to nominate, and with your advice and consent appoint, Mrs. Edith G. Miller of New Hartford, to be a member of the Consumers Advisory Council, for a term of four years from July 1, 1971.

Thomas J. Meskill, Governor

TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

I have the honor to nominate, and with your advice and consent appoint, Mrs. Frances C. Grieg of Middletown, to be a member of the Consumers Advisory Council, for a term of four years from July 1, 1971.

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

ENVIRONMENT

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WEDNESDAY
10:00 A.M.

THE ENVIRONMENT

FEBRUARY 24, 1971

Sen. Pac Presiding

Members Present: Senators: Eddy, Gunther
Representatives: Ciampi, Ryan, Erab, Hogan,
Platt, Iwanicki, McNellis, Lavine, Matthews,
Tiffany, Miller, Stroffolino, Fox, Locke,
Rogers, Della Vecchia

Sen. Pac, We will now start this meeting and we'll try to put a time limit of five minutes on each individual. The legislators will speak first.

Sen. Eddy, 9th District. I'm speaking in behalf of the Meskill Administration. I would like to testify in favor of S.B. 398, S.B. 405, S.B. 404, S.B. 636, S.B. 639, S.B. 661. S.B. 404 and S.B. 661 will tighten the regulation which will govern the highway commissioner relative to the construction and improvement of highways which pass through parks, historic sites, and public water supplies to make the building of a highway which pass through a park or public water supplies subject to the review by the Council of Environmental Quality. We feel that this is a necessary step in the continuing struggle of protection in our environment. S.B. 405, which we also favor would encourage private land owners to make their land available to the public for such recreational activities as hunting, fishing, swimming, boating, camping, picnicing, hiking, etc. By limiting the threat of law-suits which result in injury while a member of the public is using the land. Such a step is long overdue and we hope you will consider it favorably. S.B. 636, is similar to S.B. 405. S.B. 639, AN ACT CONCERNING TIDAL WETLANDS would further protect our wetlands by allowing the commissioner to designate an area as a wetland even a map of the area is completed to protect it from the immediate danger of filling, dredging, or any other activity. It specifies however, that the map must be completed within 60 days. This is another of the recommendations of the Governor Environmental Committee, and we favor it. Thank you Mr. Dhairman. Now speaking for myself, I would just like to say very briefly that I favor S.B. 298, which is the establishment of a scenic and protective river system for Connecticut. There will be many members of the public here to testify on this bill, and I would prefer to have them be the experts on this subject. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Sen. Pac, Thank you very much Sen. Eddy. Any other legislatures?

Rep. Clarence Platt, 121st District, and I want to speak briefly on H.B. 5218 which proposes to include the approved wetlands on the 490 which is the open space bill to reduce the tax base on this land to encourage people to hold their land. Under the wetland bill, as you probably know, the state is obligated to buy this land if the owner insists upon doing something with it. I've attended several of the hearings on this land and the point has been brought out that the property owners just can't afford to keep it under the assessments that are being placed on this land, they can't use it and the rule is not much in favor for them to keep it except private ownership. In my city some of the wetland is assessed at \$3,000 and \$4,000 an acre, and these people can not afford to keep it. Under this wetland act the assessor in my city tells me that this will probably go down to about \$25 an acre, which would encourage the people to keep it.