

<b>Act Number</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Bill Number</b>	<b>Total Number of Committee Pages</b>	<b>Total Number of House Pages</b>	<b>Total Number of Senate Pages</b>
PA 71-231		5738	3	1	1
<u>Committee Pages:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Corrections</i> 38</li> <li>• <i>Corrections</i> 42</li> <li>• <i>Corrections</i> 54</li> </ul>				<u>House Pages:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1978(<i>Consent</i>)</li> </ul>	<u>Senate Pages:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1619</li> </ul>

**H-112**

**CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS  
1971**

**VOL. 14  
PART 5  
1968-2502**

Monday, May 3, 1971

11.

- Cal. 568, H.B. 5557, AN ACT CONCERNING THE RAILROAD GRADE AT FLATBUSH AVENUE IN THE TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD, File 556.
- Cal. 570, Sub. for H.B. 5656, AN ACT CONCERNING DISCRIMINATION IN PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS ON THE BASIS OF SEX OR MARITAL STATUS, File 523.
- Cal. 576, Sub. for H.B. 6474, AN ACT CONCERNING THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF CONSERVATION OFFICERS, File 522.
- Cal. 577, H.B. 6781, AN ACT CONCERNING THE NAMING OF THE NEW ARMORY IN NORWALK, File 538.
- Cal. 578, Sub. for H.B. 6871, AN ACT CONCERNING REGULATIONS OF CASUALTY INSURANCE RATES, File 521.
- Cal. 585, Sub. for H.B. 8496, AN ACT CONCERNING NOTICE OF SPECIAL AND RECONVENED SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, File 539.
- Cal. 588, Sub. for H.B. 6503, AN ACT CONCERNING EXECUTION OF EJECTMENT ON FORECLOSURE JUDGMENT WHERE MORTGAGE HAS BEEN GUARANTEED BY ADMINISTRATOR OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS, File 552.
- Cal. 595, Sub. for H.B. 5258, AN ACT PROHIBITING UNWARRANTED INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF GENERAL ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS, F.533.
- Cal. 596, H.B. 5738, AN ACT CONCERNING RECOVERY OF CHILD WELFARE ASSISTANCE, File 531.
- Cal. 598, H.B. 7216, AN ACT AMENDING THE CHARTER OF THE UNIONVILLE WATER COMPANY REGARDING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, File 536.
- Cal. 607, Sub. for H.B. 8618, AN ACT CONCERNING OPENING BIRTH RECORDS FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH, File 560.

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**S-79**

**CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**SENATE**

**PROCEEDINGS  
1971**

**VOL. 14  
PART 4  
1457-1920**

May 7, 1971

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SENATOR MONDANI:

I move adoption of the joint committee's report and passage of the bill. Mr. President, this removes the special act which was passed back in the 1943 session which required crossing guards at this particular railroad. The Penn Central Applied to the PUC to put in flashing lights and gates and they were denied on the basis of that special act. Repealing this act, would let them put in this safety measure.

THE CHAIR:

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

THE CLERK:

CAL. NO. 547. Favorable report of the joint standing committee on Corrections Welfare and Humane Institutions. House Bill 5738. An Act Concerning Recovery of Child Welfare Assistance.

SENATOR CIARLONE:

Mr. President, I move acceptance of the committee's favor report and passage of the bill. This bill clarifies the existing statute and makes it clear that if an estate exists, finance and control are allowed to deducte an amount of money that has been paid by the state. However, they have to leave a balance in the estate a maximum of \$600.00.

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. 549. Favorable report of the joint committee on the Environment. Substitute House Bill 5811. An Act Concerning Instataneous Minimum Flow of

**JOINT  
STANDING  
COMMITTEE  
HEARINGS**

**CORRECTIONS,  
WELFARE  
AND  
HUMANE  
INSTITUTIONS**

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Mr. Halsted: The last bill #5738 is an attempt to clarify Subsection E of 17-62. When I first wrote that in bill form and this committee recommended it and it was passed, it was intended that it would have a two-fold effect. First of all with respect to a committed child, that the Commissioner be able to pay the child's bills notwithstanding that the child has estate. I'm sure that the committee understands that there are cases in which the state gets a better rate for care. But, secondly, that as an adjunct to this that it be clear in the event of the acquisition of estate that the state be able to recover the money it has expended and this bill would do just that.

I believe that concludes the bills that I wanted to speak on Mr. Chairman and if there are any questions I would be happy to answer them.

Chairman Brown: I think that with your kind permission if you will stay near by I see that the Commissioner of the Department of Welfare is here and duly sworn in and ready to get to work with all deliberate speed in his new job and perhaps to give the Benediction to your discourse this morning so that as a result I would like to present Mr. White, the new Commissioner of the Department of Welfare.

Commissioner if you will go to seat 100 here.

Commissioner White: Thank you for your introduction. I am glad to be here. I will comments and submit statements on several of the bills.

Chairman Brown: Commissioner, you may proceed. I think you are now sitting in the hot seat. You may use that microphone.

Commissioner White: Would you like me to open up with the Hoey bill?

Chairman Brown: You may do at your discretion.

Commissioner White: May I just say that House Bill 5951. It is the intention of the committee that this is a act concerning the adoption of the child called Constance Hoey. The intention of the committee that there be a change of reference of this bill to Judiciary at the request of the person who introduced it also inasmuch as there is a similar bill and similar legislation in Judiciary.

I would like to make a brief statement on this. Our Department is definitely against this bill and I would like to call Mr. Morastika who is in the Department in charge of field services to talk with you.

Lawrence Morastika. Chief of Social Services: I would like to point out to the committee a number of pieces of information that I think are important. First of all, when this child was placed Faircall ? family, the child was not free for adoption and the Faircall family had been approved as a foster family. One of the measures of whether a family is a foster family or an adoptive family is whether that family receives payment for the care of the child. This was the case with the Faircall family. Now, it was not until it was not until this child was legally free for adoption that the Faircall family expressed an interest in becoming adoptive parents. They were not

Commissioner White: (cont'd) earn. This would not seem to produce family solidarity and unity. However, if there was financial need after computing a budget for the family including the income of the stepparent, assistance could be given. This would seem to be a better way to handle a family financial problem.

On #5684 - we are not taking a position on this bill.

On #5738 - we support this in part - we will submit a statement to the Committee. The Welfare Department supports this bill in part. However, at the present time each committed child is allowed to retain \$300 in a trust fund. This bill should not remove the privilege of allowing the child such a small trust fund to be used when he passes from the care of the Commissioner. Also, the child should be able to keep earned income within the policy of the Welfare Department and how much he is to contribute to his care.

On #5948 -- This gets into the General Assistance area -- and I'll just make a brief statement. There are so many bills covering this area. We have not had a chance to completely study the many bills and relate them to the course to the State of Connecticut. However, we have done some review and we feel this bill should be delayed if possible, for consideration after in depth study has been done on both sides.

Chairman Brown: A commission will consider that. Will you proceed please.

Commissioner White: I have already testified on this bill. The Hoey case. #5951. Very strongly against it.

On #6238 - another general assistance bill -- again I state that we consider all bills considered concerning INAUDABLE - at a later date.

Chairman Brown: Okay, proceed.

Commissioner White: On #6814 -- very frankly,

Chairman Brown: Excuse one second, there is a comment by one of our committeemen Jim Lowell --

Representative Lowell - 38th District: Commissioner, in your study of the question of general assistance, I hope that in your deliberations and your summary which you will give the committee that you will analyze the question of Ann Uccello, the Mayor of Hartford, requested of her department is to the reason for Hartford, which has five per cent of the population having over 30% of the total general assistance cost in the State of Connecticut. And what effect your assumption of the general assistance in following the requirements of Hartford -- what effect it would have state-wide or if there is a conflict here because our law says there will be uniform standards throughout the state and I can't see how this could occur. And before we get into this area I would like your attention to particular inconsistency in our present local administration.

Commissioner White: We certainly will take that into consideration.

Mrs. Gertrude McCall (cont'd):

H. B. #7048 — We need this bill because of the following reasons:

A Welfare plan under the present law does not have a right put rent in escrow with a legal representative when she has a complaint. Welfare will still pay the landlord even though he has violated a legal lease according to the bill that was passed last year. I know this because this personally has happened to me. Because I've always paid my rent up until now. I would have the right for my day in court if I was not a welfare recipient. Welfare just recently wanted to hold my whole damn check because of the problem with the landlord. What was my family and I/suppose to eat on — until I raised a little ruckus it — with some of my representatives and calling the Commissioner's office, etc.. I got my check in order to buy my food stamps — thank God.

Then I also have a few brief statements on some bills that were mentioned before.

On H. B. #5738 — S. B. #729 — we oppose this. Children should have a right later in life to keep what is rightfully theirs. Why should they have to be liable because the mother had to go on welfare — in the first place to bring them up?

On H. B. #5262 — we oppose very strongly. We feel the regular father should be held liable and not the stepfather. What opportunity does that give us to become married again and I also have a memo by a woman who was supposed to speak and had to leave.

Mrs. Alice Doyle, 336 Mountain Road — completely opposed to #5259 as disgracefully inadequate.

Chairman Brown: Thank you very much. I would also suggest it would be helpful to our committee and to the subcommittee that — Your — you're from the committee of ...

Mrs. McCall: Welfare Recipients are People — and I almost forgot two bills which are very important on foster children.

S. B. #523 to restore to the age of 21 we support.

S. B. #729 we support the foster parents rights. Thank you.

Chairman Brown: I would suggest that even at some subsequent time you may want to officially and in handwriting let us know what you fought and — for and against. May I also — it is my fair duty to tell you that it is 12:30. We must leave these chambers and so that as a result I am asking the members of the committee to continue to restrain themselves from any lengthy questions so that we can hear as many people as possible — because I'm sure the legislators will want to hear the people.

Secondly, will you please — since you are sitting at legislator's desks