

<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 71-237		854	1	2	1
<u>Committee Pages:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Judiciary 279</i></li> </ul>				<u>House Pages:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2377-2378</li> </ul>	<u>Senate Pages:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1399</li> </ul>

**H-112**

**CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS  
1971**

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

division, I will vote against this bill because I don't believe it has anything to do with conformity and the savings and efficiency have outweighed the possible federal matching funds.

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THE SPEAKER:

The gentleman from the 97th speaking for the second time.

MR. CHAGNON (97th):

Mr. Speaker, I think one can acknowledge when one hasn't done quite as much homework as he should have done on a bill and in view of the details that have been transmitted to us today, I think that we should defeat this bill and I so recommend it.

MR. AJELLO (118th):

Mr. Speaker, I move that the bill be recommitted to the Committee on Corrections, Welfare and Humane Institutions.

THE SPEAKER:

Motion is to recommit. Will you remark? Is there objection? Hearing none, so ordered.

THE CLERK:

Top of page 9, Calendar No. 713, Substitute for S.B. No. 854, An Act Concerning Testimony of Accused or of Spouse of Accused.

MR. SULLIVAN (130th):

Mr. Speaker, I move acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

THE SPEAKER:

Will you remark?

MR. SULLIVAN (130th):

Mr. Speaker, this is a corollary to a very fine piece of legislation which was passed by this House a few days ago and that was the bill that

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strengthened the child abuse statute. Under the proposed legislation that we are considering today, a spouse of one who is accused of violence against the spouse or against children of that marriage can be compelled to testify against the accused person when that person has been accused of cruelty to persons, injury, or risk of injury or impairing the morals of a child, abandonment of a child under age six, the age of six years, and a number of other unpleasant incidents. It is not particularly pleasant to have to think about these situations but we all know that they do occur. This legislation, if it's passed, will help us to protect innocent children, particularly when they have been the victims of violence by one parent and we hope that it will help to curb this sort of thing. I urge passage of the bill.

THE SPEAKER:

Will you remark further? If not, all those in favor indicate by saying aye. Opposed? The bill is PASSED.

THE CLERK:

Calendar No. 718, S.B. No. 549, An Act Concerning the Sufficient Attestation of Wills by Two Witnesses.

MR. BINGHAM (157th):

Mr. Speaker, I move acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

THE SPEAKER:

Will you remark?

MR. BINGHAM (157th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The purpose of this bill is to require two rather than three witnesses to execute a will. This aligns Connecticut's provisions for witnesses with most other states and particularly those of the surrounding states, thus eliminating much confusion and the unwitting execution

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If not all those in favor signify by saying aye. OPPOSED nay?  
The ayes have it. The bill is passed.

THE CLERK:

Cal. 381, File 494 Favorable report of the joint standing  
Committee on Judiciary on Substitute S.B. 854 An Act Concerning  
Testimony of Accused or of Spouse of Accused.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Jackson.

SENATOR JACKSON:

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

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark?

Senator Jackson?

Mr. President, this amends Sec. 54-84 of the General  
Statutes to provide that either spouse who has received personal  
violence from the other. Or is the spouse of one who is charged  
with violation of any of the Sections enumerated in the bill may  
testify against the other spouse.

THE CHAIR:

The question is on passage. 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:

Page 3, top of the page, Cal. No. 393, File 331. Favorable

**JOINT  
STANDING  
COMMITTEE  
HEARINGS**

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TUESDAY

JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 23, 1971

H.B. #6889 - AN ACT IMPOSING PENALTIES FOR THE REFUSAL OF ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS.

At the present time in East Haddam, our First Selectman is refusing to show us records that should be available to us. If this Bill was in effect now, I guess we would not have any problems. I only hope that the penalty was more severe. Thank you.

Sen. Jackson: Thank you, Sir. Mr. Gaucher to be followed by Mr. Eisenberg.

Mr. Gaucher: Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee, my name is Harry Gaucher, Jr., State's Attorney from Windham County.

Sen. Jackson: My apologies, I mispronounced it a second time.

Mr. Gaucher: Perfectly all right, everyone else does. I am here speaking in behalf of the Council of State's Attorney. I would be something short of candid if I did not tell you that I am substituting this morning. I received a call at 10:00 indicating that Mr. LaBelle, our Chairman is incapacitated today and I was asked to come represent the Council.

We have a number of Bills that we have submitted as a council and so my main purpose of being here today is to have the record reflect those Bills that all nine State's Attorneys in Connecticut are in favor of having adopted. This of course, is not to say that other Bills that have been submitted would also be very helpful in the administration of criminal justice and I will refer to a couple of them.

Mr. LaBelle has prepared an outline of some of these Bills that we have submitted so I will try to follow it and I will do it quickly!

S.B. #854 - AN ACT CONCERNING TESTIMONY OF ACCUSED OR OF SPOUSE ACCUSED.

This has to do with the testimony of accused or of spouse of the accused. At the present time the exemption only applies to the wife except in those cases where she has been abused. This would make it more broad so that it would apply to abuse on the part of either spouse and also in child abuse cases.