

<b><i>Act Number</i></b>	<b><i>Session</i></b>	<b><i>Bill Number</i></b>	<b><i>Total Number of Committee Pages</i></b>	<b><i>Total Number of House Pages</i></b>	<b><i>Total Number of Senate Pages</i></b>
PA 71-23		1023	2	4	2
<u>Committee Pages:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Judiciary</i> 546</li> <li>• <i>Judiciary</i> 558</li> </ul>				<u>House Pages:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 998- 1001</li> </ul>	<u>Senate Pages:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 525-526</li> </ul>

**H-110**

**CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS  
1971**

**VOL. 14  
PART 3  
974-1450**

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am glad that we have this bill before us today.

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GUIDO LA GROTTA, 170th District:

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to concur with remarks of the Minority Leader and I would just like to say in passing that since a number of my towns are involved in this hold up of funds that I would like to extend to the Finance Committee thanks for their swiftness in calling this bill up for hearing and expediting these people out of a very difficult position.

MR. SPEAKER:

Are there further remarks? If not, the question is on acceptance and passage in concurrence with the Senate. All those in favor indicate by saying aye, those opposed, the bill is passed.

THE CLERK:

Calendar 158. Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1023. An Act Concerning Hand Signals by Motorists. File 50.

DAVID J. SULLIVAN, JR., 130th District:

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

MR. SPEAKER:

Motion is on acceptance and passage in concurrence with the Senate, will you remark?

DAVID J. SULLIVAN, JR., 130th District:

Mr. Speaker, this simple defines the signals to be used in three instances and the operation of motor vehicles on the highway. Connecticut is the only state of the 50 that has not

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adopted these signals which are in compliance with the uniform vehicle code. This will help us in this state, it will also help travelers who are from out of state while traveling in Connecticut. I urge passage of the bill.

MICHAEL L. MORANO, 151st District:

Mr. Speaker, I question this bill since I believe there's a bit of education that should go along with this type of legislation. At the present time, when we use a hand signal, we extend our hand out the window and indicate that we are going to turn right. As I understand it, this bill creates a new show of the hand, if you will, and I'm afraid that unless the people of our state were educated and told that this change was being made and clarified in some way or another by a slight drawing that might be included in the envelope when renewing your license or registration that a state of confusion might exist. And since now if we pass this bill, it will become statutory language and if some poor unfortunate who gives a signal that was used for many years, where if they use the old signal they might be arrested for not knowing and only because they weren't properly informed that the new hand signal takes precedent.

DAVID J. SULLIVAN, JR., 130th District:

Mr. Speaker, yes, Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding from Mr. Murphy from the Safety Commission that there is going to be some education put forth in the state on this question and I think that would answer the problem raised by Mr. Morano.

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That question was considered by the Committee and it felt that through Mr. Murphy's group that this would be brought forth to the drivers in the state.

CARL R. AJELLO, 118th District:

Mr. Speaker, I just since we've spent so much time yesterday on legislative intent, I think that we should indicate for the benefit of the lady drivers that the signal which indicates in line 11 and 12 that the arm is to be extended horizontally with forefinger pointed when the turn is being made to the left, the forefinger should be pointed to the left. There seems to be a little gap there in the language there that I wanted to clear up.

MR. SPEAKER:

I didn't realize that you were debating the bow and arrow again.

RUFUS C. ROSE, 69th District:

Mr. Speaker, a question to the person who introduced the bill. It is my understanding that all cars in Connecticut must be equipped with electrical hand signals and if that is so, I don't see where there can be any confusion no matter what the person did. Under the law, as I understand it, they are obliged to use their electrical hand signal, is that not correct?

MR. SPEAKER:

Does the gentleman from the 130th care to respond?

DAVID J. SULLIVAN, JR., 130th District:

I believe that's correct, Mr. Speaker, but I assume there

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would be times when the equipment would be malfunctioning and before there was an opportunity to have it repaired, this would be the requirement that would take its place.

MBS

RUFUS C. ROSE, 69th District:

Mr. Speaker, perhaps we are passing this legislation to take care of the antique cars that have no direction signals.

MR. SPEAKER:

Would you remark further? If not, all those in favor say aye, those opposed? The bill is passed.

THE CLERK:

There are no further two-starred items on the calendar.

CARL R. AJELLO, 118th District:

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to indicate for the benefit of the members that tomorrow, by agreement, we will be taking up two items which are going to be single-starred tomorrow for action in the House, and if I can find my note I'll tell you which ones they are. They would be Calendar 167, file number 132, House Bill No. 6052 An Act Concerning Sunday Sale of Liquor and Calendar No. 171, file number 130 Substitute for House Bill No. 5546 An Act Concerning Electronic Surveillance Devices by Employers.

MR. SPEAKER:

For the benefit of the members again, it's our intention, through joint leaders agreement, to ask for suspension of the rules tomorrow so that consideration may be given by the Assembly to Calendar 167, file 132 which is found on page 4 of

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Those in favor signify by saying aye. AYE. Opposed. The ayes have it. The bill is passed.

THE CLERK:

Please turn to page 2 of your Calendar. The third item from the top Calendar No. 41, File No. 50. Favorable report Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary. Substitute S.B. No. 1023 An Act Concerning Hand Signals By Motorists.

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:

Any remarks?

SENATOR JACKSON:

Mr. President, this act will bring the Motor Vehicle Traffic Laws into conformity with the Uniform Vehicle Code of the United States. What it in effect would do, it would change the hand signals for those who are using hand signals and not mechanical signals. Just to illustrate the stop signal I'll show you what you have now at the present time. When you have a stop signal you have your arm extended horizontally, if your turning left you keep it horizontal and you extend the forefinger and if you are going to turn right, you then have a rotary motion. Under the new act if you are going to be stopping, you would be dropping your arm and hand in a downward position.

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If you are going to turn left it will be exactly the same, you would be in a horizontal position with your forefinger extended, and if you were going to turn right you would extend your arm upward in a raised position. I think that this will prevent any problems for out of state motorists who are in Connecticut. And I think that Connecticut is one of the few states which still has a system such as we have on our books at the present time. And I would urge adoption of this bill.

THE CHAIR:

Any further remarks? The question is on the acceptance of the Committee's Favorable Report and passage of the bill. Those in favor signify by saying aye. AYE. Opposed? The ayes have it the bill is passed.

THE CLERK:

Two items down on the Calendar No. 50, File No. 73. Favorable Report Joint Standing Committee on the Environment S.B. 100 An Act Concerning The Funding and Powers of Lake Authorities.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Pac.

SENATOR PAC:

Mr. President, I move acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and passage of the bill.

THE CLERK:

The Clerk has an Amendment.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Ives.

SENATOR IVES:

Mr. President, will the Clerk please read the Amendment?

**JOINT  
STANDING  
COMMITTEE  
HEARINGS**

**JUDICIARY**

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TUESDAY

JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

MARCH 2, 1971

Lt. Griffin: (cont'd) We would also like to go on record as being in favor of bill #1023.

S.B.#1023 - AN ACT CONCERNING HAND SIGNALS BY MOTORISTS

Primarily, gentlemen, this would bring the state of Connecticut into conformance with the uniform vehicle code and will prevent quite (alot of ) confusion on the part of quite a few motorists from outside the state of Connecticut.

Sen. Jackson: How long a period of time do you feel that it would take to educate the motorists of Connecticut to the -- --?

Lt. Griffin: I don't think, Senator, it would take too much time, because hand signals are practically out the window now, anyway. Most pwoplw use electrical flashes more than anything else and quite a few people here in the state of Connecticut do follow this. I see many Connecticut operators with the left hand upraised for a left hand turn, now.

Sen. Jackson: How would they propose that this information be disseminated to the public?

Lt. Griffin: I imagine through publicity, newspapers and that sort of thing.

Sen. Rome: Would it confuse things further if we -- hand and arm signals, lead into -- horizontally, and add four downward? That confuse --?

Lt. Griffin: I don't have a copy of it. This would be for a stop?

Sen. Rome: No, this is for hand signal to stop would be just the hand extended horizontally or downward, an alternative -- --. Is that going to confuse the law enforcement officers?

Lt. Griffin: No, sir. I don't think so. As I say most of the people use electrical signals now anyway.

Sen. Rome: Your purpose here really is just to provide for out of state motorists as well as in state motorists in keeping different system and who recognize both systems and most motorists do as well.

Lt. Griffin: Right. The person who presents the most hazards is the person who doesn't signal at all and this would bring us into conformity with the uniform motor vehicle code which is gaining wider and wider acceptance.

TUESDAY

JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

MARCH 2, 1971

Mr. Adint: (cont'd) Just a little background on the next four bills. Two years ago, a Legislative subcommittee met and reviewed many of the our motor vehicles statutes to see how closely we conform with the uniform vehicle code. Many of our laws differ in form. Some were in partial conformity but these are the four areas that are being heard today that we felt changes should be made. And I'm speaking in favor of these four bills.

S.B.#1022- AN ACT CONCERNING STOPPING OR MOTOR VEHICLES AT RAILROAD CROSSINGS

This concerns the vehicles transporting school children and carrying explosive substances requiring that as they are crossing a railroad track that they would not shift gears.

S.B.#1023 - AN ACT CONCERNING HAND SIGNALS BY MOTORISTS

To amend our present hand signal law. As Lt. Griffin has said Connecticut, I believe, is one of one or two states that does not comply with the uniform vehicle code. Most of the other states have. And I would like to point out a slight error on #1023, Section 2, which reads Section 14-246 of the General Statute is repealed. This Section 2 is in error on this bill and should not be there. Section 2 will be repeated in another bill but it should not appear here under this bill.

S.B.#1025 - AN ACT CONCERNING RESTRICTED TURNS, U-TURNS AND STOPPING ON HIGHWAYS AND SIGNALS THEREFOR

This concerns the right of way for a vehicle intending to turn left within an intersection. The previous law simply stated intersection. The uniform code adds a left turn at an intersection, alley, private road or drive way.

S.B.#1102 - AN ACT CONCERNING RECKLESS DRIVING

This would put a little more substance to our present reckless driving law in that it will add "not only endangering life but also endangering property" and it will delete the phrase "other than the occupant of such motor vehicle" so that no matter whose life the driver endangers it will be considered reckless driving if he is driving so recklessly.

I would also like to submit position papers on the next four bills but I would like to go over some of the salient points of each bill. And I speak in favor of all four of these bills.