

Act Number	Session	Bill Number	Total Number of Committee Pages	Total Number of House Pages	Total Number of Senate Pages
PA 71-326		5562	2	1	1
<u>Committee Pages:</u>				<u>House Pages:</u>	<u>Senate Pages:</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Education</i> 336 • <i>Education</i> 409 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2459 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2030

H-112

**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
1971**

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

Tuesday, May 11, 1971

57.

roc

THE SPEAKER:

So ordered.

Would the Clerk now return to Page 11 for items that were then passed temporarily.

THE CLERK:

Cal. 742, Sub. for H.B. 5562. AN ACT CONCERNING
EVALUATION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

THE SPEAKER:

Rep. Griswold of the 109th.

MRS. GRISWOLD: (109th)

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

THE SPEAKER:

Would you remark.

MRS. GRISWOLD: (109th)

Yes, Mr. Speaker. This is a very simple bill. It has bi-partisan support. It requires the State Board of Education to report to Education Committee annually on programs in special education. I'm sure we all realize that special education means education for children with learning disability and we, up to this time, the Committee of Education has felt that it is very difficult to know just what we are doing in those fields. It is a new field and a very encompassing field. Mr. Speaker, I hope that this bill will pass.

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CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE

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May 18, 1971

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CAL. NO. 711. File No. 743. Favorable report of the joint committee on Education. Substitute House Bill 5562. An Act Concerning Evaluation of Special Education Programs.

SENATOR MONDANI:

Mr. President, move acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill. This bill amends the special section of the general statutes, to require that the State Board of Education report to the joint standing committee on Education, on the disbursement of funds, the programs, projects and evaluation of the projects. This legislation will help the committee in making judgements for the future. We'd like to see which programs are being tried and which are successful. A good bill and urge adopted.

THE CHAIR:

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

THE CLERK:

CAL. NO. 712. File No. 756. Favorable report of the joint committee on Public Health and Safety. Substitute House Bill 6125. An Act Concerning Local Health Authorities.

SENATOR PAC:

Mr. President, I move the acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill. To understand this bill fully, you have to start with Section 2, and this section repeals 19-74, the statutes. These statutes pertain to the procedures by which the local health directors are hired by Towns. And the repeal statute is exactly the same as 19-75 which is the procedures that are used by cities and burroughs that hire local directors of health. The only difference is, that, in the repeal section,

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
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331-675**

1971

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 17, 1971

REP. Griswold: \$5,000,000 requested for these programs, which was cut out of the proposed budget, presented by Governor Meskill, be reinstated so the ghetto children caught in the cycle of poverty may have a fairer start in life. I'd like to speak Mr. Chairman very briefly to another bill. And that is HB5562 (Rep. Griswold) AN ACT CONCERNING STATE AID FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION. This bill also implements the report of the Interim Committee on Special Programs. It asks for 100% funding of the programs mandated by the State for children with learning disabilities. To document the need for more State aid for the excess cost of special education programs, I would like to give one statistic; in Hartford last year, our Committee visited programs for emotionally disturbed children. We were told that there 240 plus or minus children in the Hartford school system in such programs. However, administrators also said that they estimated there were 2,000 such children needing special education programs. This is nothing to be proud of out of a school population of 28,000, we are taking care of only a little over 1/10 of the children that need these programs. Special education was introduced in this State in 1967, it was a landmark statute, Connecticut was and is leading the way but we are under-funding it. And we have a great problem right now because in school districts which have made a real effort to supply special education courses, it has been found that families with children who have learning disabilities are moving into those districts from other less able to take care of them school districts. Special education can cost four times as much as the regular school program. Paying 1/3 of its excess cost by the school district has become an impossible burden, since the State requires such programs and they are good programs, it should equalize the financial burden by paying the total excess cost. This bill is not asking for the 100% funding of the total excess cost of programs for gifted children which are not mandated, but it is asking the State to take care of the excess costs for those programs which they direct the School district must have for these children. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Rep. DellaVecchia: Representative Morgan.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 17, 1971

- Mrs. Briggs: a parent of school age children. I ask you to support bill 6456. I am particularly interested in Project Concern with which we have had experience. Apart from the evidence that the inner-city child benefits from this plan, I feel that it is very important for all children to know those from a different ethnic background. There are many people in Litchfield who would be saddened to have Project Concern abandoned to lose this contact with Waterbury children and to lose this opportunity to improve the education and the social relations of these children in the future. Thank you.
- Rep. DellaVecchia: Mr. Donald LaSalle of Bristol, Conn. (absent from hearing at this time) Mrs. Erwin B. Shaw, Mr. Erwin B. Shaw (both absent at this time). Nancy W. Duffy.
- Mrs. Duffy: I'm Nancy W. Duffy, I'm not representing any group, just a private citizen, and I wish to speak against, well I'm against part of it and for part of it, bill 5562, An Act Concerning State Aid for Special Education and it includes I think a very commendable part that State aid be raised to 100% for special education. However, it leaves or segregates one group of children who need special education. It says complete funding for all special education children, but only 2/3 for programs for the gifted children. Now granted the needs of the gifted children are often not as met with as much emotional response, but the need still exists. In other words all special children are special and in need of special education.
- Rep. DellaVecchia: Alexander LaLuz, John Witkoski, Frank Altieri, David Wiggin (all absent from hearing at this time) Frances Roberts.
- Mrs. Roberts: I'm Frances Roberts, speaking for the State Department of Mental Health in support of a number of bills on special education. To begin with we'd like to speak in favor of HB6969 (Rep. Klebanoff-Sen. Mondani-Rep. Beck-Rep. Bigos-Rep. Connolly-Sen. DeNardia-Rep. Griswold-Rep. Gudelski-Sen. Hammer-Rep. Martin-Rep. Nigro-Sen. Pac-Rep. Rose-Rep. Ryan-Rep. Truex-Rep. Tudan-Rep. Clark-Sen. Houley-Rep. King-Rep. LaGrotta-Rep. Leary-Rep. Lowell) AN ACT CONCERNING STATE GRANTS FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION which provides that in 1972, the State will pay total net costs on a forward funding basis. We wish it were feasible to ask for this in 1971. We recognize