

Act Number	Session	Bill Number	Total Number of Committee Pages	Total Number of House Pages	Total Number of Senate Pages
PA 71-331	Vetoed	6514	2	1	1
<u>Committee Pages:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Public Health and Safety</i> 340 • <i>Public Health and Safety</i> 347 				<u>House Pages:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2512 	<u>Senate Pages:</u> 2034 (5514- typo)

H-113

**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
1971**

**VOL. 14
PART 6
2503-3010**

Wednesday, May 12, 1971 11.

favorable reports and passage of the following matters on the Consent Calendar: Calendar No. 497, Substitute for H.B. No. 5980, File No. 782, an Act authorizing the State Treasurer to sell land to the Squantz Pond District Fire Association, Inc.; Calendar No. 776, Substitute for H.B. No. 5747, File No. 785, an Act concerning community antenna television systems granting free use on channels as a public service; Calendar No. 778, Substitute for H.B. No. 6505, File No. 794, an Act to provide health and statistical information from birth certificates; Calendar No. 779, Substitute for H.B. No. 6514, File No. 817, an Act concerning health, hospital and nursing services in the State; Calendar No. 783, Substitute for H.B. No. 6996, File No. 789, an Act concerning the registration of insurance companies and the distribution of extraordinary dividends; Calendar No. 788, H.B. No. 8698, File No. 791, an Act concerning overtime work under the Meat and Poultry Products Inspection Act; Calendar No. 788, Substitute for H.B. No. 8761, File No. 773, an Act concerning tax relief for elderly persons whose property is held in trust; Calendar No. 790, File No. 774, H.B. No. 9128, an Act concerning clarification of the authority of the Chairman of the Board of Workmen's Compensation; Calendar No. 796, Substitute for H.B. No. 5713, File No. 784, an Act concerning nuisances on highways; Calendar No. 798, Substitute for H.B. No. 7786, File No. 805, an Act concerning evasion of responsibility in the operation of a vehicle; Calendar No. 799, Substitute for H.B. No. 9180, File No. 808, an Act concerning additional powers for Housing Authorities to maintain a police force; Calendar No. 812, Substitute for H.B. No. 1814, File No. 611, an Act creating a

S-80
CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE

PROCEEDINGS
1971

VOL.14
PART 5
1921-2435

May 18, 1971

Page 18

Public Health and Safety. Substitute House Bill 5514. An Act Concerning Health, Hospital and Nursing Services in the State.

SENATOR PAC:

Mr. President, I move acceptance of the joint committ's favorable report and passage for the bill. Under this bill, the Council of Councils is required to consult with the Connecticut Hospital Planning Association and other Public Voluntary Agencies in regard to its duties. They haven't done this in the past and problems have arisen. Some hospitals have gone ahead and planned to expand and this of course, is resulted in duplications and this is really the raising baser for the Council to avoid this expensive duplication.

THE CHAIR:

Question is on passage of the bill. 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:

FOOT OF THE CALENDAR:

CAL. NO. 476. File No. 651. Favorable report of the joint committee on General Law. House Bill 7326. An Act Concerning An Action by Cecile Bellemare Against the City of Bridgeport.

SENATOR FAULISO:

I move acceptance of the committ's favorable report and passage of the bill, as amended by House Amendment Schedule A. This particular bill validates a late notice, I move passage.

THE CHAIR:

~~Question is on passage, will you remark further? If not, all those in~~

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

**PUBLIC
HEALTH
AND
SAFETY**

**PART 1
1-491**

**1971
Index**

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

THURSDAY

MARCH 11, 1971

down for a hearing on it because this is not one that we, it was on the list for today, except my general knowledge of it is that it would be expensive to the hospitals and really the Hospital Cost Commission wouldn't gain anything by it. They're getting five full months now.

#5553 is a technical bill and we have no objection to it.

#5554 is the bill which puts a representative of the Conn. Hospital Association on the Hospital Cost Commission and we are against this you may be surprised to know. We feel that the cost commission should have one function, that is to set the rates the state pays. We think this has done this with reasonable satisfaction over the years. We do not ask to get on it now if it going to drift off into all kinds of other fields, this is something else again. But we see no reason to increase a commission that's got a specific technical job, finding out what the cost of hospital care amounts to. And setting a rate that's consistent with that cost, and with that limited amount of work to be done by it we see no reason for cluttering up the commission with a substantial number of other people. If you are going to make changes and add people to anything, they should be added to the council on hospitals which, as I say, has a broader function than the Hospital Cost Commission.

#6507 is the bill permitting, in connection with the chronic and convalescents and we would support that, certainly in principle.

#6514 (AN ACT CONCERNING HEALTH, HOSPITAL AND NURSING SERVICES IN THE STATE) is a bill which directs the Council on Hospitals to avail itself of the services of the Conn. Hospital Planning Commission, and I'm glad to report that the Council on Hospitals is now availing itself of the services of the commission. We think the legislation however is still good in that it specifically authorizes the Council on Hospitals to avail itself of the services of this commission. If it Hadn't availed itself of the services of this commission I don't know what it could have done in the past two years because it had no money whatsoever to operate. It's been using the services of this commission free and I don't know whether the state can possibly get a better bargain than getting free service which it has been from this commission.

#7016 (AN ACT CONCERNING HOSPITAL COST COMMISSION) would abolish the Hospital Cost Commission and transfer its functions to the Council on Hospitals. Our position at the present time is that the Council on Hospitals ought to have a two year chance to see what it can do, and that in the meantime the Hospital Cost Commission should continue to operate as

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

THURSDAY

MARCH 11, 1971

First of all with regards to, let me preface it by saying he wishes merely to share his general philosophy about the two broad categories of subjects that are up today, the Council on Hospitals and the Hospital Cost Commission. Now with the council specifically S.B. 134 and H.B. 6514 and H.Bills 5547, 7226, 5554, 7016, 5547 and 5549. My instructions are that there are no specific positions he wishes to take on this legislation but rather only to convey to you his general philosophy about them.

Now, starting with the Council on Hospitals, he wishes to say that the council has been in existence after all only less than eighteen months, as all of you have been exquisitely reminded on multiple occasions before since I've been sitting through these hearings. No personnel or funds were provided for by the General Assembly in Public Act 693 with the result that the goals and the objectives of what the council is supposed to do have not all been accomplished because of the severe handicap of lack of staff. However the council has held twelve to fifteen meetings over that period, and have made many important policy decisions. It has revised regulations, both in the rest homes and for the nursing homes, and has held hearings regarding the maternity unit at Park City Hospital, and other units as well. It has in addition scheduled hearings on the rising cost of hospital care in the Greater Hartford area for March 26, and also April 2. This will involve the four city hospitals in Hartford, New Britain Hospital and Manchester Hospital. It has made a contribution to better planning and coordination of health facilities. It has eliminated some duplication and consolidating facility services, and has made better provision for better hospital care.

As far as the Hospital Cost Commission is concerned, and in fact as far as the Council on Hospitals is concerned, and there is an awful lot of talk lately that there are several bodies that are flying off in several directions, namely the Conn. Hospital Planning Commission on the one hand, the Hartford Planning group on the other, the Health Facilities Task Force of the Comprehensive Health Planning Act, and others. He wishes you to know that in his judgment much of this, or some of this has been answered by dual membership on these various task forces and agencies, for example, both on the Hill-Burton Advisory Council and the Comprehensive Health Planning Council. There is dual membership by the Welfare Commissioner, Dr. Patterson from the UConn Medical School, Dr. Donnelly of the Institute of Living, Dr. Redlich who is the Executive Director, I'm sorry, who is the Dean of the Yale University School of Medicine, and Wilson Jameson who is retired from Conn. Mutual but shares the 749 Health Facilities Task Force and is on the Hill-Burton Advisory Council as well