

HB 9189

PA727 (Vetoed)

1971

Public Health & Safety 896

House 5590-5595

Senate 3406

-

**JOINT  
STANDING  
COMMITTEE  
HEARINGS**

**PUBLIC  
HEALTH  
AND  
SAFETY**

**PART 2  
492-901**

**1971**

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

THURSDAY

APRIL 22, 1971

clarification so that we don't wind up with the Mental Health Department running a center which is a sole responsibility of our Department.

Sen. Pac: Any questions? Thank you.

Bryan Hollander: I'm an attorney in Hartford and I'm also a Director of the Hartford Dispensary which is a newly established drug treatment program in Hartford. And I want to speak just briefly about 9189 (AN ACT CONCERNING STATE GRANTS TO NEIGHBORHOOD NARCOTIC ADDICTION TREATMENT CENTERS), and then comment on #9146.

#9189 apparently, as I understand it, is a very similar bill to S.B. 518 which I believe this committee has previously reported out favorably and sent to appropriations. The only thing I can say is that the concept involved in both bills, there is some difference obviously, but not significant, the concept involved in both bills is an extremely important concept for the State of Connecticut right now. The Hartford Dispensary, which is a methadone maintenance treatment program in Hartford, will receive approximately \$300,000 or more in Federal funding this year. As you know, that, that Federal funding has a local match requirement. More importantly than that however, that money, apparently, will not be anywhere near sufficient enough to meet the needs of the addict population of the city. Therefore other sources of money will be necessary. And secondly, Federal money, depending on the source, has a termination date. And the problem that the state is going to be faced I think is, when an established program is created, it has been a vehicle for bringing into a city in this state, substantial amounts of Federal money, and demonstrating its worthfulness, how you're going to use state funding to continue the program, and if necessary to expand it. Therefore, it is, it is critically important that a bill of this nature be acted upon favorably by the General Assembly. I know that #518 had a figure of \$2,000,000. I would guess that that figure is probably far below the needs of the state. I believe that we could reasonably demonstrate in the City of Hartford alone that we have three to five thousand heroin addicts, without any trouble.

So, I, I just implore you to move in this direction. I implore you to write into any legislation that comes out of the General Assembly a statement of urgency so that the monies are available and as quickly as possible, I am confident, having gone through the rigorous stress of meeting state Mental Health Department requirements for certification that the, that proper standards will be established. I just believe that they should be established quickly enough so that the monies can be distributed quickly.

**H-120**

**CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS  
1971**

**VOL. 14  
PART 13  
5555-6226**

Tuesday, June 8, 1971

36

MBS

Will you remark?

WILLIAM O'NEILL, 52nd District:

Mr. Speaker, this particular bill sets up a standardization and educational commission for fire fighting in the state of Connecticut. It's a good bill, Mr. Speaker, all the volunteer fire companies in the state are solidly behind this bill, I move its adoption and passage.

MR. SPEAKER:

Are there further remarks on the bill? If not, all those in favor indicate by saying aye, opposed? The bill is passed.

THE CLERK:

Page 9, from Appropriations, Calendar No. 1329, Substitute for House Bill No. 6685, An Act Concerning a Drug Education Program.

WILLIAM O'NEILL, 52nd District:

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

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark?

WILLIAM O'NEILL, 52nd District:

Mr. Speaker, this particular bill....just a moment, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, will you pass temporarily?

THE CLERK:

Page 10, Calendar No. 1350, Substitute for House Bill No. 9189, An Act Concerning State Grants to Neighborhood Narcotic

Tuesday, June 8, 1971

37.

MBS

Addiction Treatment Centers.

MURIEL YACAVONE, 17th District:

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

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark?

MURIEL YACAVONE, 17th District:

This bill would permit the state department of mental health to grant funds to neighborhood addiction centers, treatment centers, rather, for drug addiction. The mental health department would designate such areas as high incidence areas. In preparing the ground the high incidence and the method of treatment would be carefully evaluated by the department of mental health. I urge passage of the bill.

MARILYN PEARSON, 128th District:

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to support this bill but I would hope in so doing that the department of mental health would also consider and insist that since taxpayers money is being spent on these programs that the counselors and workers and ex-addicts who claim to be ex-addicts may actually be free of being a drug addict and I think that this should be considered in the regulations if we are giving money for these type of programs. With this in mind, I also want to support the bill. Thank you.

NICHOLAS LENGE, 13th District:

Tuesday, June 8, 1971

38.

MBS

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support this bill and if I may, through you, sir, address a very specific and brief question to the lady from East Hartford. Does this embrace the Daytop type program and others of that type?

MR. SPEAKER:

Does the gracious lady care to respond?

MURIEL YACAVONE, 17th District:

This bill doesn't specify a particular treatment, I think that the treatment of a particular center that would be offered would be very carefully evaluated, it would be one of the best known methods now recognized by the department of mental health.

NICHOLAS LENGE, 13th District:

Yes. Again, re-emphasizing my support for this, I think it is a very important bill and I think it has a very constructive purpose and the standards are outlined as indicated. It will afford opportunity for very, very far reaching local involvement in the solution of this problem.

PAUL LA ROSA, 4th District:

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill because I since 1967 when we passed Public Act 555 putting it under the rehabilitation of drug dependent people under the director of mental health, it makes makes many gains in his direction. This bill will allow them to set up centers such as we have in Hartford on the methadone maintenance program which has been

Tuesday, June 8, 1971

39.

MBS

proven to be successful. This will allow them to expand what has been called an epidemic in drug abuse. It will allow them to expand the services that would be available to the citizens of the state of Connecticut so that when this tragedy strikes in a family, at least they've got someplace to go and they would have facilities that would have been set up by the mental health department throughout the state of Connecticut. I urge its adoption.

CARL AJELLO, 118th District:

Mr. Speaker, I'd simply like to add my endorsement to this bill. I think that having experienced the difficulty with handling, especially young people, who get involved with drugs, that this is a kind of treatment that works and after all, that seems to be the most important feature of any program is whether or not it does any good for those, for whom it is intended and I'm convinced that this is the kind of approach that we need to take. I hope there will be enough flexibility in this to enable truly effective use of the programs and it is part of what we should be doing and I hope that we can do some more although it is late in the session for this kind of work because it is essential that we do so.

JOHN MATTHEWS, 161st District:

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support this bill and I would like to make an observation that in this state there are so many organizations trying to help in this very unpleasant drug

Tuesday, June 8, 1971

40.

MBS

problem with our children and I would this state program which we are about to pass, I hope, at this point, will supplement and compliment these individual private type or local agencies trying to help the young drug addicts. Sometimes I think there are so many of them that their efforts are being diminished because they aren't coordinated and organized together. One of the things this group could be....could do via the state is try to help bring all of the programs into a more applicable and helpful way. I support the bill.

JOHN FEBRIZIO, 147th District:

Mr. Speaker, I also rise to support this bill. This bill is a very, very good bill and actually these centers are helping the state of Connecticut. We should all try to help all the young people that are addicted with these drugs as much as we can and by doing this, we will be helping all the young people. It is a very good bill, Mr. Speaker.

MURIEL YACAVONE, 17th District:

Mr. Speaker, speaking for the second time, Mr. Speaker, mentioning...Rep. Matthews mentioned that there are so many different centers now, that seem to be operating around the state, we can't possibly have too many, the smaller they are, the better they are in many experts opinion and the drug advisory council does have the responsibility of keeping tabs on all these centers and making sure that we have the different methods available for the people for whom they seem to be

Tuesday, June 8, 1971

41.

MBS

best suited.

MR. SPEAKER:

Question is on acceptance and passage, all those in favor indicate by saying aye, opposed? The bill is passed.

THE CLERK:

Page 9, at the bottom of the page, Calendar No. 1329, Substitute for House Bill No. 6685, An Act Concerning a Drug Education Program.

JAMES GAFFNEY, 80th District:

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

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark?

JAMES GAFFNEY, 80th District:

Mr. Speaker, this bill provides that the state board of education shall develop drug addiction programs in each of the mental health planning regions of the state. The mental health planning council shall assist in developing and implementing such programs. Further the bill states that regional programs shall be developed by this state board and the commission for higher education for future training. Such training will be at no expense to the teachers. Third, it states that the state department must report annually to the education committee regarding drug education and teacher training. Further, that no more than 10% of the funds may be used for planning, the remainder to be used for the teacher

S-82  
CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE

PROCEEDINGS  
1971

VOL. 14  
PART 7  
2874-3413

June 9, 1971

Page 77

File numbers and I'll move for suspension for immediate consideration.

They should be in the Clerk's possession and we'll file this list too, if he wishes.

THE CHAIR:

That's what we're talking about, Senator. We want to compare the bills themselves, against the list we have.

Would you come up, Senator Ives and we'll expediate this very quickly?

SENATOR IVES:

Mr. President, I move for suspension of the rules for immediate consideration of the following bills:

THE CHAIR:

If there is no objection it is so ordered.

SENATOR IVES:

Mr. President, House Bill 5109, File 1268; House Bill 5298, File 1699; House Bill 5433, File 1310; House Bill 5730, File 940; House Bill 5781, File 1196; House Bill 5782, File 1211; House Bill 6277, File 289; House Bill 6411, File 1117; House Bill 6448, File 1377; House Bill 6685, File 1461; House Bill 6716, File 1684; House Bill 6927, File 934; House Bill 7170, File 769; House Bill 7811, File 1104; House Bill 8410, File 1106; House Bill 8225, File 1197; House Bill 8796, File 927; House Bill 8835, File 1305; House Bill 9189, File 1453; House Bill 6928, File 1080; House Bill 8485, File 1642.

Mr. President, I move for the adoption of the bills listed.

THE CHAIR:

Is there any objection to the adoption or passage of the bills? Hearing none; said bills declared passed.