

HB 5754 PA 728 (Vetoed) 1971

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**JOINT  
STANDING  
COMMITTEE  
HEARINGS**

**EDUCATION**

**PART 2  
331-675**

**1971**

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 17, 1971

addition to the law. If the State provides schools for emotionally disturbed or severely physically handicapped children for example, should the local town be relieved of all responsibility or only for those costs above the per pupil expenditure in that town? Should the town have any responsibility for education of severely mentally retarded children in our present State institutions? Please do not interpret these remarks as a condemnation of HB5962. I am simply urging this Committee to make changes very carefully indeed in this hard won legislation. We will submit detailed analysis of proposed bills on this subject to your subcommittee as soon as possible.

Rep.DellaVecchia:Mrs. Peter Dorsey.

Mrs. Dorsey: Members of the Committee, Mrs. Peter Dorsey, education chairman for the special education school program at the Children's Center in Hamden. I have come here to urge your support for bill 5754; The statement of purpose bill is to provide state funding for special education program at Children's Center in Hamden. Historically the Children's Center began as a orphan asylum in New Haven. In 1917 when our Center moved out into Hamden we remained as a part of New Haven school district. There was a special act that said this was where we belonged. This went on for a period of time up until 1969 General Assembly. Over the years the Center, which is a private agency, had been adjusting its services to meet the need of the children in the community, throughout the State as the need arose. New Haven who is trying to educate our children had discovered that they were not able to tolerate this child in the classroom. This was not a surprise to us because over the years the children being referred to us had become emotionally ill children. These are adolescents, between the ages 10 and 16 who have not only failed in school situations but for the most part have been rejected also by their families. It is necessary for them to removed from the family situation and placed in residential treatment and we have on the grounds now our own school which is trying to give them an opportunity to become successful in school. When they leave us, which happens usually after a period of about three years, they can return to a public school set-up and function again on the level where they belong. Now in 1969 the public act was passed by the legislature was the Public Act 571. Under this act, which created us as a separate school our billing was to be done through the town

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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Mrs. Dorsey:

from which the child came. This we thought was probably going to be successful. But we had only to learn by trial and error in sending out our bills that these children along with all of the other deprivation that they suffered really don't have a home base. One child that comes to mind particularly is one that had been in school and he was referred to us by Waterbury Department of Welfare and his mother is now living in Torrington. Each town is concerned each one feels and rather rightly that they are not liable for that child's educational progress. They would quickly say that they are not liable for that child's education. They would quickly say that one or the other was. For this reason we are seeking this new bill 5754 to shift the total cost of our educational program directly to the State. As it stands now the State must reimburse the town 2/3 of this any way. We are asking for that other 1/3 in a direct payment to the Children's Center. We have discussed it with the Department of Education here in Hartford and as I understand they are in support of this bill. Thank you very much.

Rep. DellaVecchia: Thank you. Reverend Charles Pickett.

Rev. Pickett:

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, I'm here to support bill 6456 which I do although I am only going to speak on the part that provides for bi-lingual education. This is not just a problem for Hartford and Bridgeport which could have been interpreted from the remarks of the Mayor of Hartford. It is a State-wide problem and there may be as many as 150,000 Spanish speaking people in the State of Connecticut now. The 22,000 in Hartford and approximately 26,000 in Bridgeport. But in eastern Connecticut the Spanish speaking people are moving into the smaller towns as well, such as Danielson, Putnam and other places in that area. We've heard a lot of statistics and I want to speak you of the heartbreak I run into daily of children, high school children and younger who have not been able to communicate with the schools and for that reason are left out. It's an established fact that the largest percentage of high school and even grammar school drop outs are Puerto Ricans. And I'm in daily contact with young people who are illiterate in both their native language and English. I also would call to your attention the fact that this is not just a State

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**CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS  
1971**

**VOL. 14  
PART 11  
4831-5162**

Saturday, June 5, 1971

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MR. SPEAKER:

Further remarks. If not, all those in favor indicate by saying Aye. Opposed. The bill is passed.

CLERK:

Page 23, Calendar 1360, Substitute for House Bill 5754 - An Act Concerning Grants for Special Education Programs at the Children's Center.

MR. SPEAKER:

Representative Mettler of the 96th.

MR. METTLER:

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

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark.

MR. METTLER:

The Clerk has an amendent.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Clerk call Amendment Schedule A.

CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule A, offered by Mr. Mettler of the 96th. Strike out Section 5 and insert in lieu thereof the following. "Section 5. Not withstanding any provision of Section 10-76F or 10-76G of the 1969 supplement to the General Statutes to the contrary, grant to the Children's Center under the provision of Section 1 to 3 inclusive to this act shall be paid from the appropriation to the State Board of Education

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for special education grants for school districts.

MR. SPEAKER:

Question on adoption of Amendment Schedule A.

MR. METTLER:

A question to the Clerk. There should be more to the amendment or else we have the wrong amendment.

MR. SPEAKER:

I suggest this item be passed temporarily.

CLERK:

Page 22, Calendar 1320, Substitute for House Bill 6423 - An Act Concerning the Use of General Distinguishing Motor Vehicle Marker Plates.

MR. SPEAKER:

Representative Reinhold of the 171st.

MR. REINHOLD:

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

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark.

MR. REINHOLD:

The Clerk has an amendment.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Clerk will call Amendment Schedule A.

CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule A, offered by Mr. Ajello of the 118th, Mr. Stevens of the 122nd.

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move through the calendar so we will try to pass retaining the remaining items which have not been taken up. It is our intention not to take up any more business today.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Clerk has one bill he would like to read in.

CLERK:

With emergency certification, a raised bill, House Bill 9259 - An Act Concerning the Sale of Turtles.

MR. SPEAKER:

Tabled for the calendar and printing. Refer to the committee on Public Health and Safety, will the record be so corrected.

Representative Mettler.

MR. METTLER:

Calendar 1360, file 1554, substitute for House Bill 5754.

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

MR. SPEAKER:

Would you remark.

MR. METTLER:

The Clerk has an amendment.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Clerk will call House Amendment Schedule A.

CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule A, offered by Mr. Mettler of the

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96th, Mr. DiMeo of the 98th. In line 36, strike out "in such", strike out line 37 to 44 inclusive, strike out Section 5, insert in lieu thereof the following: "Section 5, (inaudible) provision Section 10-76, (inaudible) grants the children's center under provisions of Sections 1 to 3 inclusive. (inaudible) will be paid from appropriations to the State Board of Education for special education grants to school districts.

MR. METTLER:

I move adoption of House Amendment Schedule A.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark. Questions on adoption of Amendment Schedule A. Will you remark.

Gentleman of the 165th.

MR. COLLINS:

I do not have a copy of the amendment. Will the gentleman explain it please.

MR. METTLER:

I apologize to the Minority Leader, I though he did have a copy. What the bill does is strikes out a section which more or less very frankly leaves an open end appropriation to the children's center under the State Department of Education and the other thing is it allocates the funds for this particular project coming from the special education section of the existing budget. It deletes an appropriation which is in Section 5 of the existing bill in the file.

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Further remarks on House Amendment Schedule A. Representative Collins. Question on adoption. All those in favor indicate by saying Aye. Opposed. House A is adopted. Gentleman from the 96th.

MR. METTLER:

I now move acceptance and passage as amended by House Amendment Schedule A.

MR. SPEAKER:

Further remarks. If not, all those in favor indicate by saying Aye. Opposed. The bill is passed.

Representative Ajello.

MR. AJELLO:

I now move that all items which are passed temporarily or not taken action upon today and which are double starred and ready, otherwise ready for action be passed retaining their respective places on the calendar.

MR. SPEAKER:

So ordered.

MR. AJELLO:

I now move that we adjourn until tomorrow afternoon, Sunday at 5:00 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER:

Question is on adjournment until tomorrow, Sunday at 5 p.m. All those in favor indicate by saying Aye. The House stands adjourned.

TIME: 6:48 o'clock P.M.

Ann T. Delaney  
House Transcriber