

HB 5445

PA 731 (Vetoed)

1971

Education

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House

3116-3134, 5222-5223

Senate

2982-2984

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H-114

**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
1971**

**VOL. 14
PART 7
3011-3376**

Wednesday, May 19, 1971

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Gentleman from the 114th. Noting that the gentleman who is to report on the bill is not in his chair, this item be passed temporarily.

CLERK:

Calendar 927, Substitute for House Bill 5445 - An Act Concerning the Coordination of Group Relations in the Public School System and Appointment of Coordinators of Group Relations by Boards of Education.

MR. SPEAKER:

Representative Brown.

REPRESENTATIVE BROWN:

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

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark.

REPRESENTATIVE BROWN:

This bill would allow something that is being carried on in many of the school systems and the schools as well as the general public is not recognizing the need for a concerted effort to assist students of different backgrounds to reach their academic potential by not being inhibited by social problems. The committee on Education was not only unanimous in their adoption of this but we made sure we would like to make it clear that this bill does not carry with it any additional funds nor any additional personnel. This bill is based upon a service, not upon personnel. There are 2 things involved here, on the state level, the state Department

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of Education, there will be a co-ordinator of inter-group relations which would assist the towns in carrying out these particular programs. I have been advised by the State Department of Education that this would necessitate no new personnel, that they do have presently on the staff someone who could do this job without any additional expenditure or any additional personnel. In addition to that, this bill indicates that on the local town and school level, it is suggested again there be no new staff and no new monies but that there be persons who already are trained to carry out a program with the help of the state. These are people primarily in the field of pupil personnel. Many problems do exist that certainly will be anticipated and certainly be provided for, rather than that we be faced with a corrective situation which would be in not the best interest of the learning potential of our students. This bill has the support of the State Department of Education. I urge its adoption.

MR. SPEAKER:

Representative Stevens.

REPRESENTATIVE STEVENS:

I move that this bill be referred to Appropriations. The basis for my motion is that the Budget Department has analyzed this bill and has indicated that it will require a Steno III and an Education Bureau Chief at the cost of \$26,164.00. The unfortunate thing about legislation of this type is that although the General Assembly may intend that there be no new personnel, the attorney generals of the state of Connecticut many times have

ruled that if we pass an act, which in the opinion of the department will require new personnel to carry it out, even though there may not be any money attached to the bill, that department is authorized to hire the necessary personnel to carry out the legislative intent in passing the act.

MR. SPEAKER:

The gentleman has moved that this item be referred to the Committee on Appropriations. Will you remark further on the motion to refer the calendar item to Appropriations.

Representative Ajello.

REPRESENTATIVE AJELLO:

The Department of Education indicates to us that there is no need to require additional personnel and plan not to do that. Now, how does that coincide with what the gentleman says the Department of Finance and Control says about it. Does the gentleman have any comment on that.

MR. SPEAKER:

The gentleman from the 122nd care to respond?

REPRESENTATIVE STEVENS:

I don't know why the Education Department said that, all I know is that the Budget Department indicated these two personnel would be required to carry it out. I am not against the bill, I think it is probably a good bill, but I think it should be considered in case Education determines after we adjourn that they do in fact, need the two people that Budget says they need.

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Gentleman from the 118th.

REPRESENTATIVE AJELLO:

It seems to me that I would agree with the gentleman's motion. If it were a practical reality. We're told that the Education Department will do this within the framework of existing operations and that it will be carried through right to the local level. When we have adopted their budget, their funds will include whatever is to be done by them as function without reference to this specific program, so that we are not going to appropriate money for this program in any event.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further on the motion to refer to the Committee on Appropriations. Gentleman from the 125th.

REPRESENTATIVE HOLDSWORTH:

We have no assurance whatsoever that if this bill is passed, that there won't be a request for additional personnel. All I'm saying is until we have real bonafide assurance other than word of mouth, then we should defeat it.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further on the motion. If not, the motion is to refer this item to the Committee on Appropriations. All those in favor will indicate by saying Aye. Opposed. The motion is lost.

REPRESENTATIVE COLLINS:

Mr. Speaker, since you did not bang the gavel, I would ask for a roll call on this matter.

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MR. SPEAKER:

The rule does not merit banging of the gavel, the rule requires announcing of the vote, which was done.

REPRESENTATIVE COLLINS:

Mr. Speaker, I appeal the ruling of the Chair, if that is your ruling, sir.

MR. SPEAKER:

That is my ruling. Gentleman from the 118th.

REPRESENTATIVE AJELLO:

Point of order, MR. Speaker. The gentleman simply made a statement and the Chair answered in response to it. Now if he cares to raise a point of order and receive a ruling from you, I think then he is proper in appealing the ruling, but until he has done that, it seems there is nothing to appeal.

MR. SPEAKER:

Does the gentleman care to rephrase his point of order.

REPRESENTATIVE COLLINS:

I asked you just previously if that was your ruling and you indicated to me that that was your ruling and I am entirely proper in appealing your ruling instead of the point of order raised by MR. Ajello.

MR. SPEAKER:

A point of order has been raised, I will recognize it as such and would indicate that the rules provide for a declaration of a vote which in fact was done from the Chair, prior to any call for a roll call or prior to raising any point of order. JF

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It is my ruling that the vote was declared and therefore that the gentleman from the 165th acted a bit slowly in his response. Will you remark on the appeal to the ruling of the Chair which has been properly seconded.

REPRESENTATIVE COLLINS:

Announcement of the vote by the Speaker has traditionally been accompanied by the banging of the gavel which in my experience in this House has been the actual point of declaration. Many times in the past experience of this House, the question of a vote has been somewhat close, the only opportunity the minority has had to challenge this particular ruling by the Speaker was in the interim between when the speaker announced the vote and the actual banging of the gavel. It is my contention by custom that the banging of the gavel is equivalent to the declaration of the vote. The rules so provide that a roll call may be ordered any time prior to the declaration of the vote. I think your ruling, sir, is wrong, I think it is not in accordance with our custom and it certainly does not give anyone the opportunity unless they are able to read your mind, what your ruling may be on a very close issue.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further on the appeal of the ruling of the Chair. Gentleman from the 118th.

REPRESENTATIVE AJELLO:

He said that the rule is that when the vote is announced that terminates the proceeding on any given issue. The banging

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of the gavel has no significance except to underscore what is taking place. In this particular instance, as any leader might do, I had my hand on my button in case it should be necessary to turn on my microphone suddenly and I noted that the Chair hesitated to give that opportunity to anyone who might want to do it before your own ruling. Now the rules are the rules, when the gentleman says you got to bang the gavel in order to make a ruling. I suppose if you forgot your gavel one day, then you would say we could not conduct any business here. The business of the house is done by the pronouncements of the Chairman who is the Speaker and the banging of the gavel is just not discussed in our rules. I uphold the ruling of the Chair and I move that when the vote be taken, it be taken by roll call.

MR. SPEAKER:

Motion is on a roll call. All those in favor indicate by saying Aye. A roll call will be ordered. Will you remark further on the appeal from the ruling of the Chair. Gentleman from the 126th.

REPRESENTATIVE SPIEGEL:

Very reluctantly I rise to support the appeal taken by Mr. Collins, however I think Mr. Collins raises a very valid point. There has been a custom of banging the gavel which declares action to be finally taken on a given manner. There are times when there is a close vote and until the Speaker declares what his interpretation or what his belief is, as to what the content of the vote was, there is no way of knowing whether or not you are going to ask for

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a roll call or support the Speaker or oppose the Speaker. Even if it was not in the rules, it would be well advised to consider it by custom that no action is final until the gavel has been banged. I urge that we support the appeal.

MR. SPEAKER:

Would you remark further on the appeal of the ruling of the Chair. Gentleman from the 112th.

REPRESENTATIVE STOLBERG:

I would point out that where custom exists, exists where there is a void in rules. In no organization I have ever been aware of, can custom supercede the specific rules of the organization. I certainly hope that the Chair is sustained.

MR. SPEAKER:

Further remarks on the appeal. Representative LaGrotta.

REPRESENTATIVE LA GROTTA:

I support the position of Representative Collins on this and I would just ask you members of the House, that while this may seem a trivial matter, in view of the fact that we are coming down the homestretch, that if the banging of the gavel can be done at the whim of the Speaker, what is the point of doing it at all.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further on the appeal. Gentleman from the 16th.

REPRESENTATIVE HANNON:

Speaking on the appeal, there are hundred of instances where

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matters of reference are made in the Hall of this House, that without objection are so ordered and those reference with objection, and at the finish of the debate are ruled upon by the Chair. The Speaker clearly said the motion was lost. I clearly support the Speaker's position.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further on the appeal. Gentleman from the 155th.

REPRESENTATIVE EDWARDS:

Yesterday an appeal was taken, I believe Representative Hannon had cause to discuss the temporary (inaudible) as Representative Sarasin, because he did not rise before the gavel struck and further reference was made to the speed of the arm descending. It was my feeling at that point, that the appeal was made on the time interval of when the representative rose and when the gavel struck.

MR. SPEAKER:

Gentleman from the 76th.

REPRESENTATIVE COATSWORTH:

I would just like to point out that while problems of this state (inaudible) for solutions, the Republicans on the other side of the aisle are debating the importance of the question of banging the gavel.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Chair will observe that the gentleman from the 122nd has spoken once on the appeal, does he wish to speak for a second time.

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Rule 3 of our rules.

REPRESENTATIVE STEVENS:

I don't believe I spoke on the appeal. My speech was prior.

I spoke on the motion to refer for Appropriations.

MR. SPEAKER:

I stand corrected. Gentleman from the 122nd.

REPRESENTATIVE STEVENS:

This particular appeal from the Chair, I don't ever think that parliamentary debate and the rules that govern it are things that we should handle lightly and I don't think anybody in this House does. This is a valid question that is raised. If you will make reference to Rule 39 of the House Rules, which is the section which has already been cited concerning declaration of a vote, you will find that on page 79, prior to the part that refers to the Speaker declaring a vote, it says if the vote is doubted by a member rising in his place, obviously our rules are written so as to give any member of this House the opportunity to question the vote which was taken before the Speaker declares it. Now how is a member to know when a vote has been declared by the Speaker. It is true, the Speaker can announce it, but there could be no time interval between the end of a vote by Ayes and Nays and the Speaker's announcement. The purpose of the gavel is established by precedent in this House is to let all members know that the vote has in fact been declared. No one has yet risen who has been in this House and cited an instance otherwise when there has been a vote put. The members who served here for many terms have risen so far in this

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debate and said the vote has always been declared with the banging of the gavel. Without the gavel, how are we to know when a vote could not be announced without giving any member the opportunity to rise and question it.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further on the bill. Gentleman from the 114th.

REPRESENTATIVE PRETE:

There was no question in this instance of how the Speaker felt the vote went and he declared the vote in the affirmative.

MR. SPEAKER:

Representative Fostello.

REPRESENTATIVE COSTELLO:

I rise to speak in support of this bill. If the ruling of the Speaker is sustained here, it will mean that in the future, the minority will many times be forced to move for a roll call vote rather than run a risk of a reoccurrence of this situation. If the Speaker would adopt or continue this custom which we discussed of providing a great pause for members of the House to rise and ask for a roll call vote or to question the vote.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further before we vote. I will announce an immediate roll call vote.

Gentleman from the 151st.

REPRESENTATIVE MORANO:

While we are waiting for people to return to the Chamber, or

if they are all here, or when they are all here, I wonder if you would please explain the vote to the Chamber.

MR. SPEAKER:

For the benefit of the members who have just returned, we are on page 4, Calendar 927, after the gentleman from the 148th moved acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill and remarked. The gentleman from the 127th moved that this item be referred to the committee on Appropriations. There was then an appropriate debate on this question as to whether or not the item should be referred to the committee on Appropriations. Following this, a vote was taken, the ears of the Chair the vote to refer the committee on Appropriations clearly lost and the Chair was not in doubt. The Chair then announced and I make reference to Rule 45 or Rule 42, that the motion to refer to the committee on Appropriations had lost. At which point, a point of order was raised which brings us to our present junction. The point of order was that there was no final action unless the Chair in fact banged the gavel, which he did not in this particular case do. Following that, we have had debate on this issue. If you wish to favor the appeal as forwarded by the gentleman from the 122nd and the 165th, you will vote yes. If you wish to sustain the Chair, you will vote no. If the members will be seated, we will proceed with the vote. The machine will be open. Has every member voted? Is your vote recorded in the fashion you wish? The machine will be locked. The Clerk will take a tally.

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CLERK:

Total number voting	157		
Necessary to sustain the appeal	79		
Those voting Yea	70	Those voting Nay	87
Absent and Not Voting	20		

MR. SPEAKER:

The appeal is lost. Will you remark further on the bill as it stands before you. Gentleman from the 165th.

REPRESENTATIVE COLLINS:

I rise in opposition to this bill for the plain and simple reason is the bill does cost money as indicated by a report we have from the Department of Finance and Control. I do not think, regardless of the merits of this bill, that within this year, that it is advisable to pass any bill which we are informed by state agency will cost money without attaching an appropriation to it or without referring it to the Appropriations Committee and getting their approval. I submit, Mr. Speaker, we should avoid this at all cost.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further on the bill. Representative Ajello.

REPRESENTATIVE AJELLO:

I would like to underscore something that I said earlier, we made it a practice to refer matters which we deem necessary to go to the Appropriations Committee for the very reason the gentleman has stated and we made a further practice as is well known by now I'm sure to place appropriation items on the foot of the calendar

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until such time as we have a revenue act which will fund them. It seems to me that it should be made clear that we are in sympathy with providing appropriations for those items which need them and the mere fact that the Department of Finance and Control tells that if they want to do this they think it could use more people and need more people, doesn't mean that the Education Department is not going to do that which it said it would do.

MR. SPEAKER:

Further remarks on the bill. Gentleman from the 148th.

REPRESENTATIVE BROWN:

This is a bill which has been done in consultation with and in conjunction with the Department of Education. I would like to remind this body that in the last General Assembly we passed a resolution to this effect. It is also true that in the powers and duties of the State Department of Education reference was made, that they desired that we make it very clear concerning this. I think that we have had very fine cooperation from the state department with this effect.

MR. SPEAKER:

Representative Sarasin:

REPRESENTATIVE SARASIN:

I rise to oppose this bill for the reasons outlined by Representative Collins and also for the reasons that appear in Section 2 of this bill. We are telling the local school boards that they will abide by all the regulations the Board of Education decides to come up with within the provisions of this

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act. We are also telling the local school board that they must appoint a coordinator and that this coordinator has a great number of obligations that must be taken care of to carry out the provisions of this act. I think we are unfair if we continue the practice as we have done in the last several sessions without following through with money.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further on the bill. Representative LaGrotta.

REPRESENTATIVE LA GROTTA:

Many times I disagree with Representative Brown, but on this one I think there is a preventive value to this bill, and I think it takes the danger of losing it by not referring it to Appropriations. My point is that rather than insist this bill go, does not go to Appropriations, that you let it go to Appropriations. I think it has merit in establishing some communication before trouble occurs.

MR. SPEAKER:

Gentleman from the 9th.

REPRESENTATIVE KLEBANOFF:

Since my intent has already been phrased, maybe I shouldn't say anything but I think I have to remark on this bill. It is rather clear that there is no appropriation in this bill. There is no intent to have the Appropriation Committee put in a position. The State Department of Education worked rather closely with us on this bill. They know our concern, they know that we are taking a careful look at their work product. They know we are

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questioning many of the positions over there. It is our hope that this bill will pass. I think it is needed, but I think even more importantly it can be done and hopefully it will be done.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further on the bill.

REPRESENTATIVE COLLINS:

I think it is significant that the Chairman of the Education Committee concluded with the fact that he was hopeful that it would not cost the state any money. If this bill passes, I am of that same type of mind, I am hopeful also. Our state has indicated that this bill will cost some \$26,000 and in spite of the fact that there is no appropriation carried with this, there is an attorney general's opinion which indicates very clearly that the lack of an appropriation does not defeat the carrying out of a bill. I will vote to reject the bill.

MR. SPEAKER:

Further remarks on the bill. If not, the question is on acceptance and passage. Will you remark further. If not, all those in favor will indicate by saying Aye. Opposed. For the benefit of the gentleman from the 122nd, the Chair is in doubt. Gentleman from the 118th.

REPRESENTATIVE AJELLO:

I move that when the vote is taken, it be taken by a roll call.

MR. SPEAKER:

The question is on a roll call. All those in favor of a roll

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call, indicate by saying Aye. A roll call will be ordered.

The Clerk has business to read in.

CLERK:

Favorable reports. Joint Standing Committee. Labor.
Substitute for House Bill 7427 - An Act Concerning Unemployment
Benefits Eligibility Conditions for Involuntary Retired Employees.

MR. SPEAKER:

Tabled for the calendar and printing.

CLERK:

Favorable, Substitute Report from Labor. Substitute for
House Bill 6659 - An Act Concerning the Qualifications of the
Public Member of the State Board of Mediation and Arbitration.

MR. SPEAKER:

Tabled for the calendar and printing.

Will you remark further on the bill. If not, let me
announce an immediate roll call.

Representative Clark of the 14th.

REPRESENTATIVE CLARK:

It doesn't say that you have to hire new personnel, I suggest
we look at the bill closely. It would appear to me that there has
been no money appropriated, going to be appropriated or in the
budget for the extra help. This seems like a good bill to me.

MR. SPEAKER:

Further remark on the bill. Representative Fox.

REPRESENTATIVE FOX:

I would appreciate it if you would emphasize this group that

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what we are voting on now is not the merits of this bill. We are voting on whether or not this should be referred to the Appropriations Committee because it involves money. ad

MR. SPEAKER:

Respectfully, I would suggest to the gentleman from Greenwich, that the question of referral was disposed of on the prior vote and we now are considering the bill itself.

REPRESENTATIVE FOX:

Thank you for correcting me. I would then say that since the distinguished Chairman of the Education Committee says that all we are attempting to do is put a label on a person and not to cost any money, I venture to say that if someone in the state Department of Education is going to coordinate 175 or whatever there are, if this can be done merely by labeling someone, I would suggest that that person is not doing a job of work and hasn't got a job to do now, it should have been eliminated.

MR. SPEAKER:

Are we prepared to vote. The machine will be open. Has every member voted. Is your vote recorded in the fashion you wish. The machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

CLERK:

Total number voting	158
Necessary for passage	80
Yea 89	Nay 69
Absent and Not Voting	19

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The bill is passed.

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CLERK:

Returning to Calendar 926, House Bill 5218 - An Act Including Wetlands in Open Space Land Classification. File 973.

MR. SPEAKER:

Representative Ciampi.

REPRESENTATIVE CIAMPI:

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

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark.

REPRESENTATIVE CIAMPI:

I rise in support of House Bill 5218. Far too often in the past our wetlands have been neglected and as a consequence our wetlands have been disappearing as rapidly as we have preserved other facts of natural environment. As our marshes have disappeared so have the birds, reptiles which live in and around the marshes. This bill is essential to our efforts to preserve the wetlands. We will accept at least 3 significant changes. One, we will be provided tax credit for preservation of wetlands just as we are presently providing for the preservation of other open spaces. Second, we will be availing state and federal grants for the preservation of our wetlands and third, we will be imposing the same restrictions on the use of wetlands which are presently enforced regarding use of other open spaces. This is a good bill and a very important bill. I urge the member to support it.

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Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to allow the Town of Ridgefield to qualify for a state grant which the town is ineligible for because they had failed to file preliminary plans and specifications for the work on these two schools. The bill provides that they, that the town must now go through all the steps they should have gone through originally. I think it's a good bill to obviate a possible injustice to the Town of Ridgefield and I move its passage.

THE SPEAKER:

Further remarks on the bill? If not, all those in favor of Rep. Camp's bill for the session, indicate by saying aye. Opposed? The bill is PASSED.

THE CLERK:

On page 38, a disagreeing action, Calendar No. 927, substitute for H. B. No. 5445, An Act Concerning the Coordination of Group Relations in the Public School System and Appointment of Coordinators of Group Relations by Boards of Education, as amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A".

MR. BROWN (148th):

Mr. Speaker, I move for acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill in concurrence with the Senate.

THE SPEAKER:

Will you remark?

MR. BROWN (148th):

Mr. Speaker, there was an amendment to a bill that was previously passed by the House. It was noticed that there was some language that was very ambiguous in terms of the selection of personnel to carry out the intent of the bill. This bill simply, this amendment simply clears up any ambiguity

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in the matter. I move its adoption.

THE SPEAKER:

Will you remark further on Senate Amendment Schedule "A". If not, all those in favor indicate by saying aye. Opposed? Senate "A" is ADOPTED.

MR. BROWN (148th):

I move adoption of the bill, Mr. Speaker, in concurrence.

THE SPEAKER:

The question is on acceptance and passage as amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A". Further remarks?

MR. BROWN (148th):

Mr. Speaker, this bill, which was previously passed by the House, and any ambiguity now being cleared up, I move its passage.

THE SPEAKER:

Further remarks on the bill as amended? If not, all those in favor indicate by saying aye. Opposed? The bill is PASSED.

THE CLERK:

On page 38, Calendar No. 934, substitute for H. B. No. 7311, An Act Concerning Changing the Provisions for the Teaching of Citizenship in Public Schools, Removing the Requirement that Such Courses be Offered in the State Colleges and Providing a Committee to Develop Materials, as amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A".

MR. STOLBERG (112th):

Mr. Speaker, I move acceptance of Senate Amendment Schedule "A".

THE SPEAKER:

Will you remark?

MR. STOLBERG (112th):

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We know that they'll carry it out and we'll look forward to the report. I urge adoption of the amendment.

THE CHAIR:

Question is on the amendment. Will you remark further? If not, all those in favor of adopting the amendment signify by saying, "aye". Opposed, "nay". The ayes have it. The amendment is adopted. Proceed with the bill.

SENATOR MONDANI:

I move the acceptance of the bill as amended. The previous remarks apply, sir.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark further? If not, the question is on passage of the bill, as amended, by Senate Amendment Schedule A. All those in favor signify by saying, "aye". Opposed, "nay". The bill is passed.

THE CLERK:

CAL. NO. 865. File No. 987. Favorable report of the joint committee on Education. Substitute for House Bill 5445. An Act Concerning the Coordination of Group Relations in the Public School System and Appointment of Coordinators of Group Relations by Boards of Education.

SENATOR MONDANI:

I move acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill. The clerk has an amendment. I move adoption of the amendment. Mr. President, may I ask if we may waive the reading of the amendment?

THE CHAIR:

I'm sure it will be granted without objection.

SENATOR MONDANI:

Mr. President, the amendment adds into Section 2 of the Act, that, they

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may appoint or designate a coordinator of inter group relations. Later on, it says, that it could be a guidance councilor or staff member, or teacher. The third part of the amendment, covers the last section of the act, which requires that prior to being certified, teachers must successfully complete a program in inter group relations. We have put a date of July 1, 1973 on this, in as much as, the Act wouldn't become effective until this October. And the commission on Higher Ed, the Teachers Certification Advisory Board and Commission on Human Relations, are directed in this act to develop the program and they just wouldn't have the time to get it in. And have the students enroll. So. this just delays that. I urge adoption of the amendment.

THE CHAIR:

Question is on adoption of the amendment. Will you remark further?

SENATOR DOWD:

Mr. President, very briefly, just to rise to support the amendment. And to congratulate my distinguished colleague Senator Mondani and Hammer for putting some sense in order in a very necessary bill. We all agree, that those who teach our youngsters, should have more skills than they have today and the whole difficult and sensitive area of group relations. I think you did it in a very sensible way and I congratulate you for it.

THE CHAIR:

Question is on the amendment. Will you remark further? If not, all those in favor of adoption of the amendment, signify by saying, "aye". Opposed, "nay". The amendment is adopted.

SENATOR MONDANI:

Mr. President, I move acceptance of the bill, as amended by Senate Amendment Schedule A. This bill provides that the State Department of

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Education in each public school system, appoint a coordinator of group relations in human relations. It is an important area. It will go a long way to help aid solving the problems that we're facing in many of our communities. It's a progressive bill. It's a necessary bill and I urge adoption.

THE CHAIR:

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

THE CLERK:

CAL. NO. 925. File 1070. Favorable report of the joint committee on Public Health and Safety. Substitute House Bill 6511. An Act Concerning the Definition of Podiatry.

SENATOR PAC:

Mr. President, I move acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill. The Clerk has an amendment. I move adoption.

THE CLERK:

In line 9, after the word feet and before the comma insert the following: including all structures of the forefoot forward of the tarsal bones, but excluding operations on the bones of the tarsus.

SENATOR PAC:

Mr. President, Podiatrists may presently perform minor surgery and upon and including the phalagus but limited to the structures of the foot that are superficial to the inner facia. Which means, it can go no deeper than the outer skin, than the tissue that's underneath the outer skin.

This bill would permit them to exxpand their area of surgery a little further. It would permit them to perform minor surgery on the forefoot, for-