

HR 5415

PA 735

1971

Judiciary 435, 501-502

House 4966

Senate 3403

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**JOINT  
STANDING  
COMMITTEE  
HEARINGS**

**JUDICIARY**

**PART 2  
393-688**

**1971**

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BC

THURSDAY

JUDICIARY COMMITTEEFEBRUARY 25, 1971

any controversy concerning them. So that the Connecticut Bankers Association urges your careful consideration and approval of H.B. #7249. Thank you.

Sen Jackson: Thank you. Doctor Thayer to be followed by Dale Can Winkle.

Dr. Thayer: Mr. Chairman. Doctor Thayer representing. I am going to talk about H.B. #5415 and again I am representing the State Medical Society in the same position.

H.B. #5415 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE PERFORMANCE OF AUTOPSIES.

House Bill No. 5415, "An Act Concerning the Performance of Autopsies," by imposing a time limitation, would very seriously restrict the efforts of the chief medical examiner in his investigations into sudden and suspicious death occurring in the State of Connecticut.

The chief medical examiner is very much concerned with the interests and welfare of the next-of-kin of an individual who has died under unusual circumstances. They should be adequately and properly informed of the reasons and of the necessities for the performance of a post-mortem examination. On the other hand, he is aware that circumstances occur which mandate the prompt initiation of an investigation.

An autopsy performed within a reasonably short period of time after a seemingly suspicious death has occurred may prevent a fruitless police investigation by establishing a natural cause of death. Conversely, a sudden, unexpected death, without obvious signs of violence, may turn out to have been the result of a criminal act, such as manual strangulation.

In instances where a child under one year of age is found dead in a crib, the possibility that an infectious disease may have caused death, necessitates that a post-mortem examination be done within a short period of time. This will allay the justified fears of a policeman or fireman who has attempted mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

For these reasons, the chief medical examiner, while recognizing the very great importance of informing relatives and of not proceeding perfunctorily, wishes to go on record as being opposed to the creation of a time limit before an autopsy under Section 530 (b) may be initiated.

I thank you for your attention and I would like to state the Doctor Porazon is also here with me to speak on the same Bill and subject.

## STATEMENT TO BE READ BEFORE

JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

February 25, 1971

11:00 A.M.

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**CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS  
1971**

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

Saturday, June 5, 1971

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aisle, I move to suspension of the rules and passage of the one star consent items on Today's Consent Calendar.

MR. SPEAKER:

Please proceed.

MR. SARASIN:

Calendar no. 1390 - Substitute for House Bill 6714 - An Act Concerning the Investment and Management of State Funds. File 1626

Calendar no. 1399 - Substitute for House Bill 5627 - An Act Creating a Summary Proceeding for Uninsured Motorists. File 1616.

Calendar no. 1403 - Substitute for House Bill 685 - An Act Concerning Approval of Subdivision Plans. File 1609.

Calendar no. 1407 - Substitute for House Bill 6210 - An Act Concerning Interest. File 1627.

Calendar no. 1412 - Substitute for House Bill 5415 - An Act Concerning the Performance of Autopsies. File 1632.

Calendar no. 1413 - House Bill 5709 - An Act Concerning Acquisition of Land Adjacent to Highway for Agriculture and Natural Resources Purposes. File 1630.

Calendar no. 1417 - Substitute for House Bill 5049 - An Act Concerning the Assessment and Taxation of New Real Estate Construction. File 1628.

Calendar no. 1464 - Substitute for House Bill 8799 - An Act Concerning the Definition of Manufacturers Under the Motor Vehicle Statutes. File 1640.

Calendar no. 1466 - House Bill 9246 - An Act Granting a Right-of-way Across Property of the State Police Barracks in

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File 1186; Cal. 643, House Bill 6904, File 1582; Cal. 1150, House Bill 7901  
File 1342; Cal. 1192, House Bill 7148, File 1334; Cal. 1204, House Bill 7256  
File 1393; Cal. 1214, House Bill 7014, File 1423; Cal. 1226, House Bill 8914  
File 1073; Cal. 1257, House Bill 7048, File 1464; Cal. 1262, House Bill 8271  
File 1474; Cal. 1267, House Bill 9020, File 1457; Cal. 1271, House Bill 5049  
File 1628; Cal. 1272, House Bill 5415, File 1632; Cal. 1273, House Bill 5627  
File 1616; Cal. 1274, House Bill 5709, File 1630; Cal. 1275, House Bill 5714  
File 1575; Cal. 1276, House Bill 5834, File 1569; Cal. 1277, House Bill 5938  
File 1585; Cal. 1278, House Bill 6210, File 1627; Cal. 1279, House Bill 6367  
File 1565; Cal. 1280, House Bill 6561, File 1555; Cal. 1281, House Bill 6674  
File 1586; Cal. 1285, House Bill 7077, File 1556; Cal. 1287, House Bill 8272  
File 1566; Cal. 1289, House Bill 8578, File 1579; Cal. 1290, House Bill 8799  
File 1640; Cal. 1293, House Bill 9246, File 1638; Cal. 1294, House Bill 9256  
File 1637; Cal. 1295, House Bill 9001, File 737; Cal. 629, House Bill 7642  
File 638; Cal. 721, House Bill 7802, File 1127; Cal. 755, House Bill 8761  
File 773; Cal. 802, House Bill 8658, File 906; Cal. 964, House Bill 6197  
File 1359; Cal. 975, House Bill 7609, File 876; Cal. 990, House Bill 8561  
File 1172; Cal. 1041, House Bill 9196, File 1232.

Mr. President, I move for the adoption of all those bills, I move for suspension of the rules, first of all, for consideration of those which were not single starred or were not double starred rather.

THE CHAIR:

All those in favor of suspension of the rules indicate by saying, "aye"  
All those opposed? Suspension is granted.

SENATOR CALDWELL: