

SB 1625

PA 784

1971

Senate 2880, 2889

House 5568

Finance 938, 948-950

S-82
CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE

PROCEEDINGS
1971

VOL. 14
PART 7
2874-3413

THE CLERK:

The following bills were passed on a Consent Motion by Senator Caldwell with the approval of the Minority Leader;

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY: Substitute House Bill 8682. House Bill 5854. JUDICIARY: Substitute House Bill 7495. House Bill 5662; Substitute House Bill 851. GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY: Senate Bill 652; Senate Bill 1145; JUDICIARY Senate Bill 1788; Senate Bill 805; Substitute Senate Bill 1093; Substitute Senate Bill 868; Substitute Senate Bill 1441; BANKS AND REGULATED ACTIVITIES: Substitute Senate Bill 467; GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY: Senate Bill 1833; JUDICIARY Substitute Senate Bill 1296; TRANSPORTATION: Senate Bill 1115; Substitute Senate Bill 255; ELECTIONS: Substitute Senate Bill 508; JUDICIARY: Substitute Senate Bill 1022; Substitute Senate Bill 1543; TRANSPORTATION: Substitute Senate Bill 1807; JUDICIARY Substitute Senate Bill 550; substitute senate bill 823; JUDICIARY: Senate Bill 898. TRANSPORTATION Substitute Senate Bill 807; FINANCE: Substitute Senate Bill 1576; Senate Bill 1570; Substitute Senate Bill 1572; Substitute Senate Bill 1549; Substitute Senate Bill 1549; Substitute Senate Bill 1625; Substitute Senate Bill 1045; TRANSPORTATION: Substitute Senate Bill 815; EDUCATION: Substitute Senate Bill 1840; GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY: House Bill 6870; House Bill 9249; INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE: House Bill 6995; GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY: House Bill 9242.

THE CHAIR:

Is there any objection to the passage of the bills, as called by the Clerk? If not, Senator Fauliso, do you move the passage of all said bills?

izing Investment of State Civil List Funds; Cal. 1074, File 1521, Substitute Senate Bill 1549. An Act Requireing the Preparation of Tropical and Chornological Indexing of Legal Opinions Issued by the Office of The Attorney General. On page 12, Cal. 1100, File 1301, House Bill 6870. An Act Concerninc A centralized Microfilm Service for State Agencies. Cal. 1106, File 1260, House Bill 9249, An Act Concerning a Tax Refund to Richard Stowrofski of the City Of New Britain. Page 13, Cal. 1109, File 1551, Substitute Senate Bill 1625. An act concerning exemptions of Municipalities from Payment of Gasoline Tax for Governmental Purposes. Page 14, Cal. 1118, File 1591, Substitute Senate Bill 1045, An Act Concerning Tax Payments Applicable to Oldest Obligations on Specific Property. Page 17, Cal. 1144, File 3553, House Bill 6995, An Act Concerning the Charter of Security of Connecticut Life Insurance Company; Page 21, Cal. 1167, File on desk, Substitute Senate Bill 815, An Act Concerning Motor Carrier Property for Higher Interstate Commerce. Page 22, Cal. 1178, File on desk, Raised Bill 1840. An Act Validating late application for School Construction Grants.

THE CLERK:

Mr. Majority Leader, may the Clerk interrupt, to note a technical error in the bill, just for the record? On Bill 1840, in line 22, Clerk has been shown that the word, "late appreciation" is there and apparently it should be "application". So I've made that correction.

SENATOR CALDWELL:

That's correct. On page 36, Cal. 954, File 1113, House Bill 9242. An Act Naming the Vocational Technical School of Milford; I move that suspension of the rules for all single starred items and no starred items as well.

THE CLERK:

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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
1971**

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PART 13
5555-6226**

Tuesday, June 8, 1971

14.

MBS

Officers Observe Dogs Attacking Deer, file 653.

Calendar No. 1578, Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1022.
An Act Concerning Appointment to Fill a Vacancy in Judicial
Office, file 1602.

Calendar No. 1579, Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1045.
An Act Concerning Tax Payments Applicable to Oldest Obligation
on Specific Property, file 1591

Calendar No. 1581, Senate Bill No. 1115, An Act Concerning
Removal of Destruction of signs, file 1516.

Calendar No. 1582, Senate Bill No. 1145. An Act Requiring
State Department Heads to File Bills Earlier, file 1538.

Calendar No. 1585, Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1296,
An Act Concerning the Penalty for Assaulting a Police Officer
or Fireman, file 1511.

On page 4, Calendar No. 1591, Substitute for Senate Bill
No. 1572, An Act Concerning Standardizing the Investment of
State Civil List Funds, file 1506.

Calendar No. 1592, Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1573.
An Act Concerning State Referee Approval of Certain Negotiated
Condemnations, file 1520.

Calendar No. 1595, Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1625. An
Act Concerning Exemption of Municipalities from Payment of
Gasoline Tax for Governmental Purposes, file 1551.

On page 5, Calendar No. 1596, Senate Bill No. 1788, An
Act Concerning Discharge of Sewage, Directly or Indirectly,

**JOINT
STANDING
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**PART 3
727-1114**

1971

Rep. Violette: Thank you Rep. Stevens, any questions from the committee?

Rep. Holdridge, I have two bills I would like to register in favor of, there will be other speakers here later SB 1625. HB 8592 .

1625

Rep. Violette; thank you Rep. Holdridge.

8592

Mr. John Tarrant, Tax Department: Thank you Mr. Chairman, I am sorry to be a little late, I took the New Haven Railroad this morning. I have a short testimony on about a dozen of these bills, and I would go through them swiftly, and leave a copy with the stenographer and with you gentlemen here so that we won't have to go into too much detail.

1550

Bill 1550. We support this bill. This type of protection is badly needed. Corporations go out of business with few, if any, assets and no personal liability leaving us with substantial uncollectible corporation and sales taxes. In fact, one hundred dollars seems too little.

1555

Bill 1555. I SHOULD think we would need to know what is defined as a bad check. Here is a smattering of our experiences in the Tax Department: (1) failed to sign, (2) failed to enter amount, (3) failed to enter anything, (4) post dating, (5) no account, (6) insufficient funds, (7) misaddressed in order to gain time, (8) incorrect payee. And many other devices to delay payment

1569

These situations are all "bad" checks as far as we are concerned, but they just may be inadvertent.

907

Bill 1569. This bill fills a definite need; there have been abuses' by higher salaried people of converting these awards to themselves.

1625

Bill 907. Cost of this bill \$1.75 million annual base (a \$100 million annual collection from the motor fuels tax).

1633

Bill 1625. There have been other bills of this nature heard by the Committee and we support them.

1690

Bill 1633. With the present statutory income limitations we have about 44,000 eligibles with an annual cost of \$4 million, This bil, by removing the means test entirely, would jump the costs considerably. There are 289,000 people in this state 65 or over. Wtith no income limitation eligibles would increase by at least 100,000 for an additional cost of \$10 million annually.

8536

8587

8690

8721

8474

Bill 1690. About 1/8 of the female population of marriagiable age, are widows. That would mean about 185,000 in Connecticut but about 2/3rds of these are 65 or over leaving about 60,000 additional eligibles; so since the revenue cost has been running for town reimbursements at roughly the rate of one million dollars for each 10,000 eligivles, this bill would cost about \$6 million annually. It should be noted, however, that a widow 65 or over under the present law is eligible if her income does not exceed \$3,000 This bill raises that to \$5,000, so actually all 60,000 widows would choose to qualify as widows rather than persons aged 65

Rep. Holdsworth. Thank you Mr. Chairman, gentlemen of the Committee. I would like to speak very briefly on 2 bills, on is SB 1625, which would save the each and every municipality and the state, monies by eliminating, by providing exemption of the municipalities from gasoline tax, instead of having them to apply for tax refunds. It certainly doesn't seem necessary to have our municipalities go through the procedures of applying for the refund, and having the state also to check the thing out and likewise have to make the refund. This would just simplify the whole process, and would eliminate this unnecessary bookkeeping procedure. I would also like to speak on HB 8761 AN ACT CONCERNING TAX RELIEF FOR ELDERLY PERSONS WHO'S PROPERTY IS HELD IN TRUST. There are many people, aged people who are trying to provide for future by, providing, by placing their properties in trust. When they do so, they are not aware that they are excluded from the privilege of having a rebate on their taxes. They are allowed a I believe a \$1,000 and this when they put their property in trust, they are no longer eligible for this. This bill would provide relief for the elderly persons who's property held in trust, so they are eligible the same as if the property was in their name, and was not in trust with their life use of the particular property. Thank you.

SB1625

HB 8761

George Simpson: I AM Executive Secretary of the Connecticut Farm Bureau Association. In order to make my comments brief I would support the statement relative to SB 1551, presented to the committee by Robert Josephy, relative to withdrawing the or reference to the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station from that particular bill. Also, Mr. Chairman, I think that the SB 1551, also has some affect upon the College of Agriculture the University of Connecticut, relative to a number of trust funds which it has and also some of the self-supporting activities carried on by its farm operation in which some of those funds are paid out in the form of student a employment, to the tune of about \$30,000. There are also some other functions of the college of agriculture that could be very seriously affected by this particular bill, due to the fact, that I do not have the details this morning I would like permission to submit a later statement to the committee relative to this matter. Now, on one other bill which is HB 6836, AN ACT CONCERNING EXEMPTION FROM LIVESTOCK, POULTRY AND FARM MACHINERY, this particular bill, makes one rather simple change in the act. I think that when we doubt that at the time when or of the Acts original passage, and this is Section 12-91, which is being affected, that anyone could visualize the problem that might be created when a bonafied farm following the death of its owner and held in trust for its surviving family, would be excluded from the provisions, of this section of our statutes. I am talking about 12-91, yet this has happened. We have had some situations in which the father having passed away, left the farm in trust to his wife and children, they continued to operate

SB 1551

HB 6836

the farm as it has been operated in the past, and yet with the loss of the head of the family and the farm manager, and not only hard pressed due to this particular factor, but loss of his management ability as well, they also find that they are excluded from this particular section of our state statutes. This particular bill would correct this matter, by just inserting the word "held in trust for" any farmer. This bill has been heard before the Committee on Environment, received a favorable from that particular committee, found its way onto the calendar for the Finance Committee, discovered that it hadn't had an opportunity to consider it. So, it already has a favorable report by one committee and we hope that you might see fit to do the same. Thank you.

Warren Thrall, a farmer from Windsor. Also, a Director of the Board of Control of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. I am opposed to the inclusion of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station in the title of Bill 1551. 1551
It seems to me the inclusion of this institution is a technical matter. However, the effect to do this change would be to cost the state at least one and a half million dollars, and gain nothing in so far as I can see. Thank you.

Rep. Violette: Thank you Mr. Thrall. Any questions from the Committee? Our next speaker J. Alfred Clark.

J. Alfred Clark, First Selectman of the Town of Ledyard. I would like to speak in favor of bill number 1625.years ago, the 1625
lawmakers here passed a bill whereby municipalities were not subject to taxing of gas and so forth, used by the municipalities. But, in order to get your, in lieu of taxes, you had to file on the following quarter, the gas that you have used, or the tax money that you have used. I think it would be much more appropriate if the towns were issued a number whereby the gas when it was purchased, the seller would issue a number to this state, showing the number of gallons that the town would be exempt on. Eliminating a lot of paper work. I'm not the best prepared on this thing, I just sort of copied the bill and I was just, I asked Mr. Holdridge and Mr. Crafts to put it in. We were notified in a change of this bill last year, about 6 months after the bill went into effect. We were given the opportunity to pick up our exemptions, back one year. But, with the paper work involved with the State of Connecticut, I will tell you, it took a fleet of bookkeepers and so forth, to go back and recheck, and check with all the purchase orders and everything to do it. I think if the thing was set up with a tax exemption number for each municipality, were they would show the number of gallons purchased, send those receipts through to the state of Connecticut, they would just be exempt, there would be no tax charged by the firms selling the gas, in anyway. Just exempt the whole tax, right off, and not wait. The state wouldn't have to reimburse as they do now either. Thank you.

Rep. Violette: Thank you sir. Any questions from the committee?

Rep. Comstock: Mr. Clark, do you have your own gas tank? For the town of Ledyard?

Mr. Clark: Yes,

Rep. Comstock: In other words you buy it by bulk.

Mr. Clark: We buy it by bulk, and only equipment used in the functions of the town, take gas out of it. I mean no private cars, no cars for the individuals that work for the town, officials or anything do not use it.

Rep. Comstock: Selectman don't get any benefits....

Mr. Clark: No.

Rep. Comstock: No, I was just wondering whether you had a bulk tank or whether you purchased it from different gas stations, which some municipalities do.

Mr. Clark: No, we have a bulk tank, everything brought in we in fact, we have bulk tank for both regular gas, high test gas, and the kerosene that we use for the big tractors and stuff.

Rep. Violette: Thank you Mr. Clark. Our next speaker is David Bawer.

David Bawer, I am the Town Manager in Wethersfield, and I am here in both that capacity and representing the Connecticut Conference of Mayors. I would like to talk to 2 bills, 8475, introduced by Representative Truex, and Kablik, concerning state transfer district or multi-town purposes. As the committee is aware, the law presently provides for a state grants for several special purpose districts, for such things as health, and consideration there are other cases where that exists in the state law. However, it would be, or to be eligible, you must set up, a special district for that purpose, which means that the individual towns and cities, lose direct control of the function. It would seem to us that the purpose of this kind of legislation is to encourage cooperative effort. And, we would ask that this bill be given favorable consideration. This would provide state grants in the case of such cooperative effort, on the same basis as you would presently receive through a district forum. But, the advantage here is that the individual town does not lose the control that they have now over the function by joining in a cooperative effort. On bill number 8536, AN ACT CONCERNING ASSESSMENT OF OPEN SPACE, this bill purposes an assessment of no more than \$100 on any one tract of open space land, speaking for the Conference again, we have absolutely no quarrel with the idea, of reduction to the assessment for open space land.

8475

8536