

HB 7901

PR 858

1971

House 4214-4222, 6126-6128 (12)

Senate 3223-3225, 3403-3404 (5)

Public Health and Safety 453-455, 465 (4)

HB 7901

PA 858

1971

House 4214-4222, 6126-6128 (12)

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Public Health and Safety 453-455, 465 (4)

**H-116**

**CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS  
1971**

**VOL. 14  
PART 9  
3878-4343**

Tuesday, June 1, 1971

72.

THE CLERK:

Cal. 1204, Sub. for H.B. 7495. AN ACT CONCERNING  
RETIREMENT ALLOWANCES OF PROBATE COURT JUDGES AND EMPLOYEES.

THE SPEAKER:

Representative Simons from the 139th.

MRS. SIMONS: (139th)

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

THE SPEAKER:

Will you remark.

MRS. SIMONS: (139th)

Mr. Speaker, this changes the formula for the retirement  
fund of the Probate Court judges and employees. The formula  
which is now now one-twelfth of two thirds will be changed to  
one-twelfth of two percent of his average final compensation,  
for each year of credit service.

THE SPEAKER:

Further remarks on the bill. If not, all those in favor  
will indicate by saying AYE. Opposed. THE BILL IS PASSED.

THE CLERK:

Page 12, Cal. 1205, Sub. for H.B. 7901. AN ACT RELATING  
TO ENCOURAGING PERSONS TO SEEK TREATMENT FOR DRUG DEPENDENCE.

THE SPEAKER:

The Chair recognizes Colonel Bingham of the 157th.

MR. BINGHAM: (157th)

Mr. Speaker, I move acceptance of the Joint Committee's

roc

Tuesday, June 1, 1971

73.

favorable report and passage of the bill.

THE SPEAKER:

Will you remark.

MR. BINGHAM: (157th)

Mr. Speaker, this bill would allow any adult or minor addicted to drugs to seek treatment or rehabilitation from any medical practitioner<sup>er</sup> or hospital with the stipulation that such treatment shall not be reported to any law enforcement officer or agency or to the minor's parents or legal guardian without the consent of the minor. This information shall not be admissible as evidence in court, grand jury or administrative proceedings unless authorized by the person seeking the treatment. It further prohibits a medical practitioner, hospital or other person receiving treatment from reporting or disclosing the name of any person receiving treatment to any law enforcement officer or agency. It allows the medical practitioner to treat a drug dependent person on either an in-patient or out-patient basis using any drug or medicine Federally authorized. It requires quarterly report from such persons giving treatment to the Drug Advisory Council provided the name and address of the person treated shall not appear on the report. There is a penalty for those who violate this law. Mr. Speaker, this is another of the bills which will help persons to seek treatment for drug dependence while keeping their anonymity. Mr. Speaker, this is a good bill and I urge its passage.

THE SPEAKER:

Further remarks on the bill. Representative Neivas.

roc

Tuesday, June 1, 1971

74.

MR. NEVAS: (144th)

Mr. Speaker, the Clerk has an amendment.

THE CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule "A", offered by Mr. Nevas of the 144th. Delete Section 6. In line 128, change Sec. 7 to Sec. 6. Add a new Sec. 7, as follows: "A minor shall be personally liable for all costs and expenses for services afforded him at his request under this Act."

THE SPEAKER:

Question is on adoption of Amendment Schedule "A".

Will you remark.

MR. NEVAS: (144th)

Mr. Speaker, the amendment does two things. First it deletes the penalty section. The reason for that is that it seems to me in reading this bill that basically would apply to physicians and if we want the cooperation of the physician in implementing this bill and making it work then it hardly behooves us to threaten them or to have them under the threat of a jail sentence as this now provides. It provides for a one hundred dollar fine or imprisonment for not more than 30 days. I think that what we want to do is to enlist the physicians of this state and the hospitals and treatment centers in helping this bill and to have such a penalty in there would inhibit it. The new section would make a minor liable for any expenses or costs that are incurred as a result of treatment which he requests under the Act. An again I think this will help to implement the

roc

Tuesday, June 1, 1971

75.

bill because if, in fact, we are going to ask hospitals and treatment centers and physicians to treat people and to help them under this Act and if, in fact, they are under a prohibition against telling the parents of the minor, then who in fact is going to pay the cost of this. I think it is only fair and equitable that the minors who request treatment be responsible for the cost and expenses that incur.

THE SPEAKER:

Question is on adoption of Schedule "A". Will you remark further. Representative Bingham.

MR. BINGHAM: (157th)

Mr. Speaker, the amendment is a good amendment and I support its passage.

THE SPEAKER:

Further remarks on the amendment. If not, all those in favor indicate by saying AYE. Opposed. "A" is ADOPTED and it is ruled technical. The gentleman from the 157th.

MR. BINGHAM: (157th)

Mr. Speaker, I move passage of the bill as amended. The bill has been explained before, Mr. Speaker, and the amendment does not materially change the bill.

THE SPEAKER:

Further remarks on the bill as amended. Representative Rose from the 69th.

MR. ROSE: (69th)

Mr. Speaker, if I may a question to Rep. Bingham. As

Tuesday, June 1, 1971

76.

I read this bill, it would indicate to me that if a minor or any person who is under drug treatment, secretly going on, would this knowledge, this knowledge would not be admissible in any action in case this person creates some violence to society. Is that correct.

MR. BINGHAM: (157th)

Mr. Speaker, this does not mean that a person cannot be prosecuted. This bill is to encourage people who are drug addicted, who are fearful of being prosecuted merely because they are being treated, will protect them and permit them to go and be treated by a physician and not be prosecuted by reason of the fact that they are seeking treatment.

MR. ROSE: (69th)

Mr. Speaker, I would pursue the question a little further. I believe my question is - would there, the fact that this person has had medical treatment and a doctor had a record of it himself, that in the event of an action by this person creating some violence in our society, the doctor would not be allowed to use this evidence in a court as evidence that a person is addict. This is the problem. It seems to me that society should be able to have the knowledge of whether or not a person is a drug addict in the event there is some crime against society committed.

MR. BINGHAM: (157th)

Mr. Speaker, if a person is arrested for some crime or violence against society certainly that person may be prosecuted.

roc

Tuesday, June 1, 1971

77/

roc

If the person violates the drug statute and is found in possession or selling, that person is in violation. All this bill does, Mr. Speaker, is to encourage persons to seek drug treatment before they violate the law. This is the famous Iowa Statute and I urge its passage, Mr. Speaker.

THE SPEAKER:

Further remarks on the bill as amended. Rep. Clarke.

MRS. CLARKE: (158th)

I support this bill as amended. I think this is just what we have to encourage so that those who need help will seek it without fear of exposure.

THE SPEAKER:

Will you remark further. Rep. Yacavone.

MRS. YACAVONE: (17th)

Mr. Speaker, question, through you, please. Is this provision for anti-enmity may be in conflict with the provision that I understand is to be in the Omnibus Drug Bill which would require the reporting of the names, address and further information to the Commissioner of Mental Health.

MR. BINGHAM: (157th)

Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that this will not conflict with the Omnibus Drug Bill.

MRS. YACAVONE: (17th)

I support the bill and I support the anti-enmity provision but I think it is going to be difficult in identifying persons without the name and I would have no objection to the

Tuesday, June 1, 1971

78.

name if it is held in the strictest of confidence by the Department of Mental Health. I favor passage of the bill.

THE SPEAKER:

Representative Fabrizio of the 147th.

MR. FABRIZIO: (147th)

Mr. Speaker, I also support this bill. I have heard of a few instances where some drug addicts would not go in for a cure because they were afraid of obtaining a record which would be on their record all during their lives and then not be able to obtain a good position at a later date. So they would not go in for a cure. They came to me as a matter of fact to see what I could do about this and I think this is a very, very good bill and I urge its passage.

THE SPEAKER:

Will you remark further on the bill as amended. Representative Pearson.

MRS. PEARSON: (128th)

Mr. Speaker, I do have some strong feeling about what we would be doing to some of the families in the State of Connecticut. I think in Sec. 2, it appears to me that we are creating a wider gap between parents and children and this is the thing that we are trying not to do. I merely wish to point this out. Not in any particular objection myself personally to this bill but I have received many objections from parents in the areas from which I come, specifically from the area of Fairfield

Tuesday, June 1, 1971

79.

roc

County who have been working very much with these children and with these problems but do have this objection to our separating the families. The children that are drug addicted are going to have to face the fact some day that they have to tell their parents and this is the first thing they are going to have to face up to. The parents will eventually find out. I merely wish to point this out because I have received some objections. The concept of the bill, I think, is good but I do think that many people are opposed to separating the parents from the children and that we are widening this gap.

THE SPEAKER:

Will you remark further on the bill as amended.

Representative Sarasin.

MR. SARASIN: (95th)

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the bill and for the very reason that the Rep. from Stratford has objected to. I think that we have got to give the kids a place to turn and at the present time, obviously, the parents are not answering the need for the problems of the children who are or who are about to become addicted to drugs. This bill goes a long way in that direction and it is long overdue and I am very pleased to support it. It is part of our drug package and it will work.

THE SPEAKER:

Further remarks. Representative Morris.

MR. MORRIS: (111th)

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the bill and the gentle-

Tuesday, June 1, 1971

80.

roc

man reporting out the bill. I think it is a move in the right direction. I can't really cotton to the amendment too well but I can accept the amendment and I will support the bill.

THE SPEAKER:

Further remarks before we vote. Question is on acceptance and passage as amended by House Amendment Schedule "A". All those in favor indicate by saying AYE. Opposed. The bill is PASSED.

THE CLERK:

Cal. 1209, Sub. for S.B. 651. AN ACT CONCERNING EXECUTIVE SESSION OF ADMINISTRATIVE BOARDS, AGENCIES AND OTHERS, AS AMENDED BY Senate Amendment Schedule "A".

THE SPEAKER:

Representative Leary of the 43rd.

MR. LEARY: (43rd)

Mr. Speaker, I move for acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill as amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A", in concurrence with the Senate.

THE SPEAKER:

Will you remark.

MR. LEARY: (43rd)

Turning to the amendment first, it is a good amendment and it merely clarifies language in the bill that we are proposing today in that it makes it very specific that the minutes of meetings of executive sessions must be reduced to writing. The bill was somewhat unclear in that respect and I think in

**H-120**

**CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS  
1971**

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

Wednesday, June 9, 1971 118A.

Mr. Speaker, on Page 18. We have further business. I EFH  
hope that the Members...

MR. SPEAKER:

Would the gentleman indicate how many more items of fur-  
ther business.

CARL R. AJELLO, JR.:

We have three more items we wish to take up. We expect  
them to be extremely brief. And we promise if they turn out not  
to be brief, we'll pass them temporarily.

MR. SPEAKER:

Please proceed.

CARL R. AJELLO, JR.:

The first brief item is on Page 18, Calendar No. 1205,  
under Disagreeing Actions, and the very brief gentleman from New  
Haven will explain that. The very brief...Mr. Speaker...

MR. SPEAKER:

Will the Clerk please call the item.

THE CLERK:

Calendar No. 1205, Substitute for H.B. No. 7901, an Act  
relating to encouraging persons to seek treatment for drug depen-  
dence. As amended by House Amendment Schedule "A" and Senate A-  
mendment Schedule "A".

JAMES F. BINGHAM:

Mr. Speaker, the very brief gentleman from Stamford will  
explain it.

MR. SPEAKER:

The gentleman from New Haven yields to the gentleman

Wednesday, June 9, 1971 119A.

from Stamford.

JAMES F. BINGHAM:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, gentleman from New Haven. Mr. Speaker, I move acceptance of Senate Amendment Schedule "A".

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark on Senate "A".

JAMES F. BINGHAM:

Yes, Mr. Speaker. Senate Amendment Schedule "A" deletes Section 5 from the Bill. That Section makes it mandatory that doctors file with the Commissioner of Mental Health those reports about persons whom they treat for drug dependence. This might require an appropriation, Mr. Speaker. It might be a burden upon the medical practitioner. It is a good Amendment, and I move... I urge its passage.

MR. SPEAKER:

Further remarks on Senate "A". If not, all those in favor indicate by saying "aye". Opposed. Senate "A" is adopted.

JAMES F. BINGHAM:

Mr. Speaker, I move acceptance and passage of the Bill in accordance with Senate Amendment Schedule "A" and House Amendment Schedule "A".

MR. SPEAKER:

Further remarks.

JAMES F. BINGHAM:

Mr. Speaker, as you know, this Bill is an Act relating to the encouraging persons to seek treatment for drug dependence,

EFH

Wednesday, June 9, 1971 120A.

permits any person to request treatment from a medical practitioner or a hospital. It is a good Bill, which will help defeat the drug problem in Connecticut. I urge its passage.

EJH

MR. SPEAKER:

Further remarks. If not, all those in favor indicate by saying "aye". Opposed. The Bill is passed.

CARL R. AJELLO, JR.:

Mr. Speaker, on Page 14, Calendar No. 1639, sir.

MR. SPEAKER:

Would the gentleman call it again for the benefit of the Clerk, and would the Members please move away from the Clerk's desk.

CARL R. AJELLO, JR.:

On Page 14, Calendar No. 1639.

THE CLERK:

Page 14, Calendar No. 1639, S.B. No. 1481, an Act concerning a study of the feasibility of a State heliport system.

JOHN G. GROPPA:

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

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark.

JOHN G. GROPPA:

Mr. Speaker, this Bill requests the Commissioner of Transportation to undertake a study of the feasibility of establishing a State heliport system, including consideration of potential sites, the report and its findings to the Governor and to the

S-82  
CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE

PROCEEDINGS  
1971

VOL. 14  
PART 7  
2874-3413

June 7, 1971

153.

SENATOR MACAULEY:

I have to oppose this bill. Not because I don't think its a good bill. In many respects. But because I simply cannot go back to my people and they'll say did you vote to lessen the penalty for the sale of narcotics? For the sale of heroine? I don't want to answer yes to that question. I intend to ask for a roll call vote, but since so many Senators were here and the hour is late. I won't do it. But at least I want it said on the record, that I will vote no here. That I did not vote to lessen the penalty for the sale of heroine.

THE CHAIR:

Any further remarks? If not all in favor of the bill as amended indicate by saying aye. AYE. Opposed no? No. The bill is carried.

SENATOR JACKSON:

May the Clerk now return to Cal. 1150?

THE CLERK:

Cal. 1150, page 6 please.

SENATOR JACKSON:

Mr. President, I would move suspension of the rules and immediate transmittal of 1176 to the House.

THE CHAIR:

Any objections? Hearing none the rules are suspended for immediate transmittal to the house.

SENATOR JACKSON:

And may we return to 1150 page 6?

THE CLERK:

Page 6 please, Cal. 1150, File 1342 Favorable substitute report joint standing committee on Judiciary on sbustitute H.B. 7901 An Act relating to Encouraging Persons to Seek Treatment for Drug Dependence.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Jackson.

June 7, 1971

254.

SENATOR JACKSON:

I move acceptance of the committee's report and passage of the bill. The Clerk has an amendment. I would yield to Senator Rimer on the amendment.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Rimer.

SENATOR RIMER:

Mr. President on the amendment, the amendment very simply, I waive reading of the amendment. The amendment very simply' deletes section 5 and the reason for the deletion is that the substance of Section 5, was included in the omnibus bill which we just passed.

THE CHAIR:

Will you move passage of the amendment?

SENATOR RIMER:

I move passage of the amendment.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark further on the amendment? If not all those in favor of the amendment indicate by saying aye. AYE. Opposed no? The ayes have it. The amendment is carried.

Senator Jackson.

SENATOR JACKSON:

Mr. President, I move passage of the bill as amended.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark?

SENATOR JACKSON:

Mr. President, this law permits any person to request treatment from drug dependence, for drug dependence from a medical practitioner to the hospital. Its sets up a provision that such information cannot be disclosed in Court. And if the person is a minor it may not be disclosed even to his parents. And I believe this is a good step forward in the treatment of this terrible spurge which is besetting our entire state and nation.

THE CLERK:

Any further remarks? If not, Senator Sullivan.

If not all in favor of the amendment indicate by saying aye. AYE. Oppose no? The yeas have it. The bill as amended is carried.

THE CLERK:

Cal. 1184, File 1038 Favorable substitute report of the joint standing committee on Governmental Administration and Policy substitute for H.B. 5160 An Act Concerning Membership of State Ambulance Commission.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Sullivan.

SENATOR SULLIVAN:

The Clerk has an amendment I believe.

I waive the reading of the amendment.

THE CHAIR:

He's waived the reading. Will you remark?

SENATOR SULLIVAN:

Mr. President, I move the adoption of the amendment. The amendment adds one more member to the Ambulance Commission who may be a member of the Ambulance Association.

THE CHAIR:

Any further remarks? Senator Ciarlone.

SENATOR CIARLONE:

Mr. President I support the amendment. I believe its fitting and proper that a member who represents the ambulance industry should be represented here. We have seen fit to have tenants represented on housing authorities, welfare recipients represented on Welfare Boards, And in many other similar and similar situations. I definitely feel that the ambulance industry should be represented and have a voice. I ask the members of the senate to support this amendment.

THE CHAIR:

Any further remarks? If not all in favor of the amendment

June 9, 1971

Page 74

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:

June 9, 1971

Page 75

I now move adoption of all those bills.

THE CHAIR:

Question is on the motion. All those in favor indicate by saying, "aye". All those opposed? The bills are passed.

SENATOR CALDWELL:

An additional item, Mr. President, On our Calendar, on page 18, Cal. 1350, Senate Bill 1841, I move for suspension of the rules for immediate consideration.

THE CHAIR:

Question is on suspension of the rules, all those in favor indicate by saying, "aye". Those opposed, "nay". The rules are suspended.

SENATOR CALDWELL:

I now move for the adoption of the bill. It is self-explanatory. It concerns the transfer of certain property to the Town of Manchester.

THE CHAIR:

Question is on the motion, all those in favor indicate by saying, "aye". All those opposed? The bill is passed.

SENATOR CALDWELL:

I now move for suspension of the rules for immediate transmittal.

THE CHAIR:

Question is on suspension of the rules. All those in favor indicate by saying, "aye". Opposed? Suspension is ordered.

SENATOR CALDWELL:

Mr. President, on page 23, Cal. 1391, File 1450, House Bill 5567, I move for suspension of the rules for immediate consideration.

THE CHAIR

**JOINT  
STANDING  
COMMITTEE  
HEARINGS**

**PUBLIC  
HEALTH  
AND  
SAFETY**

**PART 1  
1-491**

**1971  
Index**

## PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

THURSDAY

MARCH 18, 1971

Rep. Cohen: Let's have it quiet please. (Discussion with people in attendance about bills) Certainly we'll let you speak. Will the pharmacists please remember that their bill has not been passed yet so please be quiet. Do your talking out in the hall. We're having a hearing here. Continue.

Cyrus Hard, Acting Chief of the Alcohol and Drug Dependence Division, Department of Mental Health: I'm here in behalf of the Division and the Department to speak to two bills briefly, 8217. (AN ACT CONCERNING THE METHADONE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM FOR DRUG DEPENDENT PERSONS). 7901 (AN ACT RELATING TO ENCOURAGING PERSONS TO SEEK TREATMENT FOR DRUG ADDICTION OR DEPENDENCY).

The intent and the purpose of both of these bills seems very commendable, but we would like to point out to the Committee that on 8217, on methadone maintenance for instance, that there are methadone maintenance programs now going in the state. There are four operating programs and two other possible ones in the works now. The bill is, of course, open I presume that some more definite plan would come about as a result of this bill. The Division and the Department I think would certainly feel that additional methadone programs would be very helpful in the state. We have however gone a little cautiously on these kinds of programs, tried to select and screen people and try to have them try some other kind of treatment program first, mainly because we are putting people on another addictive drug. I think it's been pointed out before. And until a little more research and a little more experience, we would not want to just proliferate a great expanse, these kinds of programs.

Actually, we're doing exactly what it says here. That we are screening. They do have physical examinations and very careful psychiatric evaluation in order to be admitted to these programs, and within the limits of the present programs there are quite a number of people now in New Haven under a federal grant of \$2,000,000, the methadone part of that program has presently about 200 people enrolled. The Hartford federal grant has about 75 and we'd like to enlarge that to close to 200. There's another program in, in the Stamford City Health Department, in Hallbrooke Hospital, and the New Haven Mental Health Center. We, we would feel that there are two ways perhaps that this bill could be, or rather, that this bill could be implemented or changed in terms of the drug omnibus bill perhaps, and that is to make whatever funds might be available to be given to Community programs and/or state or public programs to enlarge somewhat, very, very small perhaps, in one year. And to enlarge the present programs reasonably.

THURSDAY

MARCH 18, 1971

The other bill, 7901, has to do with the getting people into treatment and without criminal sanctions or without scaring them off for legal reasons. We believe that again this bill is commendable in its purposes, but that it is already in perhaps a form that is more easily implemented within the present drug statutes, 753. We would believe in the Department that section 2 particularly would be rather difficult to implement and section 3 and section 6, where no names are given seems to defeat the purpose of the, overall purpose of the state objectives and that would be our main problem of finding out what the incidence is. We have really no idea in most towns, communities, or the state as a whole, and I realize that this is one of the problems, not giving names and addresses. We have not found though that this kept people from volunteering for treatment in general.

Perhaps some compromise could be made where legal sanctions reported to legal people, and that sort of thing would be controlled under the confidentiality law, and in this way protect those people who voluntarily seek treatment, not make it available to legal people or the courts but still insist that names, at least names, be gotten, mainly because again we do find that there's a lot of duplication of services if we don't do this. They go from one place to another asking for treatment and help and no one knows what's going on in the other section.

So again, to summarize, I think we, the Department would be in favor of the intent of both of these bills, but it might be changed slightly, looked at in light of the omnibus drug act, I think it's 1335. I'm not sure of that number. And incorporated in some way.

Rep. Cohen: I'm not quite sure whether you're for or against the bill. Why don't you bring in a substitute and, as to what you would want and don't attempt to give it to us now. Bring in either a substitute or some amendment that we can put to the bill to make it a good bill. You seem to speak for it and at the same time you're against it. We don't know which way you want.

Rep. Yacavone; 17th District: Don't you feel that the public gets the impression that the Alcohol and Drug Dependency Division is, is moving slowly in the methadone program? I know it has great merit, the present methadone program, the safeguards, the screening and so forth. I think it's great, but I do think it's not expanding fast enough in comparison to what we're talking about, the epidemic. What is your opinion?

Mr. Hard: We think it should be expanding faster, yes. The only thing is we don't want wholesale expansion, because we just don't think we have the facts. If you remember heroin was a big solution to morphine and opium and so forth. Now it didn't

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

THURSDAY

MARCH 18, 1971

turn out that way, you see. We, we really don't have enough facts at this point.

Rep. LaRosa, 4th District: I'm the sponsor of this bill. I've got some - what I've got in mind, to be very honest with you, that in New York City, the qualifications for methadone maintenance originally was that he had to be a mainline heroin addict for five years. They reduced it to two years, and now they reduced it to one year. You have an awful lot of people that have been drug dependent who have become self-supporting and self-sufficient as a result of their program. I have, oh, I must have five hundred pages of research, or research that has been done that people that are, that have been interested in the methadone maintenance program, and some of the research even came from the, some of the information even came from your Department. I got quite a bit of New York and who at the present time, I think that New York is ahead of any state in the union. I think that the state of Connecticut could speed up the program and implement this bill along with the information I have from Dr. Godlin? I forget the name, but I have all that information. I would like to sit down with you and maybe we can come in with a substitute bill to give some specific direction how to expand the methadone maintenance program because what has happened in Connecticut is that many times, before someone qualifies, before they go through the detoxification purpose and what have you, and before they even get admitted to the program, they have committed two more crimes to support their habit. What I would like to see, and this is taken after New York is where we would take them and eliminate that vacuum that presently exists between the time that he's looking for help and the time he gets help. Now I'd be happy to sit down with the Department and give, give what I have available and maybe we can come up with something. I don't think - I think we have to move fast.

Mr. Hard: We'd be very happy to do this Mr. LaRosa.

Rep. Cohen: Thank you very much. You say your name is on the list? Yes, fine. Come right up. This has been extensively discussed. I hope you're not going to have a long discussion for us, o.k.?

Mitchell Ross, twice past-president of the Southern Connecticut Chapter A.Z.O. Pharmacy Service Fraternity, past-president Southwestern Pharmaceutical Association, currently national vice-president of A.Z.O.: No, I do not have a long discussion. We have a membership of over 10,000 pharmacists. We have three chapters in the State of Connecticut. I want to go on record as being against the prescription price bill, 7949, also against the generic drugs, and would like to say a word on hypodermic

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

THURSDAY

MARCH 18, 1971

After the disastrous fire here in Hartford some years back. But this is all dependent upon the flamability or the flame proofing of the material used in the scenery. We do hope for a favorable report. Thank you very much.

Rep. Cohen: Thank you, sir.

No Name given: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen of the Committee, I'm here to support bill 7810. There's not too much more I can say outside of, I'd like to refer back about six months ago and this happened in another country. Of course, this was over in Europe where x number of children died as a result of exits being locked. And of course when the firemen opened the door, the bodies were piled some twelve to sixteen feet high. I have on occasion as being Fire Marshall to go around to places of public assembly in my district in West Haven, and I have found tables, chairs, and so forth put against these exits just to make room to bring in a few more people. And it is kind of tough for one fire marshall to keep track of everything that's going on, and evidently sometimes you would go in there and have the people remove these things but as soon as you turn your back, again they would go. So I am in favor of this bill and I'm hoping the committee will be, will take it into consideration and for once I would like to see a bill passed before any great catastrophe happens. Too many times our bills are written after someone else has suffered. Thank you very much.

Rep. Cohen: Any questions? Thank you very much. Mr. - Rep. Bingham. I know you were held up at another committee.

Rep. Bingham: Thank you very much, Doctor. I'll speak very briefly and won't encroach upon the committee's time. I'm speaking in favor of H.S. 7901 (AN ACT RELATING TO ENCOURAGING PERSONS TO SEEK TREATMENT FOR DRUG ADDICTION OR DEPENDENCY). This bill, very briefly, allows the person to go to any hospital or medical practitioner. Hospital or practitioner may treat the person without disclosing the name of the person to the police, directs the people not to disclose the name to the police, and that any information that the hospital or the person treating the person for drugs, may not be used in evidence against him, such person. It also provides that minors may be treated. This is a model of the Iowa bill which has received enthusiastic support all over the country and other states and I -

Rep. Cohen: What about the parents?

Rep. Bingham: A minor may be treated without the consent of the parents.

Rep. Cohen: And without the knowledge of the parent.

Rep. Bingham: That's correct. Yes, your hon. Yes. Yes, Doctor.