

Legislative History for Connecticut Act

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HB 8245	PA 298	1977
House 2341-2344		4p.
Senate 2174		1p
Elections 195, 245		2p

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CONNECTICUT  
GEN. ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE

PROCEEDINGS  
1977

VOL. 20  
PART 6  
2134-2538

House of Representatives

Friday, April 29, 1977

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The Clerk please announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

Total Number Voting.....	139
Necessary for Passage.....	70
Those Voting Yea.....	138
Those Voting Nay.....	1
Those Absent and Not Voting.....	12

THE SPEAKER:

The bill as amended is PASSED.

THE CLERK:

Page 6 of the Calendar, Calendar No. 621, substitute for H.B. No. 8245, File No. 527, An Act Eliminating Certain Enrolment Sessions, favorable report of the Committee on Elections.

MR. CUMMINGS (12th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill. I believe that the Clerk has an amendment, LCO 8409, and I request permission to summarize.

THE SPEAKER:

Question is on acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill. Pursuant to the request of the gentleman from the 12th, the Clerk please LCO 8409 by title, LCO and sponsor only.

THE CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule "A", LCO 8409, offered by Rep. Lowden, 146th district.

THE SPEAKER:

Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from the 12th for leave of the chamber to summarize in lieu of Clerk's reading? Hearing no such objection, the gentleman from the 12th to summarize.

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MR. CUMMINGS (12th):

Mr. Speaker, all that the amendment does is to retain the third Saturday as a mandatory enrolment day prior to a primary. The purpose is obviously to allow more voters to enroll. The amendment also establishes that there will be an enrollment session fourteen days before a primary to conform actually to the bill as a whole.

THE SPEAKER:

The Chair will entertain a motion for adoption of House "A".

MR. CUMMINGS (12th):

So move, Mr. Speaker.

THE SPEAKER:

Will you remark further on House "A"? Will you remark? If not the question is on its adoption. All those in favor of adoption of House Amendment Schedule "A" will indicate by saying aye. Opposed? The ayes have it, "A" is ADOPTED, ruled technical.

Will you remark on the bill as amended?

MR. CUMMINGS (12th):

Mr. Speaker, the bill as amended deletes the requirement that mandatory enrollment sessions be held on the second Friday in January and the second Friday in June in each even-numbered year and Friday of the sixteenth week prior to a municipal election, if it is to be held in an odd-numbered year. These sessions are not necessary, for enrollment can be made as people enroll or as people come to the registrar's office or at the mandatory sessions before a primary. The bill also mandates frequent changes and corrections as they occur on the party enrollment lists rather than leaving it to a minimum of once a year.

The bill also allows registrars to print the enrollment list

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at their discretion at least once a year rather than at arbitrary times that have no relationship to such activities as primaries, caucuses or conventions.

And last, the bill provides that an enrolled voter who has moved from one town to another in the same district after the fourteenth day, that is the last day for party enrollment prior to a primary, can vote in the town from which he removed by asking the registrar of the town from which he removed to continue his name on that town's list. The same procedure will also apply to a person moving from one town to another in the state.

It's a good bill and I urge its passage as amended.

THE SPEAKER:

Will you remark further on the bill as amended?

MRS. GREEN (69th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a good bill and I would urge adoption of it. I checked with the registrars association and they're very much in favor of this bill. Thank you.

THE SPEAKER:

Thank you, madam. Are you prepared to vote? Will you remark further on the bill as amended? The members please be seated, the staff and guests come to the well. The machine will be open. Have all the members voted? Have all of the members voted and is your vote properly recorded? If all of the members have voted--the machine is still open. The machine will be closed and the Clerk will take a tally.

The Clerk please announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

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Total Number Voting.....140  
 Necessary for Passage..... 71  
     Those Voting Yea.....140  
     Those Voting Nay..... 0  
     Those Absent and Not Voting..... 11

THE SPEAKER:

The bill as amended is PASSED.

THE CLERK:

Calendar No. 626, substitute for H.B. No. 8045, File No. 539,  
 An Act Concerning the Connecticut Pesticide Control Act, favorable report  
 of the Committee on The Environment.

MR. SERRANI (144th):

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

THE SPEAKER:

Question is on acceptance and passage. Will you remark?

MR. SERRANI (144th):

Yes, Mr. Speaker. There is an amendment, LCO 7845.

THE SPEAKER:

The Clerk please call LCO 7845.

MR. SERRANI (144th):

Mr. Speaker, may I seek leave to summarize?

THE SPEAKER:

The Clerk call LCO 7845 by title and LCO No. only.

THE CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule "A", LCO 7845 offered by Rep.

Serrani, 144th district.

THE SPEAKER:

Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from the 144th

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## SENATE

THURSDAY

MAY 12, 1977

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THE CHAIR:

Hearing none, we'll place it on Consent.

THE CLERK:

Second item from the bottom on page nine, Calendar 791, File 527, Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Elections, Substitute for House Bill 8245, AN ACT ELIMINATING CERTAIN ENROLLMENT SESSIONS, as amended by House Amendment, Schedule A.

THE CHAIR:

Senator O'Leary.

SENATOR O'LEARY:

Mr. President, I move acceptance and passage of the Committee's Favorable Report, as amended by House A in concurrence with the House.

Mr. President, to explain the Bill, it would first eliminate mid-year enrollment sessions. It would permit enrollment to continue at any time, except up to the date of the cutoff as is presently the case. It would provide for a mandatory enrollment session on the third Saturday prior to a primary for working on lists and enrollment and it would change the cutoff date of enrollment from the third Saturday to the fourteenth day prior to the primary. If there is no objection to this Bill, I would move it to today's Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Without objection, so ordered.

THE CLERK:

Turning to page ten of the Calendar, Calendar 799, File 569, Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Human Services, Substitute for House

**JOINT  
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**ELECTIONS**

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MR. LEONHARDT: Well, what, the way we've interpreted those in the office as sort of a long standing administrative ruling that we're, you know, there is a certain reluctance to overturn, although I wouldn't rule out the possibility, is that approve means they send in something and we've kind of a lower threshold, they go first, they initiate, prescribe means we initiate, and we'd, you know, we'd like to initiate. Although, you know, you're right, we, even if we had to, we could probably work with that approval we say we're not going to approve anything unless it meets certain standards and stuff, but prescribe would be particularly while we're doing something right in this area, prescribe would put it on a little easier administrative basis.

Okay, Bill 8245, this is a very important technical Bill that also came out of our Office. A lot of work has gone into this. The first thing that we'd do is require making changes in the enrollment, as they are received, by the registrars, and it eliminates the fixed sessions to correct lists. I would like to point out to the Committee that there is language in the Federal Court decision that is (dictated), but I wouldn't be surprised if we had it in the decision before long, requires this, so we are really kind of under the gun of Federal law. Right now, when you make an enrollment change, you don't actually get those rights 'til one of these sessions comes along and the Registrars put you on the list. So, make the changes as they are received and then eliminate the fixed sessions to correct the lists. Also, eliminating the fixed sessions is something that helps the registrars and they're probably enthusiastic about this measure, in that respect. Also, point two of this Bill would make for a 14 day cut-off for enrollment instead of the third Saturday, 17 day cut-off for members of the public to enroll, a shorter cut-off day. And we really feel that this Bill is closer to the actual realities that are done in most towns today, the present statute is kind of behind the more modern practices, a lot of towns have been in a more sort of current mold, and this bill has a lot of the sort of older language that really goes way back, and as a very subsidiary thing, the bill also cuts out some of this, you know, we talk about *recodifying* the election laws and stuff from time to time, this bill kind of cuts out a lot of the old gobbledygook and stuff and gets it down to simpler language.

REPRESENTATIVE COLUCCI: One question, this would give you continuous type of thing.

MR. LEONHARDT: Yes, continuous.

REPRESENTATIVE COLUCCI: Yes, which eliminates a lot of confusion, really.

MR. LEONHARDT: Yes, its a, that's a people

REPRESENTATIVE COLUCCI: It's an ongoing

MR. LEONHARDT: Yeah.

REPRESENTATIVE COLUCCI: More or less.

MR. LEONHARDT: Yeah, where people's rights don't vest for a long time under present law.

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Ngm

## ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

April 4, 1977

MR. MICUCCI: All right? Bill 5014 AN ACT CONCERNING VOTING IN ADJACENT VOTING DISTRICTS, we're in favor of. Bill 6808, we're in favor of. Bill 8

REPRESENTATIVE GREEN: Just a minute.

MR. MICUCCI: Oh, excuse me.

REPRESENTATIVE GREEN: What's the bill after 5014?

MR. MICUCCI: 6800.

REPRESENTATIVE GREEN: Thank you.

MR. MICUCCI: Yeah, Bill 8242 AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF A LIST OF ELECTION OFFICIALS TO THE TOWN CLERK, we're in favor of that, the only thing I'd like to bring out from my own point of view, that Part B of the bill, I believe maybe that unofficial party checker should be eliminated. From my standpoint, last election day, I was brought before Berkley, you know, before the Elections Commission because I did not have the list of unofficial party checkers in my hand. And I tried to stress the point that they are unofficial, you don't, only for party runn - for the parties only, you don't give them any authority with that, and yet, because I didn't have the list in front of me that they submitted me to the Elections Commission.

REPRESENTATIVE COLUCCI: I think that Mr. Leonhardt this morning mentioned

MR. MICUCCI: Mentioned that, that's why I'm going to follow through

REPRESENTATIVE COLUCCI: (INAUDIBLE) We could cut off Section 2. Which bill number are you on?

MR. MICUCCI: 8242. On Bill 8244 AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADMISSION OF ELECTORS DURING A CANVASS AND THE ADDING OF VOTERS TO THE REGISTRY LIST, we're against the beginning of that, admission of electors during a canvass, but we are for adding the voters to the registry list, for correction and things of that nature. But we oppose the making of voters during a canvass.

REPRESENTATIVE COLUCCI: Mr. Leonhardt mentioned 2, 3 and 4 would be good, if you want

MR. MICUCCI: Yes, 2, 3 and 4, yeah, we're for that, but we're against the other. Bill 8245 AN ACT ELIMINATING CERTAIN ENROLLMENT SESSIONS, we're for that. We're for Bill 8247 AN ACT IMPLEMENTING A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT CONCERNING PRE-REGISTRATION OF SEVENTEEN YEAR OLD CITIZENS AS ELECTORS. We're for bill 8250 AN ACT PROVIDING FOR ENROLLMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES IN ABSENTIA. We're for Bill 8251 AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRAINING OF MODERATORS, but I don't know whether we need that bill, the law restates that the election workers shall be instructed, and that's why they receive a dollar for the instruction class. They're paid now by the communities, a dollar for attending instructions, and the moderator