

Legislative History for Connecticut Act

HB 7630 PA 145 *font* 1979
House - 2148-2163 (16)
Senate - 1558-1560, 1848-1849, 1939-1940 (7)
Public Health - 1202-1204 (3) ✓

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CONNECTICUT
GEN. ASSEMBLY
HOUSE

PROCEEDINGS
1979

VOL. 22

PART 7

2117-2482

House Joint Resolution No. 138. RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF ROBERTO FUENTES OF STAMFORD, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

House Joint Resolution No. 139. RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF JOHN E. TOFFOLON OF RIVERTON, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

House Joint Resolution No. 140. RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF JULIA RANKIN OF ASHFORD, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

SPEAKER ABATE:

Will the Clerk please return to the call of the Calendar.

CLERK:

Calendar Page 7. Favorable Reports. Calendar No. 243.

House Bill No. 7630. File No. 60. AN ACT CONCERNING YOUTH CAMPS.

Favorable Report of the Committee on Public Health.

REP. LaROSA: (3rd)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ABATE:

Representative LaRosa.

REP. LaROSA: (3rd)

I move acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and passage of the bill.

SPEAKER ABATE:

The question is on acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and passage of the bill. Will you remark, Sir?

REP. LaROSA:

Mr. Speaker. I believe that Representative Jaekle has

an amendment and at this time, I would yield to Representative Jaekle for the purpose of explaining his amendment.

SPEAKER ABATE:

Does the gentlemen accept the yield?

REP. JAEKLE: (122nd)

Yes, Mr. Speaker. Actually I have two amendments to the bill, so I call one first. The Clerk has an amendment bearing LCO No. 6934. Would the Clerk please call and read the same.

SPEAKER ABATE:

Would the Clerk please call and read LCO 6934.

CLERK:

LCO 6934 offered by Representative Jaekle of the 122nd and Representative LaRosa of the 3rd District on House Bill 7630. AN ACT CONCERNING YOUTH CAMPS. In line 20, place opening and closing brackets around the word "two" wherever it appears in said line and after each closing bracket inser the word "THREE".

SPEAKER ABATE:

The amendment is in your possession, Sir. What is your pleasure?

REP. JAEKLE: (122nd)

Mr. Speaker. I move adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER ABATE:

The question is on adoption of the amendment hereby designated House Amendment Schedule "A". Will you remark on its' adoption?

REP. JAEKLE: (122nd)

Yes, Mr. Speaker. The amendment as was read changes two days to three days on line 20 of the bill in two places. This was mentioned in the OLR Report of the bill that there was an inconsistency between page one and page two, where we were defining resident camps and day camps on page two of the file copy in terms of requiring children be present for at least three days and yet on the first page of the file copy, we were allowing regulation of camps that were operated for only two days. This is therefore to correct the inconsistency within the file. Now I urge its' adoption.

SPEAKER ABATE:

Will you remark further on the adoption of House "A"? Will you remark further on the adoption of House "A", LCO 6934? If not, all those in favor of its' adoption, please indicate by saying, Aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER ABATE:

Those opposed. The Ayes have it. The amendment is adopted and hereby ruled technical.

REP. JAEKLE: (122nd)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ABATE:

REP. JA Representative Jaekle.

REP. JAEKLE: (122nd)

the fill Thank you. I have another amendment. Would the Clerk please call and read the amendment bearing LCO No. 6905, please.

SPEAKER ABATE:

operati Would the Clerk please and read LCO No. 6905.

CLERK: Offered by Representative Jaekle of the 122nd.

of the LCO 6905 offered by Representative Jaekle of the 122nd.

The House Bill 7630. AN ACT CONCERNING YOUTH CAMPS. In line 10, following the word "activity" insert "(1)". In line 11, following the word "or" insert "(2)". In line 26, strike out the phrase "PROFIT AND". Strike out line 27 in its entirety. In line 28, strike out the phrase "PRIMARILY INDOORS,". In line 89, after the period insert the following: "THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 54 OF THE GENERAL STATUTES ESTABLISHING OPERATING STANDARDS FOR SUCH CAMPS".

SPEAKER ABATE:

more The amendment is in your possession, Sir.

REP. JAEKLE: (122nd)

I move adoption of the amendment, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ABATE:

The question is on adoption of House Amendment hereby designated Schedule "B". Will you remark further on the

adoption of House Amendment Schedule "B".

REP. JAEKLE: (122nd)

Yes, Mr. Speaker. My amendment offers three changes to the file copy of the bill. One allowing the Department of Health Services to adopt regulations in accordance with Chapter 54 of the General Statutes, which would enable regulations establishing operating standards for Youth Camps. I have contacted and have been contacted by a Mr. Dennis Kerrigan, the Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Health Services who finds this power would indeed be useful for the Department of Health Services and I find that to be unobjectionable. There are two other changes in the amendment to the file copy. One on page one of the file makes a change in the definition of Youth Camp. One is to reflect, a problem I had in reading the file copy of the bill and two to make clear after consultation with the Deputy Commissioner that a Youth Camp could mean one of three things. A regularly scheduled program or an organized group activity advertised as a camp or indeed anything operated by a person, partnership, etc., for recreational or educational purposes, encompassing three or more days, where a child will be away from home, but he thought that would be helpful in expanding the definition of Youth Camp and reconciling some problems I had with the bill. A third change that the amendment contemplates is on page two of the file copy, which has to do with which organizations are exempt from

the definition of a Youth Camp and therefore, exempt from being licensed and regulated by the Department of Health Services. It deletes the exemption from the definition of Youth Camps, those profit and non-profit groups providing year-round programs primarily indoors. One, I had trouble with what indeed primarily indoors would mean if a profit or non-profit group conducts activities 7 out of twelve months indoors, but operates an outdoor Youth Camp for 5 months out of the year. Is it in the best interest of the state to exempt those organizations? I feel not, and have therefore offered the amendment.

REP. I will point out that this would mean that YMCA's, YWCA's, Boys Clubs, Girls Clubs that offer Youth Camps although they primarily offer indoor activities, would be subject to this act and to the licensing and regulatory powers of the Department of Health Services. My personal opinion is that such organizations, even though we may feel are reputable, indeed should be regulated by the state when they offer outdoor activities for youngsters many days away from home.

It would require these organizations to comply with safety standards which exist in our statutes now, which are as basic as providing life guards when somebody is swimming in a pond outside. And I think it is in the best interest of the state. And at this time I would like to yield to Rep. Rapoport, please.

SPEAKER ABATE:

Rep. Rapoport, do you accept the yield?

REP. RAPOPORT: (73rd)

license Yes. Thank you Mr. Speaker. When I looked at the amendment that was offered by Rep. Jaekle, I too agreed that it had great merit and should in fact be adopted. I had a problem with the amendment and I spoke with Rep. Jaekle in regard to the difficulty and I'd like to bring that point out on the floor for the intent of the amendment. So, through you Mr. Speaker, I would like to re-ask a question of Rep. Jaekle.

SPEAKER ABATE:

thing State your question please ma'am.

REP. RAPOPORT: (73rd)

state Thank you Sir. Rep. Jaekle, in line 26 and 27 where you say, "strike out the phrase 'profit and'", and continue, "and strike out line 27 in its entirety and line 28 strike out the phrase 'primarily indoors'", in that particular portion of your amendment. We know that there are many non-profit agencies in the state of Connecticut who do in fact have summer day camps - a week or two weeks at a time, such as the Cystic Fibrosis, Cerebral Palsy.

Would these agencies be required by this act to go and get a license? Or could, under the regulations of the department, could they be exempt?

SPEAKER ABATE:

Does the gentleman care to respond to the inquiry?

REP. JAEKLE: (122nd)

Yes, Mr. Speaker. The part of my amendment, or my amend-

ment does not touch part of the exception to regulation and licensure which is in the file copy, which exempts licensed day care centers or programs operated by state or municipal agencies. Any organization that would be considered an agency of the state or municipal government would be excepted from the licensing and regulations under this bill. However private non-profit or profit organizations and I'm afraid I'm not sure whether such philanthropic organizations would be considered agencies of the state. I would have do a case by case and examine their status but, indeed something like a Cystic Fibrosis organization -- if they offer an outdoor Youth Camp operation -- would have to be licensed by the state under my amendment if it is passed. And I will add that the licensing for Youth Camps costs \$100 except in the case of non-profit organizations where the license costs \$25 and is good for one year.

REP. RAPOPORT: (73rd)

Thank you Rep. Jaekle. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ABATE:

Will you remark further on the adoption of House Amendment Schedule "B"? Will you remark further on its adoption? If not, all those in favor of adoption please indicate by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER ABATE:

Opposed, nay. The ayes have it. And it is adopted and hereby ruled technical.

REP. LA ROSA: (3rd)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ABATE:

Rep. La Rosa.

REP. LA ROSA: (3rd)

Mr. Speaker. The State Health Department has been inspecting camps for fifty years. It was not until 1969 that the present camp regulations concerning health safety and minimal personnel were put in place.

Here it is 10 years later and there are an estimated 60,000 children attend 249 residential and day camps in Connecticut. With the information of this body 176 of these camps are non-profit and 73 are profit-making. An estimated 50 to 75 camps not presently regulated such as one-day sport camps would be covered by this proposed legislation. At the same time such activities as weekend Boy Scout camps would be exempted under the 72 hours amendment that was presently passed.

This bill has been drafted with the endorsement of the Camp Safety Advisory Council which represents both profit and non-profit camps such as the YMCA, the 4-H camps and American Red Cross. Mr. Speaker, this is one of the finest pieces of safety legislation in the country. I can assure this body that after

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this bill is passed, Congress in all probability will use this as a model throughout the country. I urge its adoption.

SPEAKER ABATE: Will you remark further on the bill as amended?

REP. BERMAN: (19th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ABATE:

Rep. Berman.

REP. BERMAN: (19th)

Question through you to the proponent.

SPEAKER ABATE: Name your question please sir.

REP. BERMAN: (19th)

Looking at the language in line 25, would this bill include schools which provide during the summer to lease out or rent out their facilities to private enterprises for profit or non-profit making activities such as, tennis camps and other activities that's very common in Connecticut?

SPEAKER ABATE: Does the gentleman care to respond to the inquiry?

REP. LA ROSA: (3rd)

Through you Mr. Speaker. I believe that it would not apply to the person that is leasing out the facility but anyone who sets out any -- and uses the word 'camp' would be subject to

the regulations of the Department of Health Services and would be subject to inspection to make sure that the safety standards within the regulations that will be promulgated with the regulations that are in place of course would have to be adhered to.

REP. BERMAN: (19th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ABATE:

Regu. Rep. Berman.

REP. BERMAN: (19th)

I would be inclined to oppose this legislation as it's presently before us because I think it's a case of overkill. Most private schools in Connecticut use their campuses in the summer for some constructive recreational activity or educational activity -- nature camps and things of that nature -- tennis camps, soccer camps and according to Mr. LaRosa it would appear as though each one these, although they are licensed private institutions -- the entrepreneur or the institution which is running the camp would be obliged to go through the red tape of obtaining a license.

It seems to me as though we don't intend this as a legislature. It tends to put a dampening effect upon the system and unless this were corrected, I don't think that we ought to support this bill.

SPEAKER ABATE:

Will you remark further on the bill?

REP. LA ROSA: (3rd)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ABATE:

Rep. LaRosa.

REP. LA ROSA: (3rd)

This bill only refers to the additional 50 camps that are not presently under the statute. The other 200 now are presently regulated. I urge its adoption.

SPEAKER ABATE:

Will you remark further on the bill as amended?

REP. OSLER: (150th)

Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ABATE:

Rep. Osler.

REP. OSLER: (150th)

A question through you Mr. Speaker to Rep. LaRosa.

SPEAKER ABATE:

State your question please Rep. Osler.

REP. OSLER: (150th)

With the amendment that we have just put onto this bill that would include YMCA and YWCA camps, are those numbers included in the numbers that Rep. LaRosa just gave to us?

SPEAKER ABATE:

Does the gentleman care to respond to the inquiry?

House of Representatives

Wednesday, April 4, 1979

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REP. LA ROSA: (3rd)

Through you Mr. Speaker. I don't have the exact organizations available. All I can say is that the bill was drafted with the Camp Advisory Council, which all these groups are a part of, so I would assume that they endorsed the legislation and in all probability they were included.

SPEAKER ABATE:

249 Rep. Osler.

REP. OSLER: (150th)

camps It seems to me that listening to the amendment as proposed and adopted that we have added quite a large category of camps to those included in this bill originally. And I'm not sure that we should go to this extent into something that these groups were not anticipating. I'm not sure that they are aware that this is going on and I would really -- I don't feel I can vote on it without knowing some of the ramifications that would be implied to these groups such as, YM AND YWCA camps so therefore, I think I cannot support this bill though I like its intent indeed.

SPEAKER ABATE:

Will you remark further on the bill as amended by House "A" and "B"?

REP. RAPOPORT: (73rd)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ABATE:

Rep. Rapoport.

REP. RAPOPORT: (73rd)

Thank you Mr. Speaker. On the information that we have been able to get from the Camp Safety Advisory Council, they did in fact give us information regarding the 48-hour or the weekend Boy Scout camps, which are exempt -- Girl Scout, Boy Scout, Boys Clubs, Girl Scout units that do in fact have programming on the weekends. They would be exempt but they claim that there are 249 residential and day camps in Connecticut, 176 of them are non-profit, and 73 are profit. And of the estimated 50 to 75 camps not presently regulated some of the proposed legislation will be covering a one-day camp or two-day camp or a three-day camp. So they would be exempt from this.

The bill was drafted with their endorsement because of the major problems that have resulted in many camp facilities that do not have in fact restrictive areas and licensed areas of public safety. We've had serious problems with many individuals being able to enter onto campsites which were not proved to be security guarded.

We have had difficulties and unfortunate deaths resulting from non-security type camps. We've had, throughout the United States, we've had difficulty with individuals who were not watched with safety measures in waterfront activities. In order to protect the children of the state of Connecticut and any who come to our camps from outside of the state of Connecticut, the bill was

deemed a necessary piece of legislation. And I urge everyone to support it.

SPEAKER ABATE:

CLERK: Will you remark further on the bill as amended? Will you remark further? If not, would all the members please be seated. The members please be seated. Would the staff and guests please come to the well of the House. The machine will be opened.

PUBLIC: The House of Representatives is voting by roll at this time. The members please return to the chamber immediately. The House of Representatives is voting by roll at this time. Would the members please return to the chamber immediately.

Have all the members voted? Would the members please check the roll call machine to determine if their vote is properly recorded? Have all the members voted? The machine will be locked and the Clerk will take the tally.

SPEAKER: The Clerk please announce the tally.

CLERK:

House Bill No. 7630 as amended by House Amendments
Schedule "A" and "B".

CLERK:	Total number voting	145
	Necessary for passage	73
	Those voting yea	137
	Those voting nay	8
	Those absent and not voting	6

SPEAKER ABATE:

The bill as amended passes. Clerk please return to the call of the calendar.

CLERK:

Calendar page 7, Calendar 251. Substitute for House Bill No. 5284, File No. 54 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRESENCE OF MINORS AT GAMING ESTABLISHMENTS. Favorable report of the Committee on Public Safety.

REP. ONORATO: (97th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER ABATE:

Rep. Al Onorator.

REP. ONORATO: (97th)

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

SPEAKER ABATE:

The question is on acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill. Will you remark sir?

CLERK:

Mr. Speaker the Clerk has LCO #7408. I move that the reading of the amendment be waived Mr. Speaker and I be allowed to summarize it.

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CONNECTICUT
GEN. ASSEMBLY
SENATE

PROCEEDINGS
1979

VOL. 22
PART 5
1342-1692

Tuesday, April 24, 1979

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Cal. 392. Files 60 and 313. Favorable report of the joint standing Committee on Public Health. House Bill 7630. AN ACT CONCERNING YOUTH CAMPS, as amended by House Amendment Schedules A and B.

THE PRESIDENT:

Senator Ciarlone.

SENATOR CIARLONE: (11th)

Thank you, sir. I move acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

THE PRESIDENT:

The question is on acceptance and passage. Will you remark, Senator.

SENATOR CIARLONE:

Thank you very much, Mr. President. Although the State Health Department has been inspecting camps for fifty years now, it was not until 1969 that the present camp regulations concerning health, safety and minimum personnel were put into place. This bill we have before us will now regulate fifty to seventy-five camps that are not regulated such as the one-day sport camps that would now be covered by this proposed legislation. At the same time, however, such activities as weekend Boy Scout camps would be exempted. It's a good bill. If there is no objection, I would move it to the Consent Calendar.

THE CLERK:

Senator Ciarlone, do you wish to withdraw your amendment that you had filed on that bill? LCO 7628.

Tuesday, April 24, 1979

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SENATOR CIARLONE:

Just bear with me. Thank you very much for bringing that to my attention. No, I do wish to move the amendment.

THE CLERK:

The Clerk has Senate Amendment Schedule A, File 313, House Bill 7630, LCO 7628, offered by Senator Ciarlone.

SENATOR CIARLONE:

Thank you very much. I move adoption of the amendment.

THE PRESIDENT:

The question is on the adoption of the amendment. Will you remark on the amendment, Senator.

SENATOR CIARLONE:

Yes, I will. It is merely a technical change, Mr. President. On line 69, it clarifies nonresident to the word day camp that they should also be exempted from this legislation. I would move the bill as amended by Senate Schedule A.

THE PRESIDENT:

The question is on adoption of the amendment. Will you remark on that motion. Hearing none, those in favor indicate by saying Aye. Those in opposition to. THE AMENDMENT IS ADOPTED. You may proceed now with the main motion, Senator.

SENATOR CIARLONE:

O.K. The remarks I made on the bill stand with the amendment. If there is no opposition to the bill, I would again move it to the Consent Calendar, Mr. President.

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THE PRESIDENT:

Will you remark further on the bill. The motion is to place the item on Consent. Is there objection to the motion. Hearing none, it is so ordered. The item is on the CONSENT CALENDAR.

THE CLERK:

Turning to page five of the Calendar, Cal. 408, Files 169 and 317. Favorable report of the joint standing Committee on Public Health. Substitute for House Bill 6788. AN ACT CONCERNING THE PACKAGING OF VETERINARY DRUGS, as amended by House Amendment Schedule A.

THE PRESIDENT:

Senator Ciarlone.

SENATOR CIARLONE: (11th)

Mr. President, I move acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill. I believe there is an amendment on this bill also.

THE PRESIDENT:

Question is on acceptance and passage as amended by House A and Senator, you are calling for a Senate Amendment.

THE CLERK:

The Clerk has Senate Amendment Schedule A, File 317, Substitute House Bill 6788. LCO 5792, offered by Senator Ciarlone and copies are on the desks.

SENATOR CIARLONE:

Mr. President, I will waive reading of the amendment.

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CONNECTICUT
GEN. ASSEMBLY
SENATE

PROCEEDINGS
1979

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1693-2043

Thursday, April 26, 1979

Page 38

Health, House Bill 7630, An Act Concerning Youth Camps. (As amended by House Amendment Schedules "A" and "B", and Senate Amendment Schedule "A").

SENATOR CIARLONE:

Mr. President.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Ciarlone.

SENATOR CIARLONE:

Thank you very much, Mr. President. I move acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

THE CHAIR:

The question is on acceptance and passage of a bill that was passed retained at a previous session after Senate Amendment Schedule "A" was adopted. The question is on acceptance and passage. Will you remark? Senator Ciarlone.

SENATOR CIARLONE:

Thank you very much, Mr. President. Being on the prevailing side, I would now ask that we reconsider Senate Amendment Schedule "A".

THE CHAIR:

The question is on reconsideration of Senate "A". Will you remark?

SENATOR CIARLONE:

Thank you very much, Mr. President. I will now move rejection of Senate Amendment Schedule "A". After I have submitted this amend-

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ment I am told by legal counsel that this amendment is not necessary. At this point I would move rejection of Senate Amendment Schedule "A".

THE CHAIR:

Senate "A" has been reconsidered. The motion now is to reject Senate "A". Will you remark on that motion? Hearing none, I will try your minds. Those in favor of rejecting Senate "A" indicate by saying aye. Those in opposition to? Senate "A" is rejected. You may proceed, Senator Ciarlone.

SENATOR CIARLONE:

Thank you very much, Mr. President. The remarks I made yesterday on the bill without the amendments then, I will merely repeat them again quickly. This bill now regulates 50 to 75 day camps that were not heretofore regulated. We're referring to day care camps such as sport camps that were not regulated. The bill now takes into consideration those camps. It's a good bill. If there's no opposition to the bill, I would move it to the consent calendar, Mr. President.

THE CHAIR:

Is there discussion on the bill? Hearing no discussion on the bill, the motion is to place the item on consent. Is there objection to the motion? Hearing no objection, it is so ordered. The item is placed on the consent calendar.

THE CLERK:

Turning to page 6 of the calendar, calendar 420, File 331,

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Thursday, April 28, 1979

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THE CHAIR:

Please give your attention to the Clerk. Make an announcement that we're ready to proceed with the consent calendar and that this will be an announcement for roll call.

THE CLERK:

The Senate is ready to go over today's consent calendar. Would all Senators please return to the Chamber. Senate is ready to vote on today's consent calendar. Would all Senators please take their seats. Turning to page 3 of the calendar on today's Consent Calendar, calendar item 325, page 4 of the calendar, calendar No. 353, page 5, calendar 382 and 392. On page 6 of the calendar, calendar 420, 421. Page 7, calendar 425, 434. On page 8, calendar 450. Page 9, calendar 462, 463, 474 and 483. On page 11, calendar 504. On page 12, calendar 514 and 515. On page 13, all items on the page. All items on page 13. On page 14, calendar 526. On page 15, calendars 531, 532, 534. On page 16, calendars 549, 554, 556. On page 17, calendar 562 and 565.

THE CHAIR:

Any corrections or omissions? We are now ready to vote the consent calendar. One final call for roll call. Machine may be opened. Please record your vote.

SENATOR LIEBERMAN:

Mr. President. Mr. President.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Lieberman.

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SENATOR LIEBERMAN:

Mr. President, while the Senators are in the Chamber, I'd like to make a few announcements about the session tomorrow. There will be a Democratic caucus beginning at 10:00, and I presume a Republican caucus thereabouts. The Senate will convene at 11:00 O'clock and after discussion with the distinguished Minority Leader, I have some confidence that the work on the budget may be accomplished within two hours. At that point, and hoping that that is so, it would be my hope to go into an unusual but nonetheless hopeful joint Democratic-Republican caucus to develop a consent calendar for adoption later in the afternoon and if we do all that, we can go home for the week-end and skip the session on Tuesday next week, so we would meet on Wednesday and Thursday, so, with that hope and prayer, I hope we will leave the Chamber tonight.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you. Clerk. Machine may be closed. Clerk please take a tally of the vote. Result of the vote, 36 total voting, 19 necessary for passage, 36 yea, 0 nay, the consent calendar is adopted. Senator Lieberman.

SENATOR LIEBERMAN:

Mr. President, are there any announcements that anyone would make? I would yield.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Bozzuto.

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

**PUBLIC HEALTH
PART 4
1113-1495**

1979

State Capitol
Room 4½
9:30 a.m.
March 1, 1979

PUBLIC HEALTH

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MR. ABRAHAMSON:
The committee will meet in the State Capitol Room 4½ at 9:30 a.m. on March 1, 1979.

PRESIDING CHAIRMEN: Senator Ciarlone
Representative LaRosa

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SENATORS: Smith, Ciarlone

REPRESENTATIVES: Wilber, DeZinno, Connolly,
Rybak, McGuirk, Belden,
Anastasio, Walsh, Joyner,
Orcutt, LaRosa

MR. KERRIGAN: The committee will meet in the State Capitol Room 4½ at 9:30 a.m. on March 1, 1979.

Belt 1
REP. LAROSA: Chairman Regina, Senator Smith told me that we are to adhere to the schedule and I completely with that, that we ought to start on time, even though we're 15 minutes late. The first speaker is Dennis Kerrigan from the Department of Health Services.

DENNIS KERRIGAN: Ladies and gentlemen of the Committee, good morning. Thank you for this opportunity on behalf of the Department of Health Services to speak in favor of proposed bill 7630 An Act Concerning the Youth Camps in the State.

As you may know, Connecticut is different from the national initiatives that are presently being formed by a representative from this state, inasmuch as we have a very tight, a very good, camp safety bill. Connecticut does have a very good camp safety bill. What we are attempting to do with raised Committee Bill 7630 is improve on that. What the national initiatives are trying to do is what is presently occurring in Connecticut, that is, the adequate regulation of youth camps. We have very important resources in the state in the form of water and land in our environment, but we also have the important resource of our children, and this bill will improve the definitions of what is to be regulated on the youth camps, and in that way improve the safety of our children.

There are presently licenses in this state, 225 youth camps. It is our estimate that approximately 50 more camps of various kinds would be regulated should this bill be adopted and the definitions clarified. Such summer camps, so-called camps as football camps, and one-day affairs that utilize the name camp would be now regulated and are presently exempt from regulation I might add.

MR. KERRIGAN: (continued)
The camping industry in Connecticut has an enviable record nationwide. We are the leader in this country as far as camp safety goes. This bill can do nothing but affect and increase the safety of our camps through the improvement of the regulation, and through the ability of the Department of Health to regulate more camps. I'd be very happy to answer any questions that the Committee may have.

REP. LAROSA: Any questions of Commissioner Kerrigan?

SEN. SMITH: You said one-day sports camp -- do you mean when they have these sports camps for a week or two week period?

MR. KERRIGAN: Yes I do. Anyone who chose to use the word camp in the description of their activity would now be regulated under our proposal. Presently they may use the camp, and if they do not meet duration requirements, they do not have to be licensed or reviewed at all by the Department of Health Services.

SEN. SMITH: But currently the Board can have no one overseeing or regulating ...

MR. KERRIGAN: Depending on the duration, most do not. That's correct. Because most run a maximum three to five day period, and most run shorter than that.

SEN. SMITH: Thank you Commissioner.

REP. LAROSA: Commissioner Kerrigan, in looking at the bill in line 78 "such camps shall not advertise any services they are not equipped or licensed to offer". Does this, as a result -- I know that, excuse me, during the summer it seems that many sports celebrities who utilize their name in regards to maybe letting people feel that come to my camp and I'll make you an NBA star, and come to my camp and I'll make you an All-American football player, come to my camp and I'll make you an all-star shortstop, and when they evidently maybe get to these camps, even though the name of the big-time sport star is being utilized, he maybe doesn't spend maybe five or ten minutes at that particular camp, but yet the fee does not reflect it. Is this something that you're looking to regulate which in reference to that particular type of an operation?

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MR. KERRIGAN: It would at least bring such a situation into question, not regulation. The specific advertising effects of that might be something the Consumer Protection Department would more likely consider, but this would at least allow us to question such practices or such occurrences.

REP. LAROSA: Has the Department received inquiries in regards to some of these camps?

MR. KERRIGAN: We continually receive inquiries of such camps.

REP. LAROSA: Yes, thank you. Anyone else have any questions of Commissioner Kerrigan. Thank you very much.

MR. KERRIGAN: Thank you.

REP. LAROSA: The next speaker, Representative Michael Colucci from Waterbury, 71st district.

REP. COLUCCI: Good morning. Representative Michael Colucci, representing Waterbury and parts of Naugatuck. I'll make it brief. I'm here supporting House Bill 7631 -- that's health clinics and a mobile van. This mobile van financing and funding is very important to the city of Waterbury, not only the city of Waterbury, but Bridgeport, Meriden, and New Haven. It's a very important function in the cities and in the disadvantaged areas of the cities.

We come here every year fighting to keep the health van bill alive and to get the financing from it. It's been in operation since '75 and there were only two towns involved then, Meriden and Waterbury, and other towns have been coming in on the health van thing, and every time another town comes in and every time we come before you to fight for the survival of the health vans, we're losing funds. And in losing these funds, and I know it's not Appropriations, but that's where the bill will go if it's passed, the city had to take up the cost, and that's a \$40,000, \$50,000 or better cost to the cities. By not giving the funds, you're adding another burden on the cities, which can least afford to pay it and will have to discontinue the service, and you'll get the testimony from Dr. Wallach that it is very vital and helpful to our cities. Thank you.

REP. LAROSE: Any questions of Representative Colucci?

REP. COLUCCI: I believe the members of the Committee are very well aware of this bill and will continue to exert their efforts. Thank you.