

Legislative History for Connecticut Act

HB 7227	PA 326	fare	1983
House	3829, 3920		(2)
Senate	3071-3076		(6)
Judiciary	1567-1568, 1644-1645		(4)
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HOUSE

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House of Representatives

Thursday, May 5, 1983

REP. BALDUCCI: (27th)

Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER FRANKEL:

Rep. Balducci.

REP. BALDUCCI: (27th)

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to place that and sever other items on the Consent Calendar for today, for action at our next session.

DEPUTY SPEAKER FRANKEL:

You may proceed, sir.

REP. BALDUCCI: (27th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Beginning on page 14, at the top, Calendar 471, Senate Bill 946, AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF FUNDS IN THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SECTION OF THE URBAN ACTION PROGRAM. Favorable Report of the Committee on Planning and Development. File 424.

Page 18, excuse me, 17, second item, Calendar 500, Substitute for House Bill 6462, AN ACT CONCERNING REGIONAL RIDESHARING ORGANIZATIONS. Favorable Report of the Committee on Transportation. File 602.

Page 18, Calendar 501, Substitute for House Bill 7227, AN ACT CONCERNING SEXUAL ASSAULT INVOLVING MENTALLY DEFECTIVE OR MENTALLY INCAPACITATED PERSONS. Favorable Report of the Committee on Judiciary. File 623.

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House of Representatives

Tuesday, May 10, 1983

Calendar No. 506, Substitute for House Bill 7266, AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN STATE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS REVIEWED UNDER SUNSET LEGISLATION, File 629.

ACTING SPEAKER MARKHAM:

Is there any objection to passing the Consent Calendar as listed, Calendar Pages 1 and 2 with the exception of Calendar No. 506, AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN STATE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS REVIEWED UNDER SUNSET LEGISLATION? Is there any objection?

If not, the items are so adopted. H.B. 6462, H.B. 7227, H.B. 7235,
H.B. 6843, H.B. 5588, H.B. 5290,
H.B. 6494, H.B. 6324

CLERK:

Returning to Calendar Page 12, Calendar No. 507, File No. 616, House Bill No. 7034, AN ACT CONCERNING THE BONDING OF MOTOR VEHICLE DEALERS AND REPAIRERS. Favorable Report of the Committee on Transportation.

REP. GROppo: (63rd)

Mr. Speaker, may this be passed temporarily, please.

ACTING SPEAKER MARKHAM:

Is there any objection? Is there any objection?

The item will be passed temporarily.

CLERK:

Calendar Page 13, Calendar No. 511, File No. 605, House Bill No. 5256, AN ACT CONCERNING AUTHORIZATION

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Chair would recognize Senator DiBella.

SENATOR DIBELLA:

Thank you, Madam President. I would move suspension of the rules for the last Consent Calendar to be sent down, transmitted to the House.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much. You have a motion before you for the suspension of the rules, for purposes of forwarding the Consent Calendar to the House so they may act on those items. Is there any objection to that motion? Any objection? Hearing none, it is so ordered. The Chair will recognize Senator Harper. We are still in session.

SENATOR HARPER:

Thank you, Madam President. A Point of Personal Privilege. Members of the Appropriations Committee, sorry to bother you, but tomorrow morning there will be a committee meeting at 10:15 in the Hall of House if anyone cares to attend to vote on one bill referred from the House, the smoking bill.

There will be another meeting Tuesday morning at 9:30 to take up Senate referrals, 9:30 Tuesday morning in 2C. Thank you.

THE CHAIR:

(Gavel) Are there any other announcements? Yes,

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Senator Maloney. (Gavel)

SENATOR MALONEY:

Thank you, Madam President. The Finance Committee will meet Tuesday morning at 9:30 in Room 2E to take up bills referred from the floor.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much. Are there any other announcements? Are there any further announcements? If not, Senator Larson has made a motion to stand in recess until 9:30. Hearing no objection to that motion that Chair will state that we are in recess until 9:30. The Senate stands in recess.

On motion of Senator Larson of the 3rd, the Senate at 8:30 p.m. recessed.

The Senate reconvened at 9:46 p.m., the President in the Chair.

THE CHAIR:

The Senate will please come to order. The Chair would recognize Senator DiBella. Senator DiBella.

SENATOR DIBELLA:

Thank you, Madam President. I would ask that the Clerk call Senate Amendment Schedule "A".

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THE CHAIR:

No, no, we did "A" already. Can you give us the LCO number?

SENATOR DIBELLA:

I'm sorry. I would move LCO No. 7611.

THE CHAIR:

7611. Mr. Clerk, would you call LCO7611.

THE CLERK:

LCO7611, which will be designated Senate Amendment Schedule "B". It's offered by Senator DiBella of the 1st District.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much. The Chair would recognize Senator DiBella.

SENATOR DIBELLA:

Could we stand -- could we take? Madam President, could we take one second. It's being disseminated amongst the --.

THE CHAIR:

Yes, the Senate will stand at ease while the amendment is being distributed.

The Senate will come to order and the Chair will recognize Senator DiBella.

SENATOR DIBELLA:

Thank you, Madam President. I move adoption of LCO

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No. 7611.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much. Would you wish to remark on the amendment?

SENATOR DIBELLA:

Thank you. What this amendment does very simply is removes from the arbitrary list of guns designated as assault weapons semiautomatic -- the word "Sporter" which is the designation of Colt Sporter from the designated list.

Colts Manufacturing manufactures assault weapons and sells them to the military and to certain police organizations. They include the M-16 A-2, the automatic rifle, the M4 Carbine and other carbines and submachine guns. They also make grenade launchers for these same customers. Colts does not sell any of these weapons to civilians. Colts Manufacturing also manufactures sporting rifles and have for most of their 157 years.

People buy them for their Colt collections. They buy them for bullseye target shooting. They are the official competition rifle for the National Match Shooting Championships designated under Act of Congress and for less formal kinds of target shooting.

They buy them for hunting and several other uses.

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The sporting rifle Colts has made since 1990 is the Colt Sporter. No military force in the world does or ever will equip itself with the Colt Sporter rifle. A nation would be foolish to ask its soldiers to go into battle with a Colt Sporter. Every soldier in the force would be placed in jeopardy of death an injury, injury entering combat operations with a Colt Sporter instead of an M-16 A-2 assault rifle or a comparable weapon.

It is a federal felony to convert a sporting firearm into an assault weapon. Nevertheless, Colts has gone to an extraordinary length to design and built their Sporter rifle with a special feature to thwart the criminal element who might try to alter its sporting performance.

I think it's a significant issue here to point out that this amendment, which strikes the Sporter, Colt Sporter sports weapon from this bill of what I consider arbitrary weapons designated as, if you will, assault weapons, represents the fact that we have a Connecticut come which has gone to extraordinary lengths to ensure that their weapon is for sports purposes and has taken long and difficult periods of time to design the configuration operating rod so that people cannot convert this to an automatic assault weapon without extensive milling and extensive machining which would

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put it in violation of state and federal laws.

I oppose the amendment, and let me state for the record, I take no personal exception to anything that was said in this room and I hope no member of this body takes personally what I feel is a reason for an approach that before us in the amendment we adopted is not the solution of any problems of taking guns off of the streets of our cities and towns.

This is a national phenomenon. It is a problem that confronts this country. The federal government has tried through a comprehensive gun bill in 1991 to restrict the sale of so-called assault weapons and other types of weapons. Very interesting that in that debate that our own congressional delegation lobbied hard to ensure that the Colt Sporter would not be included in either the definitions or the categories of what were being considered as assault rifles in that 1991 legislation.

The Congressional Record is expressed -- it is expressed in the Congressional Record by two of our congress people the position they have taken, the discussions with the committee chair people as to the Colt Sporter in not being applicable to the federal legislation that was proposed and I'll quote.

October 17, 1991, Thursday, Washington, D.C., the