

Legislative History for Connecticut Act

SB 95	PA 362	1985
House	4000-4006, 4369-4376, 8501-8507	(22)
Senate	613, 1418-1420, 1554, 2722-2727, 2753	(12)
Labor	176, 185, 194	(3)
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CONNECTICUT
GEN. ASSEMBLY
HOUSE

PROCEEDINGS
1985

VOL. 28
PART 12
4132-4491

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House of Representatives

Thursday, May 2, 1985

CLERK:

Calendar No. 451, Senate Bill No. 95, File No. 214, AN ACT CONCERNING SPOUSE COVERAGE UNDER GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES, as amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A". Favorable Report of the Committee on Insurance and Real Estate.

REP. HURD: (56th)

Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

Rep. Hurd.

REP. HURD: (56th)

Mr. Speaker, I move acceptance of the Joint Committees Favorable Report and passage of the bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

The motion is for acceptance of the Joint Committees Favorable Report and passage of the bill in concurrence with the Senate. Will you remark, Sir?

REP. HURD: (56th)

Yes, Mr. Speaker. The bill intends to clarify existing statutes to the effect that spouses who are employed by the same employer are eligible, under state law, for individual coverage so that they can coordinate benefits on group insurance, group health insurance plans.

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Mr. Speaker, the Clerk has an amendment, Senate Amendment "A", LCO No. 6235. I ask that he call the amendment and that I be permitted to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

Will the Clerk please call LCO 6235, previously designated Senate Schedule "A".

CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule "A", LCO No. 6235, offered by Sen. Schoolcraft.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

The gentleman has requested permission to summarize. Is there objection? Hearing none, please proceed, Rep. Hurd.

REP. HURD: (56th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In summary, the amendment deletes the new language in the file copy and revises the existing statutory language to achieve the original intent. I believe the amendment is technical and I move adoption of the amendment.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

Thank you, Sir. The gentleman has moved adoption. Would you care to remark further on the amendment, Sir?

REP. HURD: (56th)

No, Mr. Speaker. I believe in the summary I

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said as much as I care to.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

Is there any other debate on Senate "A"? Hearing none, I will try your minds. All those in favor of adoption of Senate "A" please indicate by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

All those opposed nay. The ayes have it. Senate "A" is adopted and ruled technical. Will you remark further on the bill as amended?

REP. O'NEILL: (98th)

Mr. Speaker..

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

Rep. O'Neill.

REP. O'NEILL: (98th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Clerk has an amendment, LCO No. 6419. Would the Clerk please call the amendment and may I be allowed to summarize?

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 6419 which we designated House Schedule "A".

CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule "A", LCO No. 6419,

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offered by Rep. O'Neill and Rep. Belaga, Rep. Belden, Rep. Torpey, Rep. Adamo, Rep. Kiner.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

The gentleman has requested permission to summarize. Is there objection? Hearing none, please proceed, Rep. O'Neill.

REP. O'NEILL: (98th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this amendment is an amendment to Section 31-51 of the General Statutes, relative to the length of time an employer would be required to pay group hospitalization on individuals who were in his employ at the time that the company either left the state or terminated the policy. I move its adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

The gentleman has moved adoption, Would you care to remark further, Rep. O'Neill?

REP. O'NEILL: (98th)

Yes, I certainly would but I would defer at this time to Rep. Bassing, if I may.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

Rep. Bassing, do you accept the yield, Sir?

REP. BASSING: (105th)

Yes, I do, Mr. Speaker, thank you. It is interesting

to note today that we're talking a tax package and the economy is good, everybody's making money, but this amendment looks at a different side, the side where people lose their jobs through plant closings or relocations.

If you will bear with me a moment, I just want to read some quotes from the Century Brass Company of the closing a couple of months ago and this is what this amendment alludes to.

"I would have retired in five years and now I have to look for work," this man said. He was 57 years old. "I came here when I was 21. This is the only job I ever had." Another gentleman said, "I've worked here for 30 years. I'm 60 years old. It's going to be awful hard for me to get a job."

What this amendment addresses is a little bit more compassion on our part, it goes a little bit farther. It allows that past 90 days for every individual who has five years service with the company, he gets an additional 15 days group health insurance coverage, paid by that company, due to relocating or closing down.

My fellow members, I feel it is compassionate. I think it's something that we have to address. We have to take care of these people that lose their jobs through

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no fault of their own. I think it's a good amendment and I urge its adoption. Thank you very much.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

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

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

All those opposed nay.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Nay.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

The ayes have it. House Amendment Schedule "A" is adopted and ruled technical.

House Amendment Schedule "A".

After line 34, insert a new section 2 and renumber remaining section accordingly:

"Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 31-510 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

(a) Whenever a relocation or closing of a covered establishment occurs, the employer of the covered establishment shall pay in full for the continuation of existing group health insurance, no matter where the group policy was written, issued or delivered, for each affected employee and his

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dependents, if covered under the group policy, from the date of relocation or closing for (1) a period of ninety days PLUS AN ADDITIONAL FIFTEEN DAYS FOR EACH FIVE YEARS OF THE EMPLOYEE'S SERVICE FOR THE EMPLOYER, UP TO A MAXIMUM TOTAL OF ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY DAYS, OR (2) until such time as the employee becomes eligible for other group coverage, whichever is the lesser, provided any right of such employee and his dependents to a continuation of coverage for up to thirty-nine weeks as required by section 38-262d or 38-374 shall not be affected by the provisions of this section, and provided further the thirty-nine week period of continued coverage required by said sections shall not commence until the period of continued coverage established by this section has terminated."

In line 36, after "passage" and before the period insert the following: "except section 2 shall take effect October 1, 1985"

REP. JAEKLE: (122nd)

Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

Rep. Jaekle.

REP. JAEKLE: (122nd)

Mr. Speaker, I've been informed that there's a need for an amendment from the other side of the isle. I'd like to ask that this item be passed retaining its place on the calendar please.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

The motion is to pass retain Calendar SB 95 451. Is there objection? Hearing none, so ordered.

CLERK:

Returning to Page 8, Calendar No. 356, Substitute

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PART II

3716-401

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House of Representatives

Tuesday, May 7, 1985

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

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

CLERK:

Page 8, Calendar No. 451, Senate Bill No. 95, File No. 214, AN ACT CONCERNING SPOUSE COVERAGE UNDER GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES. As amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A", House Amendment Schedules "A" and "B". Favorable Report of the Committee on Insurance and Real Estate.

REP. HURD: (56th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Robert Hurd.

REP. HURD: (56th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and passage of the bill in concurrence with the Senate.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

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

REP. HURD: (56th)

Yes, I'm having a real problem saying concurrence.

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House of Representatives

Tuesday, May 7, 1985

I just want to note that the other evening we here in the House passed and adopted Senate Amendment "A" and House Amendment "A". We've discussed the bill pretty thoroughly. At this time, I'd like to yield to Rep. Francis O'Neill. I believe he has another amendment he'd like to introduce.

REP. O'NEILL: (98th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. O'Neill.

REP. O'NEILL: (98th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Clerk has an amendment, LCO 6062. May he call the amendment and I be allowed to summarize?

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Is the Clerk in possession of LCO 6062 designated House Amendment Schedule "B"?

CLERK:

I am.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Will the Clerk please call the amendment.

CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule "B", LCO 6062, offered by Rep. O'Neill, Rep. Belaga, Rep. Belden, Rep. Krawiecki,

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House of Representatives

Tuesday, May 7, 1985

Rep. Adamo and Rep. Kiner.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

The gentleman has asked permission to summarize.

Is there objection? Please proceed, Sir.

REP. O'NEILL: (98th)

Mr. Speaker, in effect this particular amendment will do away with House Amendment "A" which was passed during the last day of the session. This technically changes the amount of time which will be afforded an individual when a company moves out of state. This increases the length of time which is presently 90 to 120 days and if I may, I would like to defer to Rep. Bassing at this time to further explain this amendment.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Bassing, do you accept the yield?

REP. BASSING: (105th)

I do, Mr. Speaker, thank you, Rep. O'Neill. As I stated last week, this is a very important amendment. I urge its adoption. We're talking again about people that lose their jobs, plants closings, relocations. I didn't think 90 days was sufficient. Last week we passed an amendment that stated for every five years of service, you got 50 days additional group insurance coverage. That

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might have intended to have been a nightmare with the insurance companies. That's one of the underlying reasons why we changed the wording and offered this amendment today, to make it clean, to go from 90 to 120 days. I think it shows, again, some compassion. I think I can live with that. I think we all can live with that. I think it's fair to the people that do lose their jobs, especially long term employees and I urge the adoption. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Would someone move adoption, please? Rep. O'Neill.

REP. O'NEILL: (98th)

I move adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

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

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

All opposed indicate by saying nay. The ayes have it. House "B" is adopted and ruled technical.

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House of Representatives

Tuesday, May 7, 1985

House Amendment Schedule "B".

After line 34, insert a new section 2 and renumber remaining section accordingly:

"Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 31-510 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

(a) Whenever a relocation or closing of a covered establishment occurs, the employer of the covered establishment shall pay in full for the continuation of existing group health insurance, no matter where the group policy was written, issued or delivered, for each affected employee and his dependents, if covered under the group policy, from the date of relocation or closing for a period of (ninety) ONE HUNDRED TWENTY days or until such time as the employee becomes eligible for other group coverage, whichever is the lesser, provided any right of such employee and his dependents to a continuation of coverage for up to thirty-nine weeks as required by section 38-262d or 38-374 shall not be affected by the provisions of this section, and provided further the thirty-nine week period of continued coverage required by said sections shall not commence until the period of continued coverage established by this section and has terminated."

In line 36, after "passage" and before the period insert the following: "except section 2 shall take effect October 1, 1985"

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Will you remark further on the bill?

REP. HURD: (56th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Robert Hurd.

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House of Representatives

Tuesday, May 7, 1985

REP. HURD: (56th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would simply urge the members to support passage of the bill as amended.

Thank you.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Will you remark further on the bill as amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A", Senate Amendment Schedule "B", House "A" and House Amendment Schedule "B"? Will you remark further? The Chair will apologize. There's only a Senate Amendment Schedule "A". There is no Senate Amendment Schedule "B". Will you remark?

If not, will staff and guests please come to the well of the House and the machine will be opened.

The Clerk will please announce a roll call for those members not in the Chamber.

CLERK:

The House of Representatives is now voting by roll.
All members please return to the Chamber immediately.

The House of Representatives is now voting by roll.
All members please return to the Chamber immediately.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Have all the members from Madison voted and are your votes properly recorded? Have all the members voted? If so, the machine will be locked. Will the

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Clerk please take a tally.

REP. TUREK: (43rd)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Turek.

REP. TUREK: (43rd)

I still don't have all my buttons. In the affirmative, please.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Turek of the 43rd in the affirmative, please.

REP. TUREK: (43rd)

Thank you.

REP. PATTON: (119th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Gerard Patton.

REP. PATTON: (119th)

Mr. Speaker, in the affirmative, please.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Patton of the 199th in the affirmative.

REP. RUDOLF: (139th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Rudolf.

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REP. RUDOLF: (139th)

In the affirmative, please.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Rudolf in the affirmative. He's of the 139th.

Will the Clerk please announce the tally.

CLERK:

Senate Bill No. 95, as amended by Senate "A", House "A" and House "B".

Total number voting	145
Necessary for passage	73
Those voting yea	145
Those voting nay	0
Those absent and not voting	6

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

The bill is passed in concurrence with the Senate.

CLERK:

Calendar No. 452, Substitute for Senate Bill No. 336, File No. 131, AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEFINITION IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF DRUGS, as amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "B". Favorable Report of the Committee on Public Health.

REP. JAEKLE: (122nd)

Mr. Speaker.

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GEN. ASSEMBLY
HOUSE

PROCEEDINGS
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8313-8705

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House of Representatives

Friday, May 24, 1985

CLERK:

House Bill 7725, as amended by Senate "A".

Total number voting	136
Necessary for passage	59
Those voting yea	136
Those voting nay	0
Those absent and not voting	15

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

The bill as amended is passed in concurrence with
the Senate.

CLERK:

Page 36, Calendar No. 451, Senate Bill No. 95,
File No. 214, AN ACT CONCERNING SPOUSE COVERAGE UNDER
GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES, as amended by Senate
Amendment Schedule "A" and House Amendment Schedules
"A" and "B". Favorable Report of the Committee on
Insurance and Real Estate. Senate rejected House
Amendment Schedule "A" on 5/14.

REP. HURD: (56th)

Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

Rep. Robert Hurd.

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House of Representatives

Friday, May 24, 1985

REP. HURD: (56th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and passage of the bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

Motion is for acceptance and passage of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report, of the bill in concurrence with the Senate. Will you remark, sir?

REP. HURD: (56th)

Yes, Mr. Speaker. This bill has been through the House before. At that time we passed two amendments. We thought one would void the other, but apparently the Senate was concerned that we wanted to make sure that we did not have two conflicting attitudes about the bill, and so they rejected one of our amendments. To be on the safe side, I'd like to call Senate Amendment "A", which is LCO 6235, and I'd like to have permission to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

The Clerk please call LCO 6235, previously designated Senate Amendment Schedule "A".

CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule "A", LCO 6235, offered by Senator Schoolcraft.

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House of Representatives

Friday, May 24, 1985

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

The representative has requested permission to summarize. Is there objection? Hearing none, please proceed, Rep. Hurd.

REP. HURD: (56th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Senate "A" attempts to clarify the file. We passed it by a voice vote previously and I move adoption of the amendment.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

I believe a request to withdraw adoption of Senate "A" would be in order, sir.

REP. HURD: (56th)

Mr. Speaker, I have no problem with that.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

Rep. Hurd.

REP. HURD: (56th)

I withdrawn Senate "A".

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

The gentleman has requested that Senate "A", the motion to adopt Senate "A" be withdrawn. Is there objection? If not, so ordered.

REP. HURD: (56th)

Mr. Speaker.

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House of Representatives

Friday, May 24, 1985

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

Rep. Hurd.

REP. HURD: (56th)

The Clerk has House "A", LCO 6419. I ask that the Clerk call and again, that I be given permission to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

The Clerk please call LCO 6419, previously designated House Amendment Schedule "A".

CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule "A", LCO 6419, offered by Rep. O'Neill, Belaga, Belden, Krawiecki, Adamo, Kiner.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

Gentleman has requested permission to summarize. Is there objection? If not, please proceed, Rep. Hurd.

REP. HURD: (56th)

Mr. Speaker, the amendment added a section to the bill. It was an attempt to deal with the problem inherent in plant closings, and to extend mandatory insurance coverage. Subsequent to the adoption of House "A", as I mentioned earlier, we adopted House "B", with a different period of, extension period. This one would have been difficult for insurance companies to deal with, therefore I move rejection of House "A".

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DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

The gentleman has moved for rejection of House "A". Will you remark further, Rep. Hurd?

REP. HURD: (56th)

No, Mr. Speaker. I think in my summary I explained my reasons for doing this, and I just urge members to move along.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

Will you remark further on the motion to reject House "A"?

REP. BASSING: (105th)

Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

Rep. George Bassing.

REP. BASSING: (105th)

Again, sir, to reflect what happened a couple of weeks ago, the original amendment put in was for every five years of additional service there would be fifteen more days of group insurance coverage. That was found to be a little bit difficult with the insurance companies so we put another amendment that just made it from 90 days to 120 days, which stays in that bill, so I urge again, rejection of House Amendment "A" and go with 120 days as was left in the bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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House of Representatives

Friday, May 24, 1985

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

Will you remark further on the motion to reject House "A"? If not, I would try your minds. All those in favor of rejection of House Amendment Schedule "A", please indicate by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

All those opposed, nay. The ayes have it. House "A" is rejected.

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

REP. HURD: (56th)

Mr. Speaker, as you noted, we previously adopted Senate "A" and House "B". I believe we now concur completely with the Senate, and I urge passage of the bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

Thank you, sir. Will you remark further on the bill? If not, staff and guests please come to the well of the House. Immediate roll call will be ordered. The Clerk please announce the roll call.

CLERK:

The House of Representatives is now voting by roll call. Please return to the Chamber immediately. The House

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House of Representatives

Friday, May 24, 1985

of Representatives is now voting by roll call. Please return to the Chamber so your vote may be recorded.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

Have all the members voted? Please check the board to determine if your vote is properly recorded. Members in the Chamber must vote, even those eating lunch. The machine will be locked. The Clerk will take a tally.

The Clerk please announce the tally.

CLERK:

Senate Bill 95 as amended by Senate "A" and House "B".

Total number voting	145
Necessary for passage	73
Those voting yea	145
Those voting nay	0
Those absent and not voting	6

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

The bill is passed in concurrence with the Senate.

CLERK:

Page 35, Calendar No. 438, Substitute for House Bill 7751, File No. 549, and 908, AN ACT CONCERNING ABSENTEE BALLOTS, as amended by House Amendment Schedule "A" and Senate Amendment Schedules "A" and "B". Favorable

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CONNECTICUT
GEN. ASSEMBLY
SENATE

PROCEEDINGS
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PART 2

365-699

SENATE

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 6, 1985

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LFU

SENATOR SMITH:

No Mr. President, just the one session on Tuesday,
March 12.

THE CHAIR:

Any other points of Personal Privilege at this time?
The Senate will stand adjourned, subject to the Call of
the Chair.

The Senate adjourned at 2:28 P.M., subject to the Call
of the Chair.

The Following is the Senate Agenda #1, dated March 6,
1985:

PETITIONS FILED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE UNDER JOINT RULE 11

(Petition to Draft Proposed Bill as a Committee Bill)

Petition #6, to be referred to the Committee indicated.

Petition #7 to be referred to Committee indicated.

INTRODUCTION OF SENATE AND HOUSE LIST OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

(List. no. 36) - reading to be waived and Bills and Resolutions
to be referred to Committees indicated.

SENATE BILLS FAVORABLY REPORTED - WITH A CHANGE OF REFERENCE -
to be referred to Committees indicated.

Labor and Public Employees, Senate Bill 95, AN ACT CONCERNING

SPOUSE COVERAGE UNDER GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES.

Referred to Insurance and Real Estate.

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CONNECTICUT
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SENATE

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PART 5

1400-1770

Regular Session
April 24, 1985

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jgt

THE CLERK:

Page 3, calendar No. 169, Senate Bill No. 95, File No. 214. An Act Concerning Spouse Coverage Under Group Health Insurance Policies. Favorable Report of the Committee on Insurance and Real Estate.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Schoolcraft.

SENATOR SCHOOLCRAFT:

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

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark?

SENATOR SCHOOLCRAFT:

Yes, Mr. President. I believe there's an amendment.

THE CHAIR:

Clerk, please call the amendment.

THE CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule "A", LCO No. 6235, introduced by Senator Schoolcraft.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Schoolcraft.

SENATOR SCHOOLCRAFT:

Mr. President, I move adoption of the amendment and waive

the reading.

THE CHAIR:

Without objection, you may proceed.

SENATOR SCHOOLCRAFT:

Mr. President, may I explain the amendment? The amendment is nothing but a technical change for clarity and does not change the intent of the bill.

THE CHAIR:

Do you wish to remark further on the amendment, Amendment Schedule "A"? All those in favor, signify by saying aye. Those opposed, nay. The ayes have it. The amendment's adopted. Further amendments?

THE CLERK:

No further amendments.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Schoolcraft.

SENATOR SCHOOLCRAFT:

Yes, Mr. President. I'll explain the bill. Under current statutes, every health insurance group plan allows benefits to be coordinated if husband and wife are covered under a different employer. This change would allow husband and wives to coordinate benefits if working for the same employer but are participating in different bargaining units. If there's no

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jgt

objection, I move this to the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Do you wish to remark further? Without objection, the item is placed on the consent calendar.

THE CLERK:

Page 3, calendar No. 173, Senate Bill No. 846, File No. 218. An Act To Amend The Connecticut Uniform Securities Act. Favorable Report of the Committee on Banks.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Eaton.

SENATOR EATON:

Yes, Mr. Chairman. Thank you. You caught me a little unaware. Could we move to the next bill and P.T. this just temporarily and take it up next? Thank you.

THE CHAIR:

It may be passed temporarily. Proceed with the next item.

THE CLERK:

Page 4, calendar No. 174, Substitute for Senate Bill 634, File No. 222. An Act Concerning Motor Vehicle Service Agreements. Favorable Report of the Committee on Insurance and Real Estate.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Schoolcraft.

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jgt

THE CHAIR:

Please give your attention to the Clerk. You recall that we read from a list of all those items that were going to be placed on the consent calendar. We added additional ones during the course of the session here this afternoon, and please give your attention to him. He's going to read those items that we placed on the consent calendar in addition to the original list.

THE CLERK:

SB 336, SB 95, SB 846, SB 634, SB 444, SB 9, SB 202,
Calendar 121, 169, 173, 174, 256, 260, 267, 275 and 279.
SB 812, SB 213

These are in addition to the list that was read earlier.

THE CHAIR:

Are there any changes? Any omissions? Now we're prepared to vote on the consent calendar. The machine is open. Please record your vote. Senator Daniels. Senator Daniels. Has everyone voted? The machine is closed. Clerk, please tally the vote. Result of the vote, 36 yea, zero nay. The consent calendar is adopted.

THE CLERK:

Page 11, calendar No. 290, House Bill 5421, File 140, An Act Concerning Owner's Signatures On Real Estate Listing Agreements.

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GEN. ASSEMBLY
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PROCEEDINGS
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PART 8

2468-2822

1985 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE

TUESDAY
MAY 14, 1985

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substances, have a permit to do so and it also makes it illegal by state statute that veterinarial drugs would be illegal to sell them. Presently there is no law in the state of Connecticut that precludes the sale of registered I should say legend veterinarial substances and the only preclusion of that is federal statute and now we would have the state statute. With no objections, I would move that this be placed on the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Are there further remarks? Any objection to placing this Bill on the Consent Calendar? Hearing none, so ordered.

THE CLERK:

Page 18, Calendar 169, Senate Bill 95, File 214, AN ACT CONCERNING SPOUSE COVERAGE UNDER GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES, as amended by Senate Amendment, Schedule A and House Amendment, Schedules A and B.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Schoolcraft.

SENATOR SCHOOLCRAFT:

Mr. President, I move acceptance of the Committee's Joint Favorable Report and passage of the Bill as amended by Senate A and House B and rejection of House A.

THE CHAIR:

Senator, so you're--will you remark?

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SENATOR SCHOOLCRAFT:

What I'm trying to do Mr. President, is to--passage of the Bill--we have three Amendments going here and the House has A and B and I would like to pass the Bill with--

THE CHAIR:

Senator, would you wish to reject House A?

SENATOR SCHOOLCRAFT:

That's affirmative.

THE CHAIR:

All right sir, then that would be your first motion.

SENATOR SCHOOLCRAFT:

Mr. President, I move that--joint favorable--passage of the Bill and rejection of House A.

THE CHAIR:

All right. The motion is to reject House A. Will you remark?

SENATOR SCHOOLCRAFT:

Yes. House A Bill in House B is just a clarifying-- it's saying what House A says but in a much better language. So that's why we want to reject House A and substitute House B.

THE CHAIR:

All right Senator. The motion is to reject House A. Anyone wish to remark further? Senator Harper.

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SENATOR HARPER:

Yes, through you Mr. President, would Senator Schoolcraft please explain what House A does? What are we rejecting?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Schoolcraft, will you respond?

SENATOR SCHOOLCRAFT:

Mr. President, through you to Senator Harper, Senator Harper, I'm going to have to read right off the Amendment rather than--it says the change is in this type of wording. A period of ninety days plus an additional fifteen days for each five years of the employee's service for the employer up to the maximum time of 180 days and what actually House B did was to insert the same words, 120 days or until such time as the employer becomes eligible for other groups. So rather than try to get involved, the House--going by the time of five years in the employee's service contract and everything, they just clarified the language. It does the same thing but it's much more clearer.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Harper.

SENATOR HARPER:

Through you Mr. President, in other words we are not

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affecting the extension proposal in any way which is the intent of the two Amendments.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Schoolcraft, will you respond please sir?

SENATOR SCHOOLCRAFT:

Mr. President, through you to Senator Harper, in the original one we had the period of 90 days in House A and for a maximum total of 180 days and we have changed in House B, we have increased it. We did away with the 90 and put 120 days which is doing the same thing but we're making it much more clearer. It's about as clear as I can give you.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Harper, is that clear?

SENATOR HARPER:

I think it's clear. I'll trust in Senator Schoolcraft.

SENATOR SCHOOLCRAFT:

Mr. President, through you to Senator Harper, I think we're trusting the House, but I'm satisfied with it. If there is no objection I move to the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Excuse me, we have to vote on the rejection of House A.
Senator O'Leary.

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SENATOR O'LEARY:

Thank you Mr. President. As I read House A, they're talking about extending an employee's benefits in the event of a plant shutdown, for 90 days plus an additional 15 days for each five years of the employee's service with the employer up to a maximum total of 180 days. As I read House B, each effected employee or his dependent is covered by the group policy from the date of relocation or closing will be covered for a period of 120 days. So it seems to me first of all, that the two Amendments are in conflict. But that House A is the more liberal in granting a maximum of 180 days of benefits. Are we moving to strike House A and if so, are we then going with the more restrictive coverage of 120 days?

THE CHAIR:

Senator O'Leary, is that a question through the Chair to Senator Schoolcraft?

SENATOR O'LEARY:

Yes. Thank you Mr. President.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Schoolcraft, will you please respond?

SENATOR SCHOOLCRAFT:

Mr. President, through you to Senator O'Leary, I think probably the clearest and the shortest answer I can give to

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you is that the House sent Amendment A on it, sent it to the Senate. We amended it on a technical change; sent it back to the House. They in the House, came up with House B which they felt was a much more better Amendment, better Amendment and it was voted on with the entire House. I think 150 to 0, something like that, so it seems to be that they feel more comfortable with it and I have no objection.

THE CHAIR:

Senator O'Leary. The motion was to reject House A. I'll try your minds. Those in favor of rejecting House A, please indicate by saying aye. Those opposed? House A is rejected. Senator Schoolcraft.

SENATOR SCHOOLCRAFT:

Mr. President, if there's no further objection I move this to the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Is there any objection to moving this Bill to the Consent Calendar? Hearing no objection, so ordered to the Consent Calendar.

THE CLERK:

Page 18, Calendar 179, Substitute for Senate Bill 867, Files 229, 407 and 825, AN ACT CONCERNING DISPLAY OF THE STICKER ON THE MOTOR VEHICLE NUMBER PLATE AND THE USE OF

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HB 7030

SB 336

Calendar 535; page 17, Calendar 121; page 18, Calendars
SB 45, SB 867, SB 803, HB 7269 SB 619, SB 720, SB 154
169, 179, 217, 296; page 19, Calendar 355, 357, 358 and
SB 826
364.

THE CHAIR:

Any changes? Any omissions? The machine is open.
Please record your vote. Has everyone voted? Senator
Gunther. The machine is closed. Clerk please tally the
vote. The result of the vote:

36 YEA

0 NAY

The Consent Calendar is adopted. Any announcements?

Senator Smith. Senator Harper wishes to be recognized.

Senator Harper.

SENATOR HARPER:

I rise for a Point of Personal Privilege Mr. President.
A meeting originally scheduled tomorrow morning at 10:00 A.M.
of the Internship Committee has been changed to 11:00 A.M.,
and I believe some members did not get the second notice.
Thank you.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you. Further announcements? Senator Morano.

SENATOR MORANO:

Mr. President, there'll be a meeting of the
Transportation Committee members at 12:30 P.M., in Room

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MR. GRAY: (continued)
the fund to a sound economic basis.

Arguably, the intent of that legislation was to base eligibility on job-related circumstances for termination for quits and fires. Unfortunately, that intent was subverted by internal guidelines autonomously adopted by the State Labor Department in a manner which circumvented the regulatory process, so that once again we had people rewarded for leaving their employment under circumstances that were unrelated to their jobs. In effect, these guidelines penalized a fault-free employer, a violation of all principles of equity, and spirit of fair play, which we highly prize under our American way of life.

We strongly commend Senate Bill 137 and Senate Bill 138 to this honorable committee for support and favorable consideration as a first step toward re-establishing the work ethic in Connecticut.

We also commend Senate Bill 138, re-establishment of the waiting week for the same purpose. This legislation is not onerous as the employee receives his pay from the employer for the preceding week's work during his first week of unemployment. Where unemployment continues past the third week, he is reimbursed for the first week. This seems an equitable compromise.

We support House Bill 5659 as an equitable compromise requiring a one-year Statute of Limitations on acts constituting wilful misconduct. Although our primary purpose here today is to support the return of unemployment compensation to its original intent to re-establish the work ethic and relive a fault-free employer from penalty, we would be remiss in not briefly commenting on other pending legislation.

We oppose Senate Bill 95 respecting broadening of employer group insurance coverage as unnecessarily costly. We support Senate Bill 124 providing a reduced minimum wage for minors during summer recess as an incentive to give employment to those who might not otherwise have the opportunity. Similarly, we support House Bill 5173 permitting persons to enter the labor force as adults, at age 18, or upon graduation from a secondary educational institution, whichever comes first.

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LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

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MR. ANDERSON: (continued)

it applies to companies employing 50 or more people. It requires that those companies have a policy and that they communicate it to their employees. I'll share with you our own experience at CBIA. We employ about 65 people. It's an office environment, by and large, although we have a print shop, and we developed a policy which is very simple but has been very effective for us, and our policy simply is, individuals are privileged to smoke in their own office, or in their own work area, but not in the common areas, not in the restrooms, not in the hallways and we found from our own experience that prior to the implementation of this policy, we had many complaints, frequent complaints from non-smoking members of our staff. Since its enactment, we have not had any complaints.

To us, it's a matter of common courtesy and in most cases we'd like to think that employers and both smoking and non-smoking employees can accommodate one another. In our case it's worked well, our policies work well.

Commenting briefly on a couple of other bills. Senate Bill 95, it's Sen. Harper's bill pertaining to group insurance coverage and coordination of benefits. I have to admit that I don't fully understand this issue. It appears to me that this would apply in very rare and unique situations, but I think the bill at the very least deserves the, deserves scrutiny by the Insurance Committee which perhaps has more technical expertise in the insurance area than this particular committee.

The Employer Knowledge Bill, House Bill 56. The Employer House Knowledge Bill, House Bill 5658 in terms of conditioning second injury fund liability. This is conceptually an excellent idea. It's a new idea, though and we haven't fully aired it with our members and I'm not sure about all the practical consequences.

And House Bill 5180, extending the period of group health insurance coverage in instances of a closing or relocation of a plant, I would point out that with one exception and it involves a company that is bankrupt, we're unaware of any instances where the current law has proven to be inadequate.

I also would like to point out something that's not widely known, is Connecticut's 39 week option allowing employees

REP. SAVAGE: The next speaker is Betty Tianti. Welcome, Betty.

BETTY TIANTI: Thank you, Rep. Savage. Members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee. My name is Betty Tianti. I'm the secretary-treasurer of the Connecticut State AFofL, CIO. I'd like to address about five of the bills that you're hearing today, but I would preface my remarks by saying I would hope that the committee would have some future hearings where the issue of plant closing and as important, the issue of financing of the unemployment compensation fund is heard, because I think these are very crucial issues which should be addressed during the course of this Session.

I'd like to speak briefly on Senate Bill 95, which is An Act Concerning Spouse Coverage Under Group Health Insurance Policies and would urge you to give favorable consideration to this particular bill. Under current insurance regulations or insurance interpretations, if a husband and wife work for two separate companies and are insured, each under those policies, they can have what is coordination of benefits. If one goes into the hospital and the policy does not cover the full cost of that hospital stay and medical benefits, the other policy at the other employer, does pick up and will pay up to the total cost.

Unfortunately, when the husband and wife work for the same employer and are insured under the same policy, we do not have that type of coordination of benefits. It seems to me because the employer is in fact paying for coverage, or should be paying for coverage since the cost of insurance is a part of the payment for the employee that there should be that coordination of benefits so that the employee is in fact, covered to the total cost of medical expenses, and I ask you to give that a favorable report.

I'd like to address myself to Committee Bill 124 which is the sub-minimum wage for youth during the summertime, and I would urge you to reject this. Currently, and I looked at the budget yesterday, the Governor's budget, yesterday the report from the wage enforcement division showed that last year over \$2 million in improperly paid wages were recovered for people, over 7,000 people in the State of Connecticut because employers had already violated existing wage and hour laws. The minimum wage, overtime provisions