

Legislative History for Connecticut Act

HB 5981 PA 380 1985

House 6582-6598, 6618-6654 (54)

Senate 3925-3934 (10)

General Law 130, 135, 212-214, 215-216, 230 (8)

**LAW/LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE  
DO NOT REMOVE FROM LIBRARY**

Total - 72p

Transcripts from the Joint Standing Committee Public Hearing(s) and/or Senate  
and House of Representatives Proceedings

Connecticut State Library  
Compiled 2012

H-406

CONNECTICUT  
GEN. ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE

PROCEEDINGS  
1985

VOL. 28

PART 18

6353-6728

kpt

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

Will the Clerk please announce the tally.

CLERK:

Senate Bill 280.

Total number voting 127

Necessary for passage 64

Those voting yea 123

Those voting nay 4

Those absent and not voting 24

DEPUTY SPEAKER BELDEN:

The bill is passed in concurrence with the Senate.

CLERK:

Page 10, Calendar No. 639, Substitute for House Bill No. 5981, File No. 794, AN ACT ELIMINATING NIGHT CLUB PERMITS. Favorable Report of the Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding.

REP. DICKINSON: (30th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Loren Dickinson.

REP. DICKINSON: (30th)

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

kpt

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

The question is on acceptance as passage. Will you remark, sir?

REP. DICKINSON: (30th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I will. Ladies and gentlemen, if I may begin, particularly for the benefit of the new members of the Assembly, I think I'd like to give a few facts before we get into the bill.

I had a little trouble finding my file copy earlier there were so many amendments in my folder. At the present time, if someone holds a liquor permit for the on premises consumption, normally the closing hours for that establishment from Sunday through Thursday would be midnight, I'm sorry, I can't even get it straight myself, 1:00 A.M. Friday and Saturday it would be 2:00 A.M.

If, however, they wish to purchase, or apply for and receive a night club permit at extra cost, they would then have an extension of one hour during the week and on weekends to serve.

At the present time, there are some 254 night club permits in existence in the state. What this bill would do, would be to eliminate the night club permit as of October 1 of this year. At that time, the Liquor Control Commission would no longer issue, nor renew any of the

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

existing night club permits. The file copy as it's written, has a phase out period so that someone renewing their night club permit before October 1 would then have the benefit of allowing that permit to run its course until it expires, at which time it would be no longer in existence.

In the General Law Committee this year, we've had our share of controversial subjects that we've debated. I think this is one example of a bill where there was very little opposition to. It passed, of those members present, I think there were 18 present at the time, it was a unanimous vote that we should support the bill and eliminate the night club permit and in the three years that I've been up here, I believe this proposal has come before the committee at least each year.

Statistics, and I'm sure if not all of us, many of us have seen statistics. I'd like to read just a couple. These statistics come from the Connecticut Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission, or CADAC. Granted they are for fiscal year 83-84, but to give you an idea of the impact that the late night permit has, their statistics show that between the hours of midnight and 4:00 A.M., of the alcohol involved fatal accidents, 39.2% occur during those hours, roughly 40%.

In past year, I think one of the stumbling blocks

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

to this bill is the fiscal impact that it has, and as the file copy states, there would be a loss of revenue of some \$350,000 for the full year, or \$280,000 I believe, \$263,000 for three quarters of a year.

But I think in view of that when you look at the incidents of fatalities caused at that hour of the evening, or the morning, I think it's time that this General Assembly bit the bullet, passed this bill and eliminated the night club permits, and I urge passage of the bill, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Will you remark further on the bill?

REP. NARDINI: (115th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Joseph Nardini.

REP. NARDINI: (115th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I believe that the file copy of the bill, it's a good bill as it sits right now. However, I feel as though it needs a little help and I'm prepared to help it.

I'd like the Clerk to call for me please, LCO No. 6854 and I would ask permission to summarize.

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Will the Clerk please call and read LCO No. 6854 designated House Amendment Schedule "A".

CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule "A", LCO 6854, offered by Rep. Nardini, Rep. Prague, Rep. Adamo, Rep. Collins, Rep. Bassing, Rep. Nania, Rep. Polinsky.

After line 442, add the following:

"Sec. 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 1985."

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

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

REP. NARDINI: (115th)

I move for adoption, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

The question is on adoption. Will you remark?

REP. NARDINI: (115th)

Yes, Mr. Speaker, thank you. Mr. Speaker, what this will do is, it will move the effective date of the bill up to July 1, 1985 from October 1, 1985. As I previously stated, I believe the bill is a good bill and it needs some help and I think the help that it needs is to get it into effect as soon as possible.

And as previously stated by Chairman Dickinson,

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

what we have here is an issue between revenue for the state and lives that are being lost and I think that if we can move this up, we can save a few more lives and I urge its adoption by this body. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Thank you, Rep. Nardini. Will you remark further on House "A"?

REP. BASSING: (105th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. George Bassing.

REP. BASSING: (105th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to support this amendment also. In the town of Seymour, we have one of these clubs and about 2:00 every Saturday or Sunday morning, it's like a family reunion with the Hell's Angels. And, there's always somebody being injured. There's some real dangerous stuff happening and I think it's due to the fact that because they had this extra time, that people just can't wait to rush there and close out drinking at this establishment. So we see in our town, I think the hours ought to be uniform and I support this amendment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Will you remark further on the adoption of House "A"? Will you remark further?

REP. SCULLY: (75th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Scully.

REP. SCULLY: (75th)

Mr. Speaker, I have no argument with a uniform closing date. One of the problems we might have in eliminating at such an early date as July 1 that most contracts for entertainment groups where you bring in a big name band, these rock and roll bands, you bring in a star, is most of these contracts are written four and five months ahead of time.

If we do this at this particular time, you might find some problems where they have three shows booked per night where all these contracts will have to be rewritten. I would think if there was an amendment making it October 1, might be more reasonable. If we have one to that effect, I think we should support one for October or November, rather than one so soon because of the contract problems that various people are going to run into.

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Will you remark further in the adoption of House "A"? Will you remark? If not, --

REP. ADAMO: (116th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Adamo.

REP. ADAMO: (116th)

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the amendment and I do so because I think it is a very important amendment. It ought to stop the night club permit concept as quickly as possible.

In relation to Rep. Scully's question, I think all we would have to do would be adjust the contract for the bands to take off an extra hour. You just would not have to play after 1 or 2 A.M. So I don't think that really plays a big role in it and I think we ought to vote for the amendment and do it as quickly as possible. Thank you.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Will you remark further? Rep. William Cibes.

REP. CIBES: (39th)

Mr. Speaker, just a quick inquiry through you to the proponent of the amendment. Is there a fiscal note

on this amendment?

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Nardini, do you care to respond?

REP. NARDINI: (115th)

Yes, I believe they do have a fiscal note around here. You should have it up there, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

I have one. Rep. Cibes, his answer is yes.

REP. CIBES: (39th)

LCO 6854, through you, Mr. Speaker, is that the amendment? Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I have fiscal note. Thank you.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

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

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Opposed indicate by saying nay.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Nay.

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

The ayes have it. House "A" is adopted.

Ruled technical and expensive.

REP. NARDINI: (115th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Nardini.

REP. NARDINI: (115th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's one step of making the bill a little bit better, Mr. Speaker. I think that we have just made a good bill a little bit better or save a few more lives, hopefully. I have one more amendment to offer. I hope only one more amendment to offer. I'll ask the clerk to call and would I please be given permission to summarize 6853.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Clerk, please call LCO No. 6853 designated House Amendment Schedule "B".

CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule "B", LCO No. 6853, offered by Rep. Nardini, Rep. Prague, Rep. Adamo, Rep. Collins, Rep. Bassing, Rep. Polinsky.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

The gentlemen seeks permission to summarize. Is there objection? Seeing none, you may proceed, sir.

REP. NARDINI: (115th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, what this amendment would do is it would eliminate the so-called grandfathering in that the file copy of the bill now has. Upon passage of the bill, what would happen is that all night club permits will be gone, revoked, whatever, and we will rebate back pro rata the unused portion of the permit fee.

I believe, again, that this will help make this bill a much better bill. It will get the people off the roads at the crucial hours when lives are being taken and I urge its adoption, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Questions on adoption. Will you remark? Questions on adoption.

REP. DICKINSON: (30th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Loren Dickinson.

kle

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

REP. DICKINSON: (30th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to support this amendment. The file copy did have a gradual phase out. And the problem that would occur in the situation like that is that a night club renewing its permit in August or September would then have almost a full year. And one who had renewed earlier would go out of existence much sooner than that. It really gives unfair advantage to continue in business to some establishments and I think the likelihood of people travelling to those establishments that would stay open would be greater than it is now. And I think we are only asking for trouble.

So for that reason I support this amendment and I urge its adoption.

REP. CIBES: (39th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. William Cibes.

REP. CIBES: (39th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker, I believe that I understand what the intent of this amendment is. And that is to stop all night club permit activity on July 1st, 1985.

That, however, is not what this amendment says, unless I completely misunderstand it. The amendment simply

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

says that there shall be a refund of the unexpired portion of the fee, which is not accounted for on July the 1st. It does not say, as I understand it, that the night club activity shall cease on July 1st, 1985.

Through you, Mr. Speaker, if I could ask the proponent of the amendment if my understanding is correct.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Nardini, do you wish to respond?

REP. NARDINI: (115th)

Yes, I would, Mr. Speaker, through you. Mr. Speaker, that's addressed in the file copy of the bill as it stands right now. If you would refer to line 28, opening brackets there and the closing brackets are found later on through the file copy on line 168. All reference to night club permits are omitted from the current legislation.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Cibes.

REP. CIBES: (39th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Cibes.

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

REP. CIBES: (39th)

I guess I have a comment, rather than a question at this point.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

You have the floor, sir.

REP. CIBES: (39th)

I understand that night club permits cannot be issued any longer. I am not certain, however, that there is any affirmative mandate that the existing night club permits must go out of existence and that late night activity must cease, according to this amendment.

And I don't believe it's covered, but Rep. Frankel has been frantically reading amendments while I have been speaking and I would like to yield to him, if I may.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Frankel, do you accept the yield?

REP. FRANKEL: (121st )

Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just for legislative intent, I believe the desire is that all unexpired night club permits held by permittees are no longer going to be effective on or after July 1, 1985. Is that the intent of the amendment, through you, Mr. Speaker, to the proponent?

that permittee.

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Nardini.

REP. NARDINI: (115th)

I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker, would you repeat the question.

I'm sorry.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Frankel.

REP. FRANKEL: (121st)

I'd be delighted to, thank you. The intent of the amendment by striking line 78 to 82 is to bring about any unexpired night club permits that are held by permittees shall no longer be effective. That's the intent, shall no longer be effective after July 1, 1985 and they shall not be entitled to operate a premise as they had been with a night club permit. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Nardini.

REP. NARDINI: (115th)

Mr. Speaker, if I understand the question correctly, it would be yes, that that would be the intent. But the actual intent goes a little further than that and that is to be fair to the people that bought an annual permit and to rebate back pro rata the unused portion of that permit fee.

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

We have a ruling from OLR, I believe it was, that we have to do that. And that is what the amendment does.

REP. FRANKEL: (121st)

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Frankel.

REP. FRANKEL: (121st)

Mr. Speaker, the amendment before us I think endeavors to do two things. One, to refund on a pro rata basis fees paid for liquor permits and it also endeavors, or at least apparently endeavors, to curtail night club permits on and after July 1. I am sure Rep. Cibes is concerned that it only talks about the refund and does not address the question of the existing permits.

It should, I believe, indicate that existing permits should no longer be effective after July 1 and I believe a technical amendment would probably solve the problem. I share the desire, indeed, we, Rep. Balducci had prepared an amendment which he was going to offer, LCO No. 6862, which I think is correctly drafted, but it used October 1, 1985, but it is now defective because of the prior amendment which is July 1, 1985.

And I think perhaps the appropriate thing to do would be to PT this bill until we can get a corrected

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

version of the amendment before us, which not only provides for pro rata refund, but also prevents the permittee from utilizing existing permits. And I would yield to the Deputy Majority Leader.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Belaga, do you accept the yield?

REP. BELAGA: (136th)

Yes, thank you, Rep. Frankel. I think we have in the workings here a possibility for an amendment that would clarify this problem and so I would therefore ask you to PT this matter while we await its arrival.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Motion is to pass this calendar item 639 temporarily. Is there objection? Seeing none, the matter is passed temporarily.

CLERK:

Calendar No. 640, Substitute House Bill No. 6701, File No. 797, AN ACT CONCERNING TESTIMONY ON CASES INVOLVING THE INSANITY DEFENSE, Favorable Report of the Committee on Judiciary.

REP. JAEKLE (122nd)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Jaekle.

kle

6518  
409

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

The bill as amended is passed.

CLERK:

Page 10, Calendar No. 639, Substitute House Bill No. 5981, File No. 794, AN ACT ELIMINATING NIGHT CLUB PERMITS, Favorable Report of the Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding.

REP. DICKINSON: (30th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Loren Dickinson.

REP. DICKINSON: (30th)

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

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Questions on acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and passage of the bill. Will you remark, sir?

REP. DICKINSON: (30th)

Thank you. I will and I hope we get it right this time. We had previously moved and accepted House "A". I won't go into any comments. I have already made them.

kle

6619  
410

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

I think at this point I will just move passage of the bill.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

The gentleman has moved passage of the bill as amended. It is amended by House Amendment Schedule "A". I would remind the members that House Amendment Schedule "B" was previously offered and was pending before the Chamber when this matter as passed temporarily.

REP. NARDINI: (115th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Joseph Nardini.

REP. NARDINI: (115th)

I wish to withdraw amendment "B" please.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

The House will stand at ease for a moment. The motion is to withdraw House Amendment Schedule "B".

The gentleman from West Haven has proposed withdrawal of House Amendment Schedule "B" previously offered. Is there objection? Is there objection? If not, the matter is withdrawn. Will you remark further on the bill?

REP. BALDUCCI: (27th)

Mr. Speaker.

kle

411

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Richard Balducci.

REP. BALDUCCI: (27th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The clerk has an amendment LCO No. 6874. If he would call and allow me to summarize, please, sir.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Clerk, please call LCO No. 6874 designated House Amendment Schedule "C".

CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule "C", LCO No. 6874, offered by Rep. Frankel and Rep. Balducci.

REP. BALDUCCI: (27th)

Mr. Speaker, I move adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Balducci, if you would, if you would allow the Chamber to digest what it is you are about to adopt, by say of summarization.

The gentleman desires permission to summarize the amendment. Is there objection? Seeing none, would you please proceed, sir.

REP. BALDUCCI: (27th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Basically, what this amendment does is it says that no permits will be allowed

kle

412

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

after July 1 of this year, 1985, and that all permits would end or be terminated on July 1, 1985. And that any permits which extend beyond that point would be reimbursed pro rata.

What this would do is keep everything equal for all of those who have permits at the present time. Some that might be, have permits reinstated as of June, as opposed to those who would not be allowed those in September. So this would keep everything on an equal footing and an equal plane. I move adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Questions on adoption. Will you remark?

REP. NARDINI: (115th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Joseph Nardini.

REP. NARDINI: (115th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I believe the amendment clears up the technical problems that we had under the previous offered House Amendment "B". I urge its passage. I believe that this will make the bill, as I stated before, much better. Hopefully everyone now in the Chamber will come to agreeance on

kle

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

it and we can move on with the business at hand.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Questions on adoption of House "C". Will you remark? Will you remark? 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 "C" is adopted and ruled technical.

\*\*\*\*\*

House Amendment Schedule "C"

Strike lines 78 to 82, inclusive, and substitute the following in lieu thereof:

"(c) NO NIGHT CLUB PERMIT SHALL BE ISSUED OR RENEWED ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 1985. NAY UNEXPIRED NIGHT CLUB PERMIT HELD BY ANY PERMITTEE ON JULY 1, 1985 SHALL NO LONGER BE EFFECTIVE AFTER THE END OF THE DAY ON SAID DATE. ANY PERMITTEE HOLDING AN UNEXPIRED NIGHT CLUB PERMIT ON JULY 1, 1985 SHALL BE ENTITLED TO A REFUND FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LIQUOR CONTROL REPRESENTING THE UNUSED PORTION OF THE FEE PAID FOR SUCH PERMIT AS DETERMINED ON A PRO RATA BASIS."

\*\*\*\*\*

REP. PRAGUE: (8th)

Mr. Speaker.

kbm

414

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Edith Prague.

REP. PRAGUE: (8th)

Mr. Speaker, this is an idea whose time has finally come. I have letters from 37 Police Chiefs, indicating the hazards of that night club permit. I'm just going to read one that describes it all. It comes from the Police Department of the City of Bristol.

I am definitely in favor of the proposed legislation abolishing the night club permits. I base my opinion on at least 3 years' observation and experience with businesses having the night club permit. During this period of time, I have observed its effect on the city of Bristol, where the permit may allow a very small part of the community to enjoy a rather questionable benefit. On the whole, the community is threatened or actually harmed. The one hour fun has cost hundreds of people a great deal of misery and money.

I've sat in a cruiser and watched young people flock to these various night clubs after the other cafes and bars have closed. I've watched the fights, motor vehicle violations, accidents, fatalities, and ambulance calls that come about because of the one more hour of fun.

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

I had one of these late-night bar hoppers drive into the back of my cruiser. I responded to an ambulance call where a young man was helped out of the door so he could stagger across a parking lot and collapse. He was allowed to lay on the ground until a passerby saw him in the parking lot and called the Police.

I know of responsible businessmen who have seen the problem created by night club permits. The only way these men could deal with the trouble was to give up the permit. In ending, I truly believe that it is in the best interest of all the people of the state of Connecticut to do away with the night club permit.

Ladies and gentlemen, that says it all. Thank you.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Hopefully so, madam, but I was wrong.

REP. SCULLY: (75th)

Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Scully.

REP. SCULLY: (75th)

Mr. Speaker, I don't know how you approach a bill like this. I guess it's one of those things that its

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

time has come, but I think that if you look at every other state that has a different closing hour and look at their closing hour, that you are going to find that the greatest number of arrests, if the local Police Department is doing its job, takes place when the bars close. I think that what we do tonight may be what we think is the best thing, but I think in the long run all we're doing is maybe moving those same arrests up an hour.

I would also like to point out that, too often, we have criticized our State Liquor Commission for not enforcing the law, when the basic enforcement of the drinking laws rests with our local Police Departments. I tell you this because, in all the arguments we kept on hearing throughout the years, was that the Liquor Commission did not do its job. It's your local Police Department does the job; they're the ones who know when the kids are getting beer under age. They're the ones who know when night clubs or any kind of bar is staying open too late. They're the ones who know when the bartenders are serving people who are drunk. So I ask each one of you to go home and tell your local Police Department, enforce its local laws and we'll have less

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

problem.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Thank you, Rep. Scully. Will you remark further?

REP. EMMONS: (101st)

Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Linda Emmons.

REP. EMMONS: (101st)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have that awful feeling if they followed Rep. Scully's advice, we would have a lot of phone calls this coming weekend. However, I would just rise to support the legislation in the sense that I think, having some places stay open later than others has made a movement of those people who want to drink after 2:00 from one place to another and has caused some problems that would not occur in other states where all establishments stay open until 3:00. I think just having these limited numbers has caused some of the problems that we are facing at the moment, because people have driven too far.

I do think it's a good piece of legislation and I think its time has come and we probably never should have done the permits to begin with.

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

REP. YOUNG: (143rd)

Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Les Young.

REP. YOUNG: (143rd)

Mr. Speaker, I don't really want to speak against this bill, because I think it's a good bill. I'd like to point out that this bill causes us who live in border communities a good deal of a problem. We live in lower Fairfield County next to New York State. New York State has a 4:00 closing time. I know the passage of this bill is going to make people drive from Norwalk and Stamford, and New Canaan, Ridgefield, and Wilton, to South Salem and Vista. I know it's going to make people go from Greenwich to Portchester. I think there's a later closing time in Rhode Island on Saturday nights. I think it's going to make people go from New London and Westerly, from New London to Pawcatuck, into Westerly.

I think it's causing some problems. I wish we could conceive of a uniform closing time between states; in the same way I wish we could conceive of a uniform drinking law, age law, between states. I know the 21 drinking age is going to cause me problems in New Canaan

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

and Wilton and Greenwich and what have you, going to New York State, where unfortunately the law is 19.

I can't really defeat this bill or talk against it; I'm going to have to vote against it, but it's going to cause us problems and I think you ought to be aware of it. We should have a uniform law between states. The imaginary line between Connecticut and New York State is only 3 feet and it's right next to my house. Thank you.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Will you remark further?

REP. FOLEY: (131st)

Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Richard Foley.

REP. FOLEY: (131st)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Rep. Young's points are well taken. The only unfortunate part about it is there is nothing this Assembly can do about those well taken points. In New York City, many establishments will stay open 23 hours, and some cases 23 hours plus, a day. Uniformity is a nice ideal; I sympathize and agree, however there is nothing this Chamber can do, or the state, in fact, can do, to enforce and change the

kbm

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

laws in the city of New York. I would suggest that we probably wouldn't want to, if we could. And I would urge members to support. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. CUNNINGHAM: (148th)

Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Richard Cunningham.

REP. CUNNINGHAM: (148th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this bill. I went into the debate tonight undecided, determined to listen to the arguments on both sides, to give my thought to this legislation. I do think that the objective is worthy, but do not think it makes any difference whether the bars are closing at 12, or 1, or 2, or 3. I think the amount of drinking will be basically the same. But I do believe, as I recall back in my days as a student when you got up at 3:00 in the morning and find everything closed, not that it would be going to the bar that I would be interested in, mind you, or night club, but the point is that there are some people who are nightowls. I am not. I do not usually speak after 8:00 at night, because my mind turns into a blob. (Applause). However, there are those who are good

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

until 3:00 in the morning, and my feeling is I'm not going to restrict them, and I'm going to vote against this bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. CASEY: (118th)

Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. T. J. Casey.

REP. CASEY: (118th)

Richard, Rep. Cunningham and I, I don't think too often vote on the same wave length here, but I concur with his sentiments. I have worked with and understand what he considers nightowls. But there's a special class of citizen in this state that works an evening shift. The only time they really have an opportunity to socialize is at this time in the morning. It's important to them, as is important to each and every one of us, to have an opportunity to sit down, to be with friends, to hear some music, or not, to be able to sit in peace and quiet. They should be afforded that opportunity.

Under present statutes, each municipality can determine when they want those bars to close. They can, but they don't. That's home rule. I mean that's the sacred cow of this General Assembly. We don't quarrel

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

in a home rule. Each municipality should have an opportunity determined by themselves what they believe is the proper closing hour. Each and every one of us should be able to determine whether we want to be out at 12, or 10, or 2. It's our decision.

Mr. Speaker, with that in mind, the Clerk has an amendment, LCO 6857. Will he please call and read? I'll summarize, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Clerk, please call LCO 6857, designed House Amendment Schedule "D".

CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule "D", LCO 6857, offered by Rep. Casey, Rep. Duffy.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Casey seeks permission to summarize. Is there objection? Seeing none, please proceed, sir.

REP. CASEY: (118th)

Mr. Speaker, although it seems like it's about 5 pages, it really is very technical in nature and allows the night permit to exist on a Friday and Saturday evening. It's technical in nature and the reason why I do this, Mr. Speaker, is several. One, you stated

kbm

423

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

earlier that House Amendment "A", when it passed, was technical, yet expensive. Now, I wasn't privy to having a copy of that fiscal note, Mr. Speaker, so through you, would you be kind enough to ask Rep. Nardini if he could please let this Chamber know, and those who didn't have a fiscal note, what his amendment is going to cost the state of Connecticut?

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

It would help initially if we're going to address House "D" if you would move its adoption, Rep. Casey.

REP. CASEY: (118th)

Excuse me, Mr. Speaker. I move the adoption of House "D".

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

You are now desirous of asking Rep. Nardini a question relating to some other amendment?

REP. CASEY: (118th)

If you would be so kind.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

I hope we do not go far with this, but please proceed, sir.

REP. NARDINI: (115th)

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Nardini.

REP. NARDINI: (115th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the fiscal note for House Amendment "A" is \$88,300.00.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Casey?

REP. CASEY: (118th)

Mr. Speaker, through you, a question to the proponent of the bill, Rep. Dickinson.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Please proceed, sir.

REP. CASEY: (118th)

Rep. Dickinson, section 2 of this bill which is deleted, deals with the fees that the night permit brings in. The fiscal notes indicates hotels, cafes and restaurants of approximately \$351,300. Yet I see there is probably another 10 to 12 additional permits involved. Could you tell me why they weren't included in the fiscal note? They're deleted.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Dickinson, do you care to respond?

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

REP. DICKINSON: (30th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I will. They're not included in this bill because to my knowledge none have the night club permit.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Casey.

REP. CASEY: (118th)

Well, that answers the question. It's a wonder why they exist. Mr. Speaker, I would be just brief and then conclude. I push for this amendment for those individuals, my constituency, your constituency that deserve their time in order to enjoy at least one or two nights a week to socialize with their friends like each and every one of us have the opportunity, like many of us had the opportunity to do last night. This amendment will technically, according to my fiscal note, eliminate our revenue loss. Yet it will cease the night club permit during the week, Sunday through Thursday. That will substantially reduce the figures that we heard of 39.2% of accidents that are caused and related deaths associated the same between 12 and 4.

I still believe it's in our best interest, to allow each and every one of us an opportunity to enjoy our-

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

selves any time of the day as long as we're careful, and there are many of us that are careful and there are many of us that are nightowls, and on occasion, so am I.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Will you remark further on the adoption of House Amendment Schedule "D".

REP. NARDINI: (115th)

Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Joseph Nardini.

REP. NARDINI: (115th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Rep. Casey's amendment is very well taken, even from my standpoint at this point. I understand that he has an interest in supplying people with a good time. But I don't think that's what we're here for. I want to point out to everybody in the Chamber that the right to consume alcohol is not a right, it's a privilege in this country. I would also like to point out to Rep. Casey that in earlier debate Rep. Young brought up the fact that we have interstate barhopping. Well, this will continue to cause and continue to have intercity barhopping. That's

kbm

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

exactly what we're trying to avoid by this. I urge the defeat of this amendment, and let's go on with the bill as amended by House "A" and "B". Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

The question is on adoption of House "D".

REP. PRAGUE: (8th)

Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Edith Prague.

REP. PRAGUE: (8th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I stand in opposition to this amendment. Rep. Casey is talking about his constituents, and as it so happens, in the city of Milford, which Rep. Casey represents, I happen to have a letter from his Chief of Police, and it says the elimination of drunk drivers from our highways is a very high priority with my Department. Like other Departments, we have stepped up our efforts to discourage the intoxicated driver from operating and apprehend those who do drive before they injure themselves or someone else.

We have increased our DWI patrols generally on weekend nights from 11 p.m. until 4 a.m. Our program commenced on December 1 and this letter is dated

kbm

428

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

December 26, and has resulted in 30 DWI arrests from this program alone during the hours specified. I would like to see a uniform bar closing time in effect where all bars would have to close at the same time. You have our support in this matter. Sincerely, William W. Bull, Chief of Police of Milford.

Mr. Speaker, it seems that Rep. Casey and the Police Chief are on opposite sides of this issue, and it's apparently in the best interest of the people in Milford to eliminate the night club permits. Thank you.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Will you remark further?

REP. CASEY: (118th)

Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. T. J. Casey.

REP. CASEY: (118th)

Briefly, Mr. Speaker, in response to Rep. Prague. Chief Bull is retired. He was an excellent Chief and I respect him dearly. He's a good friend and as with all good friends, even my family, I don't agree with them all the time, and I didn't agree with him with that letter, and he knows the same. It still doesn't change the fact

kbm

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

that there are no way that you or I or anybody in this Chamber can guarantee longevity. It just won't do, when your time is up, it's up.

REP. FUSCO: (81st)

Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Angelo Fusco.

REP. FUSCO: (81st)

Mr. Speaker, I reluctantly rise in opposition of this amendment. I believe strongly that we should have uniformity throughout, and I understand the concerns of the people who live in borderline towns, and the people that work the night shifts. I happen to be one of those nighthawks that were referred to earlier, and for the majority of the people who work the night shift, basically what they do is they get together at friends' houses in an organized fashion, on a weekly basis, at the place where I work, and I'm just concerned, basically concerned, that we need to address all the needs of the people of Connecticut. The needs that will help the majority of the people and uniformity certainly will do that; it will help with law enforcement, it will help save lives. Therefore, I urge rejection of the amendment. Thank you,

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

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

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

All opposed, indicate by saying nay.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Nay.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

The nays have it. House "D" fails.

\*\*\*\*\*

House Amendment Schedule "D".

Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the following in lieu thereof:

"Section 30-91 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

(a) The sale or the dispensing or consumption or the presence in glasses or other receptacles suitable to permit the consumption of liquor by an individual of alcoholic liquor in places operating under hotel permits, restaurant permits, cafe permits, restaurant permits for catering establishments, bowling establishment permits, racquetball facility permits, club permits, coliseum permits, coliseum concession permits, special sporting facility restaurant permits, special sporting facility

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

employee recreational permits, special sporting facility guest permits, special sporting facility concession permits, special sporting facility bar permits, golf country club permits and charitable organization permits shall be unlawful on Saturday between two o'clock a.m. and nine o'clock a.m. and Sunday after two a.m., or on Christmas, except when any Sunday is December thirty-first or January first, except that alcoholic liquor may be sold on Christmas for consumption on premises when served with hot meals, and except that any town may, by a vote of a town meeting or by ordinance, (1) allow the sale of alcoholic liquor between the hours of twelve o'clock noon on Sunday and one o'clock a.m. on Monday in hotels, restaurants, cafes, catering establishments, bowling establishments, racquetball facilities, clubs, golf country clubs and places operating under charitable organization permits, a university permit, a coliseum permit, coliseum concession permit, a special sporting facility restaurant permit, a special sporting facility employee recreational permit, a special sporting facility guest permit, a special sporting facility concession permit or a special sporting facility bar permit and (2) prohibit the sale of alcoholic liquor from twelve o'clock midnight on Saturday until two a.m. on Sunday; and such sale or dispensing or consumption or presence in glasses or other receptacles suitable to permit the consumption of alcoholic liquor by an individual shall be unlawful on any other day between the hours of one o'clock a.m. and nine o'clock a.m., except that such sale shall be lawful on January first until three o'clock in the morning. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section to the contrary, such sale or dispensing or consumption or presence in glasses in places operating under a bowling establishment permit shall be unlawful before five p.m. on any day, except in that portion of the permit premises which is located in a separate room or rooms entry to which, from the bowling lane area of the establishment, is by means of a door or doors which shall remain closed at all times except to permit entrance and egress to and from the lane area. Any alcoholic liquor sold or dispensed in a place operating under a bowling establishment permit shall be served in transparent containers such as, but not limited to, clear plastic or glass. When any Sunday falls on December thirty-first or January first, sale of alcoholic liquor in any club,

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

golf country club, restaurant, cafe, catering establishment, bowling establishment, racquetball facility, coliseum, hotel or place operating under charitable organization permit shall not begin before twelve o'clock noon. The sale or dispensing or consumption or the presence in glasses or other receptacles suitable to permit the consumption of liquor by an individual of alcoholic liquor in places operating under night club permits may not be allowed except during the hour immediately following the closing time ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY established under this section for the other permits listed in section 30-21a (and on the days allowed under such other permits). Any town may, by vote of a town meeting or by ordinance, reduce the number of hours during which sales under this subsection shall be permissible.

(b) The sale of dispensing of alcoholic liquor in places operating under package store permits, drug store permits or grocery store beer permits shall be unlawful on Decoration Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, New Year's Day, Sunday or Christmas or, if Independence Day, Christmas or New Year's Day occurs on a Sunday, on the Monday next following such day except that such sale or dispensing shall be lawful on any Independence Day occurring on a Saturday; and such sale or dispensing of alcoholic liquor in places operating under package store permits, drug store permits, and grocery store beer permits shall be unlawful on any other day before eight o'clock a.m. and after eight o'clock p.m. Any town may, by a vote of a town meeting or by ordinance, reduce the number of hours during which such sale shall be permissible.

(c) The sale or the dispensing or consumption or the presence in glasses or other receptacles suitable to permit the consumption of liquor by an individual of alcoholic liquor in places operating under a tavern permit shall be unlawful on Saturday between two o'clock a.m. and nine o'clock a.m. and Sunday after two a.m. or on Christmas; and such sale or dispensing or consumption or presence in glasses or other receptacles in such tavern shall be unlawful on any other day between the hours of one o'clock a.m. and nine o'clock a.m. Any town may, by a vote of a town meeting or by ordinance, reduce the number of hours during which such sale shall be permissible or prohibit the sale of alcoholic liquor from twelve o'clock

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

midnight on Saturday until two a.m. on Sunday or allow the sale of alcoholic liquor between the hours of twelve o'clock noon on Sunday and one o'clock a.m. on Monday in places operating under a tavern permit. In the case of any tavern wherein, under the provisions of this section, the sale of alcoholic liquor is forbidden on certain days or hours of the day, or during the period when a tavern permit is suspended, it shall likewise be unlawful to keep such tavern open to, or permit it to be occupied by, the public on such days or hours.

(d) In all cases when a town, either by a vote of a town meeting or by ordinance, has acted on the sale of alcoholic liquors or the reduction of the number of hours when such sale is permissible, such action shall become effective on the first day of the month succeeding such action and no further action shall be taken until at least one year has elapsed since the previous action was taken. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require any permittee to continue the sale or dispensing of alcoholic liquor until the closing hour established under this section.

(e) The retail sale of wine and the tasting of free samples of wine by visitors and prospective retail customers of a farm winery permittee on the premises of such permittee shall be unlawful on Sunday before eleven o'clock a.m. and after eight o'clock p.m. and on any other day before ten o'clock a.m. and after eight o'clock p.m. Any town may, by vote of a town meeting or by ordinance, reduce the number of hours during which sales and the tasting of free samples of wine under this subsection shall be permissible.

(f) The sale or the dispensing or consumption or the presence in glasses or other receptacles suitable to permit the consumption of liquor by an individual of alcoholic liquor in places operating under airport restaurant permits and airport bar permits shall be unlawful on Saturday between two o'clock a.m. and nine o'clock a.m., and Sunday between two o'clock a.m. and eleven o'clock a.m., and such sale or dispensing or consumption or presence in glasses or other receptacles suitable to permit the consumption of alcoholic liquor by an individual shall be unlawful on any other day between the hours of one o'clock a.m. and nine o'clock a.m., except that such

sale shall be lawful on January first until three o'clock in the morning. The sale or dispensing or consumption or the presence in glasses or other receptacles suitable to permit the consumption of liquor by an individual of alcoholic liquor in places operating under night club permits in Bradley International Airport may not be allowed except during the hour immediately following the closing time ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY established under this section for such permits."

\*\*\*\*\*

REP. RITTER: (2nd)

Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Thomas Ritter.

REP. RITTER: (2nd)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a nice, short amendment. Could the Clerk please call LCO 6906, please, and may I be allowed to summarize? 6906.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Clerk, please call LCO No. 6906, designated House Amendment Schedule "E".

CLERK:

House Amendment Schedule "E", LCO 6906, offered by Rep. Dickinson and Rep. Ritter.

REP. RITTER: (2nd)

May I be allowed to summarize, please?

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Ritter seeks permission to summarize. Is there objection? You have the floor, sir.

REP. RITTER: (2nd)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Jaycees in Greater Hartford came up to me during this session. Apparently, they have had trouble getting a permit down to the GHO in Cromwell. What this amendment simply would do would allow them to get one permit for the 25 tents that they have. It's minimal cost, according to fiscal note to the state, it came out of the middle of the year, I came up to Rep. Dickinson and he said fine, no problem. Just get a bill. And I apologize for not having it go through the normal stage of the Legislature. Again, the problem was it came up to me late; it's a problem for the GHO in Cromwell. Thank you.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Would you move adoption, Rep. Ritter?

REP. RITTER: (2nd)

I move adoption, please.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

The question is on adoption of House "E". Will you remark?

kbm

66-15

436

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

REP. DICKINSON: (30th)

Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Dickinson.

REP. DICKINSON: (30th)

Not that I feel that I have to get up and defend those remarks, because they are true. I speak in favor of the amendment. I did, in fact, come to my Committee late. We were not able to deal with it in a normal manner, and that's the reason why it's before us in this form tonight. I think it's a good amendment, simple, won't cause any problems, and I urge passage.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Will you remark further on House "E"?

REP. NARDINI: (115th)

Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Joseph Nardini.

REP. NARDINI: (115th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the amendment. I believe the Jaycees are a very worthwhile organization, they do a good job, and I see no problem with the amendment as presented. I urge the

kbm

66-16  
437

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

adoption, also. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Is there anyone prepared to speak against House  
"E"?

REP. JAHN: (32nd)

Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Robert Jahn.

REP. JAHN: (32nd)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do support this amend-  
ment, of course, because being in my home town it would  
be a great benefit for that 8-day period. Thank you  
very much, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

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

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

At least on the debate, I expected a little more  
support. All opposed, indicate by saying nay.

kbm

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

REPRESENTATIVES:

Nay.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

The ayes have it. House "E" is adopted and ruled technical.

\*\*\*\*\*

House Amendment Schedule "E".

After line 440, add the following and renumber the remaining section accordingly:

"Sec. 5. (NEW) A nonprofit golf tournament permit shall allow the retail sale of alcoholic liquor to be consumed on the premises of a golf country club at which a golf tournament, sponsored by a charitable organization, is being conducted. Such permit shall be issued to a charitable organization for a period not to exceed eight days. Only one such permit shall be issued in any calendar year. Such permit shall allow the operation of not more than twenty-five consumer bars on the grounds of a golf country club.

Sec. 6. Subsection (a) of section 30-15 of the general statutes is amended by adding subdivision (34) as follows:

(NEW) (34) Nonprofit golf tournament permit.

Sec. 7. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 30-39 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lie thereof:

(a) (1) Any person desiring a liquor permit or a renewal of such a permit shall make a sworn application therefor to the department of liquor control upon forms to be furnished by the department, showing the name and address of the applicant and of his backer, if any, the location of the club or place of business which is to be operated under such permit and a financial statement setting forth

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

all elements and details of any business transactions connected with the application. The application shall also indicate any crimes of which the applicant or his backer may have been convicted. Applicants shall submit documents sufficient to establish that state and local building, fire and zoning requirements and local ordinances concerning hours and days of sale will be met, except that local building and zoning requirements and local ordinances concerning hours and days of sale shall not apply to any class of airport permit. The state fire marshal or his certified designee shall be responsible for approving compliance with the state fire code at Bradley International Airport. Any person desiring a permit provided for in section 30-33b shall file a copy of his license from the division of special revenue or the gaming policy board with such application. Except in the case of renewals, the applicant shall pay to the department a nonrefundable application fee, which fee shall be in addition to the fees prescribed in section 30-41. Such fee shall be in the amount of ten dollars for the filing of an application for a charitable organization, including a nonprofit public television corporation, A NONPROFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT PERMIT, a temporary permit, or a special club permit; and for all other permits in the amount of one hundred dollars for the filing of an initial application. The department may, at its discretion, conduct an investigation to determine whether a permit shall be issued to any applicant.

Sec. 8. Subsection (a) of section 30-41 of the general statutes is amended by adding subdivision (33) as follows:

(NEW) (33) Nonprofit golf tournament permit, two hundred dollars.

Sec. 9. Section 30-76a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

A wholesaler permittee shall not sell alcoholic liquor to any persons holding a temporary permit for outings, picnics or special gatherings, or a charitable organization permit, including a nonprofit public television corporation permit AND A NONPROFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT

kbm

6649

440

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

PERMIT. Holders of said permits shall purchase alcoholic liquor only from permittees holding package store permits. The provisions of this section shall not apply to the sale of beer in kegs.

Sec. 10. Section 30-91 of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (g) as follows:

(NEW) (g) The sale or the dispensing of or consumption or the presence in glasses or other receptacles suitable to permit the consumption of liquor by an individual of alcoholic liquor in places operating under a nonprofit golf tournament permit shall be unlawful on any day prior to eleven o'clock a.m. and after nine o'clock p.m."

\*\*\*\*\*

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Will you remark further on the bill as amended?

Will you remark further on the bill as amended by

House Schedule "A", "C", and "E"?

REP. DUDCHIK: (104th)

Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Thomas Dudchik.

REP. DUDCHIK: (104th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise to reluctantly support this bill and I might warn my colleagues not to be misled that passing legislation that, on its surface, would intend to stop the drunk driving on our roads, and instead use this vote back home

kbm

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

and not vote against some of the measures that will have a real dramatic impact, mandatory sentencing, the per se law. If people are going to drink at 3:00 in the morning, they're going to drink just as quicker at 2, and we seem to think that they're driving from 2 to go to the bars at 3, well, they're going to go home after 2 and be on the road anyway.

It's the easy way out. It's like raising the drinking age to 21, like Rep. Young pointed out, there are problems. One of my colleagues said, this is not a solution itself, it is the way we should be going, but let's not use this as our excuse to pass even tougher laws to get the drunks off the roads. Thank you.

REP. SCHLESINGER: (114th)

Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Alan Schlesinger.

REP. SCHLESINGER: (114th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just very briefly. We're always so eager to take away privileges from our people in the cause of trying to save lives, on the carnage on the highways, we've heard it all before. And this bill is going to pass overwhelmingly and there's no

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

reason to speak against it as it is, but I can tell you one thing. If those statistics don't bear out, I'm going to be the first one, hopefully if I ever am returned to this Chamber, to be back here and put this privilege back for those who enjoy it today. You know, sometimes we always treat the public the same, even though some abuse their privileges and some use them properly.

We are treating everyone the same, whether they can handle this privilege or not this evening. And I don't think that's fair to those who enjoy their extra hour, or now create problems for the towns that reside close to New York and Rhode Island borders. So, if the numbers don't improve, we can be back here and give this privilege back to the people where it belongs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Thank you, Rep. Schlesinger. Will you remark further?

REP. SCHMIDLE: (106th)

Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. Mae Schmidle.

kbm

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

REP. SCHMIDLE: (106th)

Thank you, sir. Very briefly, I rise to support this bill. I spent a number of years on general law, and the years that I spent on general law, we debated every year the happy hour bill and we debated the various closings we have for bars. And the testimony that came to us from the law enforcement agencies and the Police Chief's Association and groups like that all said if you really want to do something to help us, standardize the hours of closings for nightclubs, restaurants, bars, what have you. They said that this was their biggest problem in getting, taking care of the people who went from one place to another because they were closing an hour later.

They felt that by standardizing the closing hours of the bars, that we were doing far more than we would be with happy hours, and I think this is an attempt to move in this direction and I urge everyone's support.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Will you remark further on the bill as amended? Will you remark further on the bill as amended by House Amendment "A", "C", and "E"? If not, staff and guests please come to the well of the House.

kbm

6653  
444

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

The machine will be opened. Clerk, please announce the pendency of a roll call vote, for the benefit of the members not presently 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 finally voting by roll. All members, please return to the Chamber immediately.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Have all the members voted, and are the votes properly recorded? Have all the members voted and are their votes properly recorded? If so, the machine will be locked, and the Clerk please take a tally.

Clerk, please announce the tally.

CLERK:

House Bill 5981, as amended by House "A", House "C", and House "E".

Total number Voting	146
Necessary for Passage	74
Those voting Yea	120
Those voting Nay	26
Those absent and not Voting	5

kbm

6654  
445

House of Representatives

Thursday, May 16, 1985

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

The bill as amended is passed.

CLERK:

Page 7, Calendar No. 491, Substitute for House Bill No. 7561, File No. 590, AN ACT PROTECTING STATE INTERESTS IN MOTOR FUEL TAX COLLECTION BY ENABLING THE COMMISSIONER TO ESTABLISH SURETY BOND REQUIREMENTS FOR DISTRIBUTORS AND TO ALLOW SEIZURE OF FUEL SUPPLIES AS CONTRABAND WHEN POSSESSION IS NOT ADEQUATELY SUPPORTED BY INVOICES. (As amended by House Amendment Schedule "A".) Favorable Report of the Committee on Judiciary.

REP. SAVAGE: (50th)

Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

Rep. John Savage.

REP. SAVAGE: (50th)

Mr. Speaker, I move that the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and passage of the bill.

SPEAKER VAN NORSTRAND:

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

S-242

CONNECTICUT  
GEN. ASSEMBLY  
SENATE

PROCEEDINGS  
1985

VOL. 28

PART 12

3310-4264

Regular Session  
Tuesday, May 28, 1985

3925 16  
dk

THE CHAIR:

The question before the Chamber is a motion to adopt Cal. No. 766, Senate Joint Resolution No. 20. Machine is open, please record your vote. Senator Scarpetti, Senator Consoli. Has everyone Voted? The machine is closed, Clerk please tally the vote.

Result of the vote: 36 yea, 0 nay. The resolution is adopted. Call the next item please.

THE CLERK:

Page 1, Cal. No. 443, Substitute for Senate Bill No. 67, File No. 706. An Act Concerning Death With Dignity. Favorable Report of the Committee on Judiciary.

THE CHAIR:

Senator McLaughlin.

SENATOR MCLAUGHLIN:

Mr. President, I've been anxiously awaiting an amendment most of the morning. It is expected momentarily. I'd like to request that this be passed temporarily.

THE CHAIR:

Any objection? Passed temporarily.

THE CLERK:

Page 2, Cal. No. 677, Substitute for House Bill No. 5981, File Nos. 794 and 1021. An Act Eliminating Night Club Permits and Establishing A Permit For Nonprofit Golf Tourna-

Regular Session  
Tuesday, May 28, 1985

3928 17  
dk

ments. (As amended by House Amendment Schedules "A", "C", and "E"). Favorable Report of the Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Upson.

SENATOR UPSON:

Mr. President, I move acceptance of the joint Committee's Favorable Report and passage of the bill, as amended by House Amendments Schedules "A", "C", and "E".

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark?

SENATOR UPSON:

I believe there are some amendments.

THE CHAIR:

Clerk, please call the amendment.

THE CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule "A", L.C.O. No. 8101, introduced by Senator Harper.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Harper.

SENATOR HARPER:

Thank you, Mr. President. I move adoption of the amendment and may the reading be waived, and may I be permitted to summarize?

Regular Session  
Tuesday, May 28, 1985

3927<sup>18</sup>  
dk

THE CHAIR:

Without objection, you may proceed.

SENATOR HARPER:

Thank you. This amendment, whereas the file copy of the bill eliminates the night club permits, that the Department of Liquor Control issues, which allows those establishments who pay for and qualify for such permits, to stay open an extra hour, all week long; would amend that file copy to allow such permits, just on Saturday and Sunday mornings. In bringing forth this amendment, it is my feeling, while the intent of this bill has some merit in an effort to decrease the number of people on the roads at late hours that perhaps are using alcohol excessively. I really think, overall, it is a nit-picking bill. And strikes at the symptoms, and not the essence of the problem. And there are many people, who because of work schedules, have no opportunity at all to socialize in these types of establishments, other than at a late hour. I think the amendment is a compromise, to try and accomodate those people that would seek to socialize and engage in the entertainment in an establishment with a night club permit, on weekends. And I would ask that there be a roll call, when the vote is taken on this amendment.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark further on the amendment? Senator Upson.

Regular Session  
Tuesday, May 28, 1985

3928 19  
dk

SENATOR UPSON:

Mr. President, I would urge a vote against this. The weekends are no different than the weeknights. The deaths still occur. Unfortunately, there are some people who do get out of work late, but this bill is aimed after the ninety percent of the people who, unfortunately, use the extra hour for game, which does not help the State. There are mostly driving while intoxicated arrests occurring during this late hour. In fact, fifty one percent of them occur between twelve and four a.m. in the morning. I ask that we reject this amendment.

THE CHAIR:

Remark further on the amendment? Clerk, please make an announcement for immediate roll call.

THE CLERK:

Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate, will all Senators please return to the Chamber. An immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate, will all Senators please return to the Chamber.

THE CHAIR:

Question before the Chamber is a motion to adopt Amendment Schedule "A", L.C.O. No. 8101. The machine is open, please record your vote. Has everyone voted? The machine is closed, Clerk please tally the vote.

Regular Session  
Tuesday, May 28, 1985

3929 20  
dk

Result of the vote: 10 yea, 24 nay. The amendment is defeated. Clerk, call the next item.

THE CLERK:

Senate Amendment Schedule "B", L.C.O. No. 7731, introduced by Senator Harper.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Harper.

SENATOR HARPER:

Thank you, Mr. President. I move adoption of the amendment, will the reading please be waived, and may I be permitted to summarize?

THE CHAIR:

Without objection, you may proceed.

SENATOR HARPER:

This amendment simply delays the implementation of the bill from July 1, 1985 to October of 1986, which would allow those in the night club business more time to adapt to this change. I move its adoption.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark further? Senator Upson.

SENATOR UPSON:

I would urge rejection of this, also. One of the reasons for uniform bar closings is to save lives. We should do it immediately. And as the House has already requested that it

Regular Session  
Tuesday, May 28, 1985

3930 21  
dk

be the July 1st date of this year. Will you remark further on the amendment? All those in favor of the amendment, signify by saying aye. Those opposed nay. In the opinion of the Chair, the amendment is defeated. We're now on the bill. Senator Upson.

SENATOR UPSON:

Yes. Mr. President, this bill would provide that we have uniform bar closings, and the night club permits in Conn. would end. This would go into being on July 1st, and that's the essence of one of the House amendments. Specifically, it's House Amendment "C". The night club amendments that have already been granted for this year, would also end on July 1st. There would be no new night club permits, and the present ones would end, and the money would be refunded to them on a pro rata basis. There is one exception, Mr. President. And that is, nonprofit golf tournaments. Specifically the Greater Hartford Open. This is a new permit, which would be allowed over an eight day period, and would allow for a specific time, specifically it's from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., just for nonprofit golf tournaments. The reasons for this bill, and for the uniform bar closings, is that fifty one percent of all the drunk driving arrests occur between 12 and 4 a.m. The rate after that time drops dramatically. Thirty nine percent of all alcohol involved operators in fatal accidents,

also occur between 12:00 midnight and 4 a.m. And I believe it was a unanimous vote in the General Law Committee, and I believe it passed almost unanimously in the House. And I urge that this Circle adopt this bill, that I think will save lives, and provide uniformity in drinking establishments. Thank you.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark further on the bill? Senator Harper.

SENATOR HARPER:

Thank you, Mr. President. I oppose the bill, just briefly. I believe that it does nothing more than create a perception of dealing with a problem. By Senator Upson's own statement, he says that there is an increase in drunk driving fatalities after midnight. This doesn't stop people from going into a drinking establishment after midnight. It merely does away with a night club permit, and I contend that, as goes on now, certain establishments will entertain beyond the closing hour. And it does nothing more than allow some people to say, "Oh, look what we did!". One hour isn't going to make any difference, and I just think it's a needless intrusion into this industry. And I oppose it.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark further? Senator Streeter.

Regular Session  
Tuesday, May 28, 1985

3932<sup>23</sup>  
dk

SENATOR STREETER:

I happen to support this bill strongly. On looking at it from the point of view of elected officials who are in charge of their police departments. Looking at the problems that occur in their towns. This bill will give them the strength they need to deploy the police in a more meaningful way. For instance, in a town such as West Hartford, where we have two late closing bars, people from the other bars all come over to the late closing bars, and usually at that point, they've already had plenty to drink. By the time they've left those bars, they become even more of a problem. The testimony of police chiefs throughout the State, is that this is a statewide problem, where police forces are now being deployed to circle around these particular late closing bars, because of all the problems that they generate. At least by having a uniform closing, you don't have the incentive to bar hop from one to another, because of the late closing. There is a payment of about a thousand dollars, which a bar owner can pay in order to get a late closing permit. Having tried very hard to testify about the problems caused by these late closing permits, as long as they pay the money, they're allowed to keep that permit, and keep the bar open. This will, at last, get the State, as I said before, on a uniform basis, and do away with the late night bar hopping.

Regular Session  
Tuesday, May 28, 1985

3933 24  
dk

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark further? Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH:

Thank you, Mr. President. I would like to stand in support, and associate myself with the remarks of Senator Streeter. But in addition, I would like to note that there has been some rather unusual lobbying on behalf of so-called citizens, with regard to this particular piece of legislation. And if some of you have received what supposedly was communication from your district, I would ask you to check the return address. To look up that address in your local telephone book, with a name. And you'll find out that many fictitious letters have been received by many of you. I did take the time to check out the mail that I received. There was a concerted effort on the part of people outside of my district, representing themselves as being my constituents, arguing against this bill. In fact, it was a most unusual kind of lobbying, one in which there was some very self-centered people involved. And one in which the best interests of the people of the State of Connecticut were not represented. I think this is a good bill. It should be supported for all the good reasons that both Senator Streeter and my good friend, Senator Upson, have indicated. Thank you.

Regular Session  
Tuesday, May 28, 1985

39.44 25  
dk

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark further? Clerk, please make an announcement for immediate roll call.

THE CLERK:

Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate, will all the Senators please return to the Chamber. An immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate, will all Senators please return to the Chamber.

THE CHAIR:

Question before the Chamber is a motion to adopt Cal. No. 677, Substitute for House Bill No. 5981, File No. 794 and 1021, as amended by House Amendments Schedules "A", "C", and "E". The machine is open, please record your vote. Has everyone voted? The machine is closed, Clerk please tally the vote.

Result of the vote: 27 yea, 8 nay. The bill is adopted.

THE CLERK:

Page 2, Cal. No. 683, Substitute for House Bill No. 7554, File Nos. 778 and 1022. An Act Concerning the Investigatory Grand Jury System. (As amended by House Amendment Schedules "A" and "B".) Favorable Report of the Committee on Judiciary.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Richard Johnston.

**JOINT  
STANDING  
COMMITTEE  
HEARINGS**

**GENERAL  
LAW  
PART 1  
1-396**

**1985  
INDEX**

March 7, 1985

REP. NYSTROM: Good evening, Sen. Upson, Rep. Dickinson and members of the committee. I am Rep. Nystrom of the 46th District, and I will address several topics and I promise to be very brief.

First, House Bill 5084, An Act Raising the Drinking Age to 21 effective July 1, 1985. I support this measure. It was long overdue.

House Bill 5405, An Act Concerning the Age at which Persons May Purchase Alcoholic Liquor. I feel that you must have both in hand otherwise (inaudible) will not work. If you eliminate the night club permits I feel that Senate Bill 502, An Act Concerning the Issuance of Night Club Permits should be combined with House Bill 5981 which will allow for the fair transition for those permittees who have paid a fee for instance if it became effective July 1, 1985 and they paid for their license and the date that that license was issued for, extended beyond that period then they would be paying for that license and not getting their, what they paid for basically, so I think that would be a fair thing to do or something to consider.

Finally House Bill 5086 regarding happy hours. I think happy hours have been a very bad thing that caused a lot of problems in the State of Connecticut. A lot of people have been killed as a result of them. Happy hour can start right now at any given time of the day. We had a death in my town, Norwich last summer. A woman was killed 5:00 in the afternoon driving home from work with her kids. A man was at happy hour that afternoon. There's no reason for something like that. It was a life. So I support that measure as well.

SEN. UPSON: On your happy hours, you heard Mr. Hughes testify as to advertisement versus price. Was that as to the advertisement of happy hours?

REP. NYSTROM: I basically agree with his previous statement.

SEN. UPSON: All right. Thank you. That verifies it.

SEN. UPSON: Rep. Dickinson? Are there any questions? Thank you from coming all the way from Norwich, is that correct? We appreciate it. Back to the public. Brian Phelps.

14  
kpt

GENERAL LAW

March 7, 1985

MR. PFANN: (continued)

more were injured, some permanently disabled because of irresponsible, drunken driving. These victims, young and old, had much to live for, hopes and dreams like us all. With one voice, these victims and the hundreds of thousands of concerned citizens who do not want to be victims are asking that significant steps be taken to stop this carnage on our roads.

Several key steps must be taken by our state legislators which will eliminate incentives to drink and drive. So there will be no doubt, the term incentive is exactly what I am addressing.

Night club Permits NB5981

Connecticut currently allows liquor establishments to purchase special licenses to operate beyond normal closing times. I believe 242 such permits exist out of the more than 3500 total liquor permits issued. The existence of these after hour places is an incentive and attraction for drinkers to close down the local bar, then drive to an after hours place to drink some more. This is counterproductive to encouraging responsibility. Statistics prove that over 50% of all drunk driving arrests occur between 11:00 P.M. and 3:00 A.M. We believe many of these occur in the proximity where after hours establishments operate. Further, we are advised by law enforcement that more disturbances and fights occur at these locations than otherwise, which takes our police away from their other patrol assignments and crime deterring activity. We say that requiring uniform bar closing times and doing away with after hours licenses is a major positive step towards reducing drunk driving incidents.

HB 5286 HB 5287 NB 5355

A second issue, also an incentive to drink and drive, are the happy hour promotions which encourage heavier than normal drinking within a specified time in order to take advantage of reduced prices. For many of the same reasons cited above, such encouragements must be eliminated. The incentive of promoting happy hours is clear, this establishment wants your business and its business is to sell alcoholic beverages in quantities that produce a bigger profit. To take advantage of such promotion, you must be there during certain prescribed times when prices are more favorable. In order words, order all you can afford. Does anyone really believe this type of incentive

SEN. JOHNSTON: Do a lot of these organizations mentioned in this bill utilize these tickets and you oppose this bill because of the way it is drafted or because of its conceptual intent?

SGT. HASSAN: Because of the way it is drafted.

--

SEN. JOHNSTON: So you would like to see this expanded upon. Thank you.

REP. DICKINSON: I have one question, Sgt. I remember last year when we had this bill before us, there was a question of whether or not this was an extension of gambling and I think that was led in part to the reason why the bill was eventually vetoed. Has that question been cleared up or is there still that problem in this area?

SGT. HASSAN: --

REP. DICKINSON: Thank you.

SEN. JOHNSTON: Mr. Chairman. Do you have suggested language on how you might expand this bill.

SGT. HASSAN: We had proposed this last year --

SEN. JOHNSTON: Would you give me a copy of that?

REP. DICKINSON: Any questions?  
Thank you Sergeant. The next speaker is Rep. Nardini.

REP. NARDINI: Good morning Rep. Mosley, Sen. Johnston,

--

REP. DICKINSON: Fine, how are you.

REP. NARDINI: I am an opponent of House bill 5981 and I am obviously here to speak in favor of that bill. That bill would abolish night club permits in the issuance of night club permits. I know you have quite a few bills in on that and your feeling that I unfortunately don't agree with the concept. My bill

21  
kcl

GENERAL LAW

March 12, 1985

REP. NARDINI: (continued)

My bill directly relates to and addresses the issue or retroactivity. I believe that if you are going to pass the bill and eliminate night club permits, the only proper way to do it would be to eliminate all night club permits even the ones that are issued prior to the passage of the bill. What you are doing, if you don't do that is you are leaving a gray area to the law and possibly the -- possible injunction to allow other establishments in that town that (inaudible) in other establishments to go in and imply and say to for competitive mistake, we feel that we are being denied the right to compete with my competitors on the street and we would like to get our night club permit for the length of time that he has his issued for.

I would urge you please to consider retroactivity when passing that bill. There's a lot of gruesome and boring details that go with this, that you have already heard. The only think that I would like to say is that I think that our legislative body the body here has the duty right now to listen to our law enforcement -- saying -- drunk drivers on the road and we have to take steps in the right direction to curve those -- (inaudible) drinking age, I am not here to speak on behalf of things of that nature. Our law enforcement agencies also tell us that many accidents occur between the hours of 2 to 4 a.m. That 4 a.m. mark is when night clubs, night clubs -- for allowing these drunk drivers out on the road.

I urge the passage of the bill, and I would ask you again to very seriously consider the retroactivity of the bill, and other than that, I don't have anything further. Any questions?

REP. DICKINSON: Any questions?

REP. NARDINI: I have written testimony --

22  
kcl

GENERAL LAW

March 12, 1985

REP. DICKINSON: Thank you Rep. Nardini.

REP. NARDINI: Thank you.

REP. DICKINSON: The last scheduled speaker on this portion of the hearing is Rep. Adamo. Is he here? Here he comes. You are up Joe.

REP. ADAMO: Good morning Mr. Chairman, Members of the committee. I come before you this morning in support of many bills on the agenda, but would especially like to address two of them. Those bills that deal with the night club permits firstly.

It seems that the State of Connecticut must become consistent in its thinking. If we are to strengthen the laws regarding drunk driving and drinking, how do we in the same hands allow additional hours to drink. This doesn't follow consistency. We must address it, and we must address it by just doing away with the 3:00 permit and going back to the 2:00 permit.

Secondly, it is present law, the law allows cities and towns to make their own judgments. That provides great dangerous situations. That situation very clearly being the -- from one city to another, but one bar to another by people who have already probably had too much to drink, and subsequently, cause a hazard on the highways, and our streets and towns.

I don't like to use particular incidents, but certainly the City of West Haven has just gone through the trauma of a night club permit resulting in the death of a young man. We don't like to see that happen, in fact, we never like to see things like that happen.

I would floor this committee to give serious consideration to the abolishing of the night club permits in the state of Connecticut. I think this is extremely important, it will bring sanity and consistency back to our drinking laws.

23  
kcl

GENERAL LAW

March 12, 1985

REP. ADAMO: (continued)

NB 5784

I would also like to go on record as being in favor of the 21 year old drinking age. I think it is important that we do something in this area.

Clearly the record of accidents and deaths amongst the young people in the state of Connecticut is enough of a reason to change that law. We need no other. I urge you again, please increase the age to 21 for drinking --

REP. DICKINSON: Representative, one question. One of the bills that was heard earlier, introduced by Sen. Streeter, would permit hotels to maintain that one extra hour. How do you feel about that?

REP. ADAMO: I think you would wind up with a situation of constitutionality and -- picking and choosing. If the city is fortunate to have a hotel -- can someone guarantee us that they are going to sleep at the hotel at 4:00 in the morning without getting drunk? I doubt it very much. I think that was the original, my understanding of the law was that when it first came up, it was supposed to do that, it was supposed -- of the hotel so as to increase convention trade or, but the net result was opposite so that in fact anyone could go in and subsequently they weren't that way.

You still have the situation that people having exited from town to town from a bar to a hotel and so forth, and I think this is a dangerous precedent and if we are to be consistent, we ought to be consistent. --  
(inaudible)

REP. DICKINSON: Questions.  
Sen. Johnston.

SEN. JOHNSTON: Good morning Rep. Adama. Moving to that issue again, if there could be something built into the bill where upon patrons could prove their residency in that hotel, would you be in favor of against that?

24  
kbr

## GENERAL LAW

March 12, 1935

REP. ADAMO: I think yes, (inaudible).

SEN. JOHNSTON: Okay. Second, we, I don't know if you heard the remarks of Sen. Nardini relative to the revocation of night club permits that extra hour. Would you be in favor of the revocation of all outstanding permits that give that extra hour, or would you grandfather those permits?

REP. ADAMO: (inaudible, not speaking into microphone).

SEN. JOHNSTON: Very well. Thank you.

REP. DICKINSON: Thank you, Rep. Adamo. That is the final speaker in the first portion of the hearing. We will move into the public portion. I would like to just comment that we have a long list of speakers, and I think in order to make it as expeditious as possible, I would like to limit testimony to 5 minutes, if we can. Keep your remarks brief. If you have written testimony, please submit it and the Committee members will be given that written testimony, so with that in mind, the first speaker is, I'm gonna kill some of these names, I apologize right now for it, Al Antoch.

MR. AL ANTOCH: Good morning, members of the General Law Committee on behalf of the (inaudible) Cafe Association. I am here to address all of the bills that concern our business which undoubtedly some of you know is way down.

Keep that in mind (inaudible-not speaking into microphone)

Everybody I talk to in businesses around town (inaudible-not speaking into microphone or microphone not functioning) thousands and in some cases, hundreds of thousands of dollars (inaudible)

I understand the problems (inaudible) I sympathize with them, but (inaudible) out there doing a job and we do it to the best of our ability and (inaudible) they had the problem of (inaudible) of their own time pushing and pushing and pushing to get something done in the court system. The judge wanted to throw it out of court. (inaudible)

MS. WALKER: (continued)

any student or anyone under the age of 21. The sale and use of these kegs promotes the excessive consumption of alcohol among large groups of young people who are next to be (inaudible) uncontrolled by the school authorities and the police side alike, not to mention the parents who permit their children to congregate in extremely large numbers and permit the serving of alcohol to young people who are under the age of 18, 19 or 21, whatever.

In recent months, I have noticed signs posted at the entrances of our state parks and in other parks around the local area states such as New Hampshire and Rhode Island. In concur from these notices that our state parks are experiencing difficult times when kegs are present at large gatherings, especially at the end of the school year, weather permitting. That's the end of my statement.

REP. DICKINSON: Any questions? Thank you very much. You did very well for your first time. The next speaker is Mayor Lawrence Minichino, Mayor of the City of West Haven.

MAYOR LAWRENCE MINICHINO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The name is Lawrence C. Minichino, Mayor of the City of West Haven, Connecticut and I'm here this morning to speak on House Bill 5981, probably also on 5406, 5074 and Senate Bill 502.

I'm going to have to restrict my comments somewhat due to the fact that we have recently have a problem in West Haven. I think that every member of this panel is somewhat familiar with it. You've either seen it on the television or heard it on the radio or read about it in the newspapers, so I don't think it's particularly necessary for me to review all of that for you.

I also believe that we've had two of our state representatives up here this morning testifying on behalf of the (inaudible) I would urge the committee to report favorably. Which one you're going to adopt I really have no control over, but I would say that I believe coming from the City of West Haven, that the majority of people down there want some type of uniformity. I think currently what we have is haphazard type legislation where one town is open until 3:00. That certain establishments in