

Legislative History for Connecticut Act

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drafting is somewhat convoluted, but one interpretation could well mean that this assessment could be for the entire administrative expenses of the DEP.

I don't know if that was indeed intended initially the way this process was established. Apparently there was an assessment, an additional assessment for five personnel. It looks like three staff in DEP, radiation and noise and two in the Office of Emergency Management, which arguably some were in excess of \$100,000 to \$150,000.

This would appear on its face to authorize assessments arguably in the hundreds of thousands of dollars and perhaps greater sums.

I suspect that the amendment is flawed and at this time I would move that the amendment be passed temporarily. The scope of my motion, madam, would cover the bill so that we could thereupon endeavor to secure an appropriate amendment.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

The motion is on passing temporarily. Is there objection? Without objection, we pass temporarily.

The Clerk please return to the Call of the Calendar.

CLERK:

Emergency Certified Senate Bill 2018, AN ACT

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CONCERNING VARIOUS FEES, LCO4955.

REP. MULREADY: (20th)

Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Representative Mulready.

REP. MULREADY: (20th)

I move acceptance and passage of the Emergency Certified.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

The question is on passage of the bill in concurrence with the Senate.

REP. MULREADY: (20th)

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Representative Mulready.

REP. MULREADY: (20th)

This bill is essentially the fee bill that we didn't get a chance to deal with. It is in our revenue estimates, the amount of money called for in this bill and the Senate has seen fit to pass a couple of amendments to it, so I'd like to call the first one.

Madam Speaker, would you ask the Clerk to call LCO4973 and may I have an opportunity to summarize it or wind up, as the case may be.

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Will the Clerk please call LCO4973, which has previously been designated Senate "A".

CLERK:

LCO4973, Senate "A", offered by Senator Sullivan.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

The gentleman has asked leave of the Chamber to summarize. Without objection, please do so, Representative Mulready.

REP. MULREADY: (20th)

Madam Speaker, this requires full-time teachers of adult education to pay a \$50 fee. It has a minimal revenue impact since most people who teach adult education teach part-time and I move adoption of the amendment.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

The question is on adoption of Senate "A". Will you remark further? Will you remark further on Senate "A"? If not, let us try your minds. All those in favor please indicate by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Opposed nay.

REPRESENTATIVES:

No.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

The ayes have it.

The amendment is adopted.

Will you remark further on this bill as amended?

REP. MULREADY: (20th)

Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Representative Mulready.

REP. MULREADY: (20th)

The Senate had another amendment called LCO No. 4980. I would ask that the Clerk call that and I have a chance to summarize this as well.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 4980, which has previously been designated Senate Amendment "B".

CLERK:

LCO4980, Senate "B", offered by Senator Gunther.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

The gentleman has asked leave of the Chamber to summarize. Is there objection? Seeing none, please proceed, Representative Mulready.

REP. MULREADY: (20th)

Madam Speaker, this amendment eliminates subsurface sewage fees and has a fiscal note of \$223,500, that is, it reduces the revenue from the

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state by that amount.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Could you move adoption, sir?

REP. MULREADY: (20th)

Yes, Madam Speaker, I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

The question is on adoption of Senate Amendment "B". Will you remark? Will you remark further on Senate "B"? If not, let us try your minds. All those in favor please indicate by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Opposed nay.

REPRESENTATIVES:

No.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

The ayes -- quiet in the back row. The ayes have it.

The amendment is adopted.

Will you remark further on this bill as amended by Senate "A" and "B"? Will you remark further?

Representative Ward.

REP. WARD: (86th)

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, the Clerk

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has an amendment, I hope the Clerk has an amendment, LCO No. 4847. If the Clerk would please call and I be permitted to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Will the Clerk please call LCO No. 4847, which shall be designated House "A".

CLERK:

LCO4847, House "A", offered by Representative Taylor, et al.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Representative Ward, did you wish to summarize or did you wish to have it read?

REP. WARD: (86th)

Madam Speaker, may I summarize?

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

The gentleman has asked leave of the Chamber to summarize. Without objection, please do so, sir.

REP. WARD: (86th)

Madam Speaker, what it does is deletes lines 2396 through 2404. The effect of that is to eliminate a fee for filing a contempt of court motion in child support matters and I move adoption of the amendment.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

The question is on adoption of House "A". Will you remark, sir?

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REP. WARD: (86th)

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Frankly, I had a problem with a lot of the fees in this bill, but one that particularly jumped out at me that I thought was unreasonable is to say that when a custodial parent files a contempt motion against a non-child support paying spouse that unless they're receiving AFDC benefits, they have to pay a \$25 entry fee with the court.

Now the public policy of trying as best we can to assist people in collecting child support, I do not believe is served by having a \$25 filing fee. In terms of loss of revenue to the state, it's listed as a total loss revenue of \$165,000, so I don't think that's going to set the state back in such dire straits that we won't be able to operate a court system or all other matters, but there should not have to be a \$25 filing fee to seek to hold someone in contempt for not paying child support.

Frankly, I think it's a disservice and it's counterproductive to charge that kind of fee and I hope the Chamber would join me in supporting this amendment.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

The question is on adoption of House "A". Will you remark? Will you remark? Representative Tulisano.

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REP. TULISANO: (29th)

Madam Speaker, I oppose taking this part out. I understand what the Representative has just said, but it is in congress that some people who might file motion after a certain period of time, after a case has gone and not contempt, to file another motion to reopen, to have to pay a filing fee and maybe the same kind of people, if they're not using a contempt citation and so some people aren't treated equally.

And further, I understand again what the Representative indicated, Representative Ward did, but as I understand the rules, that is a taxable cost. So in fact it's collected at the other end, so the offender pays it, effectively paying part of the cost of trying to collect the money from him, generally him.

So the fact of the matter is that this is many areas we do charges, a \$25 fee for some of the motion we file. The contempt itself is not. It probably requires more work and yet there is no fee collected for that work that's being done and although it is an upfront charge, it is generally collected at the other end from the offending party. So I don't see a problem with the person making the move. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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Thank you, sir. Will you remark further on House "A"? Representative Ward.

REP. WARD: (86th)

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I think I would have to disagree that generally it's collected from the other party. It may be permitted to be taxed as cost. I think all too often in child support matters even when a contempt is brought, you don't even collect all of the unpaid child support. You're certainly, if you're not getting all of the arrearage, you're unlikely to be getting the \$25 on top of it and I think that it just is plain a bad public policy to say that when you file the contempt motion for not paying child support there's an extra court entry.

Yes, we have court entry fees for many others kinds of motion. One in fact, that there is not an initial court entry fee is for a temporary restraining order and I would think the policy we have set in that is that we don't want that filing fee. There's no -- for the initial restraining order there is no court entry fee unless that's also a new one in this and I missed it.

There is not under present law that. I hope we haven't added that in this fee bill. If we did, it'd be another reason to vote the bill down or to do

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another amendment to take it out.

To say -- I believe it really is adding insult to injury to say that there's an extra \$25 fee for child support matters for a contempt motion. I don't think it is a fair or a good public policy and, Madam Speaker, I would request a roll call on this amendment when the vote is taken.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

The gentleman has asked for a roll call vote. All those in favor please indicate by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

When the vote is taken, it will be taken by roll. Will you remark further on this amendment? Will you remark further on this amendment?

REP. FRANKEL: (121st)

Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Representative Frankel.

REP. FRANKEL: (121st)

Madam Speaker, ladies and gentlemen, I have perhaps a dangerously little amount of knowledge in this area, but I do know that currently probably the biggest bargain in the State of Connecticut, whether you earn

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\$100,000, \$50,000, wherever you are in the income scale, you can walk in to the support enforcement offices for no cost and trigger a rather powerful state agency to chase, and properly so, a non-supporting spouse. It's a very expensive process for the state. It involves sending out sheriffs with subpoenas, capias and a whole range of powers and right now at no cost.

The notion of a \$25 fee would still probably be the biggest bargain we've provided when you consider that an entry fee for a court case is \$125 and other fee entries are of like size. So I don't think under the circumstances with the kind of support enforcement and magistrate system we have in place that it's at all inappropriate to ask for an entry fee of \$25 to people who can afford it because it doesn't apply to AFDC folks.

So I would join with the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee and oppose the amendment.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Will you remark further on House "A"? Will you remark further? If not, will all members please take their seats. Staff and guests to the well of the House. The machine will be opened.

CLERK:

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The House of Representatives is voting by roll.

Members to the Chamber please. Members to the Chamber please, the House is voting by roll.

The House of Representatives is voting by roll call. Members to the Chamber please. Members please report to the Chamber. The House of Representatives is voting by roll.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Have all members voted? Have all members voted and is your vote properly recorded? If all members have voted -- if all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

The Clerk will announce the tally.

CLERK:

House Amendment "A" to Senate Bill 2018.

Total Number Voting	127
Necessary for Adoption	64
Those voting Yea	51
Those voting Nay	76
Those absent and not Voting	24

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

House "A" fails.

Will you remark further on this bill? Will you remark further on this bill as amended? Will you remark further? Representative Andrews.

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REP. ANDREWS: (88th)

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, the Clerk has an amendment, LCO5313. Will the Clerk please call and I be allowed to summarize please.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Will the Clerk please call LCO5313, which is designated House "B".

CLERK:

LCO5313, House "B", offered by Representative  
Andrews, et al.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Representative Andrews, did you ask for summarization?

REP. ANDREWS: (88th)

Please, ma'am.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

The gentleman has asked for summarization. Without objection, please do so, sir.

REP. ANDREWS: (88th)

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, the amendment is very simple. In line 47 it says what we are doing currently in the file copy is taxing infirmaries or charging a \$500 fee for infirmaries for basically private and independent schools for inspections on an annual basis. Currently they are not

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charged an inspection fee. The amendment merely strikes the \$500 fee and puts in lieu thereof a \$75 fee and a \$25 per bed and, Madam Speaker, I move its adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

The question is on adoption of House "B". Will you remark, sir?

REP. ANDREWS: (88th)

Madam Speaker, it's a very simple amendment and it does have a fiscal note that says there's a very minimal fiscal impact and it's not -- the fiscal impact cannot be determined as the number of beds and infirmaries is not known at this time. It's something that should be done to help our private and independent schools and I urge the Chamber to adopt it. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Thank you, sir. Will you remark further on House "B"? Will you remark further on House "B"? Representative Mulready.

REP. MULREADY: (20th)

Madam Speaker, I would rise to oppose the amendment. I think that the bill, as written, is fair in all categories for the parties in question. I also think this was a recommendation of, among others, the Thomas Commission and I think that the way the bill is

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written is preferable to the way that the amendment wishes to recharge it.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Thank you, sir. Will you remark further on House Amendment "B"? Will you remark further on House "B"? If not, let us try your minds. All those in favor please indicate by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Opposed nay.

REPRESENTATIVES:

No.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

The nays clearly have it.

The amendment fails.

Will you remark further on this bill as amended?

Will you remark further? Representative Prelli.

REP. PRELLI: (63rd)

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, the Clerk has an amendment, LCO4848. Could he please call and I be allowed to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

The Clerk please call LCO No. 4848, which shall be designated House "C".

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CLERK:

LCO4848, House "C", offered by Representative

Chase, et al.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

The gentleman has asked leave of the Chamber to summarize. Without objection, please proceed, Representative Prelli.

REP. PRELLI: (63rd)

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, this bill basically cuts in half the increase of the fee increase for non-profit camps and I move its adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

The question is on adoption of House "C". Will you remark, sir?

REP. PRELLI: (63rd)

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, currently in the bill we're raising fees for non-profit camps, those camps that many of us know and would include such things as Boy Scout Camps and Girl Scout Camps as well as many of our community type of camps from \$25 to \$250 and this amendment would change that to \$125 and I urge support. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

The question is on adoption of House "C". Will you remark? Representative Mulready.

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REP. MULREADY: (20th)

Madam Speaker, I again oppose the amendment. Virtually all of these fees are tied to the cost of the state to provide the service and we're trying to tie cost to revenue. In this particular case this particular item does that, so I would oppose the amendment.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Thank you, sir. Will you remark further?  
Representative Ward.

REP. WARD: (86th)

Very briefly, Madam Speaker. I just saw the fiscal note on this and I thought everyone in the Chamber should know that we would be helping out the non-profit camps. In terms of the state revenue loss it's only \$18,500. So I think that it would be appropriate to adopt it and it certainly isn't going to put anybody's budget out of whack with that kind of a figure.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Thank you, sir. Will you remark further on House "C"? Will you remark further? If not, let us try your minds. All those in favor please indicate by saying aye.

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Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

All those opposed nay.

REPRESENTATIVES:

No.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

It's kind of close. I would order a roll call. Will members please be seated. Staff and guests to the well of the House. The machine will be opened.

CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by roll.

Members to the Chamber please. Members to the Chamber. The House is taking a roll call vote.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Have all members voted? Have all members voted and is your vote properly recorded? If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally. Representative Lundfelt.

REP. LUNDFELT: (37th)

I'd like to vote in the affirmative please.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

In the affirmative, sir. Representative Lundfelt in the affirmative.

Representative Fonfara.

REP. FONFARA: (4th)

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Thank you, Madam Speaker. In the negative please.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

In the negative for Representative Fonfara.

The Clerk please announce the tally.

CLERK:

House Amendment "C" to Senate Bill 2018.

Total Number Voting	126
Necessary for Adoption	64
Those voting Yea	53
Those voting Nay	73
Those absent and not Voting	25

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

The amendment fails.

Will you remark further on this bill as amended?  
Will you remark further? If not, will all members  
please take their seats -- I'm sorry. Representative  
Norton.

REP. NORTON: (48th)

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise to oppose the  
bill. Let me forget although it is claimed that these  
feels all accord to the cost of the procedures they pay  
for, no one ever brought out a fees bill when we were  
in surplus. No one ever had the idea that we had to  
raise the fees for inspections of mausoleums in 1987 or  
1985 or 1984 or 1988.

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It may very well be that some of these costs do relate to some of these fees, but it's really a convenience, a financial convenience. I was looking at the revenue estimates, actually the revenues that came in for April.

The sales tax only brought in 15 percent less. That was the cut in the sales tax for the people of the State of Connecticut, 15 percent. The corporate tax cut was negligible, but we have an income tax that's bringing in hundreds of millions of dollars every month.

The people of the State of Connecticut during a recession, and everyone marvels at how the income tax works even in a recession, which is to say that even when people aren't doing that well, even when the economy is quite muted, we still get it out of your hide quite effectively.

I'm not sure if that effectiveness is a mark of great government and good financing, but some people will take pride.

Nonetheless, a small cut in the sales, a negligible cut in the corporate tax were argued, given as arguments for a \$2.4 billion income tax and another argument was that we could put away, put to death the nickel and diming of the people of Connecticut and that

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just hasn't happened.

We are saying that there are no tax increases in this budget, but quite certainly that's what this is and it seems to me that we ought to tell the truth, that we are going to raise the amount of dollars we ask the citizenry to give and we're going to do it right after we passed an income tax, an income tax this state got along without for three and a half centuries and it seems that within a year of passing it, we're still raising the amount of money we're taking out of people to operate our government.

So it seems to me we ought to put paid to some of the logic, some of the arguments that have been put forward for the income tax because it didn't save us a lot of things and it certainly didn't save us having to pass fee increases for non-profit organizations and inspecting mausoleums and running carnivals.

So I oppose the bill, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Thank you, sir. Will you remark further? Will you remark further on this bill as amended? Representative Stolberg.

REP. STOLBERG: (93rd)

Madam Speaker, briefly, the preceding gentleman commented on the difficulties of putting together the

budget and having to raise revenue and do cuts last year and this year the fact that some additional fee increases are necessary to balance the budget, so additional cuts will not be necessary.

I would point out that if we were in a healthier national economy, if we had Presidents in the last 12 years who had not mounted over \$3 trillion in deficit and if the economic stagnation that imperils the very well-being of this democracy were not caused by a Congress under some degree of paralysis and a presidency that has allowed the national debt to quadruple in a dozen years, I think then our revenue structure and our expenditure structure would be well in balance and we could be reducing fees and perhaps reducing revenues also.

So I applaud the gentleman's fervor although his fervor does not quite make up for the lack of totality in his comprehension of the economic difficulties of the state.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Thank you, sir. Will you remark further?

Representative Rogg.

REP. ROGG: (67th)

Madam Speaker, the remarks of the previous gentleman cannot stand as they are. I would submit to

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you that our fiscal health during the mid-1980s or during the entire period of the 1980s is to a substantial degree a direct result of policies coming from Washington.

Furthermore, I think it's also well known that the appropriations of funds, the expenditures of funds in Washington is controlled by a Congress and by a House of Representatives and by a Senate that has been controlled by his party, the Democratic Party during that entire period of time, save one short period where the Senate was controlled by the Republicans.

I don't think it will do to blame one party or one particular arm of our government for the conditions we are finding ourselves. The conditions we are finding ourselves in is clearly our own doing because we got carried away when we had a couple of hundred million surpluses. When we had \$400 million surpluses, the battle cry around here was why with \$200 million surplus, why can't we? And we did all the things we ever dreamt of doing and then some and now we find ourselves with a budget that's more than 2.5 times as high as it was when I got here eight years ago and it still is not enough, and frankly, unless we're changing our ways, \$10 billion is very, very close to reality and the people will have to make up their mind this

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fall, do we want to put up with more of that. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Thank you, sir. Will you remark further?

REP. MULREADY: (20th)

Madam Speaker, perhaps we can cut short this debate by reaching some sort of stipulated agreement with the other side that they think it's all our fault and we think it's all their fault and nobody will concede anything different and rather defend our side and they defend their side, we can just sort of forget the past five minutes or so and go on to the bill.

Now, as a factual point, with regard to Representative Norton's earlier comments, these fees should have been passed last year. I mean they were offered in the haste to get out of here. We didn't get out of here until December, but nevertheless, these were offered last year. They were included in a number of packages. We finally passed a tax package, finally came back for repeal, never got to the fees. So they were -- they've sort of have been anticipated in revenues that were hoped for and revenues for the last couple of years and they're certainly in our fiscal estimates, our revenue estimates for this year, so we need them, and hopefully, Madam Speaker, we don't have

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to keep going back and forth about who are the good guys and who are the bad guys.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Thank you, sir. Will you remark further on this bill as amended? Will you remark further?

Representative Wilber.

REP. WILBER: (133rd)

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Someone asked if I was invisible and I'm not. I have a question and I think since Representative Mulready is the one here that I'll have to ask him. I was hoping to ask -- oh, Representative Tulisano is here and I would like to ask him this question.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Representative Tulisano, please prepare yourself for a question. Please proceed, Representative Wilber.

REP. WILBER: (133rd)

Representative Tulisano, in Section 83 where the cost of \$20 is imposed on any person convicted on motor vehicle infractions, Section 83 of this bill. My question is if a judge were to decide, for example, that the person was convicted, but there would not be any penalty, in other words, that the fine was \$50 and he would remit the \$50, would the person still have to

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pay the \$20 and --? Yes, that's the question. Would he have to pay the \$20?

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Representative Tulisano.

REP. TULISANO: (29th)

Through you, Madam Speaker, in my opinion, the cost could still be imposed even though the fine itself was remitted.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Representative Wilber.

REP. WILBER: (133rd)

And my second question, Madam Speaker, through you, to Representative Tulisano, is there any way under this section that the judge could waive that \$20 because I don't see anything like that?

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Representative Tulisano.

REP. TULISANO: (29th)

Through you, Madam Speaker, I have seen judges waive costs through the equitable power of court when they thought it was appropriate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Representative Wilber.

REP. WILBER: (133rd)

Through you, Madam Speaker, even when there's no

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indication in the statute that he has the right to waive that?

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Representative Tulisano.

REP. TULISANO: (29th)

Through you, Madam Speaker, I'm not sure whether or not there is a right to waive them, but these similar type costs I have seen waived by a judge saying the costs are waived so it's either it's some other statutory provision or they believe it's within their power as a Superior Court judge, but I've seen it happen, so I gather these would not be any different.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Representative Wilber.

REP. WILBER: (133rd)

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am concerned about this because in most of these areas of the motor vehicle infractions, it is possible for the judge to waive those costs and it's written in the statute and I'm concerned that we don't have any indication here that the judge can waive and it may be it's going to cost the person \$20 whatever the judge thinks. It's possible, I suppose, that we could correct something like this another year, but it just makes me unhappy to see it. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Thank you. Will you remark further on this bill as amended? Will you remark further? If not --

Representative Simmons.

REP. SIMMONS: (43rd)

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I have a question for the proponent of the bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Of course, please frame your question.

REP. SIMMONS: (43rd)

Yes, ma'am. Reading -- I don't have a copy of the bill in front of me, but reading the fiscal note, there's an item under Department of Public Safety that refers to amusement parks and a raising of fees from \$10 to \$25 to \$35 to \$50. My question, if the proponent is able to find that portion of the fiscal note, my question is as follows. If we take the range to which those fees have been raised and seize upon \$37 as a median fee, in that range, this fee is supposed to raise \$37,000.

As I would understand it then, the fee would be applied approximately 1,000 times to raise that amount of money. It's my understanding that there are only 54 amusement parks in the State of Connecticut. So to raise a median of that amount, you would have to

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exercise the fee or apply the fee 20 times per year, as I read these numbers.

My question is to the proponent of the bill is could he clarify this issue for me please, through you, Madam Speaker?

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Representative Mulready.

REP. MULREADY: (20th)

Madam Speaker, through you, probably not, but I'll try. I don't think it just applies to the park itself. I think it applies perhaps to the number of rides and so forth and I don't think it's just amusement parks either. I'm going to try and find another section of the bill, which I haven't found yet.

Madam Speaker, through you, to continue.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Please continue, Representative Mulready.

REP. MULREADY: (20th)

I think it's Section 60 of the bill. In any event, Madam Speaker, through you, it deals with a couple of sections, I guess, Section 59 and Section 60, annual amusement park license fee and it also deals with -- that's the one that went from \$25 to \$35 I guess, and the portable amusement such as circus or carnival, so it deals with more than just the fixed amusements

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parks. It deals with any number of other traveling circuses apparently.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Representative Simmons, you still have the floor.

REP. SIMMONS: (43rd)

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I now have the requisite section in front of me. I see the language in line 1740 referring to an amusement park license which seems to me again once again we're dealing with raising fees on amusement parks as such.

Section 60, as I read it, yes, there's an annual license fee going from \$10 to \$50, but again, it's an amusement license. I mean I read this to be an amusement park, so I don't see how these numbers pertain under the circumstances. I won't tie up the floor with my question, Madam Speaker, but I think it's clear to a number of members of the Chamber that I have been fighting for over a year to reduce double taxation on amusements which I feel are driving amusement services out of business, in particular an amusement park in my district.

I'm concerned about raising fees. It looks like a dramatic raise in fees on these very services that are now subject to a double tax from the state and I think it's an onerous burden. I think the distinguished

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Chairman of the Finance Committee also knows that I feel that way and I have a great deal of difficulty supporting this legislation under the circumstances. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Thank you. Will you remark further on this bill as amended? Will you remark further? Representative Lockton.

REP. LOCKTON: (149th)

Thank you, Madam Speaker, to the proponent. Section 60 --.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Representative Mulready, prepare yourself for another question. Please proceed, Representative Lockton.

REP. LOCKTON: (149th)

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Section 60, as defined in Section 29-133, could you just please tell me what those amusements might be?

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Representative Mulready.

REP. MULREADY: (20th)

Madam Speaker, through you, does anybody have a copy of the General Statutes?

REP. LOCKTON: (149th)

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Madam Speaker, I think I found it before you did. I just wanted to make sure it wasn't an amusement that we had taxed last year unknowingly.

REP. MULREADY: (20th)

It refers to carnivals, circuses and those types of things.

REP. LOCKTON: (149th)

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Thank you, Representative.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Thank you. Will you remark further on this bill as amended? Representative Fusscas.

REP. FUSSCAS: (55th)

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Ladies and gentlemen, first, I'd like to urge the members on my side of the aisle to -- not to be intimidated by the speech of the distinguished gentleman from the 93rd, that indeed they shouldn't feel bashful about rising and trying to defeat the Reagan-Bush fee increases that are in this bill.

LAUGHTER

And I know that other side of the aisle will have no trouble with that and I would just like to say that should we have the opportunity to bring back the economic policies of Jimmy Carter, we would have no

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trouble in the State of Connecticut. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

All's fair in love and war. Will you remark further on this bill? Will you remark further on this bill? If not, will all members please take their seats. Representative Beamon.

REP. BEAMON: (72nd)

Thank you, Madam Speaker. In some ways I feel a little strange when I hear everyone bashing each other as to whose fault it is for the mess we're in today. All I know is that at this point, according to the New York Times yesterday, a billion dollars a day or \$11,574 a second, that's what our federal debt is.

I don't know the reason why we have to increase fees on people who, for some reason, can't afford some of these fee increases on mausoleums, which there are only two, but I guess it's another thing that we do here to prioritize in terms of budget formulation. We raise fees.

But I do think that we are missing a revenue source, a revenue source for which, whether it's legal or moral or immoral, I let this Chamber judge for that.

I think it's very easy to just go ahead and vote it up or down, but I hope we are mindful for what we're doing. All we're doing is increasing another tax in

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some way. It filters down -- that's the real trickle down theory. It trickled down to those people who can least afford it again.

There are some things in the fee bill as proposed for which does make some corrections to some very difficult ways of assessing fees and I have a few questions that I just would like to throw out. I mean one of the questions is in terms of a thing that I guess got vetoed, radar detectors. We can have radar detectors in this state and you can walk into a store and you can buy one, but you can't use it. I don't understand that, but I'm not the smartest man on the earth, but I don't think I'm the dumbest either.

LAUGHTER

I don't mean to take up so much of the Chamber's time, but despite a Herculean task of getting amendment drafted and fiscal notes ready, I was hoping at this time, since last Thursday, of getting a fee bill for which would include the licensure of the video slot machines.

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Whether you like it or not, you can't do one thing and say it's illegal, radar detectors, and turn around and say that video slot machines can't be installed or held and be taxed or have a fee since we're raising

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fees, but since that amendment, for some strange reason is here and filed, but there's no fiscal note to it, which is about \$3 million, based on what passed upstairs, I want to apologize to the Chamber because I thought it would be a very lively debate, something to stimulate our cranial activity at 6:30 in the evening.

I oppose the fee bill. I think that we have to find more creative ways of balancing our budgets and also a way for which I do believe that we could have cut \$26 million or \$30 million out of our budget instead of hitting the same people over again.

For that reason, I stand to oppose the fee bill and intend to vote against the fee bill and I'm just sorry I did not have the opportunity on the fee bill to tax video slot machines and have that lively debate. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Thank you, sir. Will you remark further on this bill? Will you remark further? If not, will all members please take their seats. Staff and guests to the well of the House. The machine will be opened.

CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by roll  
call. Members to the Chamber. Members to the Chamber.  
The House is taking a roll call vote.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Have all members voted? Have all members voted?  
 Have all members voted and is your vote properly  
 recorded? If all members have voted, the machine will  
 be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

Representative McDonald.

REP. MCDONALD: (148th)

In the affirmative please.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Representative McDonald in the affirmative.

Representative DeZinno.

REP. DEZINNO: (84th)

In the negative please.

DEPUTY SPEAKER POLINSKY:

Representative DeZinno in the negative.

The Clerk will announce the tally.

CLERK:

Senate Bill 2018, as amended by Senate  
Amendment Schedules "A" and "B", in concurrence with  
 the Senate.

Total Number Voting	140
Necessary for Passage	71
Those voting Yea	72
Those voting Nay	68
Those absent and not Voting	11

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Calendar Page 3, Calendar No. 532, Senate Bill No. 2015, AN ACT MAKING CERTAIN AMENDMENTS AND CORRECTIONS TO THE PERSONAL INCOME, GIFT, SALES AND USE AND MOTOR VEHICLE FUEL TAXES AND THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY FUND ENACTED OR AMENDED IN THE 1991 JUNE SPECIAL SESSION.

The Clerk is in possession of four amendments.

THE CHAIR:

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

SENATOR DIBELLA:

Could we P-T this please, Madam President?

THE CHAIR:

Yes. There's a motion to P-T this. If no objection, it will be.

THE CLERK:

Calendar No. 535, Senate Bill No. 2018, AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS FEES.

The Clerk is in possession of three amendments.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much. Senator DiBella.

SENATOR DIBELLA:

Thank you, Madam President. I adopt the Committee's -- move adoption of the Committee's Joint Favorable Report and urge passage of the bill.

THE CHAIR:

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Thank you very much, sir. Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

LCO4973, which will be designated Senate Amendment  
Schedule "A". It's offered by Senator Sullivan of the  
5th District.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Sullivan.

SENATOR SULLIVAN:

Thank you, Madam President. I move adoption of the  
amendment and request permission to summarize.\

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, sir. Please proceed.

SENATOR SULLIVAN:

This amendment was adopted when the Senate  
previously acted on the Fees Bill. It deals with two  
rather technical areas, one of which is adult education  
certificates. Since these individuals are largely, in  
fact almost overwhelmingly part-time, it essentially  
will prorate the fee for them.

Secondly, it will provide a refund policy for  
certain teacher certification applications.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much. Would anybody else wish to  
remark on Senate Amendment "A", LCO No. 4973? Are  
there any other remarks? If not, then please let me

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know your mind. All those in favor of Senate Amendment "A", LCO No. 4973, please signify by saying aye.

SENATORS:

Aye.

THE CHAIR:

Opposed.

SENATORS:

No.

THE CHAIR:

The ayes have it.

The amendment is adopted.

THE CLERK:

LCO4980, which will be designated Senate Amendment Schedule "B". It's offered by Senator Gunther of the 21st District.

THE CHAIR:

The Chair would recognize Senator Gunther. Just a minute, Senator. Wait a minute. (Gavel) Once again, can I ask you please to keep the level of your conversation down so that the business can be transacted and members of the Circle can hear one another and extend the courtesy to Senator Gunther. Go ahead, Senator.

SENATOR GUNTHER:

Madam President, I move adoption of the amendment,

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waive the reading and I'll explain it.

THE CHAIR:

Please proceed, Senator.f

SENATOR GUNTHER:

This is another amendment that was adopted during our Regular Session. I just hope we have the same success. I know that I had the great strength of Senator DiBella behind it because this affects a group of people who are closely associated with his real profession and these are the subsurface people who are servicing and cleaning out the sewers or rather septic tanks and digging the holes for septic tanks and knowing that Senator DiBella is also a licensed funeral director, I think that the close relationship is one of the things that made it so successful the last time and I hope we have it again this time.

LAUGHTER

THE CHAIR:

Would anybody else wish to remark on Senate Amendment "B", LCO No. 4980? Are there any further remarks? If not, please let me know your mind. All those in favor of Senate Amendment "B", LCO No. 4980, please signify by saying aye.

SENATORS:

Aye.

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THE CHAIR:

Opposed.

The ayes have it.

The amendment is adopted.

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

LCO4590, which will be designated Senate Amendment  
Schedule "C". It's offered by Senator Robertson of the  
34th District, et al.

THE CHAIR:

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

SENATOR ROBERTSON:

Thank you very much, Madam President. Madam  
President, I would move adoption of the amendment and  
seek leave of the Chamber so that I might summarize.

THE CHAIR:

Please proceed, Senator.

SENATOR ROBERTSON:

Madam President, this eliminates the sections which  
dramatically increase the fee for teachers, the  
teacher certificates. I think it's the right thing to  
do and would move the amendment.

THE CHAIR:

Excuse me, sir? Oh, you moved the amendment. I'm

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sorry, I didn't hear you. Would anybody else wish to remark on Senate Amendment "C"? Senator DiBella.

SENATOR DIBELLA:

Thank you, Madam President. I oppose the amendment and I would urge people to vote against it.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much. Would anybody else -- Senator Robertson.

SENATOR ROBERTSON:

Gee, I guess if offered an amendment, Madam President, that doesn't affect the sewers, it has a difficult time. I would ask for a roll call vote please.

THE CHAIR:

Would anybody else wish to remark on Senate Amendment "C"? Are there any further remarks? If not, Senator DiBella.

SENATOR DIBELLA:

Just for the purpose of clarification, the fiscal note on the amendment that's being proposed is somewhere around \$6 million or \$7 million as opposed to the amendment that was proposed by Senator Gunther that was about \$230,000. I think that obviously by adopting this amendment we gut to a great extent the revenues that exist in this Fees Bill.

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THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much. Would anybody else wish to remark on Senate Amendment "C"? If not, Mr. Clerk, would you please make the necessary announcement for a roll call vote.

THE CLERK:

An 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:

Thank you very much, Mr. Clerk. The issue before the Chamber is an amendment to Senate Bill No. 2018. It's Senate Amendment "C", LCO No. 4590. The machine is on. You may record your vote.

Senator Casey. Here you are. I'm sorry, I didn't even see you. Have all Senators voted the way they wish to vote? Have all Senators voted? The machine is closed.

The result of the vote:

16 Yea

20 Nay

0 Absent

The amendment fails.

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Senator DiBella, you now have before you the bill as amended.

SENATOR DIBELLA:

Thank you, Madam President. The bill will result in a net revenue gain of \$15.1 million from increases in various license permits and fees and miscellaneous revenues and enhancements. A \$248,000 minus cost is associated with implementation. It will require additional personnel in the Consumer Protection area and Department of Health Services to provide for the proper supervision and proper inspection of the existing fees that are being charged.

The fees reflect an administrative cost for the State of Connecticut for providing the services as outlined in the bill.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much, Senator DiBella. Would anybody else wish to remark on Senate Bill 2018, Senate Calendar 535? Are there any further remarks? Senator Robertson.

SENATOR ROBERTSON:

Thank you very much, Madam President. Madam President and members of the Circle, I would just like to quote Senator DiBella, indicating that this was a net revenue gain of \$15.1 million. The way I read

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that, this is a new tax of \$15.1 million and would urge all like minded colleagues to vote not.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much, Senator. Would anybody else wish to remark? If not, Mr. Clerk, would you please make the necessary announcement for a roll call vote.

THE CLERK:

An 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:

Thank you very much, Mr. Clerk. The issue before the Chamber is Senate Bill No. 2018, Senate Calendar No. 535 as amended by Senate Amendments "A" and "B". The machine is on. You may record your vote.

Senator Casey. Here he comes. Have all Senators voted the way they wish? Have all Senators voted? The machine is closed.

The result of the vote:

20	Yea
16	Nay
0	Absent

The bill passes.

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Senator O'Leary.

SENATOR O'LEARY:

Madam President, I move for immediate transmittal of that item to the House.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much. You have before you Senator O'Leary's motion for the immediate transmittal of Senate Calendar No. 535 to the House. Is there any objection? Any objection? Hearing none, it is so ordered.

THE CLERK:

Turning to Calendar Page 2, Calendar No. 528, previously marked Passed Temporarily is ready to be called, Senate Bill No. 2011, AN ACT CONCERNING THE AUTHORIZATION OF BONDS OF THE STATE FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND OTHER PURPOSES.

The Clerk is in possession of four amendments.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much. The Chair would recognize -- the Senate will stand at ease.

SENATOR DIBELLA:

The amendment is still forthcoming.

THE CHAIR:

All right, there's a motion to P-T that item. Hearing no objection, it will be.