

Act Number: 09-143

Bill Number: 940

Senate Pages: 2597-2600, 2621-2622

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House Pages: 8403-8416

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Committee: Education: 27-28

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THE CHAIR:

All opposed, Nay. The Amendment is adopted. Mr. Majority Leader.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, we move that the bill as amended be referred to the Appropriations Committee.

THE CHAIR:

Without objection, so ordered. Mr. Majority Leader.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Yes, Mr. President. Also, another bill to mark as "go", Calendar page 28, Calendar 225, Senate Bill 457.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

Calendar page 36, Calendar Number 429, File Number 647, substitute for Senate Bill 940, AN ACT CONCERNING THE REPORTING OF TRUANCY DATA, Favorably Reported on by Committee on Education and Government Administration and Elections.

THE CHAIR:

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Senator Gaffey.

SENATOR GAFFEY:

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

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark?

SENATOR GAFFEY:

Yes, thank you, Mr. President. The underlying file copy just simply requires that truancy data be reported in the Strategic School Profiles that districts have to fill out and submit to the State Department of Education. This is in compliance with the No Child Left Behind act, the federal law.

Mr. President, the Clerk is in possession of Amendment LCO number 7378, if the Clerk would please call and I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk, would you please call?

THE CLERK:

LCO 7378, which will be designated Senate
Amendment Schedule "A" as offered by Senator Gaffey of

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the 13th District.

THE CHAIR:

The gentleman seeks leave to summarize, Senator Gaffey.

SENATOR GAFFEY:

Thank you, Mr. President. I move adoption.

THE CHAIR:

Please proceed, sir.

SENATOR GAFFEY:

Thank you, sir. This Amendment has just technical changes in lines 36 and 38 on the type of data that is to be included in the school profile. It also has language in the second part of the Amendment that allows the Department of -- I'm sorry, the Chief Information Officer submitting to the Secretary of OPM a report on -- annual report, instead of doing two reports each year. This is requested by the Department of Information Technology on a previous bill and we're going to put it as part of this Amendment to limit their reporting to just one report annually.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark further on the adoption of Senate

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"A"? If not, the Chair will try your minds. All in favor, signify by saying Aye.

SENATORS:

Aye.

THE CHAIR:

All opposed, Nay. The Amendment is adopted.

Senator Gaffey.

SENATOR GAFFEY:

Mr. President, if there's no further comment, I would move the bill to the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Without objection -- Senator Fasano. Without objection, so ordered. Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

Calendar page 28, Calendar Number 225, File Numbers 241 and 805, Substitution for Senate Bill 457, AN ACT CONCERNING MOTOR VEHICLE REPAIRS, Favorably Reported, Committee on Insurance and Transportation. Clerk is in possession of two Amendments.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Crisco.

SENATOR CRISCO:

Thank you, Mr. President. And thank you for your

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Clerk might call the second Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

A roll call has been ordered in the Senate on the second Consent Calendar. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber? An immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate on the second Consent Calendar. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber? Mr. President, there are two items placed on the second Consent Calendar, beginning on Calendar page 29, Calendar Number 249, House Bill 6185 and Calendar page 36, Calendar 429, substitute for Senate Bill 940. Mr. President, those items placed on the second Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

On the second Consent Calendar, the machine is now open.

THE CLERK:

The Senate is now voting by roll call on the Consent Calendar. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber? The Senate is now voting by roll call on the second Consent Calendar. Will all Senators please

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return to the Chamber?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Prague. All Members have voted. The machine will be closed. Will the Clerk please announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

The motion is on adoption of Consent Calendar Number 2.

Total Number Voting	36
Those voting Yea	36
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	0

THE CHAIR:

Consent Calendar is adopted. Mr. Majority Leader.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, I would move for suspension for immediate transmittal to the House of Representatives of any items voted on in the Senate today requiring additional action in the House.

THE CHAIR:

Without objection? So ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

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Representative Olson, the distinguished Deputy
Majority Leader.

REP. OLSON (46th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I move
for immediate transmittal to the Senate of the item we
just previously acted upon as it needs further action
in the Senate. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, ma'am. The motion is immediate
transmittal of all items previously acted on in the
House needing further action in the Senate. Is there
objection? Is there objection? Hearing none, so
ordered.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar Number 647.

THE CLERK:

On Page 21, Calendar Number 647, Substitute for
Senate Bill Number 940 AN ACT CONCERNING THE REPORTING
OF TRUANCY DATA. Favorable Report by the Committee on
Government Administration and Election.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Fleischmann, the new dad from West
Hartford, you have the floor, sir.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18th):

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Thank you, Madam Speaker. I move for acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and passage of the Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

The question is on acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and passage of the Bill. Will you remark? Representative Fleischmann.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, the Bill now before us simply requires bills, I'm sorry, boards of education to include information on truancy in their strategic school profiles.

This Bill received overwhelming bipartisan support from the Education Committee because inclusion of this truancy data is helpful, both to the school and to the state in assessing how we're doing with regard to that important issue.

Madam Speaker, the Clerk is in possession of an Amendment, LCO Number 7378. I would ask that the Clerk please call and I be given permission to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

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Will the Clerk please call LCO Number 7378 designated as House Amendment, excuse me, Senate Amendment Schedule "A".

THE CLERK:

LCO Number 7378, Senate "A", offered by Senator Gaffey and Representative Fleischmann.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

The Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize. Is there objection? Seeing none, Representative Fleischmann.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. The Amendment that's now before us does two simple things. First, it clarifies the meaning of truancy data, and narrows the definition to precisely match the information already collected by the State Department of Education regarding attendance and unexcused absences.

So by doing this, we ensure that we're simply talking about data that already exists and not imposing any unnecessary costs on either the state or the municipalities.

In addition, the Amendment now before us includes some language regarding a duplicative report from the Department of Information Technology to the Secretary

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of OPM. This is a report that is provided in another way, in another area of statute and eliminating this section of the statute is a way of relieving the Department of unnecessary responsibilities. I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

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

If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying Aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

All those opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it. The Amendment is adopted. Do you care to remark further on the Bill as amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A"?

Will you care to remark further⁷ on the Bill as amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A". Representative Bacchiochi, you have the floor, ma'am.

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. A question to the proponent of the Amendment, through you.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Please proceed, ma'am.

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

Thank you. On the Bill as amended. In Lines 23 through 27 of the Amendment, it states about the Chief Information Officer shall submit to the Secretary of OPM. Is that strictly in relation to the truancy data? Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Fleischmann.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18th):

Through you, Madam Speaker, no. This pertains to some other reporting that has already been going on. Basically there was a very small bill that achieved this simple end that had moved through the process and died due to an administrative error, and there was a commitment made on the part of leaders of the Education Committee and the GAE Committee to help the Department of Information and Technology achieve this end.

This was chosen as an appropriate vehicle, so it doesn't relate specifically to that truancy data, but does relate to data that is relevant to the Bill.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, sir. Representative Bacchiochi.

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

Yes. Could you explain what that compromise and agreement was, and what those few lines actually do?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Fleischmann.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18th):

Through you, Madam Speaker, they are about what they say on their face, so I'll simply read them.

The Chief Information Officer shall submit to the Secretary of Office and Policy Management, a report, which sets forth the actual expenditures of each state agency for the last completed fiscal year for information and telecommunications systems.

This is a very simple type of reporting, which is needed by OPM in order to track what's happening with information and technology in the state.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, Sir. Representative Bacchiochi.

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

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Thank you, Madam Speaker, so would it be safe to say that these are, this is something that OPM feels is necessary? Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Fleischmann.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18th):

Through you, Madam Speaker, yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Bacchiochi.

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Will you care to remark further on the Bill as amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A"? Will you care to remark further on the Bill as amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A"? Representative Giuliano of the 23rd. Good evening, ma'am, you have the floor.

REP. GIULIANO (23rd):

Good evening, Madam Speaker, and thank you. This Bill actually adds to the important student data that we need to collect, and actually, the way that the Bill is framed, this collection will be something that

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is simple but important for the state to track, and I support the passage of this Bill. Thank you, Madam.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, ma'am. Will you care to remark on the Bill as amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A"? Will you care to remark further? Representative Hetherington of the 125th.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. A question to the proponent.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Please proceed, sir.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

Is that information on truancy currently collected in any manner?

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Fleischmann.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18th):

Through you, Madam Speaker, yes, but not in the manner set forth here that would put it into school profile.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Hetherington.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

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I'm sorry, but not what? I didn't hear the last part of the response.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Fleischmann, do you mind repeating, sir.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18th):

Through you, Madam Speaker, yes, I'm happy to repeat. I think there's a small child in the Chamber who is making it hard to hear. That is my child, so I apologize.

It may be my last response that brought that crying. The data that the good Representative is referring to is data that is already out there, but is not currently made available through school profiles.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, sir. Representative Hetherington.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

Thank you. Is such data related to federal education funding? Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Fleischmann.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18th):

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Through you, Madam Speaker, I'm not sure, but I believe the answer to that question is no.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Hetherington.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

I see. And then, would you state the purpose of collecting this data in a way other than is now done?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Fleischmann.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18th):

Through you, Madam Speaker, I'd like to amend my previous response. Under No Child Left Behind there are certain federal reporting requirements around truancy and failure of children to attend school.

What the measure now before us would do would be to organize that information that's currently scattered in a way that was useful to the public.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Hetherington.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

I see. All right. I thank the Representative, and I'm pleased to have heard from both Fleischmanns.

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Thank you. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, Sir. Will you care to remark further on the Bill as amended by Senate "A"? Will you care to remark further on the Bill as amended by Senate "A"?

Representative Number 5, Kirkley-Bey, you have the floor, ma'am.

REP. KIRKLEY-BEY (5th):

Thank you, 48. I appreciate it. Just a couple of questions to Representative Fleischmann.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Please proceed.

REP. KIRKLEY-BEY (5th):

Is there any requirement with regard to truancy, we know that if kids missed a certain amount of days they automatically will not pass to the next grade.

Is there anything in here that advises, that will let the parent know that the child is quickly approaching that to make sure that they don't, they're not truant for that number of days?

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Fleischmann.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18th):

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Through you, Madam Speaker, no. The Bill that's before us is about the collection of aggregate data on schools and providing that data in school profile reports so it doesn't reach down to the level that my good colleague from Hartford has just mentioned.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Kirkley-Bey.

REP. KIRKLEY-BEY (5th):

I didn't think there was in the explanation that was given by the Representative. I don't know how that helps the parent and the child to keep within the realm of what they need to be, and that child to keep progressing.

I think all of us, and I know Representative Fleischmann is one who really cares about children and education, but if the school keeps the data but the data is not disseminated to those who need it, I don't know how we're going to use it in the future to curtail the truancy that goes on in our schools. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, ma'am. Will you care to remark further on the Bill as amended by Senate Amendment

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Schedule "A"? Will you care to remark further on the Bill as amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A"? Representative Carson of the 108th, you have the floor, ma'am.

REP. CARSON (108th):

Madam Speaker, I had not intended to speak on this Bill except you called on me, so at this point in time, I will say that I stand in support of the Bill. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, ma'am. Will you care to remark further on the Bill as amended by Senate Amendment "A"? Will you care to remark further on the Bill as amended by Senate "A"?

If not, staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. Members take your seats. The machine will be opened.

THE CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by Roll

Call. Members to the Chamber.

The House is taking a Roll Call Vote. Members to the Chamber, please.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

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Have all the Members voted? Have all the Members voted? Please check the board to determine if your vote has been properly cast. If all Members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

And the Clerk will please announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

Senate Bill Number 940 as amended by Senate "A"
in

Concurrence with the Senate.

Total Number Voting	143
Necessary for Passage	72
Those voting Yea	143
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	8

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

The Bill passes in concurrence with the Senate.

Any announcements or introductions? Any announcements or introductions? Representative Heinrich of the 101st, you have the floor. Good evening, ma'am.

REP. HEINRICH (101st):

Good evening, Madam Speaker. Members of the Chamber, please don't get excited. I'm not making an

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for to fully understand what policy changes need to be made.

An important component of this process is the increasing use of school resource officers. SRO programs can be and are a positive addition to the school community. SRO programs can help build bridges between youth and police officers. There is also the potential that SRO programs can lead to an increase in school arrests. We should consider legislation that helps to clarify training roles and responsibilities of SRO's so that they can use their police powers to better manage juvenile delinquency in the communities while also improving safety and order in the school environment.

Thank you. I'd be happy to answer any questions that you might have.

SENATOR GAFFEY: Any questions for the Representative? Thank you very much.

REP. ROJAS: Thank you for your time.

SENATOR GAFFEY: You're welcome. Commissioner McQuillan?

MARK K. McQUILLAN: Good afternoon. Representative Fleischmann, Senator Gaffey, Representative Giuliano, thank you very much for taking my testimony. I'm in a bit of a quandary as to how to proceed. There are many, many bills here that we have prepared written testimony for, and I had thought just simply to characterize them generally and then to speak to one specifically, and invite questions if there is time remaining.

SB 940
SB 941
SB 946
SB 947
HB 12491
HB 12489
HB 12493

As you will see from what we have submitted to the Committee, we have offered written

comments on nearly all but four of the bills. Those that we have not commented on are largely as a result of having no position that we would choose to take at this point, and we think in some respects that's appropriate.

Those that have been introduced to this group from the Department of Education, S.B. Number 940, 941, 946 and 947, are pieces of legislation that we have been putting together at the Department of Education and are advocating largely in response to some of the concerns that we've seen raised around how the potential impact of magnet school funding will affect future work as well as the work that we have been doing around secondary school reform, which you have heard me speak to on many different occasions.

Specifically, the S.B. 947 regarding high school credit for approved on-line course work is a reflection of our realization that as we move into the 21st century and will be more dependent upon on-line course work, we need to set some criteria by which districts award credit, and I think the conventional Carnegie measure of seat time and credit generation is tested to some degree in terms of our ability to measure out exactly how we want to grant credit, and so under the circumstances here of this particular bill, it is designed to give flexibility to the notion of allowing on-line course work but giving some parameters to districts to realize the criteria that they feel will be necessary to award credit.

The other bills that I think are of note that are related to the secondary school reform work that we've been advocating are the act concerning adult education course work and high school graduation credits. This is in some respects will be opposed by others who