

Act Number: 09-027

Bill Number: 762 .

Senate Pages: 1426, 1479-1481 **4**

House Pages: 2259, 2598-2600 **4**

Committee: Public Safety: 7, 9-10, 11-12, **7**
78, 85

Page Total: **15**

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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SENATE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2009**

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md
SENATE

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April 22, 2009

001426

Calendar 81, Senate Bill 760, I move be placed on the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Motion is on consent. Seeing no objection, so ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President. Also calendar page 39, Calendar 83, Senate Bill 762, I move to place that item on the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Motion is on consent. Seeing no objection, so ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

And finally, Mr. President, also on calendar page 39, Calendar 99, Senate Bill 787, I move to place that item on the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Motion is on consent. Seeing no objection, so ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President. And one item moving the other direction, calendar page 42, Calendar 155, Senate Bill 451, that had been marked go, would change the marking on that to PR.

md
SENATE

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April 22, 2009

Agenda Number 3, Emergency Certified Bill 6716 and
House Bill -- correction, 6379.

Turning to the calendar, calendar page 2,
Calendar Number 475, Senate Resolution Number 19;
Calendar 476, Senate Resolution Number 20; Calendar
477, Senate Joint Resolution Number 74.

Calendar page 4, Calendar Number 139, Senate Bill
854.

Calendar page 6, Calendar 178, Senate Bill 873.

Calendar page 7, Calendar 194, Substitute for
Senate Bill 756.

Calendar page 8, Calendar 223, Substitute for
Senate Bill 46.

Calendar page 10, Calendar Number 240, House Bill
Number 6401.

Calendar page 12, Calendar Number 264, Substitute
for Senate Bill 1023.

Calendar page 14, Calendar 328, Substitute for
Senate Bill 814.

Calendar page 19, Calendar Number 400, House Bill
6351.

Calendar page 20, Calendar Number 402, Substitute
for House Bill 6193.

Calendar page 21, Calendar 408, House Bill 6322;

Calendar 409, Senate Bill 1013.

Calendar page 23, Calendar 423, Substitute for
Senate Bill 1010.

Calendar page 27, Calendar 443, Substitute Senate
Bill 1149; Calendar 447, Senate Bill 673; Calendar
448, Senate Bill 1029.

Calendar page 30, Calendar 459, House Bill 5138;
Calendar 461, House Bill 6406; Calendar 462,
Substitute for House Bill 6537.

Calendar page 39, Calendar Number 81, Substitute
for Senate Bill 760; Calendar 83, Senate Bill 762;
Calendar 99, Senate Bill 787.

Calendar page 40, Calendar 119, Substitute for
Senate Bill 778.

Calendar page 43, Calendar 171, Senate Bill 251.

Calendar page 46, Calendar Number 266, Senate
Bill Number 382.

Calendar page 51, Calendar Number 356.

SB855

Mr. President, I believe that completes those
items previously placed on the first Consent Calendar.

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 Consent Calendar, will all Senators please return

to the chamber.

THE CHAIR:

The machine is open.

Members, please check the board to see if your vote is properly cast and properly recorded. If all members have voted, the machine will be locked.

Would the Clerk please take a tally.

THE CLERK:

Motion is on adoption of Consent Calendar Number 1. Total number voting, 35; those voting yea, 35; those voting nay, 0; those absent/not voting, 1.

THE CHAIR:

Consent Calendar 1 is passed.

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Yes. Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, the two items that appeared on Senate Agenda Number 3, have just been passed on the Consent Calendar. I would move that the first item from Senate Agenda Number 3, House Bill 6716, the emergency certified bill, I move for immediate transmittal of that item to the Governor.

THE CHAIR:

Motion is for immediate transmittal to the

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CLERK:

Also, Madam Speaker, the Clerk has consent calendar designations pursuant to House Rule 43. A written expression of agreement between the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader is in the possession of the Clerk.

SPEAKER REEVES:

The Chair recognizes Representative Robles of the 6th District.

REP. ROBLES (6th):

Madam Speaker, I would move that the following items be placed on the consent calendar: Calendar Number 481, House Bill Number 6625; Calendar 536, Senate Bill 673; Calendar 539, Senate Bill Number 762; and Calendar 542, Senate Bill Number 787.

SPEAKER REEVES:

Hearing no objections, so ordered.

CLERK:

Madam Speaker, there is no further business on the Clerk's desk.

SPEAKER REEVES:

The Chair recognizes Representative Robles of the 6th District.

REP. ROBLES (6th):

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pat
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

337
April 29, 2009

Mr. Speaker, I wasn't in the Chamber. I'd like to be noted as being in the affirmative.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

That will be so noted in the Journal. Thank you, Representative.

REP. HARKINS: (120th)

Thank you, Sir.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Will the Clerk please call Calendar Number 536.

CLERK:

On Page 1, Calendar Number 536, Senate Bill Number 673 AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SYSTEM. Favorable Report of the Committee on Judiciary.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Deputy Majority Leader Melissa Olson.

REP. OLSON: (46th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We're now going to be voting on today's Consent Calendar. First we have three items on the Consent Calendar that were already moved during the previous Session. The Calendar Numbers are 536, 539 and 542.

We moved items previously today, during today's Session. These items were moved to the Consent

SB 673
SB 762
SB 787

pat 338
 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES April 29, 2009
 Calendar, Number 282, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504,
 505, 507 and 508.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That concludes the
 Consent Calendar.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

The question before us is on passage of the bills
 on today's Consent Calendar. Will you remark? Will
 you remark?

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

CLERK:

The House of Representatives us voting by Roll
 Call. Members to the Chamber.

The House is voting today's Consent Calendar by
 Roll Call. Members to the Chamber.

CLERK:

Have all the Members voted? Have all the Members
 voted? Have all the Members voted. Please check the
 roll call to make sure your vote has been properly
 cast.

If all the Members have voted, the machine will
 be locked, and the Clerk will please take a tally.

Will the Clerk please announce the tally.

HB 6648
HJ 72
HJ 73
HJ 80
HJ 82
HJ 84
HJ 85
HJ 86
HJ 95
HJ 96

CLERK:

On today's Consent Calendar.

Total Number Voting	140
Necessary for Passage	71
Those voting Yea	140
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	14

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

The Consent Calendar passes.

Are there any announcements or introductions?

Any announcements or introductions? Representative Ritter.

REP. RITTER: (38th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow morning, the Committee on Public Safety and Security and the Committee on Public Health together, will be holding an informational forum regarding the state's response to concerns about the flu outbreak in Connecticut and around the country.

It will be at 10:00 o'clock tomorrow in Room C of the Legislative Office Building, and we will have information from both the Department of Public Health, the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security.

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

**PUBLIC
SAFETY AND
SECURITY**

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arl/gbr PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY 11:00 A.M.
COMMITTEE

REP. DARGAN: Some of the new members of the committee, we try to move the process so try to keep the questions to minimum. If you have further questions after the person is done, the individual, you could go outside and have a conversation with him or the two cochairs are equipped with tasers and we will taser other members of the committee if they ask too many questions.

Thank you.

SENATOR STILLMAN: As you know, I'm the nonviolent one of this pair here, so I give all those duties to him.

REP. CHAPIN: But you scare me more though.

SENATOR STILLMAN: I'm so glad you recognize that Representative Chapin, thank you.

With that -- oh, and also for people who are not familiar with the process here don't be surprised if members get up and leave and come back, because there are other committee meetings going on, and people are pulled in a variety of directions all at the same time right now.

So with that, we'll begin with the Legislators, agency heads and elected officials and Commissioner Thomas you've got the floor.

JAMES M. THOMAS: Thank you very much, Senator.

SB760
SB762

SB761

Good morning Senator Stillman, Representative Dargan and other members of the public safety committee. Just for the record my name is James M. Thomas, and I'm the Commissioner for the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security.

And we do have concurrence from the Department of Public Safety as well as everybody connected with the bill. And I think it's going to be a tremendous service. It's been used very frequently by towns and cities to, if you will, reverse 9-1-1 contact individuals who need assistance.

The last bill, is Senate Bill 762, which is mutual aid and mobile support units and nuclear safety fund. Basically under Senate Bill 762, there's two pieces. One, it clarifies the application of certain sections Title 28, which is our agency when we activate a civil preparedness force such as urban search and rescue. Right now it's composed of about 140 volunteers, men and women who come in, and they do a great job. Matter of fact, we put them on call yesterday. We had a building collapse in Derby, the fourth floor went to the third floor. They thought maybe people were trapped inside. We activated an advance team. They were ready to respond. Fortunately, the fire service was able -- through thermal imaging to detect it. There was nobody there, and we did not need to send a team. But we an advance team who would respond for urban search and rescue.

This bill says if we activate the team, we utilize the team; we will pay the members of the team. We do not pay during the training. We just could never afford to do that. They train every single month. And my time is up.

The last one just talks about moving the cycle of the billing we do with the -- the power plants so it comes in line with the state fiscal year versus calendar year. Dominion, which runs the power plant, they were operating on a calendar year, towns and cities, state government works July 1st

through June 30th, so we're moving the dates to be consistent to help the towns, cities and the state, and Dominion, the power plant, has agreed to the concept.

I will take any questions if you'd like.

SENATOR STILLMAN: Thank you, Commissioner.

Questions from anyone on the committee?

REP. ESPOSITO: It's not a question, Madam Chair --

SENATOR STILLMAN: Representative Esposito.

REP. ESPOSITO: -- it's just a comment. That's one of the few public officials that speaks within the three minutes. That's great.

SENATOR STILLMAN: Well, we're not quite sure what the reward is for that --

REP. ESPOSITO: I'm (inaudible.)

SENATOR STILLMAN: -- but thank you for mentioning that.

Representative Boukus.

REP. BOUKUS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

The crisis response, are teachers provided or is administration provided with what that entails? I mean is that going to be part of the teachers meeting, or is that -- what is that going to be?

JAMES M. THOMAS: Very interesting as you said, each town and city is mandated to submit a plan to our agency, and we review it annually. In that are the school plans. So they do have it. They just don't practice it. So it may

SB760

arl/gbr PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY 11:00 A.M.
COMMITTEE

be on paper. We want to take it from on paper and actually practice it.

The one good thing, I will tell you, on the school grant program, which you all were involved with, for even people to participate we require the signature of the chief elected official, the fire chief, the police chief, the fire marshal, the emergency management director, the superintendent of schools, so we wanted to make it really real. That everybody has a plan, and not only have it, but practice it, and that's what we think will be helpful for us.

REP. BOUKUS: I think this is a great idea. I'm too young, but Representative Esposito remembers the days in schools when you got under your desk and, you know, they were very powerful, you know, to keep this message alive, that we need to be prepared, so, thank you. I think that's a great idea.

SENATOR STILLMAN: Thank you Representative. Any other questions?

Commissioner, I have one question in terms of the funding on 762, where we're changing the -- you're asking us to change the language about the compensation.

JAMES M. THOMAS: Yes, ma'am.

SENATOR STILLMAN: Are we currently paying for training?

JAMES M. THOMAS: No. We have never -- you've never paid for training.

SENATOR STILLMAN: We have never paid for it.

JAMES M. THOMAS: No.

arl/gbr PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY 11:00 A.M.
COMMITTEE

SENATOR STILLMAN: Okay. So we don't have -- we don't have an existing --

JAMES M. THOMAS: We don't have any line items.

SENATOR STILLMAN: -- we don't have any savings by doing that.

JAMES M. THOMAS: No. Fortunately the team is very well trained, very well placed. The team -- and I know some of them are listening today -- it's one of these dreams. I want them to be the best equipped, best trained, and most underutilized team in America, because when they get activated that things are bad. But we want them to be well prepared, well trained, and if we had to, we then would ask either for FEMA or federal funds to pay for an activation. When we activate urban search and rescue, it's a tough time. And the men and women, they deserve to get paid if we activated them.

SENATOR STILLMAN: Okay, thank you. Because I had received an e-mail from a chief -- one of the chiefs, I don't remember which one, but I had received an e-mail that there was a concern about who would pay for the training. But if they're being trained now --

JAMES M. THOMAS: You have my -- they actually sign a form. I am a voluntary member of the Connecticut task force program. I'm volunteering my time. And we want to clarify that if we do activate them and require them to go to a situation then we, in fact, would pay them.

SENATOR STILLMAN: Okay. Thank you, sir.

Any other questions?



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY



Public Hearing – February 3, 2009
 Public Safety and Security Committee

T 1

Testimony Submitted by:

Commissioner James M. Thomas
 Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security

Good Morning Senator Stillman, Representative Dargan and members of the Public Safety and Security Committee. Thank you for this opportunity to comment on three bills before you today.

The first bill I would like to comment on is SB 760- AAC Crisis Response Drills and Fire Drills.

This bill would require local and regional boards of education to conduct a crisis response drill, in lieu of a fire drill, once every three months.

The Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security believes school security will be greatly enhanced by regularly exercising crisis response plans. These exercises will better prepare schools to handle any emergency situation.

The second bill I would like to comment on is SB 761- AAC An Enhanced 9-1-1 Service Database.

A number of municipalities have purchased emergency notification systems to communicate with their citizens in the event of an emergency. This bill would allow the state's municipalities and the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) to access the enhanced 9-1-1 database, free of charge, providing the most up to date information available for use with these emergency notification systems.

This use of the current 9-1-1 database will greatly enhance a municipality's ability to protect the safety of its residents by providing vital notifications during an emergency.

The last bill I would like to comment on is SB 762- AAC Mutual Aid or Mobile Support Units and Nuclear Safety Emergency Preparedness Program Plans.

This bill clarifies the application of certain sections of Title 28 when civil preparedness forces are ordered to duty by the Governor or the Commissioner of DEMHS.

The bill also changes the submittal date from November 1st to May 1st and the approval date from December 1st to June 1st for the nuclear safety emergency preparedness program plan. This would allow towns and state agencies to complete necessary budget work before the submittal of the plan.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment in support of these three pieces of legislation.



**CONNECTICUT
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THE VOICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

TESTIMONY
OF THE
CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES
TO THE
PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE

February 3, 2009

CCM is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local governments - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 93% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate this opportunity to testify before this joint committee on issues of concern to towns and cities.

Raised Bill 762

"An Act Concerning Mutual Aid or Mobile Support Units and Nuclear Safety Emergency Preparedness Program Plans"

Among other things, Raised Bill 762 would eliminate state reimbursement to local first responders while training them as members of "mobile support units."

Despite Connecticut's current fiscal crisis the State should seek ways to increase support for first responders - not cut them. Faced with increasing public safety demands and declining federal resources - the State needs to make a stronger commitment to funding local first responders. Municipalities and the State are partners in protecting hometown Connecticut - Raised Bill 762 would compromise that partnership.

CCM urges the committee to (1) amend Raised Bill 762 to protect state reimbursement to local first responders, or (2) take *no action* on Raised Bill 762.



If you have any questions, please call Bob Labanara or Gian-Carl Casa of CCM, at (203) 498-3000