

Act Number:	09-097	
Bill Number:	6076	
Senate Pages:	2354, 2585-2588	5
House Pages:	1986-1988	3
Committee:	Transportation: 978, 1602-1607, 1989	8
	Page Total:	16

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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SENATE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2009**

**VOL. 52
PART 8
2344 - 2636**

tmj
SENATE

11
May 19, 2009

Calendar page 35, Calendar 424, Senate Bill 1045,
marked "go."

Calendar page 36, Calendar 429, Senate Bill 940,
marked "go."

Calendar page 38, Calendar 473, Senate Bill 1160,
marked "go."

Calendar page 38, Calendar 492, Senate Bill 966,
marked "go."

Calendar page 39, Calendar 511, Senate Bill 455,
marked "passed temporarily."

Calendar page 39, Calendar 516, Senate Bill 838,
marked "go."

Calendar page 40, Calendar 520, Senate Bill 1158,
marked "go."

Calendar page 40, Calendar 541, House Bill 6076,
Mr. President, move to place this item on the Consent
Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Without objection, so ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President. Calendar page 41,
Calendar 549, Senate Bill 1163, Mr. President, move to
refer this item to the Committee on Public Health.

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that it be placed on the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Without objection, so ordered. Mr. Clerk, would you please return to the call of the Calendar. Mr. Majority Leader.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, if the Clerk might call the first Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

The roll call has been ordered in the Senate on the Consent Calendar. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber? An immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate on the Consent Calendar. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber? Mr. President, those items placed on the first Consent Calendar begin on Calendar page 5. Calendar Number 392, House Bill 6433.

Calendar 397, Substitute for House Bill 5915.

Calendar 405, House Bill 5536.

Calendar page 6, Calendar 406, House Bill 5873.

Calendar 457, substitute for House Bill 6264.

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Calendar page 12. Calendar Number 599,
substitute for House Bill 6463.

Calendar page 13, Calendar 608, House Bill 6640.

Calendar page 14, Calendar 611, substitute for
House Bill 6341.

Calendar 612, substitute for House Bill 6286.

Calendar 620, substitute for House Bill 5664.

Calendar page 15, Calendar 622, substitute for
House Bill 6496.

Calendar page 16, Calendar 628, House Bill 5809.

Calendar 630, substitute for House Bill 5519.

Calendar page 23, Calendar Number 284, substitute
for Senate Bill 290.

Calendar page 24, Calendar 103, Senate Bill 754.

Calendar 120, Senate Bill 818.

Calendar 136, Senate Bill 789.

Calendar page 26, Calendar 179, substitute for
Senate Bill 951.

Calendar page 27, Calendar 207, substitute for
Senate Bill 950.

Calendar page 29, Calendar 252, substitute for
Senate Bill 1068.

Calendar page 34, Calendar Number 420, Senate

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Bill 325.

And Calendar page 40, Calendar Number 541, House
Bill 6076.

Mr. President, that completes the items placed on
the first Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

On the first Consent Calendar, the machine is
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 Consent Calendar. Will all Senators please return
to the Chamber?

THE CHAIR:

Have all the Senators voted? Seeing that all
Senators have voted, the machine will be closed.
Clerk, please announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

Motions on adoption to the Consent Calendar,
number 1.

Total Number Voting	36
Those voting Yea	36

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SENATE

245
May 19, 2009

Those voting Nay 0

Those absent and not voting 0

THE CHAIR:

The Consent Calendar is adopted. Mr. Majority
Leader.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, a few
more items to be marked "go." First, Calendar page
29, Calendar 249, House Bill 6185. Calendar page 35,
Calendar 424, Senate Bill 1045. Calendar page 36,
Calendar 429, Senate Bill 940. Thank you, Mr.
President.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, sir. Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

Turning to Calendar page 29, Calendar Number 249,
Files number 49 and 285, House Bill 6185, AN ACT
CONCERNING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF CERTAIN
PERSONNEL FILE STATUTES as amended by House Amendment,
Schedule "A". Favorably Reported, Committee on Labor
and Judiciary.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Prague.

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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

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rgd
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

103
April 22, 2009

Clerk please announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

House Bill 6087.

Total Number Voting 143

Necessary for Passage 72

Those voting Yea 143

Those voting Nay 0

Those absent and not voting 8

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

The bill is passed.

Will the Clerk please calendar -- please call
Calendar 266.

THE CLERK:

On page 13, Calendar 266, House Bill Number 6076,
AN ACT CONCERNING THE PURCHASE OF LAND OPTIONS BY THE
ROUTE 11 GREENWAY AUTHORITY COMMISSION, favorable
report of the committee on transportation.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Representative Jutila.

REP. JUTILA (37th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move acceptance of the
joint committee's favorable report and passage of the
bill.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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April 22, 2009

Question is on acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill. Will you remark, sir?

REP. JUTILA (37th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This bill would permit the Route 11 Greenway Authority Commission to enter into agreements with owners of land to purchase options to acquire the land at a later date. The commission needs this ability because of a current lack of sufficient funds to purchase all of the desired properties outright, while a number of properties are available at attractive prices due to the depressed real estate market.

The commission expects previously authorized federal and state matching funds to become available in the near future once the commission satisfies certain prerequisites for the release of those funds. And I would urge adoption.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Remark further on the bill? Remark further on the bill before us? Remark further on the bill? If not, staff and guests please come to the will of the House. Members take their seats. The machine will be open.

rgd
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

105
April 22, 2009

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.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Have all the members voted? Have all the members voted? All members please check the board and 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. Clerk, please announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

House bill 6076.	
Total Number Voting	143
Necessary for Passage	72
Those voting Yea	143
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	8

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Bill is passed.

Clerk please call Calendar 438.

THE CLERK:

On page 23, Calendar 438, Senate Bill Number 861,
AN ACT CONCERNING RETIREMENT FROM MILITARY SERVICE,

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

**TRANSPORTATION
PART 4
935 - 1256**

2009

To: Senator Donald DeFronzo, Transportation Committee Chair
Representative Tony Guerrero, Transportation Committee Chair
Members of the Transportation Committee

FROM: Peter Sielman, Chairman of the Route 11 Greenway Authority Commission

DATE: February 24, 2009 Transportation Committee Public Hearing

RE: ***Testimony in Support of HB 6084*** AN ACT PROVIDING FUNDS TO THE
ROUTE 11 GREENWAY AUTHORITY COMMISSION.

Senator DeFronzo, Representative Guerrero, Members of the Transportation Committee, for the record my name is Peter Sielman and I am submitting testimony in support of proposed bill No. 6084 which would provide bond funding for the Route 11 Greenway.

The Route 11 Greenway Authority Commission was created by the Legislature to acquire and manage land for the Route 11 Greenway. The Route 11 Greenway, when coupled with the completion of Route 11, will provide the solution for a major transportation problem in Connecticut while simultaneously protecting the environment.

Most of the \$1 Million of unrestricted federal funds previously obtained by the Route 11 Greenway Authority Commission to acquire land have been spent or are committed for pending purchases. An additional \$10 Million of 80/20 federal funds are currently available for the Greenway. In 2008 the Bond Commission approved \$1 Million to match the first \$4 Million of the \$10 Million in federal funds. The purpose of the proposed legislation's \$1.5 Million is to match the remaining federal funds. This addresses the remaining 20% share of funds that must be provided by the State, local communities, private sources or in-kind services. Without the proposed State support the Route 11 Greenway Authority Commission has little chance of being able to purchase significant additional properties.

I ask for your support of proposed bill No. 6084 and for support of the companion legislation (proposed bill No. 6076) which would permit the Route 11 Greenway Authority Commission to immediately use its remaining funds to purchase options on potential Greenway lands in this favorable real estate market.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter F. Sielman: Chairman, Route 11 Greenway Authority Commission

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

**TRANSPORTATION
PART 6
1554 - 1854**

2009

your support on this legislation. Thank you.

REP. GUERRERA: Thank you, Representative.

Any comments?

SENATOR DEFRONZO: I just want to recognize your leadership on this issue and Senator Fonfara and you, I know, have worked very hard on this issue and were -- if it were not for a phone call from the two of you last week, this bill probably wouldn't be heard today. So, again, congratulations to you, and we will take a serious look at this as we go forward.

REP. ROBLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

REP. GUERRERA: Thank you.

REP. ROBLES: Thank you.

REP. GUERRERA: Peter Sillman? Peter Sillman, am I saying it right? Stallman? Steelman?

PETER SIELMAN: Thank you. Now can you hear me? Representative Guerrero, Senator DeFronzo, Representative Jutila, who is a terrific representative, members --

REP. GUERRERA: Thank you for sharing that with us.

PETER SIELMAN: For the record, my name is Peter Sielman, and I am submitting testimony in support of Proposed Bill Number 6076, which would provide the Route 11, Greenway Authority Commission with the ability to purchase land options.

This bill costs the State nothing, but it will allow us to use the monies that have previously been allocated to the Greenway Commission in a way that will help it.

The Route 11 Greenway Authority Commission was created by the legislature to acquire, manage land for the Route 11 greenway. The Route 11 greenway, when coupled with completion of Route 11, will allow the solution of a major transportation problem in Connecticut, while simultaneously protecting the environment.

Right now, the funds available for the purchase of property by the Route 11 Greenway Authority Commission are very limited because of the Federal Highway Administration requires the completion of an environmental study for a bike and pedestrian path prior to the release of the federally earmarked funds. Also, this committee was instrumental in getting bonding for the greenway but, unfortunately, that money cannot be used until the federal monies become available.

With the ability to secure options on parcels, the Route 11 Greenway Authority Commission will be able to: One, have a more certain knowledge of which parcels will be available from willing sellers; and, two, will be able to stretch the currently available funds over more parcels until the Federal Highway Administration approval is secured for the bike and pedestrian path.

That's the end of my testimony.

REP. GUERRERA: Thank you for your testimony. Representative Jutila, who is a fine legislator by the way.

REP. JUTILA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

And thank you, Peter, for coming up today to testify and thank you for all of your good work and leadership on the Route 11 Greenway

Authority Commission. And, for the record, that was a joke. I had nothing to do with writing Peter's testimony. I did see an advanced copy this morning but that was it.

Peter, can you just tell us how long you expect the environmental studies to take?

PETER SIELMAN: The environmental study on March 27, we expect to have the qualifications of potential contractors to perform it. Our aim is to complete the study in 90 days because there is a great deal of environmental information available from the studies done by the DOT for Route 11. But then we expect that it will probably take a fair amount of time to get the approval of Federal Highway Administration, although there is a new administrator for the Connecticut/New England region coming on board in April. So my guess is that we won't be able to use the federal funds or the state matching funds until probably nine months to a year from now, and being able to use the monies that we do have left over to purchase options will allow us to tie down some properties and also will make the environmental study more effective.

REP. JUTILA: And there are some opportunities out there that you're aware of or that you expect to become available in the next few months?

PETER SIELMAN: We, actually, have several properties that we are -- environmentally excellent properties in the pipeline, but we don't have funds to purchase them at this time. If we could purchase options on them, that would be excellent.

REP. JUTILA: And how important is the greenway to the overall project in completing Route 11?

PETER SIELMAN: It's the basic promise that was made to try and solve both the transportation problem and an environment problem by having the greenway coupled with the roadway. It would preserve some very nice land in that region, but it would permit that road to go through and solve a real transportation problem.

REP. JUTILA: Okay. Thank you, again, Peter, for your testimony.

SENATOR DEFRONZO: Thank you, Representative.

Mr. Sielman, what -- which dollars -- or what dollars would you be actually be using to purchase these options?

PETER SIELMAN: We have -- there is an initial \$1 million earmark created by former Congressman Simmons, and there are residual funds from that, not sufficient to outright purchase properties but sufficient to purchase some options.

SENATOR DEFRONZO: Are there any restrictions on the use of the federal funds?

PETER SIELMAN: Not that we know of but we thought that it would be important to get a clear reading from the State on the ability to purchase options since the original legislation that created the Greenway Authority Commission is moot on that point. One could interpret it that it's legal now. We thought it would be better to have it be explicit.

SENATOR DEFRONZO: The -- explain -- can you explain to me how this would work. I mean, you're looking at acquiring property associated with -- you know where the greenway's going. You know where it is, so why -- it's a

little -- why do you need to purchase options on land at this point instead of just maybe waiting until the State money is actually released to buy the land?

PETER SIELMAN: Let me see if I can explain that --

SENATOR DEFRONZO: Because you can't do -- if you have an option on it you really can't do anything with it. Right?

PETER SIELMAN: No, no. Here's the point. We need to do the environmental study for where we think the bike and pedestrian path will go, but we don't know since we can only deal with willing sellers. We can purchase options on some of the land where we would like the bike and pedestrian path to go, then we will know much better where indeed it will go. The risk that we run right now, or the Catch-22 that we're in, is that we might say we think the bike and pedestrian path will go this way but if they're not willing sellers for that, then we'll have redo the environmental study for the places where we think we can actually purchase the parcels.

REP. GUERRERA: For the second time.

REP. JUTILA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Peter, just to clarify this -- I mean, isn't the other key issue here the possibility that the properties will disappear as these potentially willing sellers get tired of waiting and decide to do something else with the property?

PETER SIELMAN: That's certainly something that we're concerned with, although with the current economy, selling property has become difficult. On the other hand, it is an ideal time to get

an option because prices are depressed so we can probably stretch our funds further if we're able to (inaudible) some of these properties now.

REP. JUTILA: Thank you.

REP. GUERRERA: Thank you, Representative Jutila, thank you.

Now we're going to have to go to the public now because we've past the first hour, and we'll go back and forth to the public officials to the public. But I would like to make a comment to the people out there. We see a quite a bit of individuals in favor of bills here and if you'd like to consolidate your testimony with one individual by all means you can do that because we do have written testimony up here. And we see that, you know, we have quite a bit of your testimony that which is in favor of a lot of bills. So to move this along, by all means, if you'd like to do that have one representative to come up and testify on certain bills, we're all in favor of that. And also we'll be -- we do have the three-minute time limit in place so, again, I encourage you to, you know, if you have written testimony to stay with that and so we can ask questions.

Anthony Genus and Clayton Fagan in?
Connecticut Transit. Good morning, guys.

ANTHONY GENUS: Good morning. I'm for Bill 6276. On January 2007, I had an assault incident where it injured my life and the lives of the public on the transportation system. I was knocked off my seat and lost control of the -- I was knocked off my seat, and I lost the control of the vehicle I was driving which was a Connecticut Transit bus. I had about 30 passengers on the bus, and it endangered their

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

**TRANSPORTATION
PART 7
1855 - 2081**

2009

TO: Senator Donald DeFronzo, Transportation Committee Chair,
Representative Tony Guerrero, Transportation Committee Chair,
Members of the Transportation Committee.

FROM: Peter Sielman, Chairman of the Route 11 Greenway Authority Commission

DATE: March 11, 2009 Transportation Committee Public Hearing

RE: *Testimony in Support of HB 6076AN ACT CONCERNING THE PURCHASE OF LAND OPTIONS BY THE ROUTE 11 GREENWAY AUTHORITY COMMISSION*

Senator DeFronzo, Representative Guerrero, Members of the Transportation Committee, for the record my name is Peter Sielman and I am submitting testimony in support of proposed bill No. 6076 which would provide the Route 11 Greenway Authority Commission with the ability to purchase land options.

The Route 11 Greenway Authority Commission was created by the Legislature to acquire and manage land for the Route 11 Greenway. The Route 11 Greenway, when coupled with the completion of Route 11, will allow the solution of a major transportation problem in Connecticut while simultaneously protecting the environment.

Right now the funds available for the purchase of property by the Route 11 Greenway Authority Commission are very limited because the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requires the completion of an environmental study for a bike and pedestrian path prior to the release of the Federal earmarked funds.

The environmental study will have to be based on an estimate by the Route 11 Greenway Authority Commission as to which properties surrounding Route 11 will be available for purchase from willing sellers.

With the ability to secure options on parcels, the Route 11 Greenway Authority Commission will be able to:

1. Have a more certain knowledge of which parcels will be available from willing sellers.
2. Will be able to stretch the currently available funds over more parcels until the FHWA approval is secured.

Since land prices are currently depressed, the ability to secure options will enable the Route 11 Greenway Authority Commission to lock in favorable prices.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter F. Sielman: Chairman, Route 11 Greenway Authority Commission