

PA 11-011

HB5266

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**H – 1093**

**CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS  
2011**

**VOL.54  
PART 2  
345 – 704**

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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March 16, 2011

renewables, I think it would have a detrimental effect on the manufacturing market. I don't believe that this -- that Mr. Esty would support that type of policy, but the writings that we have seen in his past certainly could indicate so.

And so I think that this body, moving forward, we certainly need to make sure that if we're going to make Connecticut competitive in the energy markets, we don't have our manufacturing industries suffer as a result.

Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ:

Thank you very much, sir.

Will you remark further? Will you remark further? If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor of the resolution, please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ:

Those opposed, nay.

The ayes have it and the resolution is adopted.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar 51.

THE CLERK:

On page 7, Calendar 51, Substitute for House Bill Number 5266, ACT SUPPLEMENTING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE

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9-1-1 COMMISSION, favorable report of the Committee on Public Safety.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ:

Representative Dargan.

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I move acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ:

The question is on acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report. Will you remark?

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

This just simply moves the commission from 11 members to 13 members, one from the telecommunicator field and one from the public. And that's basically it, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ:

Will you remark further? Will you remark further? If not -- oh, Representative Giegler of the 138th.

REP. GIEGLER (138th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I too rise in support of the bill before us. This

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commission has no fiscal impact as the members of this commission do not receive any compensation for their services.

Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ:

Thank you very much, madam.

Will you remark further? Will you remark further? If not, will staff and guests please come to the well of the House. The machine will be open.

THE CLERK:

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

DEPUTY SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ:

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

The Clerk will please announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

House Bill 5266.

Total Number voting

146

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Necessary for adoption	74
Those voting Yea	145
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	5

DEPUTY SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ:

The bill passes.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar Number 43.

THE CLERK:

On page 6, Calendar 43, House Bill Number 6258,  
AN ACT CONCERNING BUSINESS NAMES USED BY PRACTICING  
CHIROPRACTORS, favorable report of the Committee on  
Public health.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ:

Representative Ritter.

REP. RITTER (38th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's a  
pleasure to address you on the podium.

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

DEPUTY SPEAKER ARESIMOWICZ:

The question is on acceptance of the joint  
committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

Representative Ritter, you have the floor.

REP. RITTER (38th):

**JOINT  
STANDING  
COMMITTEE  
HEARINGS**

**PUBLIC  
SAFETY AND  
SECURITY**

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George Pohorilak. He's going to testify on 5266. Thank you.

GEORGE POHORILAK: Good morning, Representative Dargan, Senator Hartley. My name is George Pohorilak. I'm a resident of Southington, Connecticut, and I'm here to testify today in support of House Bill 5266, AN ACT SUPPLEMENTING THE MEMBER OF THE E 9-1-1 COMMISSION.

I've submitted written testimony so I'll just summarize some of my comments. I'll be very, very brief.

It is my firm belief that the dedicated professional who answer and process Connecticut's 911 calls should be represented on the Enhanced 911 Commission. Those public safety telecommunicators answer, also known as call takers and dispatchers, answer -- last year, they answered 2.2 million calls for Connecticut residents. They're dedicated. They're trained and certified. Their voice at the 911 Commission should be heard. It is heard in some ways now, but I think they deserve to have a seat at the table where their voices can be heard in a louder form.

And at this -- especially at this time when we're venturing into the what's called "next generation 911." 911 is changing dramatically. The state of Connecticut has been a leader in 911 for that least, you know, 25 years and continues to be a leader. Rapid changes are occurring and their expertise in how to handle and process these calls would be a valuable asset to the discussion and debate at the Enhanced 911 Commission meetings.

I also believe that a member of the public should be added to the commission. Certainly, while the dispatchers, call takers receive those calls, they're being made by the public and it would be -- certainly their voice, especially, with the advent of all the smart phone technology, having a member of the public at the table would enhance the entire -- what the commission is doing. This would cost -- there would be no cost to the state to do this.

I retired from state service in 2009. At that time, I was the director of the Office of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications and I can tell you that one our -- part of our success was bringing the right people to the table and listening to what the customers -- our customers had to say at that time and I think that the OSET continues to do that, but I think this would be good for public safety to add these two members to the commission.

Thank you.

SENATOR HARTLEY: Well, thank you very much, George.

Are there questions from committee members?

Yes, Representative Dargan.

REP. DARGAN: George, good seeing you again. I know that you're retired and you're like the leading expert on issues dealing with PSAPs and enhanced 911, and I remember a few years ago when we looked to expand the 911 Commission, I never received more e-mails about the conflict that when we did that, and hopefully, that will not happen. But maybe in the future, I know that you're retired, you

could come back to us and that we might hold a forum on -- on where telecommunications is going. You know, the issue out there of the incident that happened in -- a few years ago back, where the woman tried to text her friend and then was murdered.

GEORGE POHORILAK: Right.

REP. DARGAN: And I know that we're still a year or two away from that sort of technology being out there, but I know that you've been very helpful to us, the General Assembly, in explaining a number of issues dealing with technology and where we stand. So I appreciate that.

GEORGE POHORILAK: I'm glad to assist in any way I can.

REP. DARGAN: Thank you.

SENATOR HARTLEY: Thank you.

And thanks very much for being with us this morning, George.

If there are no more questions, we will invite our last member of the public to speak. That is Anthony Martino. Is Anthony with us? If he is not, are there any other -- I guess -- okay. Is Robert Ross here? From DPS on House Bill 87 -- or Senate Bill 876.

Good morning, Robert.

ROBERT ROSS: Good morning. I'm Robert Ross with the Department of Public Safety. I'm the director of the Division on Fire and Emergency Building Services. One of the offices that I see -- oversee within my division is the



## Association of Connecticut Ambulance Providers

Actna Ambulance -- Ambulance Service of Manchester -- American Ambulance Service  
American Medial Response --Campion Ambulance Service -- Hunter's Ambulance Service

Testimony of  
David D. Lowell, President  
Association of Connecticut Ambulance Providers

Public Safety Committee

Tuesday, February 08, 2011

Senator Hartley, Representative Dargan and distinguished members of the Public Safety Committee.

My name is David Lowell. I am President of the Association of Connecticut Ambulance Providers.

I am speaking today on behalf of our membership in support of Raised Bill No. 5266, An Act Supplementing the membership of the E 9-1-1 Commission.

In addition to supporting this legislation, I respectfully request that there be one seat in the membership of the commission designated to the private ambulance providers.

The private ambulance sector includes approximately six companies who collectively provide primary emergency and mutual aid services throughout the state with over 300 ambulances. These companies respond to nearly eighty percent (80%) of emergency ambulance calls in the state and provides primary ambulance response to forty-five percent (45%) of Connecticut's population (Conlin et al. Phase 1, 2000, pp. 15, 22). In addition, Private ambulance companies staff state-of-the-art dispatch centers and provide for Emergency Medical Dispatch Functions in many communities as both a primary function as private safety answering point and as back up answering points.

Coordinated communications between all emergency response agencies is the core of a safe, timely and resource-appropriate response. The Commission currently includes fire and police representation and our request is that it also includes a representative of the private ambulance providers. We view this inclusion as essential in the commissions' efforts to advise the office on planning, design, implementation and coordination of the state-wide E 9-1-1 system.

Thank you for your time, and for the consideration of the amendment to include private ambulance representation on the commission.

Respectfully Submitted,

David D. Lowell  
President

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERJames M. Thomas  
CommissionerLieutenant Edwin S. Henion  
Chief of Staff

February 8, 2011

Rep. Stephen Dargan, Co-Chairman  
Sen. Joan Hartley, Co-Chairman  
Public Safety and Security Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT 06106

**HB 5266 AN ACT SUPPLEMENTING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE E 9-1-1 COMMISSION*****The Department of Public Safety questions the need for this bill.***

This proposed bill would add two members to the existing E 9-1-1 Commission, one being a "representative of telecommunicators, as defined in section 28-30" and one being a 'representative of the public'.

The commission currently consists of eleven members, all of whom are appointed by the Governor and representing the following:

1) One representative of the technical support services unit of the Division of State Police within the Department of Public Safety; (2) the State Fire Administrator; (3) one representative from the Office of Emergency Medical Services; (4) one representative from the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security; (5) one municipal police chief; (6) one municipal fire chief; (7) one volunteer fireman; (8) one representative of the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities; (9) one representative of the Council of Small Towns; (10) one manager or coordinator of 9-1-1 public safety answering points serving areas of differing population concentration; and (11) one representative of providers of commercial mobile radio services, as defined in 47 Code of Federal Regulations 20.3, as amended.

The addition of one representative of telecommunicators is not necessary as the commission has one representative for the public safety answering points serving in this capacity. PSAPs have enjoyed excellent representation and participation from this role.

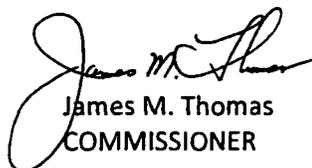
As to the addition of an additional 'representative of the public,' it should be noted that the public is currently represented through various organizations including fire service, police service, emergency management, local and state government (including 2 separate representatives for local government). It should also be noted that all Commission meeting are open to the public. They are held quarterly and always include time at the beginning and

end of each meeting for public comment, in addition to speaking through their representative. If this proposed bill does go forward, additional language should be considered to ensure that any member of the public designated to serve in this role would not stand to gain financially by being on this committee (vendor, consultant).

The current makeup of the E9-1-1 Commission allows for equal distribution among various organizations. If an additional PSAP representative is added, voting may be compromised with unequal votes being cast for PSAPs. This is particularly sensitive as the Office of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications (OSET) prepares for many critical political, technical and financial challenges.

It will be more critical than ever that the E9-1-1 Commission serve to advise OSET in these matters and to do so impartially and with the ultimate goal to provide the best emergency telecommunications to the residents of Connecticut and to do so objectively and without bias to any organization, municipality, regional center or vendors.

Sincerely,



James M. Thomas  
COMMISSIONER

“AN ACT SUPPLEMENTING MEMBERSHIP OF THE E 9-1-1 COMMISSION”

My name is George Pohorilak I am a resident of Southington and I am here today to testify in support of HB 5266 an “Act Supplementing the Membership of the E 9-1-1 Commission”.

Currently the Enhanced 9-1-1 Commission is comprised of eleven members representing state agencies, police services, fire services, wireless phone services and one manager of a public safety answering point (PSAP). I believe that the membership of the Enhanced 9-1-1 Commission should be increased by two new member categories; a 9-1-1 telecommunicator (dispatcher/call taker) and a member of the public for the following reasons.

First, the E9-1-1 Commission is responsible for advising the Office of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications in the planning, design, implementation and coordination of state wide emergency 9-1-1 service. Connecticut has one of the most advanced Enhanced 9-1-1 systems in the nation and leads the nation in implementing next generation 9-1-1 services. The public safety telecommunicators who staff the State’s 107 public safety answering points (PSAPs) receive and process over 2.2 million 9-1-1 calls every year. Public safety telecommunicators are trained and certified professionals who are in fact, the fourth public safety service, along with police, fire and EMS.

It is my firm belief that the dedicated professionals who answer and process Connecticut’s 9-1-1 calls each year should have a representative on the Enhanced 9-1-1 Commission. Their insight into the day to day receipt and processing of 9-1-1 calls would be a valuable addition to the debate and discussion of 9-1-1 issues that come before the Enhanced 9-1-1 Commission. The task of public safety telecommunicators has always been a demanding one and will become more challenging with the implementation of next generation 9-1-1 technology and the proliferation of new consumer smart phone services. With next generation 9-1-1 the public safety telecommunicator’s role in the emergency response equation will be increased. Their voice at the Commission should be heard not at the public comment part of the meeting but as a member of the Commission. Recognition of the critical role they play in every emergency response, by creating a membership category for dispatcher/call takers is the correct thing to do. The public safety telecommunicator/call taker/dispatcher representative should be selected from nominations from the Connecticut Chapter of the National Emergency Number Association (NENA).

Additionally, the Commission’s debate and discussion would be enhanced with the addition of a member of the public as a Commission member. While the 2 plus million 9-1-1 calls are received and processed by dedicated public safety telecommunicators they are made by the public. With the advance of a wide variety of new smart phone technologies, that are changing almost daily, consumer input into 9-1-1 policy development is needed.

The addition of two members to the E 9-1-1 Commission would not add any additional cost to the state. I retired from state service in 2009, at that time I was the director of the State’s Office of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications. Over a 30 year career in government, most of it working on 9-1-1, I can say that reaching out to the 9-1-1 PSAP community and the public was critical to the success of Connecticut’s 9-1-1 program. Adding a public safety telecommunicator and a member of the public to the Commission will enhance that approach. Thank you

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**CONNECTICUT  
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Moving to Calendar page 38, Calendar 105, House  
Bill 5266; Madam President, move to place that item on  
the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objection, so ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, moving to Calendar page 39,  
Calendar 123, Senate Bill 1041; Madam President, move  
to place that item on the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objection, so ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Moving to Calendar page 40, Calendar 132, Senate  
Bill 868; Madam President, move to place that item on  
the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objection, so ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

And one additional item to place on the Consent  
Calendar, Calendar page 43, Calendar 199, Senate

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Madam President, if the Clerk would now call those items placed on the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Yeah, it's (inaudible).

THE CLERK:

Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Please proceed, sir.

THE CLERK:

I'm going to try to call it off the screen; I've never done this.

THE CHAIR:

Okay.

THE CLERK:

Calling --

THE CHAIR:

Just take your time.

THE CLERK:

-- off the screen, Calendar page 1, Calendar Number 394, Senate Joint Resolution 42; Calendar page 1, Calendar Number 427, House Joint Resolution Number 111; Calendar page 2, Calendar Number 428, House Joint Resolution Number 112; Calendar page 2, Calendar Number 436, Senate Joint Resolution 43;

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Calendar page 2, Calendar Number 437, Senate Joint Resolution 44; Calendar page 2, Calendar Number 438, Senate Joint Resolution 45; Calendar page 2, Calendar 468, Senate Resolution Number 26; Calendar page 3, Calendar Number 469, Senate Joint Resolution 46; Calendar page 3, Calendar Number 484, House Joint Resolution 113; Calendar page 3, Calendar Number 485, House Joint Resolution 114; Calendar page 3, Calendar Number 486, House Joint Resolution 115; Calendar page 3, Calendar Number 487, House Joint Resolution 116; Calendar page 4, Calendar Number 488, House Joint Resolution 117; Calendar -- returning to Calendar -- Calendar page 4, Calendar Number 488, House Joint Resolution 117; Calendar page 9, Calendar 177, substitute for Senate Bill Number 1110; Calendar page 10, Calendar Number 192, substitute for Senate Bill Number 983; Calendar page 16, Calendar Number 305, Senate Bill Number 897; Calendar page 17, Calendar Number 319, substitute for Senate Bill Number 944; Calendar page 17, Calendar Number 326, substitute for House Bill Number 6297; Calendar page 18, Calendar Number 331, substitute for House Bill Number 6358; Calendar page 20, Calendar

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Number 360, Senate Bill Number 1155; Calendar page 35,  
Calendar Number 42, substitute for Senate Bill  
Number 866; Calendar page 36, Calendar Number 60,  
Senate Bill Number 888; Calendar Bill Number 105, on  
page 38, substitute for House Bill Number 5266;  
Calendar page 39 --

THE CHAIR:

So that --

THE CLERK:

-- Calendar Number 1112 --

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk, can you wait for one moment, please.

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Madam President, there is one item that the Clerk  
read that I believe should not be on the Consent  
Calendar -- I don't believe I placed it there -- and  
that was Calendar page 35, Calendar 42, Senate  
Bill 866. That item needs to be amended before it  
will be taken up.

THE CHAIR:

Sir, okay. We will take that. Will you remove  
that from the Consent Calendar, please?

SENATOR LOONEY:

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The next item after that, Madam President, to be on the Consent Calendar is Calendar page 36, Calendar -- Calendar 60, if the Clerk might pick up on that one.

THE CLERK:

Okay. Calendar page 36, Calendar Number 60, Senate Bill Number 888; Calendar page 38 --

SENATOR LOONEY:

Okay.

THE CLERK:

-- Calendar Number 105, substitute for House Bill Number 5266; Calendar page 39, Calendar Number 112, substitute for Senate Bill Number 458; Calendar Number 39 -- I mean page 39, Calendar Number 123, Senate Bill Number 1041; Calendar page 40, Calendar Number 132, Senate Bill Number 868; on page 40, Calendar 141, Senate Bill Number 985; on page 43, Calendar Number 199, substitute for Senate Bill Number 1068.

I don't know if there's any other pages here.

THE CHAIR:

Page 18?

A VOICE:

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THE CLERK:

Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Yes.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Yes. That --

THE CLERK:

I yield to the Majority Leader.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Yes. That --

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Majority Leader.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, I apologize. That item that we had removed from the Consent Calendar actually should be put back on. That was Calendar page 35, Calendar 42, Senate Bill 866. The amendment that was adopted on that bill is the -- was the only amendment that was -- that was needed, so there is not a need -- not a need for an additional amendment.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you.

SENATOR LOONEY:

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Thank you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, Senator.

Mr. Clerk, if you want to --

THE CLERK:

Madam President, someone pointed out to me that on Calendar page 18, Calendar Number 331, substitute for House Bill Number 6358, that I missed it, but that's supposed to be on the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

That's correct, sir.

Any corrections?

Okay. At this time, I would ask that the Clerk please open up the -- the machine and may announce a roll call vote, and the machines will be open.

THE CLERK:

An immediate roll call vote on the First Consent Calendar has been ordered in the Senate. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber. An immediate roll call vote on the First Consent Calendar has been ordered in the Senate. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber.

THE CHAIR:

You don't have the Consent Calendar up,

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Mr. Clerk?

THE CLERK:

(Inaudible.)

THE CHAIR:

A ready vote.

Senators, we're having a little problem with the machine, if you'll just wait one moment, please.

Okay. It's -- I'm going to close the machine and reopen.

Mr. Clerk, are they resetting the -- the title?

Mr. Clerk?

THE CLERK:

I'm sorry.

THE CHAIR:

Is somebody resetting?

THE CLERK:

He's trying --

THE CHAIR:

Okay.

THE CLERK:

-- to do that. Okay.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you.

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Do you want to announce again? Mr. Clerk, will you announce a roll call vote again, please, and we will open the machines.

THE CLERK:

An immediate roll call vote on the First Consent Calendar is taking place in the Senate. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber. An immediate roll call vote on the First Consent Calendar is taking place in the Senate. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber.

THE CHAIR:

Have all members voted? If all members voted, the machine will be locked.

Will the Clerk please announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

Madam President:

Total number voting	36
Those voting Yea	36
Those voting Nay	0
Absent	0

THE CHAIR:

The Consent Calendar is adopted.

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY: