

PA 11-065

SB0888

House	9254, 9289-9290	3
Public Safety	431, 432-433, 435-436, 576, 592-594	9
<u>Senate</u>	<u>1534, 1537-1544</u>	<u>9</u>
		<b>21</b>

law/lxe/jr/fst/gbr  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

769  
June 7, 2011

which is Senate Bill 888; Calendar 570 which is Senate Bill 1201; Calendar 542 -- I'm sorry. I don't have the bill number. Is Senate Bill 863. And Senate Bill -- I'm sorry, Calendar 632. SB 1098

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Representative, you want to check Calendar 542. I believe it's --

REP. SHARKEY (88th):

Yes, 542 is -- pardon me, is Senate Bill 852.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Very good, thank you, sir.

REP. SHARKEY (88th):

So I move these onto the consent calendar. We'll be having some other bills that we're going to be adding to that consent calendar shortly once we adopt the amendments, and then we can vote on those.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Thank you, Representative.

REP. SHARKEY (88th):

Thank you.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Representative Cafero.

REP. CAFERO (142nd):

I just want to make sure the board there is straight,

THE CLERK:

What page is it on?

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Clerk, please call Calendar 592 which is the beginning of the Consent Calendar.

SB 863 SB 1201  
SB 852 SB 888  
SB 377 SB 1216  
SB 1003 SB 371

THE CLERK:

On page 32, Calendar 592, Substitute for Senate Bill Number 858, AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION STATUTES.

SB 1112  
SB 881 SB 1076  
SB 518 SB 1098

A VOICE:

Mr. Speaker, this represents the Consent Calendar, and I would move that we vote on it as such.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

There's a Consent Calendar. Staff and guests, please come to the well of the House. Members take their seats. The machine will be opened.

THE CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by roll call. Members to the Chamber. The House is voting the Consent Calendar by roll call. Members to the Chamber.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Have all the members voted? Have all the members voted? Please check the roll call board. Make sure your vote's been properly cast. If all the members have voted,

the machine will be locked. The clerk will please take a tally. Clerk please announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

On today's Consent Calendar:

Total number voting 139

Necessary for passage 70

Those voting Yea 139

Those voting Nay 0

Those absent and not voting 12

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

The Consent Calendar's passed.

Any announcements or introductions?

Representative Piscopo.

REP. PISCOPO (78th):

Good morning, Mr. Speaker. For a general rotation.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Please proceed, sir.

REP. PISCOPO (78th):

Will the general please notes that Representatives Kokoruda and Noujaim missed votes ue to you illness in the family. Representative Rigby missed votes due to business in the district. Will the transcript please note that Representatives Candelora, Wood and Williams

**S - 616**

**CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
SENATE**

**PROCEEDINGS  
2011**

**VOL. 54  
PART 5  
1390 - 1734**

mhr  
SENATE

84  
May 11, 2011

Thank you, Madam President.

Also on Calendar page 17, Calendar 326, House  
Bill 6297; 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 now to Calendar page 20,  
Calendar 360, Senate Bill 1155. 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 now to Calendar page 36.  
Calendar page 36, Calendar Number 60, Senate Bill 888;  
Madam President, move to place that item on the  
Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objection, so ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

mhr  
SENATE

87  
May 11, 2011

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;

mhr  
SENATE

88  
May 11, 2011

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



mhr  
SENATE

89  
May 11, 2011

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:

mhr  
SENATE

90  
May 11, 2011

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:

Page 18.

mhr  
SENATE

91  
May 11, 2011

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:

mhr  
SENATE

92  
May 11, 2011

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,

mhr  
SENATE

93  
May 11, 2011

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.

mhr  
SENATE

94  
May 11, 2011

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:

**JOINT  
STANDING  
COMMITTEE  
HEARINGS**

**PUBLIC  
SAFETY AND  
SECURITY**

**PART 2  
319 - 658**

**2011**

cannot keep up with the current code cycle. Currently, the state of Connecticut is on 2005. That -- that being said, our apprentices are being taught on the 2008 and tested on the 2008 to get their electrical journeyman's license, yet whatever we teach them they cannot practice in the field. It's like having a car mechanic using a 2005 repair manual for a 2011 car. It just doesn't work.

We need to have the current code cycle adopted and adopted within a reasonable time table. I, therefore, approve -- therefore, urge you to support House Bill 6296.

REP. DARGAN: Thank you, Jim, for your testimony.

Questions from committee members?

Thank you very much, Jim.

JAMES BERNIER: Thank you.

REP. DARGAN: Our next presenter is Chiefs Salvatore and Strillacci, followed by Al D'Amico.

JAMES STRILLACCI: Good afternoon, Senator Hartley, SB 551 SB 765  
Representative Dargan, members of the committee. SB 888 HB 6110

Jim Strillacci from West Hartford. Tony Salvatore from Cromwell. We're representing the Connecticut Police Chiefs on several bills.

HB 6113 HB 6327  
HB 5341

We support Senate Bill 418 about recertification of retired police officers. Even in this economy, we're having a hard time finding qualified candidates and this may increase the applicant pool. We are cognizant that there may be some cost to POST, and we hope that this can truly be cost neutral. As a practical matter, we were wondering retired officers will be able to



meet the current stricter standards.

We appreciate the intent behind Senate Bill 551 concerning volunteer firefighters. We would ask for an exemption for public safety personnel who also happen to be volunteers. I think this was anticipated by Senator Witkos.

It would be unfair to a community who's paying an officer, for instance, to patrol a segment of the town to lose his services if there was a fire in a neighboring community. He's going to park his cruiser and go put his suit on and go two towns away to fight a fire that would leave his employer shorthanded. The same would go for some of our dispatchers. I do have POST safety dispatchers who are volunteers in their communities, and we can't afford to lose them if there are only two on the board. That's our minimum staffing.

We strongly oppose Senate Bill 765 concerning emergency alerts for abducted or missing children. The Amber alerts were established between the Connecticut broadcasters and law enforcement for a specific purpose, to help in urgent cases of kidnapped children. They're effective precisely because those are rare events. Teenagers run away daily all over the state. Most of them return within a single day. If we include these very frequent cases in Amber alerts, it would be pretty much like crying "wolf." The alerts would become so common they would be ignored by the general public and their effectiveness would be watered down. So we urge you to reserve Amber alerts for true emergencies.

We support Senate Bill 888 exempting certified police officers from telecommunicator training. We're all under budget constrictions, the state, the federal government and the localities as

well. This is a case where we already have trained officers to the MRT level at POST, and we keep their recerts up. We don't want to repeat that training for officers who happen to be taking dispatch duty, as well, and subject them to telecommunicator training doing the same classroom work.

We oppose House Bill 6110 requiring traffic violations in construction work fines to be doubled. We have no objections whatsoever to stiffer fines for violations in a work zone on state or local roads. But we're not going to see many tickets given out if there are not police officers at those scenes. We believe that per 7-148 Municipalities, towns need to be able to control safety on their roadways to regulate traffic. That includes providing, if they see fit, for police protection at job sites. Police not only direct traffic, they give first aid, they summon emergency assistance at construction mishaps. They give directions to motorists. They occasionally help catch fleeing criminals and, yes, they do issue traffic tickets when there are violations in the work zone. Flaggers cannot do this. They're not empowered to do this, and the bill would be meaningless if we don't have officers at those scenes.

We oppose 6113, the investigation of missing person reports mainly as an unfunded mandate. Again, for the same reasons, we have restricted budgets. Many of the training issues are already addressed and training is -- as Chairman Flaherty addressed. If there're additional training requirements for this particular bill, this would require to take officers off their patrol duties, send them to school, backfill them frequently with overtime, and, again, we cannot afford to duplicate training when we are short staffed and under the budget knife.

treated that way. But we certainly pro -- would support the proposal for DNA collection.

REP. DARGAN: Thank you.

One -- one question I have to you referencing SB 888 MRTs or the PSAPs you know the Public Safety Answering Points. You know, in a number of communities they were different ways some of them combine dispatch with police, fire and laypersons. My concern is in referencing the training component of that. Wouldn't you want a trained police officer to give that specific information on a specific case to that individual that's calling 9-1-1, that accurate information so the liability wouldn't be there for that municipality? So -- I -- I'm trying to understand the rationale of -- the training component of that.

JAMES STRILLACCI: The training received at POST is actually more comprehensive than that given to telecommunicators. The officers are trained not only to understand what's to be done but to do it. Furthermore, each PSAP has available to them the reference books or its electronic counterpart so they walk the dispatcher through the steps of the instruction to be given.

ANTHONY SALVATORE: Correct.

REP. DARGAN: So then you're comfortable because in today's litigation, you know, the environment that we're in, I would not want to open up your local officer if he or she was not trained properly if they gave out that wrong information.

And -- and does POST have recertification on what you're looking to do because you stated that that training's already given at POST, whether it's an entry level or just recertification; is that

true?

JAMES STRILLACCI: We have to recertify to keep those certifications up. So we get it at the entry level academy but in our in-service, which is a three-year cycle, we have to retrain to keep the -- the first aid and the MRT certification up.

REP. DARGAN: Further questions?

Yes, Representative Rovero.

REP. ROVERO: In regards to Bill 6110, you're opposed to. Do I read this correctly when it says, "Municipal road means any public highway, road, street, avenue, alley, driveway, parkway or place?" Is that correct?

JAMES STRILLACCI: That's correct.

REP. ROVERO: In other words, if I have a long driveway and I have a, let's say, a gas line being replaced, I have to someone out there directing traffic?

JAMES STRILLACCI: No, it doesn't say that you have to do that. It just forbids municipalities from requiring it. As a practical matter, municipalities are not going to require you to have a police officer when you do construction in your driveway but the local traffic authority will probably require if it's an arterial street or a place with a location requires an officer's attention to direct traffic safely.

REP. ROVERO: But if the way it stands now and the law reads and if the police department wanted to be real stringent or didn't like someone they could say, "Look it, you're replacing a gas line in your drive way, mile-long driveway. You're going to have a police officer covering that." Because



## CONNECTICUT POLICE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

342 North Main Street, West Hartford, Connecticut 06117-2507

(860) 586-7506 Fax: (860) 586-7550 Web site: www.cpcanet.org

### Testimony to the Committee on Public Safety, February 15, 2011

Chiefs Anthony Salvatore & James Strillaccl, Connecticut Police Chiefs Association

Senator Hartley, Representative Dargan, and Members of the Committee on Public Safety, we speak for the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association to testify on several Bills.

We support **SB 418, AAC Recertification of Retired Police Officers**. Even in this economy, qualified recruits are hard to find, and this bill may increase the applicant pool. Yet as a practical matter, we suspect that relatively few retired officers will be able to meet current standards.

We appreciate the intent of **SB 551, AAC Volunteer Firefighters**, but we'd ask an exemption for on-duty police personnel who are volunteers. It would be unfair to the community paying an officer to patrol its streets to lose his or her services to another town.

We strongly oppose **SB 765, An Act Concerning Emergency Alerts Concerning Abducted or Missing Children**. AMBER alerts were established to enlist public help in urgent cases—kidnapped children. They are effective because such cases are rare. But teenagers run away daily all over the state, and most return within a day. Including these runaways in AMBER alerts would be the equivalent of crying “Wolf!”—the alerts would soon be ignored. We urge you to reserve them for true emergencies.

We support **S.B. 888, An Act Exempting Certified Police Officers from Telecommunicator Training**, and urge its passage, as this would eliminate needless duplication in training and cost.

We oppose **HB 6110, AA Requiring Fines For Certain Traffic Violations in Construction Work Zones In Municipalities To Be Doubled**. We don't object to stiff fines in work zones, but there won't be many without police on site. Per 7-148, towns need to be able to regulate their roadways, including police protection at job sites if they deem it necessary. Police not only direct traffic, but give first aid and summon emergency assistance at construction mishaps, give directions to motorists, help catch fleeing criminals, and yes, issue traffic tickets. Flaggers can't.

**HB 6113** is AAC the **Investigation of Missing Persons Reports**. CPCA opposes this bill as an unfunded mandate. We object in particular to additional training mandates, because it's costly to send officers for training and to replace them during their absence.

The Police Officer Standards and Training Council is responsible for determining the type and amount of training Connecticut's police need, and we should allow them to do so. Four years ago, POST developed a model policy on the acceptance of missing person reports and police response to such reports, which was disseminated to all law enforcement agencies.

This is the fifth consecutive session in which missing-person mandates have been proposed, at the prompting of a single activist. It may not be possible to satisfy every such constituent.

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT

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

February 15, 2011

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

**SB 888 ACT EXEMPTING CERTIFIED POLICE OFFICERS FROM TELECOMMUNICATOR TRAINING**

***The Department of Public Safety opposes this bill.***

This proposed bill would exempt police officers certified by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council and certified as medical response technicians from telecommunicator training.

The knowledge and skill set required for emergency telecommunications are very specific and may not be incorporated into police officer and medical response technician (MRT) training. E9-1-1 training includes hazardous materials awareness, telephone and radio technology and broadcast rules, resource allocation and fire service operations which are not covered to the degree necessary for emergency telecommunications. Certification and demonstration of proficiency ensures that standards are met and 9-1-1 calls are answered, processed and dispatched appropriately.

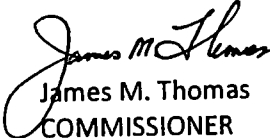
Additionally, the demonstration of proficiency protects the public as well as first responders. The Office of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications (OSET) recognizes that some of the training modules may be included in police officer or MRT training and offers an exception by OSET if competency in emergency telecommunications is demonstrated. This exemption does not preclude officers trained at POST from seeking exemption.

It is in the best interest of Connecticut as well as to protect officers and first responders from lawsuits by ensuring adequate training in emergency telecommunications. Lawsuits and media reports of "bad calls" are newsworthy and receive a great deal of public attention. We owe it to the public and all responders to ensure anyone answering E9-1-1 calls is trained to the standards set forth in our regulations.

The committee should be aware that the Office of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications and Education and Data Management in conjunction with state police staff compared telecommunicator certification training to POST training. Several critical modules were identified as being insufficient training for emergency telecommunications. Redundant curriculum was eliminated and the six day training was pared down to a day and one half for certification of police officers in emergency telecommunications.

It is in the best interest of the public and all public safety personnel to require that any person responsible for answering E9-1-1 calls be required to successfully complete the training program or to demonstrate proficiency in emergency telecommunications.

Sincerely,

  
James M. Thomas  
COMMISSIONER



**TESTIMONY**  
of the  
**CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES**  
to the  
**PUBLIC SAFETY & SECURITY COMMITTEE**  
February 15, 2011

CCM is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 93% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony to you on issues of concern to towns and cities.

**SB 888**      **“An Act Exempting Certified Police Officers from Telecommunicator Training”**

SB 888 would exempt local police officers that are already certified by POST as medical response technicians from state-mandated telecommunicator training.

CCM supports SB 888 as reasonable means of relief from such duplicative, mandated training – while not compromising the emergency response services provided by local emergency personnel. Current telecommunicator training requirements, as they relate to certified police officers, are proven to be unnecessarily redundant and not cost effective.

CCM urges the committee to favorably report SB 888.

## ## ##

If you have any questions, please contact Bob Labanara of CCM at [rlabanara@ccm-ct.org](mailto:rlabanara@ccm-ct.org).