

PA12-087

HB5299

House	1692-1702	11
<u>Senate</u>	<u>4171-4172, 4177-4179</u>	<u>5</u>
		16

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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
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House Bill 5294.

Total number voting	141
Necessary for passage is	71
Yea	140
Nay	1
Absent, not voting	10

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

The bill is passed.

Okay. The Clerk, please call Calendar 122.

THE CLERK:

On page 5, Calendar 122, Substitute for House Bill Number 5299, AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMMENDATION MEDAL AND ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL AND THE ORDER OF PRECEDENCE FOR STATE MILITARY DECLARATIONS AND AWARDS, favorable report by the Committee on Public Safety.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

The distinguished Chair of the Veterans Committee, Representative Hennessy.

REP. HENNESSY (127th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

The question is on acceptance and passage.

Would you explain the bill, please, sir?

REP. HENNESSY (127th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the Clerk has a strike-all amendment, LCO 3314. I would ask that the Clerk please call the amendment and that I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

The Clerk is possession of LCO Number 3314, which will be designated House Amendment Schedule "A." Will the Clerk please call the amendment.

THE CLERK:

LCO 3314, House "A," offered by Representative Hennessy.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

The gentleman has asked leave of the Chamber to summarize. Is there objection?

Hearing none, please proceed, Representative Hennessy.

REP. HENNESSY (127th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, what this amendment does is it

clarifies a certain aspect regarding bereavement disposition; specifically speaking, there's a federal form, Record of Emergency Data, which is called "DD Form 93." And this amendment will recognize it in our statutes.

I ask adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

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

Representative Adinolfi.

REP. ADINOLFI (103rd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

This amendment or now the bill is very important. I was actually astonished when I heard that if you're in the military and you passed on or were killed in action or something like, to that effect, that you did not have the same burial laws associated within the State of Connecticut. So what this bill does, right now if you're a civilian, you can set up who you -- in advance -- who you want to take care of your remains, what they'll do with them, how they will dispose of them.

What this bill does, it also adds to that this Form DD-293 -- 93, which the military individual

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will state on there who he wants to take care of his remains and so on. It'll have the same effect as the bill that we have in state for civilians. So I think it's very important that we pass this and get it over with quick and to take care of our GIs.

Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Thank you.

I thank the distinguished and Ranking Member of the Veteran's Committee.

The -- the Vice Chairman of the Veterans Committee, Representative Nicastro.

REP. NICASTRO (79th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this strike-all amendment. It's very clear and very positive what's going on today. We have so many young men and women being sent overseas, many of them, sad to say, are coming home not the way we'd like to see them coming home.

And as we well know, what needs to be done here is this is -- with this amendment is that this DD-29 -- 93 form is approved by the federal government but it's not approved by the State of

Connecticut. The basic form that allows a young serviceman or woman to dispose of their remains if something happens to them is a form that's already been approved. But this federal form DD-93 has to be approved by the State of Connecticut so they can use it properly.

I -- I stand in strong support of this, and I urge all my colleagues, also.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Thank you, sir.

Distinguished Deputy Minority Leader,
Representative Sawyer.

REP. SAWYER (55th):

Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Good afternoon, madam.

REP. SAWYER (55th):

You know, trying to coordinate federal law and state law has always been a challenge. And I would like to thank the Veterans Committee for taking this piece on, because many of us think that it's going to be fairly easy when we lose some -- we lose someone, that the system is in place.

We have so many forms and regulations that don't necessarily translate well into state law, so I would like to thank, very much, the Veterans Committee for recognizing the DD-93. It paves the way for people who are in the saddest of times and should be able to, I believe in the future, make it, the transition easier for the families.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Thank you, madam.

The gentleman from New Fairfield,
Representative Richard Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good afternoon.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Good afternoon sir.

REP. SMITH (108th):

Just a few questions, if I may, for the proponent of the bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Please proceed, sir.

REP. SMITH (108th):

Just so I'm clear with the -- the strike-all amendment, does this form or bill that we're

proposing apply to anyone or is it -- does it have to be a person who is in the military service?

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Hennessy, do you care to respond?

REP. HENNESSY (127th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Through you, yes; it's a member of the -- it's a soldier, service member who is on active duty.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

Thank you, very much for that.

And -- and I'm looking, and I was looking for that language there. But I'm looking at line 5, and it says "any person, 18 years of age or older." So, again, I'm just wondering if it's restricted to the military or anybody in the armed services or whether anybody at the age of 18 or older can actually fill out one of these predisposition forms.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Hennessy.

REP. HENNESSY (127th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

So I -- I would direct the good gentleman's attention to Section F, which is the new language. What you referred to is what's already in statute, and -- and -- and is afforded our service members, but the new language simply puts in the DD Form 93, Record of Emergency Data.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative --

REP. HENNESSY (127th):

And --

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

-- Smith.

REP. HENNESSY (127th):

And adds to it. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

Thank you. That -- that is helpful and it does clarify my question.

The other question I had is -- and because I'm trying to read the -- the bill quickly -- it appears that if there is no such designation signed or if it cannot be found, and then it lays out the order of

persons who could step up and take control of the body. And that's lines 24 through, looks like 47.

My question is: If there is no such form that is signed, are the individuals that are named in -- in lines 33 to 47, are those still -- are those persons still eligible to take care and control of the body?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Hennessy.

REP. HENNESSY (127th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Through you, well, this amendment is silent on that, so whatever has been in effect continues to be.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

Thank you, for that.

And, you know, we may -- I'm not sure where the bill goes today or -- but we may want to consider in the future to actually have that apply. It may be a practice now that occurs, but if we spell out in

statute that a family member, such as a spouse or a child or a parent would have control over the body, it may make it easier for those who are in this situation and instead of trying to figure it out or -- or fighting over it, perhaps. So I certainly support the bill. I think it's a great idea, and I thank you for clarifying those questions.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Thank you, sir.

Remark further on the bill's -- I'm sorry -- will you remark further on House Amendment "A?" Will you remark further on House Amendment "A?"

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

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Opposed, nay.

The ayes have it; the amendment is adopted.

Will you remark on the bill as amended? Will you remark on the bill as amended?

If not, staff and guests, please come to the well of the House. Members take your seats. The

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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 GODFREY:

Have all the members voted? Have all the
members voted? All the members that have voted, the
machine will be locked.

The Clerk will take a tally. And the Clerk
will announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

House Bill 5299 as amended by House "A."

Total number voting	139
Necessary for passage	70
Yea	139
Nay	0
Absent, not voting	12

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

The bill as amended is passed.

Mr. Clerk, please call Calendar 200.

THE CLERK:

On page 11, Calendar 200, Substitute for House
Bill Number 5032, AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE

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consent calendar thereafter.

First, Madam President, first item is calendar page 6, Calendar 364, House Bill 5089. Madam President, would move to place that item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Second item, calendar page 7, Calendar 378, House Bill 5554. Move to place the item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Moving to calendar page 8, Calendar 391, House Bill 5446. Madam President, move to place the item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Moving to calendar page 9, Calendar 395, House Bill 5483. Move to place the item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President. Calendar page 10, Calendar

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402, House Bill 5299. Madam President, move to place the item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Moving to calendar page 12, Calendar 425, House Bill 5476. Madam President, move to place the item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Moving to calendar page 13, Calendar 426, House Bill 5443. Madam President, move to place this item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Moving to calendar page 14, where we have two items. The first is Calendar 439, House Bill 5388.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Madam President, move to place this item on the consent calendar.

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On calendar page 28, Calendar 512, House Bill 5424. Madam President, move to place the item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

And a final item is on calendar page 30, Calendar 522, House Bill 5289. Madam President, move to place this item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, if the Clerk would -- would read the items on the consent calendar for a verification and then if we might move to a vote on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, sir.

THE CLERK:

On page 6, Calendar 364, House Bill 5089; page 7, Calendar 378, House Bill 5554; page 8, Calendar 391, House Bill 5446; page 9, Calendar 395, House Bill 5483.

On page 10, Calendar 402, House Bill 5299; page 12, Calendar 425, House Bill 5476.

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On page 13, Calendar 426, House Bill 5443; on page 14, Calendar 438, House Bill 5347; Page 14, Calendar 439, House Bill 5388; page 15, Calendar 441, House Bill 5501.

Also on page 15, Calendar 442, House Bill 5536; page 16, Calendar 445, House Bill 5145; page 16, Calendar 446, House Bill 5395; on page 16, Calendar 448, House Bill 5414; page 17, Calendar 451, House Bill 5548; page 18, Calendar 456, House Bill 5285.

Also on page 18, Calendar 458, House Bill 5031; on page 20, Calendar 468, House Bill 5217; page 21, Calendar 471, House Bill 5164; page 22, Calendar 476, House Bill 5263.

On page 23, Calendar 485, House Bill 5237. On page 25, Calendar 497, House Bill 5512; page 26, Calendar 502, House Bill 5497; page 26, Calendar 503, House Bill 5409.

On page 28, Calendar 512, House Bill 5424. And on page 30, Calendar 522, House Bill 5289.

THE CHAIR:

That seems correct.

Mr. Clerk, would you please call for a roll call vote on the consent calendar. (Inaudible.)

THE CLERK:

Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate. Will senators please return to the Chamber. Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Gomes, would you like to vote, please. Thank you.

If all members have voted, if all members have voted, the machine will be closed.

Mr. Clerk, would you please call a tally.

THE CLERK:

On today's consent calendar,

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Total Number Voting	35	
Necessary for passage	18	
Those Voting Yea	35	
Those Voting Nay	0	
Those Absent and Not Voting		1

THE CHAIR:

The consent calendar passes.

Are there any points of personal privilege or announcements? Are there any points of personal privilege or announcements?

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Yes, Madam President, if there are no announcements or points of personal privilege, we will, of course, be in session tomorrow -- or actually it's later today but -- but not on Thursday. But --

THE CHAIR:

Okay. Promise?

SENATOR LOONEY:

-- we will -- we will convene later this morning. We will have a -- announce the Democratic caucus at eleven followed by session at noon today.

Thank you, Madam President.

With that, would move the Senate stand adjourned, subject to the call of the chair.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir. Everybody drive safely.

On motion of Senator Looney of the 11th, the Senate, at 12:32 a.m. adjourned subject to the call of the chair.