

PA13-198

HB6445

House	3088-3091	4
Judiciary	1279, 1379	2
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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2013**

**VOL.56
PART 10
3086 - 3445**

pat/gbr
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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May 8, 2013

Will Members please return to the Chamber
immediately.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

Have all the Members voted? Have all the Members
voted? Members please check the board to make sure
your votes are properly cast.

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

THE CLERK:

Bill Number 6534.

Total Number Voting	140
Necessary for Passage	71
Those voting Yea	140
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	10

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

The bill passes.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar Number 471.

THE CLERK:

On Page 31, Calendar Number 471, Favorable Report
of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, House
Bill 6445 AN ACT CONCERNING SERVICES THAT MAY BE
PROVIDED BY PROFESSIONAL COORDINATORS. I'm sorry,
CORPORATIONS.

pat/gbr
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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May 8, 2013

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

Representative Matt Ritter of the 1st District,
you have the floor, sir.

REP. RITTER (1st):

Mr. Speaker, I move acceptance of the Joint
Committee's Favorable Report and passage of the bill.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

The question is on acceptance of the Joint
Committee's Favorable Report and passage of the bill.
Will you remark, sir?

REP. RITTER (1st):

This bill authorizes physicians and podiatrists
to form a professional corporation, which is a term of
art under state statutes to provide services.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

Thank you, sir, for your brevity. Do you care to
remark further on the bill that's before us?
Representative Rebimbas of the 70th.

REP. REBIMBAS (70th):

Good evening, Mr. Speaker. I rise in support of
this bill. It's very good legislation. Thank you to
Representative Ritter for summarizing the bill. It
passed unanimously out of Judiciary.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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This is certainly a bill that allows licensed podiatrists as well as physicians to jointly own LLCs or corporations, something that they wouldn't be able to do otherwise.

Currently, they actually practice together but are not able to have an interest in the corporations jointly and this would allow them to do so, so I do ask for support on behalf of also the Connecticut Podiatrist Medical Association for this bill.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

Thank you, madam. Do you care to remark further on the bill that's before us? Care to remark further on the bill that's before us?

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

THE CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by Roll.
The House of Representatives is voting by Roll.

Will Members please return to the Chamber immediately.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

pat/gbr
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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May 8, 2013

Have all the Members voted? Have all the Members voted? Will Members please check the board to make sure your votes are properly cast.

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

THE CLERK:

Bill Number 6445.

Total Number Voting 140

Necessary for Passage 71

Those voting Yea 140

Those voting Nay 0

Those absent and not voting 10

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

The bill passes.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar Number 323.

THE CLERK:

On Page 17, Calendar Number 323, Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Government Administration and Elections. Substitute for House Bill 6492 AN ACT CONCERNIGN THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF EMPLOYEES SUPPLYING INFORMATION TO THE AUDITORS OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SENATE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2013**

**VOL. 56
PART 16
4803 - 5160**

rgd/gbr
SENATE

128
June 4, 2013

Also calendar page 8, Calendar 568, House Bill 6445,
move to place this item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objection, so ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Also Madam President, calendar page 9, Calendar 590,
House Bill Number 6680, move to place on the consent
calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objection, so ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Counter page 10, Calendar 607, House Bill Number 6688,
move to place that item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objection, sir.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, Madam President.

Calendar page 11, Calendar 612, House Bill 6448, move
to place on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objection, so ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, if we might move to mark some

rgd/gbr
SENATE

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June 4, 2013

Page 3, Calendar 422, Senate Bill 978; on page 4, Calendar 475, Senate Bill 1052; on page 8, Calendar 567, House Bill 6387; Calendar 568, House Bill 6445; and Calendar 580, House Bill 6623.

On page 9, Calendar 583, House Bill 5149; and Calendar 590, House Bill 6680; page 10, Calendar 607, House Bill 6688; and calendar 608, House Bill 6384.

Page 11, Calendar 612, House Bill 6448; and Calendar 621, House Bill 6488. On page 12, Calendar 634, House Bill 6403; and Calendar 636, House Bill 6394; page 13, Calendar 645, House Bill 6454; and page 14, Calendar 652, House Bill 6702.

On page 16, Calendar 674, House Bill 6441; page 17, Calendar 677, House Bill 6644; on page 18, Calendar 685, House Bill 6009; and on page 23, Calendar 380 Senate Bill 1054; page 24, Calendar 452, Senate Bill 1142; and Calendar 566, House Bill 6375.

Page 25, Calendar 646, House Bill 5844; and on page 26, Calendar 304, Senate Bill 1019.

THE CHAIR:

At this time, Mr. Clerk, will you call for a roll call vote on a first consent calendar?

The machine will be open.

THE CLERK:

Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate. Senators, please return to the chamber. Immediate roll call on the first consent calendar has been ordered in the Senate.

THE CHAIR:

If all members have voted? All members have voted. The machine will be closed.

Mr. Clerk, will you please call the tally?

THE CLERK:

rgd/gbr
SENATE

242
June 4, 2013

The first consent calendar.

Total Number Voting	35
Necessary for Adoption	18
Those voting Yea	35
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	1

THE CHAIR:

The consent calendar passes.

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, would move for immediate transmittal to the House of Representatives of all items acted on thus far today requiring additional action in that chamber.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Also, Madam President, on an item previously placed on the foot of the Calendar, would now seek to remove that item and just mark it PR, and that is an item calendar page 16, Calendar 672, House Bill 5480, AN ACT PROHIBITING TAMPERING WITH HYDRANTS. Would just move to remove that item from the foot and to mark it PR.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

**JUDICIARY
PART 4
1040 - 1378**

2013

Thank you.

JOHN T. WALKLEY: Thank you very much.

REP. GERALD FOX: Dr. Joe Treadwell.

DAVID BOOMER: Dr. Treadwell was detained in surgery, but I'm David Boomer with the Kowalski Group and we represent the Connecticut Podiatric Medical Association, which Dr. Treadwell is legislative chair. You have our statement. We submitted it earlier from the Connecticut Podiatric Medical Association in regard H.B. 6445.

This would allow a podiatrist to co-own a professional corporation with a doctor and in doing so, you would be adding to a list that includes chiropractors and several other professionals. So that last time you addressed this was in 2005. There are a number of podiatrists that would like to have this kind of arrangement so we're just hopeful that you can approve the bill. That's my comment.

REP. GERALD FOX: Thank you, David.

Are there questions from members of the committee?

I know we've discussed this before and I'm sure we'll discuss it some more, but if I hear of anything, I'll let you know and hopefully it will be the same.

DAVID BOOMER: Thank you.

REP. GERALD FOX: Thank you.

DAVID BOOMER: Thank you.

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

**JUDICIARY
PART 5
1379 - 1717**

2013



State of Connecticut

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Good morning,

Chairmen Coleman and Fox and Honorable members of the Judiciary Committee,

I want to thank you for raising HB 6447, An Act Concerning the Occupational Tax on Attorneys as well as providing me an opportunity to speak about the bill in this public hearing context.

For the last several years, attorneys in Connecticut have been subject to the Attorneys' Occupational Tax, which is levied upon attorneys in Connecticut with some exemptions. The tax had been \$450 for quite a while until two years ago, when the tax was raised to \$565, where it has remained to date.

One of the exemptions in the law is for attorneys whose principal occupation is something other than practicing law and who may generate fee income during the calendar year under a certain threshold. For many years, that fee income threshold has been \$450. In other words, under the present structure, an attorney who does not practice law for his or her primary occupation could generate \$450 of fee income without incurring an obligation to pay the tax.

Two years ago, the tax was increased to \$565, but the threshold was unchanged at \$450. In that context, an attorney who presently does not practice law for his or her primary occupation could generate \$450 of fee income without incurring an obligation to pay the tax, but if the fee income generated was, as an example, \$475, the attorney would be obligated to pay the tax of \$565.

Clearly, when the tax was increased, the attendant task of raising the threshold was overlooked. This bill simply proposes to raise the threshold at which the tax would be owed to \$1000. In this proposed scenario, an attorney who does not practice law for his or her primary occupation could generate \$1000 of fee income without incurring an obligation to pay the tax, but if the fee income generated was, as an example, \$1025, the attorney would be obligated to pay the tax of \$565.

It seems to me to be more equitable for the threshold of fee income to be higher than the tax amount. As an aside, today's rates for legal fees might be such that, with inflation over the years, a fee income threshold of \$1000 is justified.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony today.