

PA13-216

SB0327

House	9828-9832	5
Senate	2089-2092, 2283-2285	7
		12

H – 1178

**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2013**

**VOL.56
PART 29
9742 – 10110**

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

331
June 4, 2013

House Bill 6703

Total Number Voting	146
Necessary for Passage	74
Those voting Yea	146
Those voting Nay	0
Absent and not voting	4

DEPUTY SPEAKER RITTER:

The bill passes.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

Will the Clerk please call Calendar 595?

THE CLERK:

Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Calendar Number 595, on page 24, favorable report of Joint Standing Committee on General Law, Senate Bill 327, AN ACT CONCERNING PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING LICENSES.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

Representative Kiner.

REP. KINER (59th):

Good evening, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

Good evening, sir.

REP. KINER (59th):

Mr. Speaker, I move for acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill in concurrence with the Senate.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

The question is acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill in concurrence with the Senate.

Will you remark, sir?

REP. KINER (59th):

I will. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, this bill directs the Department of Consumer Protection to amend its regulations to allow a licensed professional engineer to take a hiatus from practicing in Connecticut by surrendering his or her license to the State Board of Examiners for professional engineers and land surveyors at the beginning of the hiatus and receiving a new license at the end.

The bill provides that the professional engineer would not be required to pay the \$225 annual license renewal fees for the period of the hiatus to receive a new license and is currently -- as it is currently required in some cases now.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is effective upon passage. As stated, it has already passed the Senate, which it did unanimously. It also passed the General Law Committee unanimously. There's minimal fiscal impact. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

Thank you, sir.

Would you care to remark on the bill that's before us? Care to remark on the bill that's before us?.

Representative Carter.

REP. CARTER (2nd):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

As my colleague said, this is an excellent bill. When this came to us through General Law there was a story behind it that what would happen is a professional engineer may decide to leave the state and not practice for a period of time -- sometimes many years. And an individual come back to the state and they would hit -- be hit with exorbitant fees all ports of well over \$5,000 to bring their license back into -- to be current.

Now, what this bill does is it allows something that's parity to other licenses in the state, so they can come back in and they're not going to get charged an exorbitant fee and they're able to practice in Connecticut once again. It's a good bill. I urge its passage.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

Thank you, sir.

Do you care to remark? Do you 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 open.

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:

Have all the members voted? Have all the members voted?

Members please check the board to make sure that your vote is properly cast.

And 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:

In concurrence with the Senate, Senate Bill 327

Total Number Voting 146

Necessary for Passage 74

Those voting Yea 146

Those voting Nay 0

Absent and not voting 4

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

The bill passes in concurrence with the Senate.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar Number 638?

THE CLERK:

On page 24, Calendar Number 638, favorable report of Joint Standing Committee on Public Health, Senate Bill 918, AN ACT CONCERNING THE DUTIES OF VETERINARIANS WHEN PRESCRIBING PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

Representative Gentile, you have the floor, madam.

REP. GENTILE (104th):

Good evening, Mr. Speaker.

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THE CHAIR:

Opposed?

Senate "C" is adopted.

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

And then, Madam Chair, if there's no comment or objection, I would request that this be placed on our Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objection, so ordered, sir.

SENATOR MEYER:

Thank you.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, as the next item, would ask the Clerk to call from Calendar Page 3, Calendar 165, Senate Bill Number 327, to be followed by Calendar Page 4, Calendar 170, Substitute for Senate Bill Number 922.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

On Page 3, Calendar 165, Senate Bill Number 327, AN ACT CONCERNING ENGINEER LICENSES, Favorable Report of the Committee on General Law.

THE CHAIR:

Good evening -- I mean good afternoon, Senator Doyle.

SENATOR DOYLE:

Good afternoon, Madam President.

I move acceptance of the joint committee's Favorable Report and passage of the bill.

THE CHAIR:

The motion is on acceptance and passage. Will you remark, sir?

SENATOR DOYLE:

Yes. Thank you, Madam President.

This bill, which was voted unanimous out of the General Law Committee, 18-to-0 vote, deals with the issue of engineer's licenses. It was brought to attention of one of our colleagues in the Chamber here that an engineer, who was legally practicing in the State of Connecticut and decided to move to Rhode Island and practice his engineering practice up in Rhode Island, up in, up in New Hampshire for, like, ten years, then he came back to Connecticut and tried to reengage and begin his practice here. He was told by the Department of Consumer Protection that he had to pay; in order to get reinstated and fully practice here in Connecticut again, he had to pay for the ten years of fees that he was practicing in New Hampshire. So rather than reinstatement fee, he had to pay the reinstatement fee plus the -- the ten years that he wasn't practicing in the state, which certainly is not an appropriate fee to make our state business friendly and even, you know, makes very little common sense.

So what this bill does to try to address this flaw in our regulations, we, we're directing the Commissioner of Consumer Protection to amend the regulations to set up an arrangement or apparatus whereby a duly licensed engineer can surrender his existing license to the -- the State Board of -- of Examiners for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, kind of have them surrender it and have them hold it. And then if the

engineer decides to come back to Connecticut, he can, he can reapply for it, get his license back without having to pay the ten-year gap; he just pays the reinstatement, a small reinstatement fee, and then he can move forward to practice again.

So this -- this is a business-friendly bill that corrects an injustice, and I urge the Chamber to approve this bill.

Thank you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark?

Senator Guglielmo; good afternoon, sir.

SENATOR GUGLIELMO:

Good afternoon, Madam President.

I just wanted to stand and thank Senator Doyle, because this happened and this occurred in my district; in fact, in Tolland. An engineer who moved to New Hampshire to take care of one of his parents, stayed up there for a period of 17 years, came back and was told he owed all the back fees, plus interest, plus penalty. And it was certainly some confusion between the Department of Consumer Protection and the Attorney General's Office, how it was interpreted, and this -- this will straighten that out so that doesn't happen again.

And in his case, he really was not able to get back into engineering work. Fortunately for him, he's teaching at the University of Connecticut, so maybe he's better off. But he was a lucky -- lucky one. There's many others that are probably in the same boat that we don't even know about, and I just want to thank the good Senator for moving forward what I think is a real common-sense piece of legislation.

Thank you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Thank -- thank you.

Will you remark? Will you remark?

Senator Doyle.

SENATOR DOYLE:

Yes, Madam President.

Recognizing that the person at issue is a resident of Tolland, and I think the President once represented Tolland, it makes it a good bill. And I'd ask that without objection I'd like to refer this bill to the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objection, so ordered, sir.

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

On Page 4, Calendar 170, Substitute for Senate Bill Number 922, AN ACT CONCERNING TWO-FOR-ONE SALES,
Favorable Report of the Committee on General Law.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Doyle.

SENATOR DOYLE:

Yes; thank you, Madam President.

I move acceptance of the joint committee's Favorable Report and passage of the bill.

THE CHAIR:

The motion is on acceptance and passage. Will you remark, sir?

SENATOR DOYLE:

Yes. Thank you, Madam President.

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THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, if the Clerk would now proceed to read the items placed on the Consent Calendar today, before calling for a vote on that Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

Beginning on Calendar Page 3, Number 146, Senate Bill Number 959; also on Calendar Page 3, Number 165, Senate Bill 327.

On Calendar Page 8, Number 303, Senate Bill Number 1018.

On Page 22, Calendar Number 511, House Bill 6243.

On Page 23, Calendar Number 517, House Bill 6453.

On Page 24, Calendar Number 525, House Bill 6457; also on Page 24, Calendar Number 526, Senate Bill 1079.

On Page 25, Calendar Number 527, Senate Bill 1131; also on Page 25, Calendar Number 529, Senate Bill 965. Finally, on Page 25, Calendar Number 531, Senate Bill 986.

On Page 29, Calendar Number 562, House Bill 5387.

On Page 35, Calendar Number 39, Senate Bill 597.

On Page 40, Calendar 210, Senate Bill 817.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk, on Page 35, have you also seen Calendar Number 44, Senate Bill 809?

A VOICE:

Yeah.

THE CHAIR:

(Inaudible) wrong. Okay. Okay; I apologize, sir.

Please proceed.

THE CLERK:

On Calendar Page 40, Number 210, Senate Bill 817.

On Page 41, Calendar 254, Senate Bill 1013.

On Calendar Page 42, Number 271, Senate Bill 1072;
also on Page 42, Calendar Number 286, Senate Bill
1113.

On Page 44, Calendar 364, Senate Bill 1014.

On Page 46, Calendar Number 397, Senate Bill 992; also
on Page 46, Calendar 406, Senate Bill 1129. And
finally, on Page 46, Calendar 407, Senate Bill 383.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk, I ask for a roll call vote. The machine
will be open for the Consent Calendar.

THE CLERK:

Immediate roll call vote has been ordered in the
Senate on the Consent Calendar. Immediate roll call
vote has been ordered in the Senate; Senators please
return to the Chamber.

THE CHAIR:

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

Mr. Clerk, will you please call the tally.

THE CLERK:

On the Consent Calendar.

Total Voting	36
Voting Yea	36
Voting Nay	0
Absent, not voting	0

THE CHAIR:

The Consent Calendar passes.

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, at this point, having concluding the day's business, would certainly yield the floor to any members for purposes of announcements or committee meeting or -- or other points of personal privilege.

THE CHAIR:

Are there any point -- points of personal privilege or announcements? Are there any personal privileges or announcement?

Senator McKinney.

SENATOR McKINNEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, as fate would have it, we came close yesterday to being able to celebrate the birthday of two of our members. Yesterday we celebrated the birthday of Senator Slossberg; today, we get to celebrate the birthday of Senator Len Fasano, so --

THE CHAIR:

All right.

SENATOR McKINNEY: