

PA13-77

SB0763

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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2013**

**VOL.56
PART 18
5882 – 6232**

Calendar number 575 -- excuse me. One moment, Madam Speaker. Again House Calendar number 575, favorable report of the joint standing Committee on Human Services, substitute Senate Bill number 763, AN ACT CONCERNING ANNULMENTS OF INVESTIGATIONS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Representative McGee of the 5th.

REP. MCGEE (5th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Good evening.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Good evening, Sir.

REP. MCGEE (5th):

Madam Speaker, I move for acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

The question is acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill in concurrence with the Senate. Representative McGee, you have the floor, Sir.

REP. MCGEE (5th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. The bill on this evening which requires DCF, Department of Children and

Families to notify if it is in the child's best interest the child's noncustodial parent, custodial parent, guardian and parents upon opening a child's -- a child abuse or neglect investigation. Does not result in a fiscal impact and the agency as it is DCF current practice.

Madam Speaker, the Clerk has an amendment, LCO 6722. I would ask that the Clerk to please call the amendment and that I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Will the Clerk please call LCO number 6722 which will be designated Senate Amendment A.

THE CLERK:

Madam Speaker, LCO number 6722 designated Senate Amendment A offered by Senators Slossberg and Witkos.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

The Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the amendment. Is there any objection to summarization? Is there any objection? Hearing none, Representative McGee, you may proceed with summarization.

REP. MCGEE (5th):

Madam Speaker, thank you. In line 19 we'd like

to strike not later than two business days and insert as soon as practicable in lieu thereof. I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

The question before the Chamber is adoption of Senate Amendment Schedule A. Will you remark on the amendment? Will you remark further on the amendment that is before us? If not, let me try your minds.

All those in favor signify by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

All those opposed, nay. The ayes have it. The amendment is adopted. Will you remark further? Will you remark further on the bill as amended?

Representative Wood of the 141st.

REP. WOOD (141st):

Thank you, Madam Chair. I stand in support of this bill. It -- basically what it does it provides clarity and consistency for DCF to notify families when they need to when they will be doing an investigation. So we do stand in support of this and I hope the Chamber will join us in supporting this.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Will you remark? Will you remark further on the bill as amended? If not, will staff and guests please come to the well of the House. Will members take your seat. The machine will be opened.

THE CLERK:

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

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

have all the members voted? Have all the members voted? Please check the board to see that your vote has been properly cast. If all the members have voted then the machine will be locked. And the Clerk will take a tally. The Clerk will announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

Madam Speaker, in concurrence with the Senate, Senate -- Substitute Senate Bill number 763 as amended by Senate Amendment A.

Total Number Voting	137
Necessary for Adoption	69
Those voting aye	137
Those voting nay	0

Absent and not voting 13

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

The bill as amended passes in concurrence with the Senate. Will the Clerk please call Calendar number 559.

THE CLERK:

Madam Speaker, on page 26 of the Calendar, Calendar number 559, favorable report of the joint standing Committee on Insurance or Real Estate, and Senate Bill number 1029, AN ACT CONCERNING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Representative Abercrombie of the 83rd.

REP. ABERCROMBIE (83rd):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Good evening.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Good evening.

REP. ABERCROMBIE (83rd):

Madam Speaker, I move for the acceptance of the joint committee's report and passage of the bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

The question before us is acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
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STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Public Hearing Testimony
Human Services Committee
February 19, 2013



***Proposed S.B. No. 763 AN ACT CONCERNING NOTICE OF INVESTIGATIONS
BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES***

The Department of Children and Families offers the following comments regarding Proposed S.B. No. 763, An Act Concerning Notice of Investigations by the Department of Children and Families.

This bill would require the Department of Children and Families to give notice of a complaint of child abuse to the child's guardian, custodial parent and noncustodial parent upon the opening of an investigation. The Department **does not object to sharing this information** but would like to clarify that such notice only applies to those reports accepted for investigation. Further, we would suggest that, when drafting this legislation, the Committee add language stating: "unless doing so might interfere with a criminal investigation or endanger a person."

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SENATE**

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SENATE

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Senator Looney, what page is that on, sir?

SENATOR LOONEY:

Page 7.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Page 7, Calendar 253, Senate Bill 763.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you.

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

On Page sevender -- 7, Calendar 253, Substitute for Senate Bill Number 763, AN ACT CONCERNING NOTICE OF INVESTIGATIONS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES, Favorable Report of the Committee on Human Services and there are amendments.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Slossberg

SENATOR SLOSSBERG:

Yes, good afternoon, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Good afternoon.

SENATOR SLOSSBERG:

I move the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and passage of the bill.

THE CHAIR:

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SENATE

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The motion is on passage. Will you remark, Madam?

SENATOR SLOSSBERG:

Yes, thank you, Madam President.

This bill requires the Department of Children and Families, when opening a child abuse or neglect investigation and it is in the child's best interests, to notify both the child's guardian and parents including the noncustodial parent if they are living apart or if DCF has taken custody of the child to notify them of the investigation.

DCF may not provide this notice if it has reasonable grounds to believe that doing so would interfere with a criminal investigation or endanger someone.

This -- this bill also has an Amendment with it and I would just ask -- it's LCO Number 6722, the Clerk should have that in his possession. I just ask that it be called and I be granted leave to summarize.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

LCO Number 6722, Senate Amendment Schedule "A". It is by Senator Bartolomeo.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Slossberg.

SENATOR SLOSSBERG:

I move adoption.

THE CHAIR:

Motion is on adoption. Will you remark?

SENATOR SLOSSBERG:

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Thank you, Madam President.

It's very simply this. This Amendment that is introduced by me, and working with Senator Witkos and I thank him for his work on this, just make sure that the Department is working as soon as is practicable to make sure that those parents, even their noncustodial parents, are -- are notified as -- as soon as the Department can possibly do so making sure that families are aware of what is going on with their child who may be at risk.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark? Will you remark? Senator Witkos.

SENATOR WITKOS:

Thank you, Madam President.

I wanted to thank Senator Slossberg for -- for calling the Amendment and I -- I would ask the Chamber to support the Amendment. The underlying bill had no later than two business days and imagine if you were a parent and the Department of Children and Families was conducting -- opened an investigation on sexual or -- or neglect on your child and you had -- happened on a Friday and two business days would put you to Wednesday that you had no idea that an investigation was going on.

So I think this amendment asks the Department to do it as soon as practical and it hopefully will receive unanimous adoption.

Thank you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you.

Will you remark? Will you remark?

Seeing none, I would ask for a role -- for a voice vote. All in favor of the Amendment Senate "A" please say Aye.

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VOICES:

Aye.

THE CHAIR:

Opposed? Senate -- Senate "A" is adopted.

Will you remark further? Senator Slossberg.

SENATOR SLOSSBERG:

Yes, thank you, Madam President.

If there's no objection, I'd ask that this be placed on the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objection, so ordered.

SENATOR SLOSSBERG:

Thank you.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you.

Mr. Clerk -- oops Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, if the Clerk would call as the next item from Calendar Page 21, Calendar 469, House Bill 6574.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

Page 21, Calendar 469, Substitute for House Bill 6574,
AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO CONSIDER

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The bill passes.

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, if the Clerk might now call the items on the Consent Calendar before proceeding to a vote on that Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

On Page 1, Calendar 545, Senate Resolution Number 27; also on Page 1, Calendar 546, Senate Resolution Number 28. On Page 2, Number 547, Senate Resolution Number 29. On Page 2, Number 549, Senate Resolution Number 31. On Page 5, Number 184, Senate Bill 1026. On Page 7, Calendar Number 253, Senate Bill Number 763. On Page 16, Calendar Number 412, Senate Bill Number 962. On Page 17, Calendar Number 436, Senate Bill Number 673. On Page 18, Calendar Number 438, Senate Bill Number 761. Also on Page 18, Calendar Number 443, Senate Bill Number 1056. On Page 19, Calendar Number 449, Senate Bill Number 828. On Page 20, Calendar Number 461, House Bill Number 6540.

On Page 21, Number 469, House Bill Number 6574. On Page 23, Number 480, Senate Bill Number 238. On Page 25, Calendar Number 501, House Bill Number 5799. Also on Page 25, Number 507, House Bill Number 5117. On Page 26, Calendar Number 508, House Bill Number 6571. On Page 26, Calendar Number 509, House Bill Number 6348. Also on Page 26, Calendar Number 510, House Bill Number 6007 and on Page 26, Calendar Number 512, House Bill Number 6392.

On Page 40, Calendar Number 48, Senate Bill Number 519. On Page 40, Calendar Number 60, Senate Bill Number 859. Also on Page 40, Calendar Number 104, Senate Bill Number 833.

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On Page 41, Calendar Number 107, Senate Bill Number 917. On Page 42, Calendar Number 123, Senate Bill Number 434. On Page 43, Calendar Number 129, Senate Bill Number 898. Also on Page 43, Calendar Number 139, Senate Bill Number 158. On Page 43, Calendar Number 167, Senate Bill Number 879.

On Page 45, Calendar Number 195, Senate Bill Number 816. Also on Page 45, Calendar Number 204, Senate Bill 652. On Page 47, Calendar Number 241, Senate Bill 1040. On Page 48, Calendar Number 269, Senate Bill 1003. Also on Page 48, Calendar Number 270, Senate Bill Number 1007.

On Page 50, Calendar Number 304, Senate Bill 1019. Also on Page 50, Calendar Number 310, Senate Bill 903. And finally on Page 53, Calendar Number 399, Senate Bill 1069.

THE CHAIR:

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

THE CLERK:

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

THE CHAIR:

If all members have voted, if all members have voted the machine will be locked. Mr. Clerk, will you please call the tally.

THE CLERK:

On Consent Calendar Number 1.

Total Number Voting	36
Necessary for Adoption	19
Those Voting Yea	36
Those Voting Nay	0
Those Absent and not Voting	0

THE CHAIR:

Consent Calendar is passed.

Are there any points of personal privilege?

Senator Doyle.

SENATOR DOYLE:

Thank you, Madam President.

Yeah for a point of information for the Chamber.

THE CHAIR:

Please proceed, sir.

SENATOR DOYLE:

Yes, thank you, Madam President.

Tomorrow the General Law Committee will be meeting at 11:15 outside the Hall of the House. The bulletin said 15 minutes before the early session so now we're making it definitive. Tomorrow at 11:15 outside the Hall of the House the General Law Committee will be considering one bill that was referred to us.

Thank you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you.

Senator Duff next.

SENATOR DUFF:

Thank you, Madam President.

For the point of announcement please.

THE CHAIR:

Please proceed, sir.