

SA13-16

HB6506

Education	595-599, 624-631, 699-701, 727-729, 814-824	30
House	1783-1788	6
Senate	4354-4357, 4414-4415	6
		42

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

**EDUCATION
PART 2
358 - 723**

2013

71
pat/gbr

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

March 4, 2013
11:00 A.M.

REP. FLEISCHMANN: We go to Representative Rick Lopes, to be followed by Lauren Costello. Welcome.

REP. LOPES: Good afternoon, Representative Fleischmann and Members of the Education Committee. I'm here today with Rocco Tricarico. He's the Executive Director of the Human Resources Agency in New Britain and he has testimony on House Bill 6506 he'd like to present.

ROCCO TRICARICO: Thank you, Representative Lopes, and thank you, Representative Fleischmann and Members of the Education Committee. As Representative Lopes mentioned, I am the Executive Director of the Human Resource Agency of New Britain. We are a federally mandated anti-poverty community action agency that is commencing our 50th year of service in the community.

For 45 years, HRA has been operating early childhood education programs for the New Britain community.

For decades that program was housed in a number of sites, both in public schools and in our main facility, which anybody who was in the building prior to 2006 will tell you was not a facility that children nor families should have been in, or staff for that matter.

In order to rectify that situation, and to create what we consider to be a beacon, I heard that term used earlier today in testimony, we've used it many times in putting our building plan together, our beacon for our community and our children.

We partnered with various nonprofits, the federal government, the City of New Britain,

various philanthropic organizations, and most importantly the Connecticut, I always get the wrong, there are so many CHEFA'S in the state, Connecticut Health and Education Facilities Authority, known as CHEFA.

And the goal of the plan was to not only create a wonderful facility but also to consolidate and increase capacity in the community in order to serve what was then a very underserved population. The state goal at the time was about 80 percent of eligible families to be in early childhood programs. New Britain at the time was about 45 to 50 percent, mainly because we didn't have the capacity to service those families.

What we did was, we entered into this agreement through CHEFA, which involved \$8.8 million in state bonding with various covenants and guarantees regarding future funding for those programs.

Those covenants include enrollment levels, intercept dollars, NIAC accreditation, continued DPH licensing and quarterly and yearly reviews by the agencies of cognizance.

For years, this program was housed through DSS and with the transfer from DSS of these programs, early childhood and others, daycares (inaudible) that change has been effectuated and now we see changes of the other programs being moved over.

What we're simply asking for in this bill is that the covenants that contained, that we entered into with DSS transfer over to the Department of Education so that the state and the taxpayers of the state are guaranteed that these bonds will remain in compliance and will

73
pat/gbr

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

March 4, 2013
11:00 A.M.

not be defaulted upon. That's simply the bill in a nutshell.

REP. FLEISCHMANN: Thank you. I do think that that captured the bill nicely, in a nutshell, and I just want to give you a chance to respond to, and I did, I was before, this is the Education Committee's bill.

ROCCO TRICARICO: Yes.

REP. FLEISCHMANN: It seems to me it handles the problem simply, cleanly, clearly. The administration has suggested that facilities such as yours and others that were built with the understanding that they would be in receipt of these state funds, would be given priority in any sort of an RFP process and that your status as the operator of a facility that is essentially created by state funds would give you a higher ranking in an RFP process.

I'd just like you to compare that suggestion from the administration, which is in one of the Governor's bills as a proposal before us.

ROCCO TRICARICO: We actually saw the language, the priority language that was inserted, I think. Maybe OPM it. I'm not sure where it came from, and it really doesn't accomplish much for us, frankly, because we're not sure how, there's still no established process in terms of how programs will be prioritized.

And clearly the sort of a defensible process that has been developed, the word priority is somewhat meaningless from our perspective. We have absolute covenants we have to adhere to in this bond agreement.

We have a 90 percent enrollment requirement. If we lose 38 slots, we fall below that

requirement, which means we technically default on the bond, which means the state is now obligated to pay that bond, \$8.3 million at the current time. There's about \$50 like dollars committed to programs such as ours, so we need, we entered into these agreements with assurances and in my mind it's a binding contract. The word priority is a nice word, but in this case until we can see something that actually says, this is how you will be ranked and this is how programs will be evaluated and prioritized, it really is not workable for us.

REP. FLEISCHMANN: Thank you for that very clear picture that you're drawing. Okay? Are there questions from Members of the Committee. I thought I saw some hands. I'm sorry, Representative, go right ahead.

REP. SANCHEZ: Thank you, Chairman. Mr. Tricarico, I've been in that building. I saw it before and I saw it after and after it looks beautiful. I'm pretty sure you added like 14 new classrooms, probably even more than that.

ROCCO TRICARICO: We did 22,000 square feet of new space so we added about 22 classrooms, 14 additional over what we had prior.

REP. SANCHEZ: And we're serving a lot more children today than we are in the past.

You had stated that there were about 45 to 50 percent a couple of years ago. How much do you think it is now for the City of New Britain?

ROCCO TRICARICO: We're still not up to state goal. We're about 70 percent now so we've seen a significant increase in access based on our expanded capacity, and although the need still exists, without CHEFA, for instance, without

(inaudible) without the guarantees that were in place a chilling effect would occur, which would be that no one else would want to get involved in building this facility.

The capacity as many of you know has always been a question. So we're at about 70 to 75. We need to probably get another 40 to 50 slots in New Britain over the next year or two to get us to where we need to be.

And we couldn't have gotten, made that progress without this building. We'd still be around probably 50 percent.

REP. SANCHEZ: And there is no other capacity at this point in the City of New Britain to expand?

ROCCO TRICARICO: There's no other capacity. There's no capacity and there's really no other dollars available except the CHEFA funds for these kinds of facilities.

REP. SANCHEZ: And approximately how many children are we talking about, if you have to go through the RFP process and lose out, how many children are we talking about?

ROCCO TRICARICO: We have 242 children enrolled right now and it varies wrap around services between state, federal, daycare programs, state federal daycare programs, state and federal school readiness programs.

REP. SANCHEZ: Okay. Thank you. Those were my questions. Thank you for doing an outstanding job with that center in New Britain. It's been long overdue and it's a beautiful building today.

ROCCO TRICARICO: Thank you.

100
pat/gbr

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

March 4, 2013
11:00 A.M.

and a university professor, that they present an action plan for solving a problem that they identify and then they implement it and receive college credit.

So thank you for the opportunity to speak before you today.

SENATOR STILLMAN: Thank you very much. Questions, anyone? Thank you. I'm glad your son is doing well and we do appreciate your insight.

JOYCE SINGER: Okay. Thank you very much.

SENATOR STILLMAN: Deborah Monahan, followed by David Wasch and then Steve McKeever. Welcome.

DEBORAH MONAHAN: Good afternoon, Senator Stillman and distinguished Members of the Education Committee. My name is Deborah Monahan and I am the Executive Director of the Thames Valley Council for Community Action serving southeastern Connecticut.

TVCCA has operated early childhood programs throughout New London County for over 37 years. We currently operate school readiness programs, Head Start, Early Head Start, and state funded early childhood programs.

Monday through Friday we serve over 800 children, ranging from six weeks to five years. TVCCA currently has four facilities funded through the CHEFA Childcare Bond Program, and that's why I'm here today. I'd like to speak in support of House Bill 6506 AN ACT CONCERNING STATE FUNDED CHILDCARE FACILITIES.

I strongly support it and I urge you to pass it. I believe that this bill will stabilize the funding for these CHEFA facilities.

You've heard prior testimony talk about the fact that there's \$50 million plus in bonded childcare, CHEFA childcare facilities. If these go out to RFP and I know the term priority was also referenced, about these being given priority, you know, you could really upset the apple cart.

And from a personal perspective, the reason TVCCA has four CHEFA facilities, two of which we directly contracted with CHEFA with, and two of them we had to in 2003 go through the onerous and extensive process of assuming responsibility for them because the childcare funding was lost on the prior, you know, the prior entity, and it's very expensive. Hundreds of, I mean, well, thousands of dollars and really does in many ways impact the quality of the care being provided in the community.

So if ain't broke, you don't need to touch it. So I really support this bill, and thank you for this opportunity. I'll answer any questions if there's any.

SENATOR STILLMAN: Thank you very much. Good to see you, Deb. TVCCA under your leadership does wonderful, wonderful work in preparing our youngsters for school and a variety of other programs.

DEBORAH MONAHAN: Thank you, Senator.

SENATOR STILLMAN: So I understand what your concerns are. I know you did ask me to, you had sent me some information and correspondence well before the Session began because you were very concerned about what you were seeing coming down the road from the agency so you make some very good points. Questions from anyone? Representative.

REP. COOK: Thank you, Madam Chair. Deborah, thank you so much for what you do and coming out and testifying. I actually put this legislation in given the fact that I, too, have a state-funded center in my district and actually work there.

And I think it's important for people to know what the impact could be if we go forward as is, without making this change. How many children would be affected? Do you know off the top of your head?

DEBORAH MONAHAN: No, I do not know how many are in the \$50 million worth of facilities. I know I have, CHEFA, Dave Wasch can probably answer that. He's right after me. He might be able to answer that.

I can speak, though, to the fact that when, in 2003 when an agency lost its childcare funding, which would be what would happen here if we weren't secured with this funding, it's a very onerous process.

I mean, the legal documents that make up the CHEFA loan agreement are hundreds of pages and yeah, the funding is very important to remain stable.

REP. COOK: And how many centers would this affect if we move forward the way written? How many centers, or --

DEBORAH MONAHAN: I think that's a Dave Wasch question.

REP. COOK: That's another one. Okay.

DEBORAH MONAHAN: I'm passing it to him. He's next.

103
pat/gbr

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

March 4, 2013
11:00 A.M.

REP. COOK: Okay, so Dave, those two questions if you could answer them when you come up, I would appreciate it.

And I want to thank you again for your work and all the things that you do. Our children are thankful to have you.

DEBORAH MONAHAN: Thank you, Representative Cook.

SENATOR STILLMAN: Thank you, Representative.
Anyone else? Thanks again, Deb. Good to see you.

And the aforementioned, David Wasch is going to join us. Little tag team here, followed by Steve McKeever and Becky Hamman.

DAVID WASCH: Yes, thank you, Senator. Members of the Committee, Senator Stillman, thank you for providing me the time to testify today in support of Raised Bill 6506 AN ACT CONCERNING STATE FUNDED CHILDCARE FACILITIES.

My name is David Wasch and I'm here today represent CHEFA, the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority, which actually manages the tax-exempt financing program, the program that is the subject of the bill in front of you.

Despite a few technical issues, the bill is a good one. It protects the state's investment in early childhood education facilities. It allows the state more flexibility as it looks to innovate service delivery and continues the protections that are already in place to ensure the programs financed through CHEFA meet the high standards that are demanded by the state.

The tax-exempt financing program provides affordable financing for the construction or

renovation of childcare facilities and is really one of the only opportunities out there for not for profits to develop their own high-quality center.

To date, the program has developed 29 facilities that house over 5,100 childcare spaces, and the loans are principally repaid through the Office of the Treasurer. However, a portion of the payments do come out of the operating subsidies of the childcare providers themselves, either school readiness or the child day care grant program.

School readiness providers in the CHEFA program are already exempted from having to re-apply for their operating subsidy by statute. That's because if the spaces were actually transferred to another entity, we run the risk having an empty facility or/and two, we'd be losing a source of repayment for these loans.

Unfortunately, there is no statutory protection as of today for the child day care contract subsidies like there is for school readiness and this bill addresses that imbalance and I think so a little less ambiguously than the other bills that are covering the same issue.

CHEFA found a few technical problems in the bill, specifically some of the statutory references, though we've only recently really been able to review the bills, so I can't offer you any finished language at this time.

If the Committee so desires, CHEFA staff would be happy to work with you to correct the language as needed.

We also think it would be beneficial for the bill to encompass both school readiness and the child day care program, so both programs can be

105
pat/gbr

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

March 4, 2013
11:00 A.M.

treated equally under the law, and that's it.
I'd be happy to answer any questions you have.

SENATOR STILLMAN: Thank you very much. You really clarified some questions that folks have. Encompassing both school readiness, child day care is already covered. What's, why school readiness, could you?

DAVID WASCH: Yeah, sure. The tax-exempt financing program was created under the school readiness legislation as one of three loan programs that CHEFA manages and so when these programs were conceived, really the school readiness program or subsidy stream was the primary one considered and so that's what we see throughout the statutes on it.

However, both, as I said, both subsidy sources are utilized in the program.

SENATOR STILLMAN: And certainly, we would appreciate hearing from you in terms of where you think we need to sort of correct some of the issues that you're concerned about. Obviously, this bill has to do with CHEFA and you know your programs, you know, your funding programs far better than we do and so any areas that we could include in this bill that would make it more iron-clad would be appreciated.

DAVID WASCH: Happy to help (inaudible).

SENATOR STILLMAN: Senator Bye.

SENATOR BYE: Thank you. Hi, David. Thank you for your testimony. Just some clarifying questions.

DAVID WASCH: Okay.

SENATOR BYE: And I think I know the answer but I just want to be clear here and ask publicly.

So if for some reason a particular state-funded center, let's say there was some sort of, they fell out of accreditation and there were a lot of concerns about quality. That's not the case now, but if that happened, I just want to be clear that, you know, the CHEFA money would still be repaid and how that would work if an institution lost its sort of state funded or even school readiness.

There must be, this must have happened in school readiness, or maybe not yet, but it could happen in school readiness programs and one day I'm going to call the same thing, and I can't wait for that day. I hope it's soon. Thank you.

DAVID WASCH: I'm with you on that. Actually, what I would say is that CHEFA has a number of mechanisms in place to manage a whole range of problems that may come up with a facility, be it that they have weakened financial issues that they need to address, loss of accreditation, loss of license, and everything that we have is really built within our loan agreement.

And so if there is a problem that requires us to act and find a new provider, we're able to do that and continue the continuity of the state's repayment.

SENATOR BYE: One follow up question. I know currently you, CHEFA does not do loans to school districts that for example, I mean statutorily I don't think they can. Is that accurate?

107
pat/gbr

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

March 4, 2013
11:00 A.M.

DAVID WASCH: Actually, no. I can say we have actually made a town, for instance, the Town of Norwalk is a borrower, actually, in a more recent round. There was an adjustment made to the statutes that do now allow us to support towns in the development of childcare facilities as well.

SENATOR BYE: So if communities were building classrooms for four-year-olds or, you know, if we chose to encourage something like that, those communities could access CHEFA fund and use some of the state funding resources to reimburse CHEFA?

DAVID WASCH: Assuming that the funds are put into the Treasurer's budget to support that, yes.

SENATOR BYE: Okay. That's really good information. Thank you.

SENATOR STILLMAN: Thank you, Senator. Anyone else? Thank you.

DAVID WASCH: Thank you very much.

SENATOR STILLMAN: Next is Steve McKeever, to be followed by Becky Hamman and then Leon Smith.

STEPHEN MCKEEVER: Good afternoon, Senator Stillman and other Members of the Education Committee. My name is Steve McKeever. I'm the First Vice-President of AFT Connecticut. I'm here to talk about two bills, SB 998 the reporting for the RESCs, and HB 6504 for the alternative schools.

You have my testimony. I don't want to read it to you. I just want to point out a couple of highlights that we have here.

The first thing is that RESCs, we support this bill, but I don't want anybody to think that we

175
pat/gbr

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

March 4, 2013
11:00 A.M.

Okay. Robert Cotto. Is he here? Okay, after this testimony you're on. Welcome.

GLORIA HAYES: Thank you. Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen of the Committee. My name is Gloria Hayes and I'm the Director of Good Shepherd and East Shore Child Development Centers in Milford. These are programs that are supported by a fee-for-service grant through the State Department of Education, and I'm here to talk about Bill Number 6506.

I want to thank the Committee for raising this issue. Good Shepherd and East Shore have been around a long time. Good Shepherd was founded in 1959 and East Shore in 1978. Those of you who are familiar with the problem you know that when you need a childcare center there are so many regulations and rules that you have to meet and I've had to move my one center once and one center twice.

There is very little licensable space available, and so when the larger of our centers was faced with the dilemma of where do we go now, we looked around and looked around and it took us five years to really come up with a plan as to where to put our children.

We had been in two churches. Lovely people, treated us well, but since 1959 our children had never been in the building that we built for their needs. We have always had to fit our program into whatever building we were able to get licensed.

We were fortunate, however, that we did receive approval for a \$3 million loan from CHEFA, which we closed on in December of 2006 and we began the process of buying land, hiring architects and engineers and I could tell you a

whole story about soil engineers, but you don't have time.

But we did complete our building and moved in in 2008. We were, in our former sites, the phone calls that were coming in were for children under three. There's very little care available for children under three, and so we built a facility that now houses three rooms of infants, four rooms of toddlers and two very large rooms for pre-school children.

We are licensed for 92 and we have 92 children. We're a very wide open building with a great room in the middle so the kids could play inside, large (inaudible) activities any day they want to. We have a nice yard. All of our windows go almost to the floor so that the babies laying on the floor can look out the window and watch the squirrels and the bird feeders.

It's a fabulous spot and we're just so delighted to have that. However, if we did not, if the debt service for this loan was to be taken away, it would be disastrous. We would have to close. There's no way we can pay back \$3 million. It's totally impossible.

And besides this \$3 million loan there's also \$850,000 of state bond funds in this building. So as you can see, there's a huge investment on the part of the State of Connecticut as well as on raising private funds and so forth.

This project ended up costing \$4.8 million. So I'm just here to urge you to not let anything bad happen to all of these CHEFA programs because they're built with children and lives. It's the best educational thing. You don't have to leave kids down the hall in the bathroom and expect them to behave themselves.

177
pat/gbr

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

March 4, 2013
11:00 A.M.

You know, the conversation that my staff has with the children is not custodial conversation, but it's more educational conversation, so I'm just urging you to please take care of these buildings. They're very valuable to us and to our children.

SENATOR STILLMAN: Thank you very much. I think we all appreciate the work that Good Shepherd and East Shore Child Development Centers in Milford are doing. Sounds like a delightful place. Sign me up. I could use a little R and R once in a while, you know.

But it's, and I think it's also important for us to understand and we are, through your testimony, that your facility is full of children and it's not as though you've built this facility and have this debt service that you have to repay as well to the state and you know, and the building's half empty.

GLORIA HAYES: Right.

SENATOR STILLMAN: So it's good to know it's well used and obviously was an important project for those children. So thank you for coming and sharing that with us. Does anyone have any questions? No. I think we're all set.

GLORIA HAYES: Thank you very much.

SENATOR STILLMAN: Thank you. Robert Cotto, followed by April Goff Brown. April here? Ray Rossomando. He was here. He left? Okay, I'm not going to go through this list any further because I'm not having any luck. So, Mr. Cotto, you're on.

ROBERT COTTO, JR.: Thank you. Senator Stillman, Representative Fleischmann, distinguished

SB 1002

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

**EDUCATION
PART 3
724 - 1073**

2013

203
pat/gbr

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

March 4, 2013
11:00 A.M.

RHONDA EVANS: Good afternoon distinguished Chairpersons and Members of the Committee. My name is Rhonda Evans and I'm the Deputy Director of the Connecticut Association for Community Action, a so-called CAFCA and I'm here to give comments today on HB 6506 AN ACT CONCERNING STATE-FUNDED CHILDCARE FACILITIES.

By way of background, the Connecticut Association for Community Action is the voice of Connecticut's community action agencies. These are the local agencies designated by the federal and state government as partners in helping people work their way out of poverty.

Our network serves all of the 169 cities and towns across the State of Connecticut utilizing a results-based accountability framework to report our outcome.

We collaborate across silos with state government to help families avoid financial crisis and empower people with job training, energy assistance, childcare and other vital supports to regain their financial footing if they do experience poverty.

We administer economic empowerment programs to more than 400,000 people annually, empowering families and strengthening communities in each and every part of the state. Offering Head Start, school readiness, and critical childcare programs across Connecticut, our member CAAs serve as affordable childcare providers to our state's lower-income working families.

These programs ensure a positive environment for children while their parents work or further their education. Our sliding fee scale schedule makes those services available to all, affordable to all.

As long-term providers of early care and education, we've made significant strides in improving quality over the last 20 years, by raising the qualifications of staff through education and ongoing training, implementing research-based curricula and applying CHEFA bond funding to significantly improve program facilities.

This all goes to show the progress that's been made and our commitment to excellence and we welcome the opportunity to work with the Legislature and the Office of Early Childhood as we move forward.

Effective outcome-driven programs are in everyone's best interest, but I'd like to bring to your attention one of our major concerns, which this proposal addresses, and that is state-funded facilities.

Many of the community action agencies early care and education providers have CHEFA financed facilities and this funding agreement with the state needs special attention when changes to the system are considered.

If special consideration is not given in any new process, what happens to the programs CHEFA financed agreements and obligations? These facilities are financed with state bonding and the agencies that hold these facilities are responsible for the debt along with the State of Connecticut for up to 30 years.

Why would the state now want to put such CHEFA finance programs in jeopardy of funding collapse if those agencies are meeting the standards that are established by already operating high quality NAEYC programs?

205
pat/gbr

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

March 4, 2013
11:00 A.M.

We ask you to respect agency obligations and/or CHEFA. These obligations are stringent and the loans were acquired with explicit understanding that the provider would be the operator of the program throughout the obligation period for the CHEFA financing. We ask the Committee for your full support of this proposal. Thank you.

SENATOR STILLMAN: Thank you very much and thank you for all you do to help our kids. So, questions, anyone? Representative Fleischmann.

REP. FLEISCHMANN: Just very briefly. I want to make it clear. The bill is before the Committee because we wrote it and drafted it because we view this as a problem.

So when you ask us to please support it, those of us who are on the Committee are already strongly inclined toward it and appreciate the work that you've done.

RHONDA EVANS: And we appreciate that as well.

REP. FLEISCHMANN: Thank you.

RHONDA EVANS: Thank you.

SENATOR STILLMAN: Thank you. Sarah Esty. Bob Rath. Bill Scalise. Yay. There he is. You're after Sarah. Welcome, Sarah.

SARAH ESTY: Hi. I'm Sarah Esty and I'm here on behalf of Connecticut Voices for Children to speak in support of House Bill 6504 AN ACT CONCERNING ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL PROGRAMS.

This is something that we've been working on for a couple of years now and we are very concerned about kind of the state of alternative schools in Connecticut. There are a number of them, and we want to make very

TESTIMONY OF THE CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS

March 4, 2013

Re: HB 6504 AAC ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS
HB 6505 AAC PARAMETERS FOR FEES FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SB 997 AA ESTABLISHING AN EDUCATOR PREPARATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Good morning. My name is Dr. Karissa Niehoff. I am the Executive Director of the CT Association of Schools (CAS) which includes the CT Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC). CAS-CIAC membership includes approximately 900 public, parochial, charter and magnet schools serving students Pre-K-12 across the state. CAS is a non-profit association; our focus is school leadership. We provide an extensive range of professional development experiences and on-going support for school administrator aspirants, and those who are currently working as principals and assistant principals. The CIAC governs interscholastic athletics and student activities. I would like to comment on three bills being considered today: HB 6504, HB 6505 and SB 997.

HB 6504 AAC ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS.

CAS supports the intent of this bill as it provides clarity and uniformity to alternative programs and requires them to be offered by each local/regional board of education to overage/under-credited students and expelled students in accordance to statutory provisions. Defining such programs as *school* programs ties them to the requirements of boards of education to maintain good public elementary and secondary schools (page two of the bill). That language addresses supplies, staffing, technology, resources, facilities, etc.

As a former middle school assistant principal and finally high school principal, I was involved in multiple expulsion situations- anything from a 6th grade student bringing a pocket knife to school in a backpack after a weekend Boy Scout camping trip, to drug use, distribution and sales. In each case, students and families participated in a Board of Education hearing which resulted in stipulated agreements or complete removal from the school environment for 180 school days. During this time, students were typically offered 10 hours of tutoring per week. Tutors were usually certified teachers, but not specialists in a multitude of subject areas. If the board of education recommended enrollment in an alternative program, it involved transportation to other towns - often far away. Oftentimes, there were no available seats in those programs, so the preferred recommendation of the BOE could not be followed. I observed a large variance across programs regarding quality of educational experiences and communication with the home school district.

HB 6504 appropriately targets this variance. The term *school program* is stronger than *alternative program* and the word *shall* implies that all districts must offer such school programs.

HB 6505 AAC PARAMETERS FOR FEES FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The CAS-CIAC Board of Directors does not believe that students should be assessed fees for the privilege of participating in activities which have been traditionally recognized as integral and meaningful in the total school program. These activities have through the years provided immediate and long-range benefits to participants as well as to schools. At the same time, with declining resources and with cutbacks in budgets, funding these activities has become increasingly more difficult. Sports like ice hockey and football are extremely costly; user fees do very little to offset those costs. Each local Board of Education should find ways other than user fees to support extra-curricular and activities (i.e. An Athletic Booster Club supporting all programs in an equitable fashion). Requiring "pay-for-play" is a shortsighted educational policy and can be discriminatory to the needy.

The CIAC handbook includes similar position statements from CAPSS, athletic director and coaches associations, and administrators of health and physical education.

SB 997 AA ESTABLISHING AN EDUCATOR PREPARATION ADVISORY COUNCIL.

CAS supports SB 997 and requests that a representative of CAS be added to the membership of the committee. CAS is the leading provider of professional development for principals and assistant principals and has the responsibility of training school administrators in the new evaluation guidelines and SEED model. I currently serve as a member of the existing EPAC committee and would very much appreciate having CAS continue its involvement in the EPAC work. I believe that the approval, regulation, oversight and accreditation of teacher preparation programs must be strengthened.

Thank you for your consideration. This completes my testimony.

**TESTIMONY FOR THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE
MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2013**

H.B. BILL NO. 6506

Greetings Members of the Education Committee:

My name is Gloria Hayes. I am the Executive Director of Good Shepherd and East Shore Child Development Centers in Milford. Good Shepherd opened in 1969, and East Shore opened in 1978. At East Shore we are licensed for 40 preschool children. Right now that number includes 15 West Haven School Readiness children because West Haven does not have enough licensable space. Both centers receive partial funding through Fee-For-Service Contract from the State Department of Education that allows us to offer a sliding fee scale for a limited number of children whose families earn less than 75% of the State Median Income.

At Good Shepherd, we are in a 10,800 square foot building that was made possible through a three-million-dollar CHEFA Loan, Department of Social Services General Obligation Bond Funds, Community Development Block Grant, fundraising, and private grants. We closed on our CHEFA Loan in December 2006 and moved into our new facility in early October 2008. As you can see, it took a great deal of Connecticut money, federal, and private money to build our new center. When you add in the predevelopment cost, this project cost \$4.8 million dollars.

In Good Shepherd's former site, we had three infant/toddler classrooms and cared for twenty-four children in those rooms. We also provided early care and education for thirty preschool children. In our new building, we have three classrooms for infants, four classrooms for toddlers that allow us to care for fifty-six children under the age of three, and two large preschool classrooms where we care for thirty-six preschool children. **We are licensed for ninety-two children and the building is full.**

As you will notice, our greatest growth is in the area of infants and toddlers. The facility was built to accommodate those younger children because those were the ages most requested, and they are still the ages most requested.

This is the first time since 1969 that Good Shepherd children were in a building designed for children. There are bathroom in all toddler and preschool rooms. We have large and low windows so that even babies lying on their stomachs can look out the window. We have bird feeders outside the windows and the children love to see the birds and the squirrels. In the center of the building there is a large open area that we call the "Great Room" where all children have an opportunity for large-muscle activities regardless of the weather. The doors to the classroom are glass, as are the sidelights, making it possible to see what is happening in the classrooms. We also have a video monitoring system in the classrooms and Great Room. The floors in the children's rooms are heated. We have a large staff rooms with computers

available for work or homework. It all works together to provide an enhanced learning environment, and allows for a superior work environment.

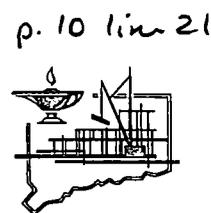
We are but one of several sites that have been made possible through CHEFA Loans with the Department of Social Services assisting with the debt. Our agency along with most nonprofits would not be able to build excellent facilities without the loans and debt service. It would be disastrous for our programs and for others as well if the debt services were to end. I urge you to protect the investment that has been put into these facilities and to the children and families they service.

Thanks You.

Respectfully submitted,



Gloria Hayes, Executive Director
Good Shepherd and East Shore Child Development Centers
170 Old Point Rd.
Milford, Ct. 06460



CHEFA

CONNECTICUT HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL
FACILITIES AUTHORITY

TESTIMONY PROVIDED TO THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE MARCH 4, 2013

Re: H.B. 6506

Members of the Committee, Senator Stillman and Representative Fleischmann—thank you for providing me the time to testify today in support of Raised Bill No. 6506, “An Act Concerning State-Funded Child Care Facilities. My name is David Wasch, and I am speaking today on behalf of the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority (CHEFA), which has been delegated by the State Department of Education to manage the Child Care Facility Loan Tax-Exempt Financing Program, the program that is the subject of the proposed legislation.

Despite a few technical issues, the bill is a good one. It protects the State’s investment in early childhood education facilities, allows the State more flexibility as it looks to innovate service delivery, and continues the protections that are in place to insure that programs financed through CHEFA meet the high standards of early education that are demanded by the State.

I believe it is important to provide a bit of background as to why the subject legislation is needed. The Tax-Exempt Financing Program provides affordable financing for the construction of child care facilities. To date, the program has developed 29 facilities containing over 5,100 early education spaces. The loans are principally repaid through the Office of the State Treasurer, but a portion is paid out of the operating subsidies of the not-for-profit child care providers-- either through School Readiness or the Child Day Care Contract program.

School Readiness providers in the CHEFA program are now exempted from having to re-apply for their operating subsidy by statute. This is because if the spaces were to be transferred to another provider, the building for which the State is continuing to pay debt service risks being empty. Additionally, the provider would be unable to continue its contribution towards loan repayment.

Unfortunately, there is currently no statutory protection of Child Day Care Contract subsidies like there is for School Readiness. This bill addresses that imbalance.

By passing this bill, the legislature will have increased flexibility to modify the structure or delivery method of early childhood education subsidies without the risk of adversely impacting the repayment of State supported debt for CHEFA financed facilities.

CHEFA has found a few technical problems within the bill, but we have only recently been able to review it, so I am not able to recommend revised language at this time. If the Committee so desires, our staff would be happy to work with you to make the necessary corrections. We also feel it would be beneficial for the bill to encompass both School Readiness and the Child Day Care Program, so both programs are treated equally under the law.

Thank you, and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have at this time.

THAMES VALLEY COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY ACTION, INC.

Serving Our Communities Since 1965

Deborah Monahan, Executive Director



Testimony before the Education Committee
HB 6506: An Act Concerning State Funded Child Care Facilities
March 4, 2013

Senator Stillman, Representative Fleischmann and distinguished members of the Education Committee, my name is Deborah Monahan. I am the Executive Director of the Thames Valley Council for Community Action, serving Southeastern Connecticut. TVCCA has operated the Early Childhood Programs throughout New London County for over 37 years. We currently operate School Readiness programs, Head Start, Early Head Start and State funded Early Childhood programs. Monday through Friday, TVCCA serves over 800 children ranging in ages from 6 weeks to 5 years. TVCCA currently has four facilities funded through the CHEFA child care bond program.

I would like to speak in support of HB 6506, *An Act Concerning State Funded Child Care Facilities*.

I strongly support HB 6506 and urge you to pass it because I believe that this bill will stabilize funding to those programs that have a loan agreement with the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority. Currently there are over \$50 million of bonded CHEFA child care centers throughout the state. These programs or agencies entered into 30 year agreements and executed very detailed loan documents that provided this bond funding. The CHEFA agreements inherently assumed continued funding. To subject these programs to any competitive RFP process would be counterproductive to say the least.

Why would we want to put these CHEFA programs in jeopardy of funding if the agencies are meeting the standards established and already operating high quality, NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) accredited programs?

In 2003, TVCCA went through an onerous and extensive process as CHEFA transferred two facilities to TVCCA that had gone into default due to the original agency losing its child care funding. The process took many months and cost the State of Connecticut **thousands of dollars** to transfer these facilities as these funds are bonded and the loan documents quite

extensive. Any defaulting on these loans could ultimately affect the overall bond rating of the State of Connecticut. That must be taken very seriously.
HB 6506 would give these CHEFA child care programs the assurance that they need to remain financially stable.

I urge you to act favorable on HB 6506.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer testimony. I am sincerely grateful and would be more than happy to answer any questions.

Deborah Monahan
Executive Director, Thames Valley Council for Community Action
dmonahan@tvcca.org



Testimony for the Education Committee
HB 6506: An Act Concerning STATE-FUNDED CHILD CARE FACILITIES
March 4, 2013

Distinguished Chairpersons, Vice-Chairpersons, Ranking Members, and Members, my name is Rhonda Evans and I am the Deputy Director of the Connecticut Association for Community Action (CAFCA). I am here today to comment on HB 6506: An Act Concerning State -Funded Child Care Facilities.

By way of background, the Connecticut Association for Community Action (CAFCA) is the voice of Connecticut's Community Action Agencies. These are the local agencies designated by the federal and state governments as partners in helping people work their way out of poverty. Our network serves all 169 cities and towns utilizing a Results Based Accountability framework to report our outcomes. We collaborate across silos with state government to help families avoid financial crisis, and empower people with job training, energy assistance, child care, and other vital supports to regain their financial footing if they do experience poverty. We administer economic empowerment programs to more than 400,000 people annually, empowering families and strengthening communities in each and every part of the state.

Offering Head Start, School Readiness and other critical Child Care programs across Connecticut, our member CAAs serve as affordable child care providers to our state's lower-income, working families. These programs ensure a positive environment for children while their parents work or further their education. Our sliding fee schedules make our services affordable to all.

As long-term providers of early care and education, we have made significant strides in improving quality over the last 20 years by:

- Raising the qualifications of staff through education and ongoing trainings (i.e. most lead teachers in our programs have bachelor's degree in early childhood development and education),
- Implementing research-based curricula that interface with the local school systems' academic readiness expectations to ensure smooth transitions to kindergarten, and
- Applying CHEFA bond funding to significantly improve our program facilities.

This all goes to show the progress that has been made and our commitment to excellence and we welcome the opportunity to work with the legislature and the Office of Early Childhood as we move forward. Effective, outcome-driven programs are in everyone's best interest, but I would like to bring to your attention to one of our major concerns which this proposal addresses: state funded facilities. Many of the Community Action Agency Early Childhood Education providers have CHEFA financed facilities and this funding agreement with the state needs special consideration when changes to the system are considered.

If special consideration is not given in any new process: What happens to programs' CHEFA-financed agreements and obligations? These facilities are financed with state bonding and the agencies that hold these facilities are responsible for the debt along with the State of Connecticut for up to 30 years. Why would the state now want to put such CHEFA programs in jeopardy of funding collapse if these agencies are meeting the standards established and already operating high quality, NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) accredited programs?

We ask you to respect agency obligations under CHEFA – these obligations are very stringent and the loans were acquired with the explicit understanding that the provider would be the operator of the program throughout the obligation period for CHEFA financing. We ask the committee for your full support for this proposal.

We share the goal of empowering every child to reach his or her potential through an engaging ECE experience, and Connecticut's Community Action Agencies are a vital part of realizing this goal for Connecticut's children and Connecticut's future. We are pleased to join this important conversation, and we thank you for your consideration.

**Human Resources Agency of New Britain, Inc.
Enrollment Calculation for Programs Operating in the CHEFA Facility**

<u>Occupancy</u>	(a) Per <u>Agreement</u>	<u>For the Quarter Ended</u>				(b) Total of <u>Periods</u>	<u>Average</u>	(c)/a Percent of <u>Agreement</u>
		<u>3/31/12</u>	<u>6/30/12</u>	<u>9/30/12</u>	<u>12/31/12</u>			
		<u>AVERAGE</u>	<u>AVERAGE</u>	<u>AVERAGE</u>	<u>AVERAGE</u>			
DSS Child Day Care Infant/Toddler	40	40	40	40	40	160	40	100.00%
DSS Child Day Care Preschool	52	52	52	52	52	208	52	100.00%
UW Provided Day Care Toddler	0	8	8	8	8	32	8	
Federal Head Start Full Day/Part Year	38	38	38	38	38	152	38	100.00%
Federal Head Start Part Day/Part Year	154	138	138	138	138	552	138	89.61%
SDE Head Start Full Day/Full Year	17	17	17	17	17	68	17	100.00%
SDE Head Start Wraparound	18	18	18	18	18	72	18	100.00%
SDE School Readiness Full Day/Full Year	98	100	100	100	100	400	100	102.04%
SDE School Readiness Part Day/Part Year	19	19	19	19	19	76	19	100.00%
Total Enrollment	436	430	430	430	430	1720	430	98.62%

Definition:

*The Institution agrees, to the extent permitted by law
to maintain the total level of enrollment of DSS Eligible Children
at the facility at no less than 90% of the target enrollment*

** Percentage of Agreement should be greater than 90% and/or Current Quarter should be greater than 392 enrollees

Education Committee

Public Hearing

Monday, March 4, 2013

Senator Stillman, Representative Fleishmann and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kathy Queen and I am the Director of the Wallingford Community Child Care Center, and the Co-chair of the State Funded Child Care Centers Director's Forum. I am here today to testify in support of H.B. 6506, "An Act Concerning State-Funded Child Care Facilities. The bill seeks to ensure the continuity and solvency of loans made by the State Department of Social Services, currently transferred to the State Department of Education and potentially moved once again to the proposed Office of Early Childhood in House Bill 6359.

Quality child care facilities have always been a priority and integral component of the child care infrastructure in Connecticut pursuant to Connecticut General Statute Section 8-210 and Sections 10a-194c, and 17b-749g. The Department of Social Services is the lead agency for child care in CT and has performed this role with competency, professionalism and with a genuine dedication to quality child care and service to working families. DSS has the authority to issue bonds for facilities and CHEFA, Connecticut Health and Education Facilities Authority is the implementing arm for the bonds and administers the contractual obligations or debt service for grantees of the bonds. The bill before you seeks to ensure that said financial transactions are maintained pursuant to the original contracts and that child day care centers who entered into contracts with the State for long term agreements as part of the state funded child care system be honored in any changes to the administration of the child care system.

For over forty years the State has invested millions of dollars in state funded child care centers pursuant to CGA 8-210 and today there are 102 state funded centers serving 4500 children birth through school age in quality, educational environments. The Department of Social Services has demanded high standards and all state funded centers must be NAEYC accredited and meet any staff qualifications established by law including the School Readiness Law for enrolled programs.

In proposed legislation, House Bill 6369, An Act Establishing An Early Childhood System, the protection of current loans is deleted in Section 5, (4) C: it deletes the exemption from Requests for Proposals for facilities that have CHEFA financing that is in current statute. We are concerned that this will jeopardize current contracts and that it does not make sound fiscal policy. In summary, facilities entered into long term financing with the State based on historic financing of our centers in the state budget and any changes to that negatively impacts our current agreements and may lead to default on loans. It also has potential to stop expansion of child care and school readiness spaces if Centers are to be treated as just another vendor instead of our historic role as "creatures" of the State.

The State Funded Centers believe this legislation is necessary to carry over this financial long term commitment entered into by child care centers and the State. The State Funded Centers have always been a line item in the DSS budget and continued to be in the transfer to the State Department of Education in 2011. But language in the proposed bill creating the new Office of Early Childhood does not guarantee continuance of this current facilities policy indeed, as stated, in actually deletes it in the bill.

State Funded Child Care Centers are unique to Connecticut and play a significant role in the child care system in Connecticut. We urge the Committee to work with the Centers to ensure that the integrity and mission of the State Funded Centers be maintained in any potential merger or new administrative structure, i.e. the New Office of Early Childhood. Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

H – 1155

**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2013**

**VOL.56
PART 6
1695 – 2023**

pat/gbr
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

109
April 24, 2013

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And through you, well, if, well, I mean, therein lies the problem. We could be inadvertently, now an attempt running against federal preemption again and/or nullifying it, I raise the issue. If we are going to consider working on this bill, I think that's something that needs to be addressed.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

Thank you, sir. Representative Aresimowicz, for what reason do you rise?

REP. ARESIMOWICZ (30th):

Mr. Speaker, I move we pass this bill temporarily.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

Without objection, the motion is to pass this bill temporarily. Without objection, so ordered.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar Number 299.

THE CLERK:

Calendar 299, Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education. Substitute House Bill 6506, AN ACT CONCERNING STATE FUNDED CHILD CARE FACILITIES.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

pat/gbr
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

110
April 24, 2013

Representative Fleischmann of the 18th District.

Good to see you, sir.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18th):

Good to see you up there, sir. 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. FLEISCHMANN (18th):

Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in our state, a number of child care facilities and centers are in great new buildings that were financed through loan agreements with the Connecticut Health Education Facilities Authority best known as CHEFA.

This bill before us would make various, oh, actually, there are various changes happening now in state government that are leading to some reorganization of the way that the organizations operating these great facilities are funded.

And this bill would quite simply make sure that those organizations that are in buildings supported by CHEFA loans cannot default with the state foreclosing

pat/gbr
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

111
April 24, 2013

on the buildings that we just built because we will assure that those programs continue and will avoid the unintended consequence of defunding programs that are reliant upon us to pay for the loans that built their wonderful buildings that house these pre-school children in these great programs.

This bill received unanimous support in the Education Committee and I'm hopeful that it will receive unanimous support today on the Floor of the House.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

Thank you, sir. Would you care to remark further on the bill that's before us? Representative Ackert of the 8th District. You have the floor, sir.

REP. ACKERT (8th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, rise in support of this legislation. This is a good fix. As we go to be competitive in terms of how we provide early child care in the State of Connecticut and look for the best providers possible, this bill will continue to keep those individuals that have well run child care centers and took out loans and make sure that they

pat/gbr
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

112
April 24, 2013

continue to work in those buildings and provide that great child care.

And once that these loans are satisfied, that they will then be under the competitive process, so through you, Mr. Speaker, thank you and I support this legislation.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

Thank you, Representative Ackert. Representative Cook of the 65th District. Yes. You have the floor, madam.

REP. COOK (65th):

Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. I rise in strong support of this legislation and I just wanted to thank both sides of the aisle and the Education Chairs for bringing up and following through on such an incredible commitment that we've made to our child care centers and state-funded centers.

They do great work, and as we've just learned from prior legislation, we don't want to make, we don't want to have any unintended consequences in what we do and this is protecting all of those who do such great work for our children in the State of Connecticut.

So thank you very much.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

Thank you, madam. Representative Ayala of the 128th District. You have the floor, madam.

REP. AYALA (128th):

Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

Good afternoon, madam.

REP. AYALA (128th):

I would just like to thank the Education Committee and those that have worked on this bill. I am a huge supporter of early childhood and I believe that the beginning starts with these child care centers and I'm glad that we're able to support them. Thank you.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

Thank you, madam. Will you remark? Will you 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.

pat/gbr
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

114
April 24, 2013

Will Members please return to the Chamber
immediately.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

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

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

THE CLERK:

Bill Number 6506.	
Total Number Voting	146
Necessary for Passage	74
Those voting Yea	146
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	4

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

The bill is passed.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar 304.

THE CLERK:

On Page 23, Calendar 304, Favorable Report of the
Joint Standing Committee on Education, House Bill 6622
AN ACT CONCERNING DISTRICT PARTNERSHIPS.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

S - 665

**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SENATE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2013**

**VOL. 56
PART 14
4130 - 4472**

gdm/cah/meb/gbr
SENATE

99
June 1, 2013

Seeing no objection, so ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, some additional items to mark go at this time.

Calendar page 7, Calendar 460, House Bill 6506 is marked go.

Calendar page 11, Calendar 505, House Bill 6406 is marked go.

Calendar page -- Calendar page 5, Calendar 355, House Bill 6023 marked go.

Calendar page 18, Calendar 617, House Bill 5441 marked go.

Calendar page 18, Calendar 624, House Bill 6151 marked go.

Calendar page -- Calendar page 10, Calendar 495, Senate Bill 840 marked go.

And Calendar page 31, Calendar 268, Senate Bill 975 marked go.

Thank you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you.

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

Calendar page 7, Calendar Number 460, Substitute for House Bill Number 6506, AN ACT CONCERNING STATE-FUNDED CHILD CARE FACILITIES, Favorable Report from the Committee on Education.

THE CHAIR:

gdm/cah/meb/gbr
SENATE

100
June 1, 2013

Senator Stillman.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Thank you, Madam President.

I move the Joint Committee's Favorable Report in concurrence with the House.

THE CHAIR:

The motion is on acceptance and passage in concurrence with the House.

Will you remark?

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Yes. Thank you, Madam President.

This is a bill that is very important to our quality state-funded child care facilities that have loan agreements through CHEFA, which is our Connecticut Health and Education Facilities Authority. It's to assure that those that have contracts that we're agreed to before July 1, 2012, will continue to receive their state financial assistance which is utilized to help repay the loans for their buildings.

And just so folks know, the program that the state has through CHEFA has developed 29 facilities containing over 5100 quality early-education spaces for our little ones, and they do an exceptional job. But as we know, there are changes that sometimes occur in state government, and CHEFA does have some concerns to be assured that these loans will be repaid through the subsidy from the state, and I urge passage.

Thank you.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark? Will you remark?

Senator Boucher.

SENATOR BOUCHER:

gdm/cah/meb/gbr
SENATE

101
June 1, 2013

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, I do rise also to support the bill, but just some clarification for the record, through you, Madam President, to the proponent of the bill and the good chairwoman of the committee.

THE CHAIR:

Please proceed.

SENATOR BOUCHER:

If one of these particular centers that is getting this protection for these loans were to change ownership during the lifetime of that loan, would that state protection then transfer to the new owners or those that would be managing that facility?

Through you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Stillman.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Yes. Thank you, Madam President, through you.

CHEFA, in their testimony to the committee, has stated that -- that unfortunately there isn't any current statutory protection for these child daycare contract subsidies like there is for school readiness slots. And that's the concern. And certainly, if a program is transferred to another provider, we certainly hope that they will meet the conditions of the loan, but if not, then it falls back on the state. So this is real protections for the state as well as the child daycare facilities.

Through you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Boucher.

SENATOR BOUCHER:

gdm/cah/meb/gbr
SENATE

102
June 1, 2013

Thank you, Madam President.

I appreciate the answer to the question.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you.

Will you remark further? Will you remark further?

Senator Stillman.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Thank you, Madam President.

If there's no objection, I'd like to place this on the
Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Now is there any objection?

Seeing no objection, so ordered.

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

On page 11, Calendar 505, House Bill Number 6406, AN ACT
CONCERNING THE ELECTRONIC PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING
PROGRAM, Favorable Report of the Committee on General Law.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

That item might be passed temporarily. And Madam
President, if we might also add to the -- the list of go
items, one that I believe was passed temporarily earlier,
calendar page 21, Calendar 643, House Bill 6525. And if
the Clerk would call that as the next item, Madam

gdm/cah/meb/gbr
SENATE

159
June 1, 2013

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, if the Clerk would list the items on the first Consent Calendar and then if we might call for a vote on that Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you.

Mr. Clerk.

It's not open, I'm not opening it. I'm waiting for you to call the (inaudible).

THE CLERK:

On Page 3, Calendar 209, Senate Bill 1033.

Page 5, Calendar 355, House Bill 6023.

Page 7, Calendar 460, House Bill 6506.

On Page 11, Calendar 505, House Bill 6406.

On Page 18, Calendar 617, House Bill 5441; Calendar 620, House Bill 6683; Calendar 623, House Bill 6365.

And on Page 19, Calendar 624, House Bill 6151.

On Page 20, Calendar 635, House Bill 5926.

Page 23, Calendar 659, House Bill 5358.

On Page 26, Calendar 680, House Bill 5666.

And on Page 29, Calendar 182, Senate Bill 1000.

Page 33, Calendar 384, Senate Bill 1067.

And on Page 36, Calendar 649, House Bill 5113.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you.

gdm/cah/meb/gbr
SENATE

160
June 1, 2013

Mr. Clerk, will you call for a roll call vote and 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 Consent Calendar Number 1 has been ordered in the Senate.

THE CHAIR:

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

Mr. Clerk, will you please call a tally.

THE CLERK:

On the first Consent Calendar of the day.

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

THE CHAIR:

Consent Calendar passes.

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, if the Clerk would please call as the next item Calendar Page 10, Calendar 495, Senate Bill 840 from the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee.

THE CHAIR:

Good evening, Senator Fonfara.

SENATOR FONFARA: