

Legislative History for Connecticut Act

PA 15-175

HB6971

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Transcripts from the Joint Standing Committee Public
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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2015**

**VOL.58
PART 8
2444 - 2794**

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The Clerk will please announce the tally.

CLERK:

House Bill 6984, as amended by House "A"

Total Number Voting 143

Necessary for Passage 72

Those voting Yea 143

Those voting Nay 0

Absent and not voting 8

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

The bill, as amended, is passed. [gavel] Will
the Clerk please call Calendar No. 354. Excuse me,
I'm sorry. 208.

CLERK:

On Page 55, Calendar No. 208, Favorable Report
of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, House
Bill No. 6971, AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF A
GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Dargan, you have the floor,
sir.

REP. DARGAN(115th):

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

[laughter]

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

I believe the question is acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and passage of the bill. Representative Dargan, you may continue.

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. The Clerk has an Amendment LCO No. 6915. May he please call and I be allowed to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Will the Clerk please call LCO 6915, which will be designated House Amendment Schedule "A."

CLERK:

LCO No. 6915, designated House Amendment Schedule "A" and offered by Representative Dargan,
Representative Tong, Representative Rebimbas, and Zupkus.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

The Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the amendment clearly. Is there objection to summarization? Is there objection?

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Hearing none, Representative Dargan, you may summarize the amendment.

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'd also like to thank the Chair of Judiciary and the two fine ranking members of Judiciary and Public Safety and Security.

This is a bill that is narrow in scope, and it deals with, which will create a new crime called electronic stalking. There's been issues not only in our state but throughout the country dealing with the tracking of GPS. And for legislative intent, I just want to make it clear, does not apply to parents that are trying to keep an eye on their teenagers. It does not apply to businesses that, in the year of 1998, the General Assembly required most employers who engage in electronic monitoring to give their employers prior written notice of the type of monitoring that may occur. It also does not prevent nursing homes that deal with patients that have dementia or Alzheimer's to have this recording device on them.

Basically, what the bill does do, narrow in scope, is that if a person recklessly causes

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another person to fear for her or his physical safety. If that person acted willfully. If the person acted repeatedly, and the person used a GPS or a similar electronic monitoring system, whether that be a cell phone or a computer or another technical of equipment - and if the person remotely determined or tracked the position and the movement of other. So the punishment would be - it would be a Class B misdemeanor or imprisonment up to six months and \$1000 fine or both. And I move for its adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

The question before the Chamber is adoption of House Amendment Schedule "A." Will you remark on the amendment? Will you remark on the amendment? Representative Zupkus of the 89th District.

REP. ZUPKUS (89th):

Thank you, Mr. Chair. I rise in support of this amendment. As the good Chairman said, if a person is guilty of this crime through using a GPS or similar devices, I think it's very important that this crime has been - we've created this important crime. So I encourage my colleagues to support it. Thank you.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Thank you, madam. Is - will you remark further on the amendment before us? Will you remark further? If not, I will try your minds. All those in favor, please signify - Representative Ziobron of the 34th.

REP. ZIOBRON (34th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I would've waited. I wasn't gonna interrupt you, but I do appreciate you calling on me. I do have a quick question of clarification. Similar electronic monitoring systems, in today's technology, especially through social media, a lot of people use Facebook, Twitter, and others to check in, which will show your location. So my question is to the proponent, through you, sir, is, are those types of electronic applications also under this definition? Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Dargan.

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Through you, the answer's no.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Ziobron.

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REP. ZIOBRON (34th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So if, for instance, someone was to check in on their Facebook profile as being in a location, and somebody showed up and was stalking them, they would not be guilty of this crime? Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Dargan.

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Through you, the question would be if that person acted willfully or knew about that. In some instances, with social media and the way that it works nowadays, people say a lot of different things on social media. And if that individual thinks that the person acted recklessly with respect to the result of those circumstances, when he or she felt consciously disregards of a substantial, unjustifiable risk, that such person might feel that he or she might occur underneath those certain circumstances, then in that instance that individual might be able to take some legal action through law enforcement through that individual. Through you.

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Representative Ziobron.

REP. ZIOBRON (34th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So - I appreciate that answer, but I just wanna clarify because there may be some folks who don't understand that when you use Facebook or Twitter, but Facebook specifically, in a certain way, you can actually check in and a location, and it will actually show a person who's following you where you are in real time. It's actually almost better than a GPS. And I just wanna make sure that the intent of that hopefully will be covered in this legislation as well. I think it's important, and I hope as it moves through the process, my good colleague on the other side will consider that and possibly look at definition change as it moves forward. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Thank you, Representative. Will you remark further on the amendment before us? Will you remark further? Representative Buck-Taylor of the 67th, ma'am. You have the floor.

REP. BUCK-TAYLOR (67th):

Thank you, Mr. Chair. Through you to the proponent of the bill. I was looking at the word

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"recklessly," and that usually means that you don't care about the consequences about what you're doing. Can the proponent of the bill explain why the word "recklessly" was placed in this document, which doesn't seem to include "intentionally" or "maliciously?" Through you, to the proponent.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Dargan.

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Working with my ranking members on your side of the aisle, too, we thought that it was important that the word "recklessly" - if that individual - he or she - felt that they did not feel comfortable at that time, that that individual felt that it was a reckless GPS on his or her car or computer, that that person with the conversations with that individual knew where his or her location was at numerous times, that the individual really felt uncomfortable or reckless at that time - that we thought that it was important to put that language within the bill.

Through you.

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Representative Buck-Taylor.

REP. BUCK-TAYLOR (67th):

Through you, Mr. Chair. The language of the bill says a person is guilty of electronic stalking when such person recklessly causes another person to - and then the bill goes on. To the proponent of the bill, so that if someone intentionally causes another person to fear for their safety that this would not be covered under this bill? Through you, Mr. Chair.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Dargan.

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I think that this already qualifies underneath our stalking statutes underneath Section 53a-181e. Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Buck-Taylor.

REP. BUCK-TAYLOR (67th):

Through you, Mr. Chair, to the proponent of the bill. So this reckless aspect of it is in addition to the statutes that would cause intent to be a necessary factor? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

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Representative Dargan.

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Through you. I would agree with that
assessment, yes.

REP. BUCK-TAYLOR (67th):

Okay.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Buck-Taylor.

REP. BUCK-TAYLOR (67th):

Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank you to the
proponent of the bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Thank you, ma'am. Representative Dubitsky of
the 47th District, sir. You have the floor.

REP. DUBITSKY (47th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A quick question for
the proponent of the bill, if I may.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Please proceed, sir.

REP. DUBITSKY (47th):

Thank you. Through you, Mr. Speaker. In the
proposed amendment it talks about having to be
willfully and repeatedly used. If I may, through
you, Mr. Speaker, is repeatedly - are we talking

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about any amount more than one time? Through you,
Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Dargan.

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Through you, I would say that it means to act
intentionally or deliberately. Through you, Mr.
Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Dubitsky.

REP. DUBITSKY (47th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is more
about the word "repeatedly." The "willfully" I'm
pretty sure I understand that one, but the word
"repeatedly" implies to me that a single instance
would not apply, and this amendment would not cover
a single instance but only a second or subsequent
instance. Through you, Mr. Chairman, I was just
wondering if that is, indeed, the intent of the
word "repeatedly?" Mr. Speaker, I apologize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Dargan.

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Yes, thank you very much, to the good Representative. That is correct. To act repeatedly does mean acting on more than one occasion. An isolated act you mentioned of using the GPS to track another one does not constitute electronic stalking. Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Dubitsky.

REP. DUBITSKY (47th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would thank the gentleman for his answers.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Thank you, sir. Representative Rebimbas of the 70th District, you have the floor, ma'am.

REP. REBIMBAS (70th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I do rise in - for the amendment that's before us. And just for clarification purposes, I know the amendment's intent is to address many of the concerns that have been raised here during this debate, and it is specifically to a GPS device system or similar device. And similar device, an example would be our cell phones have tracking devices. If we were to drop a cell phone, have the tracking device on, and

drop it in someone's bag purposely, willfully, and then obviously track them that way, that would be an example.

Going on social media is certainly something that was brought to our attention on the language of the underlying bill that could've created some concern. Because whether it's a checking-in device on social media or other types of devices, when people post where they might be located was a concern of ours. Because it would be difficult to go to the person's intent if they're just going onto, let's say an example, their Facebook page and they happen to view a person's postings. It would be very difficult to determine whether or not that would truly be stalking.

But again, we were trying to narrowly tailor the amendment that these are actual GPS devices that physically would be placed in a place for the purpose, again, of stalking. And as we would all agree that stalking is a crime of which we want to make sure that we deter, we don't condone, and we do punish, but we also wanted to be thoughtful as to how the language was to appear.

And I certainly also want to extend my gratitude to Representative Dargan for reaching out to the ranking members of the various Committees that this bill was referred to in attempting to, again, work out language.

I do understand, and I think it was appropriately clarified, that "repeatedly" is "repeatedly." It has to be more than one time.

But again, just to clarify - it is a GPS device or similar device but not again when it comes to social media where people are checking in that you might be able to view. It has to be an actual action that the individual takes in placing a device for the purposes of tracking, and again, for the other purposes, as it's stated here, or willfully causing, you know, fear or fear of physical safety to an individual.

So I do rise in support of the amendment, and I wanna thank all of the Chairmen and ranking members that had a hand in crafting the language that's before us.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Thank you, ma'am. Representative Ferraro of the 117th. Sir, you have the floor.

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REP. FERRARO (117th):

Thank you, Mr. Chair, and I would just like to make a few comments on the bill. I sat on the Public Safety Committee under Mr. - Chairman - Dargan. And I thought then and think now that this is an excellent bill because the new technology creates new opportunities for crime. And that GPS is a easy way for somebody who is in the mind and the intent of stalking to do bodily harm and violence to somebody. That I just think it's egregious enough that we need to include the language we have.

And I wanna thank Mr. Dargan and all the other people involved in crafting the bill. I think they did a great job. And I urge my members, my colleagues, to support the bill. Thank you very much.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Thank you, sir. Will you remark further on the bill? Excuse me. Will you remark further on the amendment before us? Will you remark further on the amendment before us? If not - Representative O'Neill of the 69th.

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REP. O'NEILL (69th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I realize the hour is late but in looking at the amendment and hearing the earlier discussion, I have to say that the comments by the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee, which clarify or at least indicate, to some extent, the mechanism by which this crime is to be committed is unfortunately completely lacking in the text of the amendment that is before us. There's nothing in the text of the amendment that talks about secreting a device into or upon the person or within a vehicle or within some object like a briefcase or a purse that that person who is being stalked is gonna be carrying with them. So that there's nothing in the amendment that talks about the language or that describes the events that the ranking member said are the essence of what this new crime is going to be all about.

And so if a either a police officer or a judge or a prosecuting attorney is trying to figure it out, they, at least, are going to be faced, I think, with as much mystery as some of us are reading this thing as to exactly what are we talking about. Because I don't know how a global

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positioning system is going to determine your location unless you're carrying something like a cell phone with the system turned on. I'm not sure how an individual is able to access a global positioning system as a private individual - not the police. Not the, perhaps, some sort of security agency like that NSA or somebody. But how I could access a global positioning system so as to determine if you, Mr. Speaker, were - had your cell phone turned on, even with the location services active, I don't know how I can figure out where you are. Maybe there are people who know how to utilize computers to access that kind of information from the global positioning system, but I'm certainly not one of them. And I'm not sure how that's done.

But how that's done isn't really identified in this, but then if you have your global positioning system turned on, it seems to me that you've sort of told the world where you are. So if you're telling the world - it's as if you're walking down the street shouting I'm at the corner of Main Street and such and such avenue, and then you shout again when you move another 100 feet to a different location and then you shout again. The rest of us

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are hearing the noise you're making. We know where you are.

And so how that becomes a crime if you were to shout that information out - we wouldn't consider that to be a crime because I'm hearing where you are. Yet, if you do the same thing electronically, and somehow I'm able to do that apparently not violating any laws up 'til that point, to be able to access this information - now we're saying well, now that's going to be a crime. You're sending out this transmission to the world telling everybody where you are. And somebody, in fact, pays attention to where you are, and now we're going to say that that's a crime.

Now, I understand what the ranking member has said. Even if you've got your own device on, that's not what's gonna be doing this. It's because some person, the stalker, has placed another device on your person to identify your location. But that's not in this bill, and so if that's what this is really - this amendment is really aimed at getting at - is the placement of that sort of monitoring device on your person or in your vehicle or in your possession in some way among your possessions so

that you're carrying it around with you - that's a very different thing from what at least the text seems to say. And so I'm not sure if that's what's intended that this bill - this amendment - gets to it.

Perhaps I should ask a question of the Chair to be sure that I'm understanding what's going on here. So through you, Mr. Speaker. Is it the intention of this amendment that when an individual places some kind of monitoring device that transmits a signal to a global positioning system, that that is what this amendment is aimed at making a crime? And then keeping track of that device and thereby the location of the person who has had this device placed on their person and placed on their person without their knowledge - against their knowledge, without their permission. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Dargan.

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I would assume that could be one of the factors of stalking and/or the crime. Through you.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative O'Neill.

REP. O'NEILL (69th):

Well, here's the problem, Mr. Speaker. For this to - for at least me to understand, or I think, for a prosecutor to make sense out of this and a judge to make sense out of this, they have to know what it is. What are the facts? What are the actions that someone had to take in order to commit this crime?

The ranking member has said of Judiciary that what makes - that the sequence of events that is a crime here is - starts with a person, without the permission of the victim - the person being stalked - a person places into that victim's possession or onto their person or perhaps into their vehicle - some kind of a monitoring device, a transponder, or something that communicates with the global positioning system. So that's Step 1. Is that the Chair of the Public Safety Committee's understanding of a necessary step for the commission of this crime - that that kind of placement of that kind of a device is Step 1 in the commission of the crime? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Dargan.

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, I think that the tracking must have a predatory feel to it. It doesn't - I don't think the legislation would encompass tracking that is aimless, unintentional, and/or accidental. I think it's just in issues where there's been severe crimes committed from the tracking of GPS in a predatory situation. Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative O'Neill.

REP. O'NEILL (69th):

Okay. I - I'm sorry if I'm being obtuse. But it's - I wasn't quite able to fully understand all of the words that were returned to me by the Chair. Does a person have to place - we'll call it a tracking device - upon the person or otherwise in a vehicle or something like that - is that a necessary element of the crime? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Dargan.

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REP. DARGAN (115th):

Through you, I would say yes.

REP. O'NEILL (69th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the answer. And so the next step after the tracking device is placed, is that the person who placed it has to monitor the location of the tracking device. Is that true?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Dargan.

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Through you, I would agree to that. Yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative O'Neill.

REP. O'NEILL (69th):

Okay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think it might be best at some point if this - that those words - that language - were placed into this bill. If that's what the real intent was of this legislation - of this amendment. And I don't know if we have the time to do that here tonight. I would like to think that perhaps the discussion we've had provides the necessary legislative history, so if this bill passes and becomes law unmodified, people

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will understand that that's what we intended to have done.

But what I'm afraid of is that it may not be - what we just - the conversation we just had and the discussion that was initiated by the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee may not be sufficient without more words being added to the text of the statute. And I don't know if there's another amendment out there coming that will clarify all of this, but I fear that if that's what was intended, the language that's before us does not really say that. So I don't know how we fix it other than what the conversation was we just had, but I just feel it's necessary to know - or at least for me to express to the Chamber my concern, given what we're - I think what we're trying to accomplish. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Thank you, Representative. Will you remark further on the amendment before us? Will you remark further on the amendment before us? If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor, please signify by saying aye.

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Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Opposed, nay.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Nay.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

The ayes have it. The amendment is adopted.

[gavel] Will you remark further on the bill as amended? Will you remark further on the bill as amended? If not - Representative Dargan.

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Mr. Speaker, thank you very much. I really wanna thank my ranking members 'cause it really does show that this Assembly can work in a bipartisan way when you reach out to your ranking members, my own ranking member, and ranking member of Judiciary. Thank you very much for Representative Tercyak. I remember when you bring out those labor bills how you talk forever.

So again, I would [] maybe if Representative Tercyak would go across the aisle his labor bills would go a little simpler. But with that said, thank you very much, and thank you very much for your help to my good ranking members. Thank you.

[laughter]

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Will you remark further on the bill as amended? 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 please take your seats. The machine will be opened.

CLERK:

[bell ringing] The House of Representatives is voting by roll. Members to the Chamber. The House of Representatives is voting by roll. Members to the Chamber immediately.

[pause]

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Have all members voted? Have all members voted? Will the members please check the board to determine if your vote is properly cast. If all members have voted, the machine will be locked, and the Clerk will take a tally.

The Clerk will please announce the tally.

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CLERK:

House Bill 6971, as amended by House "A"

Total Number Voting 143

Necessary for Passage 72

Those voting Yea 140

Those voting Nay 3

Absent and not voting 8

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

The bill, as amended, is passed. [gavel] Are there any announcements or points of personal privilege? Representative Aresimowicz. Sir, you have the floor.

REP. ARESIMOWICZ (30th):

Thank you very much, Speaker Ryan. Speaker Ryan, I move that we refer the bills to the Committees as indicated on today's Go List.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

The motion is to refer the bills to the Committees as indicated on today's Go List. Is there objection? Is there objection? Hearing none, the bills are referred to Committees as indicated.

[gavel] Will the Clerk please call Calendar 354.

CLERK:

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THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk. We, I think, are still on Page 12, sir.

THE CLERK:

On Page 12, Calendar 521, House Bill No. 6971, AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM. It's amended by House Amendment Schedule "A." Favorable Report of the Committee on Human Services.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Larson.

SENATOR LARSON:

Thank you, Madam President. I move acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report, passage of the bill in concurrence with the House of Representatives.

THE CHAIR:

Motion is acceptance and passage in concurrence with the House. Senator, you have the floor.

SENATOR LARSON:

Thank you, Madam President. This bill creates the crime of electronic stalking and makes it a Class B misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for up to six months, a fine up to a thousand or both. A person commits this crime when he or she willfully and repeatedly uses a global positioning device, GPS, or similar electronic monitoring system to remotely determine or track another person's position or movement, thereby recklessly causing the individual to reasonably fear for his or her physical safety.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, sir. Will you remark? Senator Witkos.

SENATOR WITKOS:

Good afternoon - good evening, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

To you too, sir.

SENATOR WITKOS:

I found this interesting that, as you know - I have no questions initially for Senator Larson, but my career in law enforcement had always gotten involved with difficulty between adolescents and their parents. And at times we would receive a call from an adolescent who wanted to charge the parent for child abuse, if you will, because they were grounded or they were disciplined - many, many times very appropriately.

And so I'm aware of a new device they came out that you can - I know, certainly, on the Apple iPhones is called *Find My iPhone*, and I put that on my children's phones so I know where they are at all times. And I told'm the condition is since Dad's paying the bill, Dad gets to know where you're located, and that's the deal.

So we were kidding around when we would talk about this in caucus room. They said, "Well, you have to be fair." I said, "Well, if they really - if they lie to me and they really screw up, then they need to be in fear of Dad because they're gonna pay the price when they get home." But there's nothing in the language that would prohibit a parent or guardian from monitoring their children or a legal guardian, maybe an elderly parent as well, for - really for safeguarding and guardianship purposes, is there? Through you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, Senator Witkos. Sounds all familiar. To you, Senator Larson.

SENATOR LARSON:

Thank you, Senator. Through you, Madam President. It's my understanding that that's not written in the bill, and this certainly is - focuses on willfully and

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repeatedly following or waiting for another person - effectively stalking somebody, I believe.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, Senator Larson. You have the floor, Senator Witkos.

SENATOR WITKOS:

Thank you, Madam President. And for - thank you, Senator Larson for that legislative intent. So the purpose is that you can continuously monitor but you can't - it would not invoke the stalking statute of lying in wait in order to anticipate and commit a potential crime against that person.

So a parent would have a right to continuously monitor their children's whereabouts on these types of devices. Through you, Madam President.

SENATOR LARSON:

That's my understanding -

THE CHAIR:

To you, Senator Larson. You have the floor, sir.

SENATOR LARSON:

Oh, sorry. Thank you, Madam President. I apologize. Yes. That's, I believe, the intent.

THE CHAIR:

You have the floor, Senator Witkos.

SENATOR WITKOS:

Thank you, Madam President. I thank Senator Larson for those answers, and I support the bill.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, sir. Will you remark further? Will you remark further? If not, Senator Larson.

SENATOR LARSON:

Thank you, Madam President. If there's no objection, I move this item be placed on the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Without objection, so ordered, sir. Mr. Clerk, Page 13.

THE CLERK:

Page 13, Calendar No. 524, substitute for House Bill No. 6997, AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY'S RECOMMENDATION TO REDEFINE "ATTEST" AND "REPORT" as amended by House Amendment Schedule "A", LCO 7081. Favorable Report from the Committee on General Administration.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Cassano. You have the floor, sir.

SENATOR CASSANO:

Thank you, Madam President. I do move acceptance of the Joint Committee's Report and passage of the bill.

THE CHAIR:

Motion is acceptance and passage. Will you remark, sir?

SENATOR CASSANO:

Yes. This is an act implementing the state Board of Accountancy's recommendations. It's a very technical bill. It passed the House 141 to zero and was unanimous in the Committee.

Basically, the highlights of the bill - if you can have accounting highlights - it expands the definition of "attest" to include any examination, a review, or agreement procedures performed according to the statements of standards for attestation. It requires, basically, that CPAs do the work, that CPAs from out

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THE CLERK:

House Bill 6915. Page 4, Calendar 383 -

THE CHAIR:

Hold on a minute. Mr. Clerk, you're gonna have to use your microphone so we can hear you, please. I apologize. Thank you.

THE CLERK:

Page 4, Calendar 382, House Bill 6915. Page 4, Calendar 383, House Bill 6723. Page 5, Calendar 390, House Bill 6317. Page 5, Calendar 437, House Bill 6771. Page 5, 438, House Bill 6772. On Page 6, Calendar 439, House Bill 6259. On Page 8, Calendar 480, House Bill 6910.

On Page 8 also, Calendar 481, House Bill 6978, and on Page 9, Calendar 500, House Bill 6579. On Page 10, Calendar 502, House Bill 6868. Page 11, Calendar 511, House Bill 6937. Also on Page 11, Calendar 513, House Bill 6986, and on Page 12, Calendar 515, House Bill 6902.

Also on Page 12, Calendar 521, House Bill 6971. On Page 12 again, Calendar 522, House Bill 6834. Page 12, Calendar 518, House Bill 6770. On Page 13, Calendar 524, House Bill 6997. Also on Page 13, Calendar 525, House Bill 6984, and on Page 14, Calendar 530, House Bill 6977.

Also on Page 14, Calendar 531, House Bill 6994. Page 15, Calendar 535, House Bill 6730. Page 17, Calendar 552, House Bill 6884. Page 17, Calendar 557, House Bill 6155. On Page 18, Calendar 564, House Bill 7000. Page 18 again, 566, House Bill 6138. Also on Page 18, Calendar 571, House Bill 5092, and on Page 19, Calendar 577, House Bill 6853.

On Page 20, Calendar 585, House Bill 6571. Page 20, Calendar 578, House Bill 6852. On Page 23, Calendar 606, House Bill 5660, and on Page 24, Calendar 609, House Bill 5257. Page 24, Calendar 611, House Bill 7060. Page 24, Calendar 610, House Bill 7050. On Page 25, Calendar 617, House Bill 6020.

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On Page 26, Calendar 619, House Bill 6750. Also on Page 26, Calendar 620, House Bill 6745. Page 27, Calendar 627, House Bill 5101. Page 29, Calendar 635, House Bill 5110. Also on Page 29, Calendar 641, House Bill 6967. On Page 30, Calendar 645, House Bill 6943, and also on Page 30, Calendar 642, 6707.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, Mr. Clerk. We're adding - we have to add one more. Hold on for one second, please.

[pause]

THE CLERK:

On - and the last item is on Page 19, Calendar 576, House Bill 6976.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk, will you call - hold on a minute. There's a question. Senator Kelly, you have a question? Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY:

Thank you, Madam President. That last item on Page 19, the Clerk called 576, House Bill 6976. Was it supposed to be 57 - Calendar No. 575, 6975?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Duff.

SENATOR DUFF:

Thank you, Madam President. And thanks to Senator Kelly for the - catching that. Yes, it is Calendar 575, House Bill 6975.

THE CHAIR:

6975.

THE CLERK:

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And that is Page 19, Calendar 575, House Bill 6975.

THE CHAIR:

Are there any other corrections anybody has? If not, at this time, Mr. Clerk, will you please call for a roll call vote on the Consent Calendar. The machine is open.

THE CLERK:

Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate.
Immediate roll call on today's Consent Calendar has been ordered in the Senate.

[pause]

THE CHAIR:

If all members have voted, all members have voted. The machine will be closed. Mr. Clerk, please call a tally. You wanna call on the Consent Calendar? Yes, it's closed. It's closed on the machine here.

THE CLERK:

On today's Consent Calendar

Total Number Voting	36
Necessary for Passage	19
Those voting Yea	36
Those voting Nay	0
Absent/not voting	0

THE CHAIR:

The Consent Calendar passes. [gavel] Senator Duff.

SENATOR DUFF:

Thank you, Madam President. Before we adjourn, I'd like to yield for any points or announcements.

THE CHAIR:

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

**PUBLIC
SAFETY AND
SECURITY
PART 3
1052 – 1632**

2015



NATASHA M. PIERRE, ESQ.
State Victim Advocate

Testimony of Natasha M. Pierre, Esq., State Victim Advocate
Submitted to the Public Safety & Security Committee
Thursday, March 12, 2015

Good afternoon Senator Larson, Representative Dargan and distinguished members of the Public Safety and Security Committee. For the record, my name is Natasha Pierre and I am the Victim Advocate for the State of Connecticut. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony concerning:

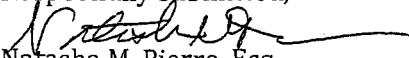
House Bill No. 6971, An Act Concerning the Use of a Global Positioning System

Global Positioning Systems (GPS) help society in a number of ways—to track rental cars; to manage a patient with Alzheimer's; to locate a stolen motor vehicle; and to effectively monitor the movements of a violent perpetrator. Unfortunately, as helpful as GPS can be when used in legal methods, GPS can be also be used, illegally, to terrorize, torment and instill fear into a stalking victim. House Bill No. 6971 will include the use of GPS as an unlawful method of stalking.

With the advancements in technology, stalking today requires little effort on the part of the stalker. This virtual tool, GPS, is easily accessible and allows a stalker to know the victim's every movement while maintaining their own anonymity. Victims often find themselves constantly looking over their shoulder, but never see anything out of the ordinary. Victims may move, change jobs and alter traveling routes in an attempt to thwart a suspected stalker, all the while, not realizing that the stalker has unfettered access to their whereabouts. Victims may suffer fear, anxiety, insomnia, social dysfunction and depression as a result of the stalking and often feel the stalking will never end.

While it is nearly impossible to predict the future of technology, it is incumbent upon us to ensure that such advancements are not used unlawfully. I strongly urge the Committee's favorable report of House Bill No. 6971.

Respectfully submitted,


Natasha M. Pierre, Esq.,
State Victim Advocate