

Legislative History for Connecticut Act

PA15-51

HB6724

House	893-898	5
Senate	2112, 2262-2263	3
Children	683-684, 1122	3
		11

Transcripts from the Joint Standing Committee Public
Hearing(s) and/or Senate and House of Representatives
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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2015**

**VOL.58
PART 3
695 - 1034**

pat/gbr
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

79
April 14, 2015

Those voting Yea	146
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	5 and a half.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

The bill passes. Will the Clerk please call
Calendar Number 59, 5, 9, 59.

THE CLERK:

Returning to the previously called House Calendar
59, Favorable Joint Report, Joint Standing Committee
on Children, House Bill 6724 AN ACT CONCERNING
TECHNICAL AND MINOR REVISIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES STATUTES.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Urban.

REP. URBAN (43rd):

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move adoption of the
Joint Committee's Favorable Report and passage of the
bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

The question before the Chamber is on acceptance
of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and passage
of the bill. Representative Urban, you have the
floor, madam.

REP. URBAN (43rd):

pat/gbr
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

80
April 14, 2015

Thank you, Madam Chair. The underlying bill addresses issues of permanency planning with minor revisions and technical revisions.

The Clerk has in his possession an amendment, LCO 6234. I ask that he call it and I be allowed to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Will the Clerk please call LCO Number 6234.

THE CLERK:

Amendment, LCO Number 6234, designated House "A",
AN ACT CONCERNING TECHNICAL AND MINOR REVISIONS TO THE
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES STATUTES, offered
by Representative Urban.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, Mr. Clerk. The Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize. Is there objection? Objection? Representative Urban.

REP. URBAN (43rd):

Thank you, Madam Chair. This bill, this Amendment very simply strikes Section 1 and the reason that it strikes Section 1 is for reasons of clarity. The issues in Section 1 will be contained in two other bills that will come before this Chamber, and perhaps if we're lucky, those bills will come together and

pat/gbr
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

81
April 14, 2015

will only be one more bill that comes before this Chamber. I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

The question before the Chamber is on adoption. Will you remark on House Amendment Schedule "A"? Will you remark on House Amendment Schedule "A"?

If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying Aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

All those opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it. The Amendment is adopted.

Will you care to remark further on the bill as amended? Representative Urban.

REP. URBAN (43rd):

Yes, I would, Madam Speaker, and there are some very simple but significant changes in the bill. What we have done is, we have renamed the Adoption Resource Exchange to the Permanency Resource Exchange so that we can add to the adoption process, searching out families that would seek to become guardians.

pat/gbr
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

82
April 14, 2015

This would allow us to expand the net of foster children that we can find permanent solutions. So this would be a permanency.

It also takes differential response and uses the name that the Department of Children and Families is currently using, which is Family Assessment Response, so that we're consistent with the name that they're using and we're not creating confusion.

And finally, Madam Speaker, we have eliminated the obsolete reference to certified relative care givers and this is in compliance with what the federal government has been doing since 2001. We haven't been using this term since 2001. We have been using a licensing term and there are significant federal dollars in Title 4E that we enjoy in the State of Connecticut, so we would like to be consistent with them.

I urge my colleagues to vote this bill into law.
Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, madam. Will you care to remark further? Will you care to remark further? There you are, Representative Kokoruda. You have the floor, madam.

pat/gbr
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

83
April 14, 2015

REP. KOKORUDA (101st):

Good afternoon, Madam Chairman.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Good afternoon.

REP. KOKORUDA (101st):

I just want to stand in support of the bill as presented, as amended. This bill just, as was said by the proponent, this bill really just clarifies and makes some technical changes to make these programs that are understood and more encompassing.

So I want to thank the proponent of the bill and urge adoption. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, Representative Kokoruda. Will you care to remark further on the bill as amended? Will you care to remark further on the bill as amended?

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

THE CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by Roll.

The House of Representatives is voting by Roll.

Will members please return to the Chamber immediately.

pat/gbr
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

84
April 14, 2015

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Have all members voted? Have all members voted?
Please check the board to determine if your vote has
been properly cast.

If so, the machine will be locked and the Clerk
will take a tally. And will the Clerk please announce
the tally.

THE CLERK:

House Bill 6724, as amended by House "A".

Total number voting	144
Necessary for Passage	73
Those voting Yea	144
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	7

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

The bill as amended passes.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar Number 58,
5,8.

THE CLERK:

On Page 5, House Calendar 58, Favorable Report of
the Joint Standing Committee on Children, House Bill
6723 AN ACT CONCERNING GROUNDS FOR TERMINATION OF
PARENTAL RIGHTS.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

S - 685

**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SENATE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2015**

**VOL. 58
PART 7
1971 - 2310**

/rc
SENATE

106
May 27, 2015

The bill passes. [gavel] Senator Duff.

SENATOR DUFF:

Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, I'd like to mark two items to our Consent Calendar please.

THE CHAIR:

Please proceed, sir.

SENATOR DUFF:

Thank you, Madam President. On Calendar Page 7, Calendar 384, House Bill 6724, I'd like to mark that for our Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objections, so ordered, sir.

SENATOR DUFF:

Thank you, Madam President. On Calendar Page 22, Calendar 519, House Bill 6733, I'd like to mark that item for our Consent Calendar please.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objections, so ordered, sir.

SENATOR DUFF:

Thank you, Madam President, and the Clerk can now call the next bill.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

CLERK:

Page 7, Calendar No. 345, substitute for Senate Bill No. 1078 AN ACT CONCERNING AFFORDABLE AND RELIABLE ENERGY. Favorable Report from the Committee on Energy and Technology.

/rc
SENATE

256
May 27, 2015

THE CHAIR:

Thank you. Will you remark on the bill as amended?
Senator Larson.

SENATOR LARSON:

Thank you, Madam President. If there's no objection
I'd ask this bill amended and placed on the Consent
Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objection; so ordered, sir. Senator Duff.

SENATOR DUFF:

Thank you, Madam President. If the Clerk could please
call the items on the Consent Calendar and then we can
have a vote on Consent Calendar please.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, sir. Would the Clerk please call the items
on the Consent Calendar?

CLERK:

On page 2, Calendar 91, Senate Bill No. 752. On page
7, Calendar 384, House Bill 6724. Page 8, Calendar
385, House Bill 6812. And on page 11, Calendar 450,
House Bill 6815. Page 13, Calendar 462, House Bill
6800. And on page 17, Calendar 488, House Bill 6575.
On page 18, Calendar 499, House Bill 6917.

Page 22, Calendar 519, House Bill 6733. Page 37,
Calendar 136, Senate Bill 882. And page 39, Calendar
165, Senate Bill 312. On page 40, Calendar 191, Senate
Bill 4814. Also on page 40, Calendar 188, Senate Bill
888. Page 41, Calendar 230, Senate Bill 989. Page 42,
Calendar 255, Senate Bill 475. And on page 46,
Calendar 367, Senate Bill 1108.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, sir. Would the Clerk please call a pendency
of roll call vote?

LB418

/rc
SENATE

257
May 27, 2015

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:

Members, please check the roll call vote. The machine will be locked. Clerk will announce the tally.

CLERK:

On the Consent Calendar for today

Total Number Voting	36
Necessary for Adoption	17
Those voting Yea	36
Those voting Nay	0
Absent/not voting	0

THE CHAIR:

Consent Calendar is adopted. [gavel] Mr. Majority Leader.

SENATOR DUFF:

Thank you, Madam President. First, I will yield to points of personal privilege or any announcements. I would ask that members stay in the Chamber. I do have a few important announcements before we leave for the morning.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no announcements - Senator Kennedy, do we have an announcement? Seeing none, Senator Duff.

SENATOR DUFF:

Thank you, Madam President. It is our intention tomorrow to caucus at noon tomorrow on our side of the aisle; probably the same on the other side. We'll have

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

**CHILDREN
PART 2
469 – 975**

2015

53

February 17, 2015

dr/mcr/gbr SELECT COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN 1:30 P.M.

REP. ZIOBRON: Okay. Thank you.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

REP. URBAN: Thank you, Representative Ziobron.

Are there any other questions or comments?

Seeing none, thank you for your testimony.

ROBERTA FRIEDMAN: Thank you very much.

REP. URBAN: And we'll return to the Legislator, agency head list with Barbara Claire from Department of Children and Families.

Welcome.

BARBARA CLAIRE: Good morning.

Good morning, Senator Bartolomeo, Representative Urban, excuse me, Senator Bartolomeo, Representative Urban, Senator Martin, Representative Kokoruda, and members of the Committee on Children.

My name is Barbara Claire. I'm the agency legal director for the Department of Children and Families and I'm here to speak on several of the -- the bills on your public hearing agenda.

I'm joined here by Dr. Linda Dixon, who is our administrator for Adolescent and Juvenile Justice Services who can answer some more specific questions if you have them.

The first three bills that I would like to comment on are S.B. 863, H.B. 6723, and H.B.

HB6724
~~SB22~~
HB6725
~~SB842~~
HB5658

6724, which are DCF proposals and we thank the committee for raising these bills.

S.B. Number 863, AN ACT CONCERNING JUVENILE JUSTICE RISK AND NEEDS ASSESSMENTS, amends the statute regarding risk and needs assessments for juvenile offenders to include applicability to girls in the juvenile justice system. The current statute requiring risk and needs assessment for delinquent youth applies only to male juvenile offenders, although such assessments are currently conducted for girls in the juvenile justice system. This proposal updates the statute to conform to current practice.

H. B. Number 6723, AN ACT CONCERNING THE GROUNDS FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS, updates the statutory grounds for termination of parental rights consistent with other statutes and current practices. Previously, abuse as a category was included as a form of neglect, and now it -- and it no longer is and there's a need to revise the statutes to make a distinct legal basis for the initial neglect, abused, or uncared for petition.

House Bill Number 6724, AN ACT CONCERNING TECHNICAL AND MINOR REVISIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES STATUTES. As the title implies make several minor revisions to DCF statutes and I'm happy to -- to answer specific questions about those if you have them.

Regarding other bills on your public agenda hearing, let me start with proposed S.B. Number 622, AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES. We would

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

**CHILDREN
PART 3
976 – 1450**

2015



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Public Hearing Testimony
Committee on Children
February 17, 2015



H.B. No. 6724 AN ACT CONCERNING TECHNICAL AND MINOR REVISIONS TO THE
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES STATUTES

The Department of Children and Families supports H.B. No. 6724, An Act Concerning Technical and Minor Revisions to the Department of Children and Families Statutes.

This bill makes minor changes to the statutes involving the Department of Children and Families.

Sections 1 through 4 delete obsolete references to "certified relatives" in §§ 17a-11(d), 17a-93, 17a-11b and 17a-114a. Section 24 of Public Act 12-1 (December Special Session) repealed the specific statutory authority of certified relative caregivers as the Department had stopped new placements of children with certified relatives over ten years ago because those placements did not qualify for federal Title IV-E reimbursement. Those certified relative caregivers in place at that time were "grandfathered"; however, no such placements have existed for the past several years.

Section 5 corrects references to the Department's Family Assessment Response program.

Sections 6 and 7 renames the "Adoption Resource Exchange" as the "Permanency Resource Exchange."