

Legislative History for Connecticut Act

PA 16-176

SB392

Senate	1022, 1024	2
Human Services	800-801	2

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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SENATE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2016**

**VOL. 59
PART 3
679 – 1032**

SENATOR DUFF (25TH):

Thank you, Madam President. Could the chamber stand at ease for a moment?

THE CHAIR:

Senate will stand at ease.

Senate will come back to order. Senator Duff.

SENATOR DUFF (25TH):

Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, I'd like to add a few items to our Consent Calendar, please.

THE CHAIR:

Please proceed sir.

SENATOR DUFF (25TH):

Thank you, on page 6, Calendar 268, Senate Bill 392,
I'd like to place that item on our Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR DUFF (25TH):

Thank you. On calendar page 18, Calendar 4414,
Senate Bill 471, I'd like to place that item on our
consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

cf/mc
SENATE

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April 21, 2016

On page 6, Calendar 268, Senate Bill 392, on page 18, Calendar 414, Senate Bill 471, page 28, Calendar 223, Senate Bill 302, page 29, Calendar 260, Senate Bill 231, and on page 31, Calendar 308, Senate Bill 303.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk, will you please call for roll call vote on Consent Calendar 1. The machine is opened.

THE CLERK:

Immediate Roll Call has been ordered in the Senate.
Immediate Roll Call on the first Consent Calendar for today has been ordered in the Senate.

THE CHAIR:

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

THE CLERK:

On today's Consent Calendar

Total number voting	36
Necessary for Adoption	19
Those voting Yea	36
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	0

THE CHAIR:

Consent Calendar passes. Senator Duff.

SENATOR DUFF (25TH):

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

**HUMAN SERVICES
PART 2
633 - 1141**

2016

Senator.

SENATOR KELLY (21ST): (Laughter). Good afternoon Chairpersons, Senator Moore, Representative Abercrombie, ranking members, Senator Markley and Representative Wood as well as the entire Human Services Committee. Thank you for your service to the state of Connecticut and working on many important issues that come before you. Today, I would like to talk about Senate Bill 392 entitled AN ACT CONCERNING ADOPTION OF THE SPECIAL NEEDS FAIRNESS ACT IN CONNECTICUT and that's upon passing Congress.

Basically, we have what's called special needs trusts which enable individuals, disabled individuals to qualify for both Medicaid and Social Security Disability benefits and protect their assets and in order to do so it can only be done if it's created by a parent, a court or a legal guardian but it doesn't allow the individual themselves to do it. Right now, there is a bill pending in Congress. It has passed the U.S. Senate. It's now in the House that's going to enable that federal law to be changed to allow that individual to create the trust.

The reason it's important is that right now in order for somebody to use their own money to protect it they would have to go to court and it costs a lot of money, particularly if you are going to probate court to have a conservator you not only need your own lawyer but the court will have another lawyer appointed and it's very cost. You know, it's not cost efficient. It's costly and time-consuming. This is basically a technical fix that would help

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disabled individuals get to where they need to be so that they can participate in Medicaid and supplemental security income programs for their benefit and use their money to do so.

REP. ABERCROMBIE (83RD): Thank you Senator and I would like to just take this opportunity to also thank you for always bringing this thoughtful legislation to this committee. You're someone that I've worked with in the past because nobody really knows this better than you do and just for clarification for members on this committee if you read this legislation I just want you to be aware this isn't an open-ended legislation. This is particular to one particular issue that's going on in Congress. If it gets passed before we gavel out, then this, then we will vote on this. If it does not pass Congress, this bill will not go any place okay? So I just want everybody to be aware we're going to have. We're not going to put the cart before the horse which is what this legislation kind of does but we want to make sure we have a vehicle if Congress passes this before we gavel out so I just want everybody to be clear on that. Questions or comments from members? Representative Wood.

REP. WOOD (141ST): Thank you Madam Chair and thank you Senator Kelly. It's, you enlighten us in many ways and this has been very helpful so thank you.

SENATOR KELLY (21ST): Thank you.

REP. ABERCROMBIE (83RD): Further questions or comments? No. Thank you sir. We appreciate it. Have a great day.