

Legislative History for Connecticut Act

PA 17-84

SB941

House	7496-7499, 7539-7542	8
Senate	2120-2122, 2134-2135	5
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Transcripts from the Joint Standing Committee Public
Hearing(s) and/or Senate and House of Representatives
Proceedings

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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2017**

**VOL.60
PART 18
7357 -7732**

jmf
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

407
June 6, 2017

CLERK:

On page 36, Calendar 622, substitute Senate Bill No. 941 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING REVISIONS TO LOCAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PLANS; favorable report of the Joint Standing Committee on Public Health.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Representative Steinberg of the 136th, you have the floor.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Good evening, Mr. Speaker.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Good evening.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

I move for acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill in concurrence with the Senate.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

The question before the Chamber is acceptance and passage in concurrence. Please proceed.

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REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This bill relates to the Department of Public Health's relationship with municipalities and their emergency services plan. Currently, the Department of Public Health has to review and update them every five years. This bill sort of shifts the responsibility to municipalities, which currently do not have to update their EMS plans at any set schedule. This would require them to update it every five years and make sure the report is filed on a timely manner with the Department of Public Health. I move adoption.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

The question before the Chamber is passage of the bill. Representative Srinivasan of the 31st, on passage. Please proceed.

REP. SRINIVASAN (31ST):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good evening, Mr. Speaker. Just a few questions, through you, Mr. Speaker. So when this -- now, the municipalities, through this bill, will have to come up with a plan

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every five years to DPH?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. That is correct.

Through you.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Representative Srinivasan.

REP. SRINIVASAN (31ST):

This was -- it was felt by a cost; the Connecticut Council of Small Towns, that this might cause them to have, in certain towns, an undue financial restraints. Through you, Mr. Speaker. Was that concern of the small towns addressed?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I'm sure it was considered. The feeling was because of the

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importance to maintain up-to-date emergency service plans that a five-year window was not overly burdensome.

Through you.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Representative Srinivasan.

REP. SRINIVASAN (31ST):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No more questions to the Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Thank you, sir. (Gavel)

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Mr. Speaker, I move that this be added to the Consent Calendar?

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Further comment on Senate Bill 941? Further comment on Senate Bill 941? If not, we have a motion before the Chamber to place on -- this item on consent. Is there objection? Is there objection? Seeing none. So ordered. Thank you.
(Gavel)

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just so we have that correct.

REP. SAMPSON (80TH):

The bill no. is 7273.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

(Bill) 7273, Calendar 324.

REP. SAMPSON (80TH):

Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Thank you very much. That shall be removed from the Consent Calendar. So ordered. (Gavel) And we'll stand at ease for a minute or two.

Would the House please come back to order?

Would the House please come back to order? We are about to -- I'm about to request that the Clerk -- that he read the bills that are contained upon today's Consent Calendar. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK:

List of bills from Consent Calendar: Senate Bill 884 with Senate "A"; Senate Bill 826 with Senate "A"; House Bill 7278 with House "A"; Senate Bill 353 with Senate "A"; Senate Bill 968; Senate

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Bill 26; Senate Bill 930 with Senate "A"; Senate
Bill 911 with Senate "A"; Senate Bill 1020; Senate
Bill 983; Senate Bill 914; Senate Bill No. 4 with
Senate "A"; Senate Bill 941; Senate Bill 917 with
Senate "A"; Senate Bill 836 with Senate "A"; Senate
Bill 890; Senate Bill 893; Senate Bill 895 with
Senate "A"; Senate Bill 901 with Senate "A" and "B";
Senate Bill 904 with Senate "A".

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Representative Albis.

REP. ALBIS (99TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move
passage of the bills on today's Consent Calendar.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

The question before the Chamber is passage of
the Consent Calendar. Would you remark on the
motion on the floor? The motion before the Chamber
is passage of the Consent Calendar. The motion
before the Chamber is adoption and passage of the
Consent Calendar. Further on this motion? If not,
staff and guests please retire to the Well of the

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House. Members take your seats. The machine will be opened. (Ringing)

CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by roll.

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

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Have all members voted? If all the members have voted, please check the board to make sure your vote is properly cast. If all members have voted, the machine will be locked. Would the Clerk please take a tally? Would the Clerk please announce the tally?

CLERK:

Consent Calendar 1,

Total number Voting	150
Necessary for Passage	76
Those voting Yea	150
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not Voting	1

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ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

The Consent Calendar passes. (Gavel) Thank you
all.

Would the Clerk please call Calendar 324 again?

CLERK:

On page 13, House Calendar 324, substitute
House Bill No. 7273 - AN ACT CONCERNING LOCAL
EDUCATION AUTHORITIES; favorable report of the Joint
Standing Committee on Education.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Representative Fleischmann, you have the floor.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move acceptance of
the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage
of the bill.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

The question is acceptance and passage. Please
proceed.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I described this bill
before it went on the Consent Calendar. A good

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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SENATE**

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tm
Senate

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May 31, 2017

CLERK:

Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate.
Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate.

THE CHAIR:

This is the bill. Senator Formica. Senator Formica. All members have voted. All members have voted. The machine will be closed. Mr. Clerk, will you please call a tally?

CLERK:

S.B. No. 734,

Total number voting	35
Those voting Aye	31
Those voting Nay	4
Absent, not voting	1

THE CHAIR:

The bill passes. [Gavel] Mr. Clerk.

CLERK:

On Page 17, Calendar 335, Substitute for S.B. No. 941, AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING REVISIONS TO LOCAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PLANTS.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Gerratana.

SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

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Senate

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May 31, 2017

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

THE CHAIR:

Motion is on acceptance and passage. Will you remark, ma'am?

SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

Yes. Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, this bill comes to us from the Department of Public Health. It will require municipalities to update and submit their EMS plan every five years. Currently, they have the option to do it as they see fit. DPH explained in their testimony that it's important for each community to have an updated EMS plan. The bill also establishes protocol and timeframes for submission and approval of the EMS plans. I know talking with DPH they are very willing to help municipalities become compliant. Thank you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you. Will you remark further on the bill? Will you remark further on the bill? Senator Somers.

SENATOR SOMERS (18TH):

Thank you, Madam President. As Senator Gerratana, my co-chair has explained, this is very important for DPH to ensure that we have quality EMS service throughout all communities both rural and urban and I would urge passage of this bill. Thank you.

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Senate

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THE CHAIR:

Thank you. Will you remark further on the bill?
Will you remark further on the bill? If not,
Senator Gerratana.

SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

Madam President, if there is no objection, I would
ask that this be moved to our consent calendar.
Thank you.

THE CHAIR:

I see no objections. So ordered. Senate will stand
at ease for a moment. The Senate will come back to
order. Senator Duff.

SENATOR DUFF (25TH):

Thank you, Madam President. Would the clerk now
call as the next go, Calendar Page 17, Calendar 461,
H.B. 7106? I'm sorry, Madam President. Calendar
Page 33, Calendar 461, H.B. 7106.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, sir. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK:

On Page 33, Calendar 461, Substitute for H.B. No. 7106,
AN ACT CONCERNING AUDIT REPORTS FILED WITH THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY.

THE CHAIR:

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Senate

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May 31, 2017

And, thank you, Madam President. For our last item on Calendar Page 39, Calendar 495, H.B. 7245, I'd like to mark that item to our consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

I'm seeing no objections. So ordered.

SENATOR DUFF (25TH):

Thank you, Madam President. The clerk can now call for a vote on the consent calendar, please.

THE CHAIR:

You'll have to just give us a minute and we'll do that in a second. Mr. Clerk, will you please call, do you have the bills that are on the consent calendar? Would you repeat that, please? Would you tell what bills they are, sir?

CLERK:

Page 17, Calender 355, S.B. 941; on Page 21, Calendar 378, H.B. 6979; Page 32, Calendar 450, 7196 H.B.; Page 20, Calendar 368, H.B. 7173; and on Page 39, Calendar 495, H.B. 7245.

THE CHAIR:

At this time, Mr. Clerk, will you call for roll call vote on the second consent calendar? The machine will be open.

CLERK:

tm
Senate

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May 31, 2017

Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate on the second consent calendar for today. Immediate roll call in the Senate.

THE CHAIR:

All members have voted. All members have voted. The machine will be closed. Mr. Clerk, will you call the tally?

CLERK:

On the 2nd consent calendar for today,

Total number voting	35
Those voting Aye	35
Those voting Nay	0
Absent, not voting	1

THE CHAIR:

The consent calendar has been adopted. Senator Duff.

SENATOR DUFF (25TH):

Thank you, Madam President. That concludes our business for today. I will yield to any announcements or points of personal privilege.

THE CHAIR:

Any points of personal privilege or announcements? Seeing none. Senator Duff.

SENATOR DUFF (25TH):

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

**PUBLIC
HEALTH
PART 10
4416 - 4913**

2017

Next is Commissioner Raul Pino followed by Commissioner Amy Porter.

Good morning, happy spring.

RAUL PINO: Senator Gerratana, Representative Steinberg and Representative Srinivasan, and all the distinguished members of the committee. My name is Raul Pino, I'm the Commissioner of The Department of Public Health and I'm here to support seven bills. So I will try to go through those rather quick. And we have submitted testimony for each of those bills.

Thanks for this opportunity. The first bill is bill 795 that is AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OFFICE OF HEATHLH STRATEGY AND IMPROVING THE CERTIFICATE OF NEED PROGRAM.

As you heard from the Lieutenant Governor, the establishing of this office will extend the money of OHCA's responsibility over the health care mergers and acquisitions including to enhance [inaudible00:30:37] complaints.

It will also limit the recommendation that impedes the entry of new entities into the health care market in Connecticut as well as new technologies.

And also it's threatened the planning and function that OHCA has through the development of a more robust and comprehensive state-wide Healthcare facilities planning.

It also increased the public input and transparency for the certificate of new process and it streamlined the applications established in expedite review.

Senate bill 797 is AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS.

SB 938

SB 941

HB 7088

HB 7089

HB 7222

Among those you will see that increase civil penalties associated with Class A and B violations in chronic and convalescent nursing homes or residential care homes.

It also requires community and non-transient community public water systems to obtain a two-year license by July, 2018 and defines, also defines urgent care centers and requires them to be licensed as an outpatient clinic.

Senate Bill 938, AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH RECOMMENDATION FOR A STATE-WIDE ADOPTION OF THE MEDICAL ORDERS FOR LIFE-SUSTAINING TREATMENT PROGRAM.

So the life sustaining program we have come back to the pilot for the past few years. We had great reception from the community advocates and providers and what we call the moves, is a transferrable across providers and it allows the patients with terminal ill or debilitating disease to establish and decide what kind of sustained measures they would like to have in place.

We also are supporting bill 941, AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING REVISIONS TO THE LOCAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PLANS.

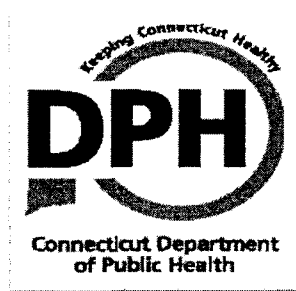
This bill basically outlines a timeframe into week the department interacting with the community and the municipalities will have a plan review as well as the approval of the plans for each of the EMS services.

Currently those timelines are now well-defined and it will help us and the communities to develop these plans.

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

**PUBLIC
HEALTH
PART 11
4914 - 5291**

2017



Connecticut Department of Public Health

Testimony Presented Before the Public Health Committee

March 20, 2017

Commissioner Raul Pino, M.D., M.P.H.
860-509-7101

**Senate Bill 941 - An Act Concerning the Department of Public Health's Recommendations
Regarding Revisions to Local Emergency Medical Services Plans**

The Department of Public Health (DPH) supports Senate Bill 941, which incorporates the Department's recommendations regarding revisions to local emergency medical services (EMS) plans. The Department would like to thank the Public Health Committee for raising the Department's bill, and for the opportunity to testify on this important issue.

In 2014, the general statutes regarding EMS plans were amended to include a requirement for municipalities to revise their EMS plans as they deem necessary. The amendment included specific requirements for the Department, as follows: assist municipalities with updating their plans; review their plans every five years; and to follow specific criteria when reviewing the plans. The law provided further clarification on the definition of different types of performance standards.

The recommendations contained in this bill are based on two years of experience with complying with the 2014 legislation. The bill would require a municipality to review and update their plan every five years instead of "as the municipality determined is necessary." The Department's staff will be reviewing the plans on a revolving basis so that planning does not lag behind the continuously evolving system standards.

The bill outlines specific timeframes for submission and approval of the EMS plans. The Department would provide a municipality with four months notice as to when their evaluation will take place. During this four month period, the municipality would be required to review their EMS plan and submit it to DPH. The Department would then have two months to review the plan and send notice to the municipality regarding whether their plan was accepted or rejected. The Department's staff assigned to work with the municipalities would provide technical assistance and a detailed explanation regarding needed revisions to a rejected plan. In turn, the municipality would have three months to resubmit a revised plan for approval.

Additionally, the bill would clarify what is considered a "performance standard." The EMS plans would have to include the following performance standards:

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- percentage of first call responses met;
- response time standards;
- quality assurance standards; and
- service area coverage patterns.

The aforementioned information would provide the Department with a gauge to determine whether the standards set within the plan are achievable, and align them with national best practices.

The Department would like to offer technical corrections for your consideration. We welcome the opportunity to work with the Public Health Committee to draft substitute language. Thank you for your consideration of this important information.