



House of Representatives

File No. 1014

General Assembly

January Session, 2009

(Reprint of File No. 638)

Substitute House Bill No. 6693
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
May 28, 2009

**AN ACT CONCERNING GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND THE
DESIGNATION OF CERTAIN DAYS AND MONTHS BY THE
GOVERNOR.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 10-29a of the general statutes is
2 amended by adding subdivisions (53) to (60), inclusive, as follows
3 (*Effective from passage*):

4 (NEW) (53) The Governor shall proclaim the month of September to
5 be Arnold-Chiari Malformation Awareness Month to heighten public
6 awareness of Arnold-Chiari Malformation's attendant presentations
7 and treatments. Suitable exercises shall be held in the State Capitol and
8 elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of the month.

9 (NEW) (54) The Governor shall proclaim August twenty-third of
10 each year to be Missing Persons Day to raise awareness of the plight of
11 the families of state citizens who have been reported as missing.
12 Suitable exercises shall be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as
13 the Governor designates for the observance of the day.

14 (NEW) (55) The Governor shall proclaim May twelfth of each year
15 to be Fibromyalgia Awareness Day to heighten public awareness of the
16 associated presentation and available treatments for fibromyalgia
17 disorder. Suitable exercises shall be held in the State Capitol and
18 elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of the day.

19 (NEW) (56) The Governor shall proclaim September thirteenth of
20 each year to be Fragile X Awareness Day to heighten public awareness
21 of Fragile X's attendant presentations and treatments. Suitable
22 exercises shall be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the
23 Governor designates for the observance of the day.

24 (NEW) (57) The Governor shall proclaim March first of each year to
25 be Self Injury Awareness Day to increase awareness of the issues
26 surrounding self injury. Suitable exercises shall be held in the State
27 Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance
28 of the day.

29 (NEW) (58) The Governor shall proclaim the third week in
30 September of each year to be Mitochondrial Disease Awareness Week
31 to raise awareness of Mitochondrial Disease. Suitable exercises shall be
32 held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for
33 the observance of the week.

34 (NEW) (59) The Governor shall proclaim the twenty-ninth day of
35 January of each year to be Thomas Paine Day to honor Thomas Paine,
36 the author and theorist, for his instrumental role in the cause of
37 independence leading to the American Revolution. Suitable exercises
38 shall be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor
39 designates for the observance of the day.

40 (NEW) (60) The Governor shall proclaim July first, Canada Day, of
41 each year to be Canada Appreciation Day to honor the close ties of
42 geography, culture and economy between our two countries. Suitable
43 exercises shall be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the
44 Governor designates for the observance of the day.

45 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) Section 5 of public act 08-56 shall take
46 effect from its passage.

47 Sec. 3. Section 4-61mm of the general statutes is repealed and the
48 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

49 [(a)] Each state agency, as part of its annual report to the General
50 Assembly and the Governor, shall include an evaluation of its
51 volunteer program which details the following information: (1) The
52 total number, location and duties of all volunteers; and (2) the total
53 number of annual hours of service provided by all volunteers. [; and
54 (3) a cost benefits analysis of volunteer services for the preceding year
55 based on guidelines established by the Council on Voluntary Action.
56 Such guidelines shall not be deemed to be regulations as defined in
57 subsection (13) of section 4-166.]

58 [(b) Each state agency shall furnish, at the time of filing such annual
59 report, a copy of such evaluation to the Council on Voluntary Action.]

60 Sec. 4. Subdivision (23) of subsection (a) of section 10-29a of the
61 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
62 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

63 (23) The Governor shall proclaim September eleventh of each year
64 as Honor Our Heroes and Remembrance Day, in memory of those who
65 lost their lives or suffered injuries in the terrorist attacks on September
66 11, 2001, and in honor of the service, sacrifice and contributions of the
67 firefighters, police officers and other personnel who responded to such
68 attacks. Suitable exercises shall be held in the State Capitol and
69 elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of the day.

70 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2009*) Any United States or
71 Connecticut state flag (1) displayed on or in any public building
72 owned or leased by the state, or used for the purposes of sections 3-2b,
73 4b-14, 9-237 or 51-27g of the general statutes, and (2) purchased after
74 the effective date of this section, shall be manufactured in the United
75 States.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	10-29a(a)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	4-61mm
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	10-29a(a)(23)
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	New section

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

There is no anticipated fiscal impact associated with this bill.

House "A" adds various awareness days and adds a provision regarding the purchasing of United States or Connecticut state flags that are displayed. The provisions of this amendment follow current practice and have no fiscal impact.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 6693 (as amended by House "A")******AN ACT CONCERNING GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND THE DESIGNATION OF CERTAIN DAYS AND MONTHS BY THE GOVERNOR.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill (1) authorizes the state librarian to establish the Real Property Electronic Recording Advisory Committee prior to October 1, 2009, rather than on or after this date; (2) repeals the requirement for state agencies to include a cost-benefit analysis of volunteer services in their annual report to the governor; (3) designates several days, one week, and one month to heighten public awareness of various issues; and (4) requires that national and Connecticut state flags purchased after July 1, 2009 and displayed on state-owned or -leased public buildings be manufactured in the United States.

*House Amendment "A" (1) adds the designations of Self Injury Awareness Day, Mitochondrial Disease Awareness Week, Thomas Paine Day, and Canada Appreciation Day; (2) combines Honor Our Heroes Day in the original file with the current Remembrance Day; (3) adds the flag provision; and (4) makes technical changes to the designations in the original file.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, except that the flag provision is effective July 1, 2009.

REAL PROPERTY ELECTRONIC RECORDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Effective October 1, 2009, PA 08-56 § 5 requires the state librarian to (1) establish a Real Property Electronic Recording Advisory Committee and (2) adopt regulations to implement the Uniform Real Property

Electronic Recording Act created by the act, in consultation with the committee and the public records administrator.

The bill makes PA 08-56 § 5 effective upon signing by the governor (May 12, 2008), rather than October 1, 2009, thus authorizing the state librarian to establish the committee and regulations prior to the time they must implement the Uniform Real Property Electronic Recording Act.

STATE DESIGNATIONS

The bill requires the governor to proclaim:

1. September as Arnold-Chiari Malformation Awareness Month to heighten public awareness of its symptoms and treatments;
2. August 23rd of each year as Missing Persons Day to raise awareness of the plight of families of state citizens who have been reported as missing;
3. May 12th of each year as Fibromyalgia Awareness Day to heighten public awareness about its symptoms and treatments;
4. September 13th of each year as Fragile X Awareness Day to heighten public awareness of its symptoms and treatments;
5. March 1st of each year as Self Injury Awareness Day to increase awareness of the issues surrounding self injury;
6. the third week in September of each year as Mitochondrial Disease Awareness Week to raise awareness of the disease;
7. January 29th of each year as Thomas Paine Day to honor the author and theorist for his role in the cause of American independence; and
8. July 1st of each year as Canada Appreciation Day to honor the close geographic, cultural, and economic ties between the United States and Canada.

Under the bill, suitable exercises must be held in the state capitol, and elsewhere as the governor designates, to observe Arnold-Chiari Malformation Awareness Month, and Mitochondrial Disease Awareness Week, and each public awareness day.

The bill also adds the designation "Honor Our Heroes" to Remembrance Day that, by law, is observed on September 11th each year in memory of those who lost their lives or were injured in the September 11, 2001 attacks and to honor the service, sacrifice, and contributions of the responders.

COUNTRY OF MANUFACTURE FOR FLAGS

The bill requires that national and Connecticut state flags purchased after July 1, 2009 and (1) displayed on or in state-owned or -leased public buildings, on the walls of polling places during election hours, or outside of courthouses, the State Armory, State Office Building, state police building, and the State Library in Hartford or (2) provided by the veterans' affairs commissioner for use on the graves of legislators or statewide officers be manufactured in the United States.

BACKGROUND

Arnold-Chiari Malformations

Arnold-Chiari malformations are structural defects in the cerebellum, the part of the brain that controls balance. Symptoms include dizziness, muscle weakness, numbness, vision problems, headache, and problems with balance and coordination. The most serious of the three primary forms, Type III, causes severe neurological defects, according to the National Institutes of Health's National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke.

Fragile X

Fragile X is a family of genetic conditions that can impact individuals and families in various ways. Fragile X is the most common cause of inherited mental impairment. The impairment can range from learning disabilities to more severe cognitive or intellectual disabilities, according to the National Fragile X Foundation.

Mitochondrial Disease

Mitochondrial disease is a chronic, genetic, neuromuscular disorder with symptoms like muscle weakness, deafness and blindness, neurological problems, and developmental delays.

Related Bill

sHB 5949 (File 937) includes a similar requirement regarding the manufacture of U.S. and state flags. The House passed the bill on May 14. It is now on the Senate calendar.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 15 Nay 0 (03/30/2009)