



Preparation of Joint Favorable Reports

J.F.
REPORTS

Importance Of JF Reports

- Report compiled by committee staff for each favorably reported bill
- Summarizes ***the reason*** a bill was proposed, sources of support, and sources of opposition
- Informs the screening processes of other committees and the 4 caucuses

JF Report Application

(See *Committee Applications User Guide*)

- CGA Internet Home Page
 - “My Job”
 - Committee Web Suite
 - Committee Meeting
 - Joint Favorable Report
- Enter Bill Number
- Click “Preview”



Pre-Filled Fields

- Committee
- Bill Title
- Vote Date
- Action (including Change of Reference)
- Public Hearing Date
- File Number (if available)

Sponsors of the Bill

- Legislators
- Legislative Leaders, on behalf of the Governor
- Committee, on behalf of/requested by
 - State Agencies
 - Special Interest Groups
 - Legislators

Reasons for the Bill

- Give the **REASON WHY** the bill was proposed
 - Why is the bill needed?
- **DO NOT USE:**
 - “Statement of Purpose”
 - OLR Bill Summaries
- Narrative should:
 - be objective (no personal opinions)
 - reflect the bill as it leaves the committee (amended)



“What” versus “Why”

An Act Concerning Grants for the Humane Trapping and Releasing of Woodchucks

- What:
 - The bill provides grants of up to \$500 to homeowners for the humane trapping and releasing of woodchucks.
- Why:
 - The bill provides grants of up to \$500 to homeowners for the humane trapping and releasing of woodchucks by woodchuck wranglers. It has been widely reported by garden clubs and horticultural societies that the woodchuck population in the state has exploded, causing significant and costly damage to residential gardens. The grant would provide relief to homeowners who seek to rid their yards of these animals, thereby preserving the aesthetics of their perfectly landscaped yards while providing protection for the woodchucks.

Substitute Language



- Address the *INTENT/EFFECT* of substitute language, not recording of the actual language change
- Include a brief paragraph on the reason for the original version of the bill

Substitute Language

- **DON'T:**

In line 29, delete “Hartford” and insert “Bridgeport”; in line 72, delete “Hartford” and insert “Bridgeport”

- **DO:**

In lines 29 and 72, the word “Hartford” was replaced with the word “Bridgeport” because the University of Bridgeport will now be undertaking the program, instead of the University of Hartford

Where to Get Information

- Bill Request/Correspondence from Proponents
- Public Hearing Testimony
- Fact Sheets/Information Packets submitted by agencies, lobbyists, organizations, individuals
- Bill Screening
- OLR and LCO Staff
- Legislators



Response from Administration/Agency

- Executive Branch Response – **Not Legislators**
 - Name and title of person offering testimony
 - Agency represented
 - Support or Opposition
 - Summary of testimony

Nature and Sources of Support/Opposition

- Who likes/dislikes the bill? Identify the person (name and title) and the entity they represent
- What message did they convey? Summarize it.
- Manner in which their opinion was offered (public hearing testimony, fact sheet, etc.)
- Suggested language changes

Support/Opposition (cont.)

- Controversy?
 - Language
 - Cost
- Was the bill amended to address concerns?
- If no comment was offered, enter
“None Expressed”

Example of Grouping Testimony:

- Several speakers testified on the benefits of breastfeeding for both the child and the mother. They spoke of the nutritional benefits to the child, the health benefits to the mothers, and the importance of a mother's consistent presence as their child develops:
 - Kathy Loomis, La Leche League of CT
 - Dena Tantamonico, Parent
 - Dr. Peter Stork, American Academy of Pediatrics
 - Sheilah Albert, Lactation Consultant, Hartford Hospital
 - Dr. Rachel Woodward, Pediatrician
 - Dr. Anne McCarthy, Health Director, Town of Milford

Proposed Substitutes

- **Reasons for Bill**
- Address what the proposed language accomplishes and why it was adopted
 - Indicate if the bill was amended in response to input from state agencies, organizations, individuals
 - Include a brief paragraph on the reason for the original version of the bill
- **Nature and Sources of Support/Opposition**
 - Cite any testimony given that lead to substitute language
 - If no testimony was offered - **“None Expressed for Proposed Substitute Bill XX”**

Change of Reference Bills or Floor Referrals

- If the bill leaves your committee unchanged, insert “See “X” Committee JF Report” for:
 - Reasons for the Bill
 - Response from Administration/Agency
 - Nature and Sources of Support
 - Nature and Sources of Opposition
 - Get “Sponsors of the Bill” from original JF Report
- If the bill is amended in your committee, include the reason for the change under “Reasons for the Bill”

“How Long Do I Have?!”

- Change of Reference Bills
 - Priority – be aware of the receiving committee’s deadline
- LCO Reports on Favorable Bills
 - FREF Report is sent to Committee Clerks
 - Useful tool to alert committees that favorable language has been referred to OLR and OFA for preparation of bill analyses and fiscal notes
 - OLR and OFA have 5 days, collectively, to get their pieces ready for the file copy

“Grade the JF Report”

SPONSORS OF BILL:

Rep. Amann

Rep. Collins

Rep. Roy

Sen. Smith



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“Grade the JF Report”

REASONS FOR BILL:

To promote breast-feeding, maternal and child nutrition and health, and to provide job training for low-income women.



Instead:

This bill establishes public education and awareness programs on the benefits of breast-feeding, and prohibits harassment or prosecution for breast-feeding in public. According to public health officials, the lack of information or dissemination of misinformation regarding breast-feeding has resulted in a lack of public support and strong role models, which are believed to encourage more women to embrace the health benefits of breast-feeding. In addition, there have been reports of harassment by public officials of women who breast-fed in public. The bill would protect women from harassment and arrest by guaranteeing their right to breast-feed in public.

“Grade the JF Report”

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Dr. Ardel Wilson, Dept. of Public Health: The Department of Public Health (DPH) is in favor of the bill, as it would allow the department to implement two effective methods to promote and sustain breast-feeding. The first is the establishment of up to five breast-feeding peer counselor programs, with priority being given to low income women enrolled in the WIC program. The second is a statewide public education program to promote breast-feeding. Implementation of these programs will allow CT to move closer to the healthy People 2000 targets for breast-feeding. The department would need \$325,000 to administer the programs.



Instead:

Dr. Ardel Wilson, Director, Maternal and Child Health Bureau,
Dept. of Public Health

“Grade the JF Report”

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Rep. Amann: Rep. Amann introduced the bill after one of his constituents reported her encounter with a Milford police officer while breast-feeding her child in her automobile. He has heard many more stories of harassment and intimidation of nursing mothers. Twelve states give protection to women who breast-feed.



Instead:

Enter under the “Nature and Sources of Support” section

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NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Susan Schultheiss, CT Association for Human Services: Supports the bill



Instead:

Susan Schultheiss, Policy Analyst, CT Association for Human Services: Ms.

Schultheiss testified that many women face significant barriers when they decide to breast-feed, including lack of information or misinformation about proper breast-feeding techniques and management, lack of post-partum support services and a lack of role models who breast-feed. The CT Association for Human Services supports the establishment of peer counselor programs and a statewide public education campaign. The organization also supports language guaranteeing a woman's right to breast-feed in public.

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Joseph Grabarz: Over a number of years, the Civil Liberties Union has identified sources of harassment of breast-feeding women. This bill will make clear to the towns and public officials that breast-feeding is "part and parcel" of the State's public health policy.



Instead:

Joseph Grabarz, Executive Director, CT Civil Liberties Union: Mr. Grabarz stated that over a number of years, the Civil Liberties Union has identified sources of harassment of breast-feeding women. This bill will make clear to the towns and public officials that breast-feeding is "part and parcel" of the State's public health policy.

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Jennifer Tow, Counselor, Hartford and St. Francis Hospitals' Breast-feeding Peer Counseling Programs: Ms. Tow testified that, although breast-feeding is natural, it is also learned. She stated that women no longer have the family and community role models they once had. She shared that the American Academy of Pediatrics and the World Health Organization have become powerful advocates of breast-feeding. However, it has been her experience that the message has not reached far beyond breast-feeding advocates or women already inclined to become educated about breast-feeding. She believes this bill would improve the current environment.



“Grade the JF Report”

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

Prudence Lilywhite, Executive Director, CT Chapter, Citizens for Public Decency:

Ms. Lilywhite stated that breast-feeding is one of those functions that is personal in nature and should be kept that way. Her testimony was over-the-top, and she was argumentative with committee members. She seemed to have a very tight social and political relationship with Senator Pleasanton.



Instead:

Prudence Lilywhite, Executive Director, CT Chapter of the Citizens for Public

Decency: Ms. Lilywhite stated that breast-feeding is one of those functions that is personal in nature and should be kept that way. She believes that children who are bottle-fed fare as well as children who are breast-fed.

Questions?

Thank you.

Susan Keane

Appropriations Committee

Room 2700

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