

Judiciary Committee

JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: HB-6982

AN ACT CONCERNING LIABILITY FOR INJURIES INHERENT IN CAMPING

Title: WHILE AT A PRIVATE CAMPGROUND.

Vote Date: 4/10/2025

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 3/3/2025

File No.:

Disclaimer: *The following JOINT FAVORABLE Report is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose.*

SPONSORS OF BILL:

Judiciary Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

Private campground owners have had incidences in the past where they were sued for someone being injured on their campground for a hazard that typically comes from camping. This bill would limit the liability for a private campground owner when someone gets injured for a hazard that is inherent in camping.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None expressed.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Rep. John Piscopo, CT House Republicans, 76th district: Representative Piscopo authored this bill to statutorily protect private campgrounds from liability stemming from the inherent risks of going camping. It establishes common sense responsibility for individuals while camping, and protects campers injured because of negligence, intentional injury, their safety being ignored, lack of appropriate warning signs, or general failure to provide ordinary care.

Heather and Ray Lewis, Nickerson Park Family Campground: They support this legislation because, as lifelong campers, they fully agree that there are risks inherent to camping, and that it is unreasonable to hold campgrounds fully liable for these risks. They fully agree that liability for management should only be in the instances of clear negligence when it comes to reasonable safety measures.

Peter Brown, CT Campground Owners Association
Michelle Botelho, Circle C Campground, Inc.
William C. Brennan, Hopeville Hideaway RV Parl and Campground
Ashley Cary, Hidden Acres Family Campground
Melissa Engel, Markham Meadows Campground
Scott Gladstone, Priscilla Sherman, Acorn Acres Campground
Valerie and Kathryn Hornat, Laurel Lock Campground
Brian Kprten, Water's Edge Campground
Brittany Mathis, Quarry Campground
Monicca Bragdon, Mineral Springs Family Campground
Teresa Cinea, Salem Farms Campground, LLC.
Elaine Cotnoir, Peppertree Camping
Kim Gillette, Lake Williams Campground Association
Michael Kelsey, Niantic KOA Holiday

The State Campground Owners Association supports this legislation because it addresses the inherent risks posed by camping. This legislation holds campground owners accountable for providing a safe environment for customers, while also establishing protections from the inherent dangers of camping. They believe that there exists precedent of this nature involving both the ski and equestrian industries, and this proposal aims to replicate the sharing of liability.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None expressed.

Reported by: Griffin Olshan

Date: April 4, 2025