



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 201

February Session, 2000

Substitute Senate Bill No. 437

Senate, March 23, 2000

The Committee on Public Health reported through SEN. HARP of the 10th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

An Act Establishing A Blue Ribbon Commission On The Future Of Hospitals.

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

- 1 (a) There is established a Blue Ribbon Commission on the Future of
2 Hospitals. The commission shall: (1) Review the current financial
3 situation of hospitals in this state; (2) examine current assessments on
4 such hospitals; (3) examine health care delivery in this state, on a
5 regional basis; (4) determine the effects of managed care on such
6 hospitals; (5) evaluate the impact of the Federal Balanced Budget Act
7 of 1997 on such hospitals; and (6) formulate recommendations for
8 improvements in hospital efficiencies.
- 9 (b) (1) The commission shall consist of the following members:
- 10 (A) Four appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;
- 11 (B) Four appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

- 12 (C) Four appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;
- 13 (D) Four appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;
- 14 (E) Four appointed by the majority leader of the House of
15 Representatives;
- 16 (F) Four appointed by the minority leader of the House of
17 Representatives; and
- 18 (G) Four appointed by the Governor.

19 (2) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing
20 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
21 relating to public health, or their designees, shall be members of the
22 commission. The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint
23 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
24 matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies,
25 and finance, revenue and bonding, or their designees, shall serve as ex-
26 officio members. The Secretary of the Office of Policy and
27 Management, the Commissioner of Health Care Access and the
28 Commissioner of Public Health, or their designees, shall also serve as
29 ex-officio members.

30 (c) All appointments to the commission shall be made no later than
31 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be
32 filled by the appointing authority.

33 (d) The chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General
34 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health, or
35 their designees, shall serve as chairpersons of the commission. The
36 chairpersons shall schedule the first meeting of the commission, which
37 shall be held no later than sixty days after the effective date of this
38 section.

39 (e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the

40 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public
41 health shall serve as administrative staff of the commission.

42 (f) Not later than January 1, 2001, the commission shall submit a
43 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
44 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
45 relating to public health, in accordance with the provisions of section
46 11-4a of the general statutes. The commission shall terminate on the
47 date that it submits such report or January 1, 2001, whichever is earlier.

PH Committee Vote: Yea 22 Nay 0 JFS

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: Minimal Cost

Affected Agencies: Office of Legislative Management, Office of Policy and Management, Office of Health Care Access, Department of Public Health

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

State Impact:

The bill establishes a thirty-two member Blue Ribbon Commission and charges it with conducting a review of Connecticut's hospitals and reporting findings and recommendations to the Public Health Committee by January 1, 2001.

It is anticipated that the scope of the study will be limited by the fact that no funding has been appropriated to either the Office of Legislative Management (OLM) or any state agency participating on the Commission for the purposes of retaining consultant services necessary to conduct a comprehensive study of the financial and programmatic operation of hospitals and their role in the health care delivery system in Connecticut.

As members of the Commission would be eligible for mileage reimbursement, a minimal cost, which can be handled within anticipated budgetary resources, will be incurred by the OLM and the respective state agencies. No additional cost will be incurred in the

course of Public Health Committee staff acting as administrative staff to the Commission.

OLR Bill Analysis
SB 437

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON THE
FUTURE OF HOSPITALS.***

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze special acts.