



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5694

January Session, 2001

AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL DAY CAMPS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 19a-420 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

4 [(a)] (1) "Youth camp" means any regularly scheduled program or
5 organized group activity advertised as a camp or operated by a
6 person, partnership, corporation, association, the state or a municipal
7 agency for recreational or educational purposes and accommodating
8 for profit or under philanthropic or charitable auspices five or more
9 children, under eighteen years of age, who are [(1)] (A) not bona fide
10 personal guests in the private home of an individual, and [(2)] (B)
11 living apart from their relatives, parents or legal guardian, for a period
12 of three days or more per week or portions of three or more days per
13 week, provided any such relative, parent or guardian who is an
14 employee of such camp shall not be considered to be in the position of
15 loco parentis to [his] such employee's child for the purposes of this
16 chapter, but does not include schools which operate a summer
17 educational program or licensed day care centers;

18 [(b)] (2) "Resident camp" means any youth camp which is
19 established, conducted or maintained on any parcel or parcels of land

20 on which there are located dwelling units or buildings intended to
21 accommodate five or more children for at least seventy-two
22 consecutive hours and in which the campers attending such camps eat
23 and sleep;

24 [(c)] (3) "Day camp" means any youth camp which is established,
25 conducted or maintained on any parcel or parcels of land on which
26 there are located dwelling units or buildings intended to accommodate
27 five or more children during daylight hours for at least three days a
28 week with the campers eating and sleeping at home, except for one
29 meal per day, but does not include programs operated by a municipal
30 agency, except as provided in and solely for the purposes of subsection
31 (d) of section 19a-428, as amended by this act;

32 [(d)] (4) "Person" means any individual, partnership, association,
33 organization, limited liability company or corporation;

34 [(e)] (5) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Health;
35 and

36 [(f)] (6) "Department" means the Department of Public Health.

37 Sec. 2. Section 19a-428 of the general statutes is repealed and the
38 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

39 (a) The [Commissioner of Public Health] commissioner shall adopt
40 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, relating to
41 the safe operation of youth camps. The regulations shall contain such
42 provisions as the commissioner deems necessary or desirable,
43 including, but not limited to: [, personnel] (1) Personnel qualifications
44 for director and staff; (2) ratio of staff to campers; (3) sanitation and
45 public health; (4) personal health, first aid and medical services; (5)
46 food handling, mass feeding and cleanliness; (6) water supply and
47 waste disposal; (7) water safety, including use of lakes and rivers,
48 swimming and boating equipment and practices, vehicle condition and
49 operation; (8) building and site design; (9) equipment; and (10)
50 condition and density of use. [, as the commissioner may deem

51 necessary or desirable.] Such regulations shall be construed to be
52 minimum standards subject to the imposition and enforcement of
53 higher standards by any town, city or borough.

54 (b) The [Commissioner of Public Health] commissioner shall adopt
55 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, allowing
56 physical examinations or health status certifications required by youth
57 camps prior to the date of arrival at youth camps to be made by a
58 physician, an advanced practice registered nurse or registered nurse
59 licensed pursuant to chapter 378 or a physician assistant licensed
60 pursuant to chapter 370.

61 (c) The [Commissioner of Public Health] commissioner shall adopt
62 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, that
63 specify conditions under which youth camp directors and staff may
64 administer tests to monitor glucose levels in a child with diagnosed
65 diabetes mellitus, and administer medicinal preparations, including
66 controlled drugs specified in the regulations adopted by the
67 commissioner, to a child enrolled in a youth camp at such camp. The
68 regulations shall require authorization pursuant to: (1) The written
69 order of a physician licensed to practice medicine or a dentist licensed
70 to practice dental medicine in this or another state, an advanced
71 practice registered nurse licensed under chapter 378, a physician
72 assistant licensed under chapter 370, a podiatrist licensed under
73 chapter 375 or an optometrist licensed under chapter 380; and (2) the
74 written authorization of a parent or guardian of such child.

75 (d) (1) The commissioner, in consultation with municipal officials,
76 the Connecticut Park and Recreation Association and local directors of
77 health, shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of
78 chapter 54, to establish advisory standards for day camp programs
79 operated by municipal agencies. Such regulations shall provide
80 recommended model standards for the operation of municipal park
81 and recreation programs for children in areas including, but not
82 limited to, sanitation, public and personal health, first aid, medical
83 services, food handling and water safety. In adopting such regulations,

84 the commissioner shall consider the differences between various
85 municipal day camp programs and shall conduct a state-wide cost-
86 benefit analysis of the proposed advisory standards.

87 (2) On and after the effective date of the regulations adopted under
88 subdivision (1) of this subsection, each municipality having one or
89 more day camp programs operated by any agency of the municipality
90 shall adopt written policies and procedures for the regulation of such
91 programs. Such policies and procedures shall (A) address the areas
92 identified in the advisory standards established by the commissioner
93 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, and (B) provide for the
94 inspection of such municipal day camp programs and the enforcement
95 of such policies and procedures by the local director of health.

96 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

PH *Joint Favorable Subst.*

APP *Joint Favorable*

PD *Joint Favorable*