



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

**Committee Bill No. 712**

LCO No. 3396

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:  
(PH)

***AN ACT CONCERNING EMPLOYEES OF PRIVATE PROVIDERS OF MENTAL RETARDATION AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AND FUNDING FOR CERTAIN SERVICES PROVIDED FOR CLIENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL RETARDATION.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (a) The Commissioner of Mental Retardation shall  
2 adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54 of the general  
3 statutes, to establish an index for the salaries of employees of private  
4 providers of services to persons with mental retardation that are  
5 funded by the Department of Mental Retardation. Such index shall  
6 establish categories of private provider employees and salary levels for  
7 such employees that achieve approximate parity with the salary levels  
8 of state employees who perform the same function as such private  
9 provider employees, provided the salary levels for such private  
10 provider employees in such index shall not be less than ninety per cent  
11 of the salary levels for state employees performing the same functions.

12 (b) The commissioner may implement policies and procedures to  
13 carry out the provisions of subsection (a) of this section while in the  
14 process of adopting such policies and procedures in regulation form,

15 provided the commissioner prints notice of intention to adopt the  
16 regulations in the Connecticut Law Journal within twenty days of  
17 implementing such policies and procedures. Policies and procedures  
18 implemented pursuant to this subsection shall be valid until the time  
19 the final regulations are effective.

20 Sec. 2. (NEW) (a) The Commissioner of Mental Health and  
21 Addiction Services shall adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter  
22 54 of the general statutes, to establish an index for the salaries of  
23 employees of private providers of services to persons with psychiatric  
24 disabilities that are funded by the Department of Mental Health and  
25 Addiction Services. Such index shall establish categories of private  
26 provider employees and salary levels for such employees that achieve  
27 approximate parity with the salary levels of state employees who  
28 perform the same function as such private provider employees,  
29 provided the salary levels for such private provider employees in such  
30 index shall not be less than ninety per cent of the salary levels for state  
31 employees performing the same functions.

32 (b) The commissioner may implement policies and procedures to  
33 carry out the provisions of subsection (a) of this section while in the  
34 process of adopting such policies and procedures in regulation form,  
35 provided the commissioner prints notice of intention to adopt the  
36 regulations in the Connecticut Law Journal within twenty days of  
37 implementing such policies and procedures. Policies and procedures  
38 implemented pursuant to this subsection shall be valid until the time  
39 the final regulations are effective.

40 Sec. 3. (a) The sum of \_\_\_\_ dollars is appropriated to the Department  
41 of Mental Retardation, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year  
42 ending June 30, 2002, for salaries for employees of private providers of  
43 services to persons with mental retardation under section 1 of this act.

44 (b) The sum of \_\_\_\_ dollars is appropriated to the Department of  
45 Mental Retardation, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending  
46 June 30, 2003, for salaries for employees of private providers of

47 services to persons with mental retardation under section 1 of this act.

48 Sec. 4. (a) The sum of \_\_\_\_ dollars is appropriated to the Department  
49 of Mental Health and Addiction Services, from the General Fund, for  
50 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002, for salaries for employees of  
51 private providers of services to persons with psychiatric disabilities  
52 under section 2 of this act.

53 (b) The sum of \_\_\_\_ dollars is appropriated to the Department of  
54 Mental Health and Addiction Services, from the General Fund, for the  
55 fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, for salaries for employees of private  
56 providers of services to persons with psychiatric disabilities under  
57 section 2 of this act.

58 Sec. 5. (a) The sum of \_\_\_\_ dollars is appropriated to the Department  
59 of Mental Retardation, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year  
60 ending June 30, 2002, for: (1) Pilot programs for client services; (2) early  
61 intervention; (3) employment opportunities and day services; (4)  
62 family placements; (5) emergency placements; (6) community  
63 residential services; and (7) the pilot program for cooperative  
64 placements.

65 (b) The sum of \_\_\_\_ dollars is appropriated to the Department of  
66 Mental Retardation, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending  
67 June 30, 2003, for: (1) Pilot programs for client services; (2) early  
68 intervention; (3) employment opportunities and day services; (4)  
69 family placements; (5) emergency placements; (6) community  
70 residential services; and (7) the pilot program for cooperative  
71 placements.

72 Sec. 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

**Statement of Purpose:**

To ensure that private providers of services to persons with mental retardation and psychiatric disabilities are funded adequately enough to attract, train and retain employees to provide such services and to

increase funding for certain programs of the Department of Mental Retardation.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*

Co-Sponsors: SEN. MCDERMOTT, 34th Dist.; REP. PANARONI, 102nd Dist.  
SEN. GAFFEY, 13th Dist.; SEN. PETERS, 20th Dist.  
REP. HARKINS, 120th Dist.; SEN. CAPPIELLO, 24th Dist.  
REP. FAHRBACH, 61st Dist.; REP. TYMNIAK, 133rd Dist.  
REP. WALLACE, 109th Dist.; REP. ROWE, 123rd Dist.

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