



Senate

General Assembly

February Session, 2002

File No. 218

Senate Bill No. 573

Senate, March 28, 2002

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 bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO DATA BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

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

1 Section 1. Section 19a-7 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2002*):

3 (a) The Department of Public Health shall be the lead agency for
4 public health planning and shall assist communities in the
5 development of collaborative health planning activities which address
6 public health issues on a regional basis or which respond to public
7 health needs having state-wide significance. The department shall
8 prepare a multiyear state health plan which will provide an
9 assessment of the health of Connecticut's population and the
10 availability of health facilities. The plan shall include: (1) Policy
11 recommendations regarding allocation of resources; (2) public health
12 priorities; (3) quantitative goals and objectives with respect to the
13 appropriate supply, distribution and organization of public health

14 resources; and (4) evaluation of the implications of new technology for
 15 the organization, delivery and equitable distribution of services. In the
 16 development of the plan the department shall consider the
 17 recommendations of any advisory bodies which may be established by
 18 the commissioner.

19 (b) For the purposes of establishing a state health plan as required
 20 by subsection (a) of this section and consistent with state and federal
 21 law on patient records, the department is entitled to access (1) hospital
 22 discharge data, (2) emergency room and ambulatory surgery
 23 encounter data, (3) data on home health care agency client encounters
 24 and services, (4) data from community health centers on client
 25 encounters and services, (5) Medicaid data from the Department of
 26 Social Services for the HUSKY Plan, Part A, HUSKY Plan, Part B, the
 27 HUSKY Plus programs and fee for service, (6) all data collected or
 28 compiled by the State Comptroller pursuant to section 5-259, and (7)
 29 all data collected or compiled by the Office of Health Care Access
 30 pursuant to section 19a-613.

31 (c) The Commissioner of Public Health shall adopt regulations in
 32 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 to assure the
 33 confidentiality of personal data and patient-identifiable data collected
 34 or compiled pursuant to this section.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2002</i>

PH *Joint Favorable*

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: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

Passage of this bill will result in no additional costs for the Departments of Public Health, Social Services or the Office of the State Comptroller. It authorizes the sharing of health data and reflects current practice of the three agencies.

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OLR Bill Analysis

SB 573

AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO DATA BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**SUMMARY:**

This bill specifies that the Department of Public Health (DPH), for state health planning purposes, can access Medicaid data from the Department of Social Services (DSS) and state and municipal employee health plan data compiled by the state comptroller. DSS Medicaid data include the HUSKY Plan, Parts A and B; the Husky Plus programs; and fee-for-service Medicaid.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2002

COMMITTEE ACTION

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 24 Nay 0