



General Assembly

February Session, 2002

Raised Bill No. 86

LCO No. 257

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:
(PH)

AN ACT AMENDING STATUTES GOVERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (f) of section 17a-671 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2002*):

4 (f) Each council may solicit and accept for use local, public and
5 private funds from municipalities, foundations and corporations. Such
6 funds shall be expended to close gaps in the service delivery system
7 identified in the annual plan developed by the council, provided such
8 plan is not in conflict with the department's plan adopted pursuant to
9 [section 19a-7] subsection (j) of section 17a-451.

10 Sec. 2. Subsection (o) of section 17a-451 of the general statutes is
11 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
12 *October 1, 2002*):

13 (o) The commissioner shall establish uniform policies and
14 procedures for collecting, standardizing, managing and evaluating

15 data related to substance use, abuse and addiction programs
16 administered by state agencies, state-funded community-based
17 programs and the judicial branch, including, but not limited to: (1) The
18 use of prevention, education, treatment and criminal justice services
19 related to substance use, abuse and addiction; (2) client demographic
20 and substance use, abuse and addiction information; and (3) the
21 quality and cost effectiveness of substance use, abuse and addiction
22 services. The commissioner shall, in consultation with the Secretary of
23 the Office of Policy and Management, ensure that the judicial branch,
24 all state agencies and state-funded community-based programs with
25 substance use, abuse and addiction programs or services comply with
26 such policies and procedures. Notwithstanding any other provision of
27 the general statutes concerning confidentiality, the commissioner,
28 within available appropriations, shall establish and maintain a central
29 repository for such substance use, abuse and addiction program and
30 service data from the judicial branch, state agencies and state-funded
31 community-based programs administering substance use, abuse and
32 addiction programs and services. The central repository shall not
33 disclose any data that reveals the personal identification of any
34 individual. The Connecticut Alcohol and Drug Policy Council
35 established pursuant to section 17a-667 shall have access to the central
36 repository for aggregate analysis. The commissioner shall submit [an
37 annual] a biennial report to the General Assembly, in accordance with
38 the provisions of section 11-4a, the Office of Policy and Management
39 and the Connecticut Alcohol and Drug Policy Council. The report shall
40 include, but need not be limited to, a summary of: (A) Client and
41 patient demographic information; (B) trends and risks factors
42 associated with alcohol and drug use, abuse and dependence; (C)
43 effectiveness of services based on outcome measures; and (D) a state-
44 wide cost analysis.

45 Sec. 3. Subsection (t) of section 17a-451 of the general statutes is
46 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
47 *October 1, 2002*):

48 (t) The commissioner may direct clinical staff at Department of
49 Mental Health and Addiction Services facilities or in crisis intervention
50 programs funded by the department who are providing treatment to a
51 patient to request disclosure, to the extent allowed under state and
52 federal law, of the patient's record of previous treatment in order to
53 accomplish the objectives of diagnosis, [or] treatment or referral of the
54 patient. If the clinical staff in possession of the requested record
55 determines that disclosure would assist the accomplishment of the
56 objectives of diagnosis, [or] treatment or referral, the record may be
57 disclosed, to the extent allowed under state and federal law, to the
58 requesting clinical staff without patient consent. Records disclosed
59 shall be limited to records maintained at department facilities or crisis
60 intervention programs funded by the department. The Commissioner
61 of Mental Health and Addiction Services shall adopt regulations in
62 accordance with chapter 54 to administer the provisions of this
63 subsection and to ensure maximum safeguards of patient
64 confidentiality.

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| This act shall take effect as follows: | |
| Section 1 | <i>October 1, 2002</i> |
| Sec. 2 | <i>October 1, 2002</i> |
| Sec. 3 | <i>October 1, 2002</i> |

Statement of Purpose:

To amend statutes governing the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

[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.]