



General Assembly

February Session, 2002

Raised Bill No. 602

LCO No. 2506

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:
(JUD)

**AN ACT CONCERNING A TIME LIMIT ON SHOCK THERAPY
ORDERED BY THE PROBATE COURT.**

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 17a-543 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2002*):

4 (c) No psychosurgery or shock therapy shall be administered to any
5 patient without such patient's written informed consent, except as
6 provided in this subsection. Such consent shall be for a maximum
7 period of thirty days and may be revoked at any time. If it is
8 determined by the head of the hospital and two qualified physicians
9 that the patient has become incapable of giving informed consent,
10 shock therapy may be administered upon order of the Court of Probate
11 if, after hearing, such court finds that the patient is incapable of
12 informed consent and there is no [other reasonable alternative
13 procedure] less intrusive beneficial treatment. An order of the Court of
14 Probate authorizing the administration of shock therapy pursuant to
15 this subsection shall be effective for not more than thirty days.

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

Statement of Purpose:

To provide that an order of the Probate Court authorizing the administration of shock therapy shall be effective for not more than thirty days.

[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.]