



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 602

February Session, 2002

**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2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*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 forty-five days.

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

JUD *Joint Favorable Subst.*

PH *Joint Favorable*