



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 33

February Session, 2004

Substitute House Bill No. 5004

House of Representatives, March 11, 2004

The Committee on Public Health reported through REP. FELTMAN of the 6th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADMISSION AND CARE OF PATIENTS IN NURSING HOMES.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force
2 to study policies and procedures for evaluating and placing
3 individuals who (1) may pose a serious risk to others in the absence of
4 specific measures for their supervision, and (2) reside in, or seek
5 admission to, a nursing home. The task force shall develop policies and
6 procedures for: (A) Evaluating and placing such individuals; (B)
7 establishing and implementing an appropriate individualized care
8 plan that provides appropriate physical and program space, trained
9 staff and programming; and (C) assuring that such trained staff is
10 skilled in risk assessment and risk management appropriate for a
11 nursing home setting.

12 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

13 (1) One representative of the Department of Mental Health and
14 Addiction Services, appointed by the speaker of the House of
15 Representatives;

16 (2) One representative of the National Association for the Mentally
17 Ill, or a similar advocacy organization, appointed by the president pro
18 tempore of the Senate;

19 (3) One representative of a for-profit nursing home, appointed by
20 the majority leader of the House of Representatives;

21 (4) One representative of the Office of the Long-Term Care
22 Ombudsman, appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

23 (5) One attorney employed by a legal aid office with experience
24 representing individuals with mental illness or experience with
25 geriatric psychiatric issues, appointed by the minority leader of the
26 House of Representatives;

27 (6) One representative of a nonprofit nursing home, appointed by
28 the minority leader of the Senate; and

29 (7) The chairpersons and ranking members of the select committee
30 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
31 aging, or their designees.

32 (c) All appointments to the task force shall be made no later than
33 thirty days after the effective date of this section. If an appointment is
34 not made by the expiration of said thirty-day period, the chairpersons
35 and ranking members of the select committee of the General Assembly
36 having cognizance of matters relating to aging may make the
37 appointment. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.

38 (d) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president
39 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task
40 force, from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons
41 shall schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held no
42 later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

43 (e) The administrative staff of the select committee of the General
44 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to aging shall serve as
45 administrative staff of the task force.

46 (f) Not later than January 1, 2005, the task force shall submit a report
47 on its findings and recommendations to the select committee of the
48 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to aging, in
49 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.
50 The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or
51 January 1, 2005, whichever is earlier.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>

AGE *Joint Favorable Subst. C/R* PH

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:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 05 \$	FY 06 \$
Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services	GF - None		
Department of Social Services	GF - None		
Legislative Management	GF - Cost	Minimal	Minimal

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill establishes a task force to study issues and develop policies and procedures related to the placement of individuals in nursing homes. The task force must report its findings and make recommendations to the General Assembly by January 1, 2005. The bill appoints numerous private representatives, as well as representatives from the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the Long Term Care Ombudsman, which will incur no fiscal impact from serving on the task force.

To the extent that members of the General Assembly are appointed to the task force, the Joint Committee on Legislative Management will incur a minimal cost. A total cost of less than \$2,000 may result from mileage reimbursement to legislators in traveling to and from the capitol. This cost can be handled within the anticipated budgetary resources of the department. The bill requires the Aging Committee staff to serve as the administrative staff for the task force, which may result in a workload reallocation.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB-5004

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADMISSION AND CARE OF PATIENTS IN NURSING HOMES.

SUMMARY:

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Select Committee on Aging

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference

Yea 11 Nay 0

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 21 Nay 1