



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 434

January Session, 2005

Substitute House Bill No. 6585

House of Representatives, April 19, 2005

The Committee on Public Health reported through REP. SAYERS of the 60th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING IMPAIRED NURSES.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of Public
2 Health shall establish an ad hoc committee for the purpose of assisting
3 the commissioner in examining and evaluating the feasibility of
4 establishing a nurse intervention program that would be an
5 alternative, voluntary and private opportunity for the rehabilitation of
6 any nurse licensed pursuant to chapter 378 of the general statutes who
7 (1) has a chemical dependency or mental or physical illness, (2) during
8 his or her participation in such a program does not pose a threat in his
9 or her practice of nursing, to the health and safety of any person, and
10 (3) agrees to have his or her rehabilitation monitored by program staff
11 in lieu of disciplinary action.

12 (b) (1) The ad hoc committee shall consist of the chairpersons and
13 ranking members of the joint standing committee of the General
14 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health, or

15 their designees, and the following members appointed by the
 16 commissioner: (A) Two employees of the Department of Public Health,
 17 (B) two employees of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction
 18 Services, (C) two representatives of the Connecticut State Board of
 19 Examiners for Nursing, (D) two representatives of a professional
 20 organization representing registered nurses in this state, (E) two
 21 representatives of a professional organization representing licensed
 22 practical nurses in this state, and (F) two representatives from the
 23 nursing community at large with a background in substance abuse
 24 issues among nurses. The Commissioner of Public Health, or a
 25 designee, shall be an ex-officio member with full voting rights.

26 (2) The Commissioner of Public Health may expand the
 27 membership of the ad hoc committee to include representatives from
 28 related fields if the commissioner decides such expansion would be
 29 useful.

30 (c) On or before February 1, 2006, the Commissioner of Public
 31 Health shall submit, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general
 32 statutes, the results of the examination, with specific recommendations
 33 for statutory changes, if any, to the Governor and the joint standing
 34 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
 35 relating to public health.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

PH *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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 06 \$
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Cost	None
Mental Health & Addiction Serv., Dept.	GF - Cost	None
Legislative Mgmt.	GF - Cost	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

It is anticipated that the Departments of Public Health and Mental Health and Addiction Services will be able to perform duties required by the bill within each agency’s anticipated budgetary resources.

Appointing the chairs and ranking members of the Public Health Committee, or their designees, to serve on the ad hoc committee will result in a minimal cost to Legislative Management for legislator mileage reimbursement of 40.5 cents per mile

OLR Bill Analysis

SHB 6585

AN ACT CONCERNING IMPAIRED NURSES.

SUMMARY:

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 26 Nay 0