



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 45**

January Session, 2005

Senate Bill No. 972

*Senate, March 22, 2005*

The Committee on Judiciary reported through SEN. MCDONALD of the 27th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT CONCERNING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE PSYCHIATRIC SECURITY REVIEW BOARD.**

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 17a-581 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
3 *October 1, 2005*):

4 (b) The membership shall be composed of: (1) A psychiatrist  
5 experienced with the criminal justice system and not otherwise  
6 employed on a permanent basis by the state, except that a psychiatrist  
7 employed by The University of Connecticut Health Center who is not  
8 responsible for the administration of or treatment decisions for persons  
9 under the jurisdiction of the Psychiatric Security Review Board shall be  
10 eligible for membership under this subdivision; (2) a psychologist  
11 experienced with the criminal justice system and not otherwise  
12 employed on a permanent basis by the state, except that a psychologist  
13 employed by The University of Connecticut Health Center who is not

14 responsible for the administration of or treatment decisions for persons  
15 under the jurisdiction of the Psychiatric Security Review Board shall be  
16 eligible for membership under this subdivision; (3) a person with  
17 substantial experience in the process of probation; (4) a member of the  
18 general public; (5) an attorney who is a member of the bar of this state;  
19 and (6) a member of the general public with substantial experience in  
20 victim advocacy.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2005	17a-581(b)

**JUD**      *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:

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

<b>Agency Affected</b>	<b>Fund-Effect</b>	<b>FY 06 \$</b>	<b>FY 07 \$</b>
Psychiatric Security Review Board	GF - Savings	Potential Minimal	Potential Minimal

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

This bill expands the pool of potential members of the Psychiatric Security Review Board (PSRB) to include certain psychiatrists and psychologists employed by the University of Connecticut Health Center. PSRB statute allows the board to pay members who are not full-time state employees a stipend of \$75 for each day during which the member is engaged in the performance of official duties. On average, board members receive \$1,725 from this stipend per year. The statute does not appear to allow this payment to be made if a board member is a full-time state employee. Therefore, if due to the passage of this bill, a full-time employee of the UConn Health Center replaces a current member of the board to whom a stipend is paid, a savings will be incurred.

**OLR BILL ANALYSIS**

SB 972

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE PSYCHIATRIC SECURITY REVIEW BOARD*****SUMMARY:**

This bill allows permanent UConn Health Center psychiatrists and psychologists to fill the two mental health slots on the six-member Psychiatric Security Review Board. The board supervises people confined to a mental hospital or conditionally released into the community after having been acquitted of crimes due to a mental disease or defect. Current law prohibits permanent state employees from serving in this capacity.

UConn psychiatrists and psychologists can be considered for membership if they have experience with the criminal justice system and no involvement in the administration of, or treatment decisions for, people under the board's supervision.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2005

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 37    Nay 0