



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

Raised Bill No. 6577

LCO No. 2870

02870_____JUD

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:
(JUD)

AN ACT CONCERNING PATIENTS AT THE WHITING FORENSIC DIVISION.

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

1 Section 1. Section 17a-517 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2005*):

3 If any person in the custody of the Commissioner of Correction who
4 is brought to a hospital pursuant to the provisions of sections 17a-499,
5 17a-509, 17a-512 to 17a-517, inclusive, 17a-520, [and] 17a-521 and 54-
6 56d, as amended by this act, is a desperate or dangerous individual,
7 such person shall be hospitalized in the Whiting Forensic Division. If
8 the Whiting Forensic Division is unable to accommodate such transfer,
9 then such person shall remain in the custody of the commissioner at a
10 correctional institution, there confined under appropriate care and
11 supervision. Under no circumstances shall an inmate with psychiatric
12 disabilities requiring maximum security conditions be placed in a state
13 hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities which does not have
14 the facilities and trained personnel to provide appropriate care and
15 supervision for such individuals.

16 Sec. 2. Subsection (p) of section 54-56d of the general statutes is
17 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
18 *October 1, 2005*):

19 (p) This section shall not be construed to require the Commissioner
20 of Mental Health and Addiction Services to place any violent
21 defendant in a mental institution which does not have the trained staff,
22 facilities and security to accommodate such a person. [If placement in
23 such a facility becomes necessary, a state policeman shall be provided
24 to guard the defendant after placement in such an institution.]

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	17a-517
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	54-56d(p)

Statement of Purpose:

To ensure the safety of patients and staff and the integrity of the treatment environment at the Whiting Forensic Division by preventing the transfer to the division of certain violent and dangerous offenders who cannot be accommodated in a hospital setting.

[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.]