



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

Raised Bill No. 6897

LCO No. 4155

04155_____PH_

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:
(PH)

***AN ACT CONCERNING NURSING OVERSIGHT OF PATIENTS
RECEIVING HOME HEALTH SERVICES.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (g) of section 19a-491 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (g) The commissioner may require as a condition of the licensure of
5 home health care agencies and homemaker-home health aide agencies
6 that each agency meet minimum service quality standards. In the
7 event the commissioner requires such agencies to meet minimum
8 service quality standards as a condition of their licensure, the
9 commissioner shall adopt regulations₂ in accordance with the
10 provisions of chapter 54₂ to define such minimum service quality
11 standards, which shall (1) allow for training of homemaker-home
12 health care aides by adult continuing education, and (2) require a
13 primary care nurse to visit and assess each patient receiving
14 homemaker-home health aide services as often as necessary based on
15 the patient's condition, but not less than once every sixty days.

16 Sec. 2. Section 17b-242 of the general statutes is amended by adding
17 subsection (e) as follows (*Effective from passage*):

18 (NEW) (e) The home health services fee schedule established
19 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall include a fee for nursing
20 services for (1) management and evaluation of a patient care plan
21 established and approved by a licensed physician, and (2) assessment
22 and observation of a patient's condition when the specialized skills of a
23 medical professional are necessary to determine the patient's status.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	19a-491(g)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	17b-242

Statement of Purpose:

To ensure that any state regulations defining minimum service quality standards for home health care agencies and homemaker-home health aide agencies require that a primary care nurse visit and assess any patient receiving homemaker-home health aide services at least once every sixty days, and to add to the home health services fee schedule a fee for nursing services for management and evaluation of the patient care plan and for assessment and observation of the patient's condition.

[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.]