



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 117

January Session, 2007

Substitute House Bill No. 7156

House of Representatives, March 22, 2007

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

AN ACT CONCERNING HOSPICE SERVICES.

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

1 Section 1. Section 19a-122b of the general statutes is repealed and
2 the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

3 (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of chapters 368v and 368z, an
4 organization licensed as a hospice pursuant to the Public Health Code
5 or certified as a hospice pursuant to 42 USC [Section] 1395x, shall be
6 authorized to operate a residence for terminally ill persons, for the
7 purpose of providing hospice home care arrangements including, but
8 not limited to, hospice home care services and supplemental services.
9 Such arrangements shall be provided to those patients who would
10 otherwise receive such care from family members. The residence shall
11 provide a homelike atmosphere for such patients for a time period
12 deemed appropriate for home health care services under like
13 circumstances. Any hospice [which] that operates a residence pursuant
14 to the provisions of this section shall cooperate with the Commissioner
15 of Public Health to develop standards for the licensure and operation

16 of such homes.

17 (b) On and after January 1, 2008, any organization seeking initial
18 licensure as a hospice by the Department of Public Health shall present
19 to the department satisfactory evidence that such organization is
20 willing and able to provide hospice care services for terminally ill
21 persons on a twenty-four-hour basis in all settings, including, but not
22 limited to, a private home, nursing home, residential care home or
23 specialized residence that provides supportive services.

24 (c) No organization may use the title "hospice" or "hospice care
25 program" or make use of any title, words, letters or abbreviations
26 indicating or implying that such organization is licensed to provide
27 hospice services unless such organization is licensed to provide such
28 services by the Department of Public Health or certified as a hospice
29 pursuant to 42 USC 1395x.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2007	19a-122b

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 chamber thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

No fiscal impact will ensue in response to enactment of this bill.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 7156

AN ACT CONCERNING HOSPICE SERVICES.

SUMMARY:

This bill (1) requires newly licensed hospices to provide hospice services in all settings and (2) sets conditions on the use of hospice-related titles and terms.

Under the bill, an organization seeking an initial hospice license from the Department of Public Health (DPH) beginning January 1, 2008 must provide the department with satisfactory evidence that it is willing and able to provide hospice care services for terminally ill patients on a 24 hour basis in all settings. This includes private homes, nursing homes, residential care homes, and specialized residences providing supportive services.

The bill prohibits using the title "hospice" or "hospice care program" or any titles, words, letters, or abbreviations indicating or implying hospice licensure unless the organization is licensed to provide hospice services by DPH or certified as a hospice by Medicare.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2007

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 26 Nay 0 (03/09/2007)