



House of Representatives

File No. 210

General Assembly

January Session, 2007

(Reprint of File No. 117)

Substitute House Bill No. 7156
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
March 30, 2007

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 Section 19a-122b of the general statutes is repealed and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 (1)
19 agree to provide hospice care services for terminally ill persons on a
20 twenty-four-hour basis in settings including, but not limited to, a
21 private home, nursing home, residential care home or specialized
22 residence that provides supportive services, and (2) present to the
23 department satisfactory evidence that such organization has the
24 necessary qualified personnel to provide services in such settings.

25 (c) No organization may use the title "hospice" or "hospice care
26 program" or make use of any title, words, letters or abbreviations
27 indicating or implying that such organization is licensed to provide
28 hospice services unless such organization is licensed to provide such
29 services by the Department of Public Health and certified as a hospice
30 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

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.

House "A" makes changes that have no associated fiscal impact.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 7156 (as amended by House "A")******AN ACT CONCERNING HOSPICE SERVICES.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill (1) requires newly licensed hospices to provide hospice services in certain 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 agree to provide hospice care services for terminally ill persons on a 24-hour basis in settings including private homes, nursing homes, residential care homes, or specialized residences providing supportive services. It must also provide DPH with satisfactory evidence that it has the necessary qualified personnel to provide services in these settings.

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 and certified as a hospice by Medicare.

*House Amendment "A" (1) requires the hospice to "agree," rather than be "willing and able," to provide services; (2) deletes a reference to "all" settings in the original bill; (3) requires the hospice to have the necessary and qualified personnel to provide hospice services; and (4) requires an organization to be both licensed by DPH and certified by Medicare to use the hospice-related terms.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2007

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 26 Nay 0 (03/09/2007)