



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Raised Bill No. 1194

LCO No. 4217

04217 _____ PH_

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:
(PH)

AN ACT CONCERNING NOTIFICATION TO THE OFFICE OF PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES OF DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION INMATE SUICIDES AND DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES CLIENT DEATHS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of
2 Correction, or the commissioner's designee, shall provide written
3 notification to the director of the Office of Protection and Advocacy for
4 Persons with Disabilities of any inmate suicide or apparent inmate
5 suicide not later than the next business day after the date of death of
6 such inmate. The written notification shall include, but not be limited
7 to, the name of the inmate, the inmate identification number, the
8 address of the correctional facility where the death occurred and any
9 mental health status determination made with respect to such inmate
10 by Department of Correction staff.

11 (b) The commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, shall also
12 provide to the director: (1) Subject to existing state and federal law,
13 including, but not limited to, the Protection and Advocacy for

14 Individuals with Mental Illness Act of 1986 and the Health Insurance
15 Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, any Department of
16 Correction records concerning the medical and mental health status of
17 such inmate, and (2) copies of any video recordings relating to the
18 inmate suicide. Such records and any video recordings shall be
19 provided by the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, to the
20 director not later than ten business days after the date of the written
21 notification provided pursuant to subsection (a) of this section. In
22 addition, the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, shall
23 furnish a copy of the department's internal investigation report
24 concerning any inmate suicide to the director not later than five
25 business days after the date of the completion of such report.

26 Sec. 2. Subsection (d) of section 17a-451 of the general statutes is
27 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
28 *passage*):

29 (d) The commissioner shall coordinate the community programs
30 receiving state funds with programs of state-operated facilities for the
31 treatment of persons with psychiatric disabilities or persons with
32 substance abuse disabilities, or both. In the event of the death of a
33 person with psychiatric disabilities or a person with substance abuse
34 disabilities, or both, for whom the department has direct or oversight
35 responsibility for medical care and treatment because such person is
36 receiving inpatient treatment at a state-operated or state-funded
37 hospital, the commissioner shall promptly report such death to the
38 director of the Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with
39 Disabilities.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	17a-451(d)

Statement of Purpose:

To ensure that timely and complete information is provided by the Department of Correction to the Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities in the event of an inmate suicide and to require the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services to promptly report deaths of individuals with psychiatric or substance abuse disabilities to said office in certain circumstances.

[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.]