



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5449

February Session, 2008

* HB05449PH 030708 *

**AN ACT CONCERNING ISSUANCE OF EMERGENCY CERTIFICATES
BY LICENSED CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKERS AND ADVANCED
PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 17a-503 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) Any police officer who has reasonable cause to believe that a
4 person has psychiatric disabilities and is dangerous to himself or
5 herself or others or gravely disabled, and in need of immediate care
6 and treatment, may take such person into custody and take or cause
7 such person to be taken to a general hospital for emergency
8 examination under this section. The officer shall execute a written
9 request for emergency examination detailing the circumstances under
10 which the person was taken into custody, and such request shall be left
11 with the [facility] hospital. The person shall be examined [within] not
12 later than twenty-four hours after being taken into custody and shall
13 not be held for more than seventy-two hours after being taken into
14 custody unless committed under section 17a-502 of the 2008
15 supplement to the general statutes.

16 (b) Upon application by any person to the court of probate having
17 jurisdiction in accordance with section 17a-497, alleging that any
18 respondent has psychiatric disabilities and is dangerous to himself or

19 herself or others or gravely disabled, and in need of immediate care
20 and treatment in a hospital for psychiatric disabilities, such court may
21 issue a warrant for the apprehension and bringing before it of such
22 respondent and examine such respondent. If the court determines that
23 there is probable cause to believe that such [person] respondent has
24 psychiatric disabilities and is dangerous to himself or herself or others
25 or gravely disabled, the court shall order that such respondent be
26 taken to a general hospital for examination. The [person] respondent
27 shall be examined [within] not later than twenty-four hours after being
28 taken into custody and shall not be held for more than seventy-two
29 hours after being taken into custody unless committed under section
30 17a-502 of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes.

31 (c) Any psychologist licensed under chapter 383 who has reasonable
32 cause to believe that a person has psychiatric disabilities and is
33 dangerous to himself or herself or others or gravely disabled, and in
34 need of immediate care and treatment, may issue an emergency
35 certificate in writing that authorizes and directs that such person be
36 taken to a general hospital for purposes of a medical examination. The
37 person shall be examined [within] not later than twenty-four hours
38 after being taken into custody and shall not be held for more than
39 seventy-two hours after being taken into custody unless committed
40 under section 17a-502 of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes.

41 (d) Any clinical social worker licensed under chapter 383b or
42 advanced practice registered nurse licensed under chapter 378 who (1)
43 has received a minimum of eight hours of specialized training in the
44 conduct of direct evaluations [under this subsection] as a member of
45 any mobile crisis team, jail diversion program, crisis intervention team,
46 advanced supervision and intervention support team, or assertive case
47 management program operated by or under contract with the
48 Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, and (2) based
49 upon the direct evaluation of a person, has reasonable cause to believe
50 that such person has psychiatric disabilities and is dangerous to
51 himself or herself or others or gravely disabled, and in need of

52 immediate care and treatment, may issue an emergency certificate in
53 writing that authorizes and directs that such person be taken to a
54 general hospital for purposes of a medical examination. The person
55 shall be examined [within] not later than twenty-four hours after being
56 taken into custody and shall not be held for more than seventy-two
57 hours after being taken into custody unless committed under section
58 17a-502 of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes. The
59 Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services shall collect
60 and maintain statistical and demographic information pertaining to
61 emergency certificates issued under this subsection.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	17a-503

PH *Joint Favorable Subst.*