



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

Raised Bill No. 244

LCO No. 1610

01610_____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*) 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 or, in the case of an apparent suicide, the next business
7 day after the date on which the commissioner determines that there is
8 reasonable cause to suspect or believe that such death may be due to
9 suicide. The written notification shall include, but not be limited to, the
10 name of the inmate, the inmate identification number, the address of
11 the correctional facility where the death occurred and any mental
12 health status determination made with respect to such inmate by
13 Department of Correction staff. The commissioner, or the
14 commissioner's designee, shall furnish a copy of the department's

15 internal investigation report concerning any inmate suicide to the
16 director not later than five business days after the date of the
17 completion of such report.

18 Sec. 2. Subsection (d) of section 17a-451 of the 2008 supplement to
19 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
20 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

21 (d) The commissioner shall coordinate the community programs
22 receiving state funds with programs of state-operated facilities for the
23 treatment of persons with psychiatric disabilities or persons with
24 substance use disorders, or both. In the event of the death of a person
25 with psychiatric disabilities or a person with substance use disorders,
26 or both, who is receiving inpatient behavioral health care services from
27 a Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services operated
28 facility, the commissioner shall report such death to the director of the
29 Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities not
30 later than thirty days after the date of the death of such person.

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 use disorders 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.]