



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

Raised Bill No. 496

LCO No. 2525

02525_____PH_

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:
(PH)

AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 19a-131j of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

3 (a) The commissioner may issue an order to temporarily suspend,
4 for a period not to exceed sixty consecutive days, the requirements for
5 licensure, certification or registration, pursuant to chapters 368d, 370,
6 376, 378, 378a, 381a, 383 to 383c, inclusive, 384d, 385, 395, 400a, [and]
7 400j and ~~474~~, to allow persons who are appropriately licensed, certified
8 or registered in another state or territory of the United States or the
9 District of Columbia, to render temporary assistance within the scope
10 of the profession for which a person is licensed, certified or registered,
11 in managing a public health emergency in this state, declared by the
12 Governor pursuant to section 19a-131a. Nothing in this section shall be
13 construed to permit a person to provide services beyond the scope
14 allowed in the chapter specified in this section that pertains to such
15 person's profession.

16 (b) Upon the declaration of a civil preparedness emergency
17 pursuant to section 28-9 or a public health emergency pursuant to
18 sections 19a-131a, the Commissioner of Public Health may suspend the
19 requirements for renewal of any license, as defined in section 4-166,
20 that would otherwise be required to be renewed by the department
21 pursuant to the general statutes or regulations. Any such suspension of
22 the requirements for renewal of a license shall extend for the duration
23 of the declared emergency and for the six-month period following the
24 date the emergency is declared to be over. Any license not renewed by
25 the department during the period of the emergency and during the six-
26 month period following the date that the emergency is declared to be
27 over shall not expire. Upon the conclusion of the six-month period
28 following the date the emergency is declared to be over, the
29 commissioner shall reinstate license renewal requirements that had
30 been suspended. Any license, for which the commissioner had
31 suspended license renewal requirements, that is not renewed in the
32 six-month period following the date of the resumption of the license
33 renewal requirements shall expire, unless the commissioner, for good
34 cause shown, extends this period of time. The commissioner may, for
35 good cause shown, grant no more than two ninety-day extensions.

36 (c) If, pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the department
37 renews a license on a date other than the customary renewal date, the
38 period of licensure shall not extend beyond the customary renewal
39 date provided pursuant to the general statutes or regulations. At the
40 time of such renewal, the licensee shall be responsible for payment of
41 all license fees to the department, including payment of fees not
42 collected by the department due to the suspension of license renewal
43 requirements in accordance with the provisions of this section.

44 (d) Upon the declaration of a civil preparedness emergency
45 pursuant to section 28-9 or public health emergency pursuant to
46 section 19a-131a, the Commissioner of Public Health may suspend the
47 requirements concerning any inspection that is otherwise required to
48 be conducted by the department pursuant to the general statutes or

49 regulations. Any such suspension of the requirements for conducting
50 any inspection shall extend for the duration of the declared emergency
51 and for the six-month period following the date the emergency is
52 declared to be over. Upon the conclusion of the six-month period
53 following the date the emergency is declared to be over, the
54 department shall conduct any inspection not conducted during the
55 period of the emergency and the subsequent six-month period. Such
56 resumed inspections shall be completed not later than six months from
57 the date that the inspections resumed, unless the commissioner, for
58 good cause shown, extends this period of time. The commissioner
59 may, for good cause shown, grant no more than two such ninety-day
60 extensions.

61 (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit the
62 Commissioner of Public Health to effectuate a suspension of the
63 department's license renewal and inspection responsibilities due to the
64 declaration of a civil preparedness emergency by the Governor, until
65 such time as the Governor, pursuant to section 28-9, issues an order
66 that modifies or suspends, in whole or in part, any statute, regulation
67 or requirement or part thereof relating to license renewals and
68 inspections by the Department of Public Health and sets forth the
69 reasons therefor.

70 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 28-8b of the general statutes is
71 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
72 *October 1, 2008*):

73 (a) Any paid or volunteer firefighter, police officer or emergency
74 medical service personnel who successfully completes a training
75 course in the use of automatic prefilled cartridge injectors may carry
76 and use such injectors containing nerve agent antidote medications in
77 the event of a nerve agent exposure. [for self-preservation or unit
78 preservation.] Such training course shall be approved by the
79 commissioner and provided by the Connecticut Fire Academy, the
80 Capitol Region Metropolitan Medical Response System or the federal

81 government.

82 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 19a-131a of the general statutes is
83 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
84 *October 1, 2008*):

85 (a) In the event of a state-wide or regional public health emergency,
86 the Governor shall make a good faith effort to inform the legislative
87 leaders specified in subsection (b) of this section before declaring that
88 the emergency exists and may do any of the following: (1) Order the
89 commissioner to implement all or a portion of the public health
90 emergency response plan developed pursuant to section 19a-131g; (2)
91 authorize the commissioner to isolate or quarantine persons in
92 accordance with section 19a-131b; (3) order the commissioner to
93 vaccinate persons in accordance with section 19a-131e; [or] (4) apply
94 for and receive federal assistance; or (5) order the commissioner to
95 suspend certain license renewal and inspection functions during the
96 period of the emergency and during the six-month period following
97 the date the emergency is declared to be over.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	19a-131j
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	28-8b(a)
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	19a-131a(a)

Statement of Purpose:

To: (1) Permit the Department of Public Health in times of a declared public health or civil preparedness emergency to temporarily suspend license renewal and inspection functions thereby allowing the department to devote resources to the emergency while ensuring that health care worker and facility licenses do not lapse during the period of the emergency, and (2) amend the nerve agent antidote autoinjector statute to allow the delivery of nerve agent antidote autoinjector kits by emergency services personnel for treatment of the general public in an emergency response.

[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.]