



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 496**

February Session, 2008

\* SB00496PH 031008 \*

**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 Section 19a-131j of the general statutes is repealed and the  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, as amended by this act.  
13 Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit a person to  
14 provide services beyond the scope allowed in the chapter specified in  
15 this section that pertains to such 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 section 19a-131a, as amended by this act, the Commissioner of Public  
19 Health may suspend any of the requirements for renewal of any  
20 license, as defined in section 4-166, that would otherwise be required

21 to be renewed by the department pursuant to the general statutes or  
22 regulations. Any such suspension of the requirements for renewal of a  
23 license may extend for the duration of the declared emergency and for  
24 up to six months following the date the emergency is declared to be  
25 over. Any license not renewed by the department shall not expire  
26 during the period of the emergency and during the six-month period  
27 following the date that the emergency is declared to be over. Not later  
28 than six months from the date the emergency is declared to be over,  
29 the 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, as amended by this act, the Commissioner of Public  
47 Health may suspend the requirements concerning any inspection that  
48 is otherwise required to be conducted by the department pursuant to  
49 the general statutes or regulations. Any such suspension of the  
50 requirements for conducting any inspection may extend for the  
51 duration of the declared emergency and for up to six months following  
52 the date the emergency is declared to be over. Not later than six  
53 months from 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)

**PH**            *Joint Favorable Subst.*