



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6320

January Session, 2009

* _____ HB06320PRIPH_030609 _____ *

**AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS
COMMITTEE CONCERNING SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FOR
ADULTS.**

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (i) of section 17a-451 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2009*):

4 (i) The commissioner shall be responsible for the coordination of all
5 activities in the state relating to substance use disorders and treatment,
6 including activities of the Departments of Children and Families,
7 Correction, Public Health, Social Services and Veterans' Affairs, the
8 Judicial Branch and any other department or entity providing services
9 to persons with substance use disorders. The commissioner shall assess
10 demand for substance abuse treatment services on a periodic basis
11 through the coordination of wait list information or through such other
12 methods as the commissioner deems appropriate for purposes of
13 identifying gaps in, or barriers to, treatment. The results of any such
14 assessment shall be included in the biennial report prepared by the
15 commissioner in accordance with subsection (o) of this section, as
16 amended by this act. The commissioner shall determine methods for
17 tracking the availability of substance abuse treatment services and
18 shall provide pertinent information on the availability of such services

19 through the department's web site, a toll-free hotline, the 2-1-1 Infoline
20 program or other similar mechanisms deemed appropriate by the
21 commissioner.

22 Sec. 2. Subsection (j) of section 17a-451 of the general statutes is
23 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
24 *1, 2009*):

25 (j) The commissioner shall be responsible for developing and
26 implementing the Connecticut comprehensive plan for prevention,
27 treatment and reduction of alcohol and drug abuse problems to be
28 known as the state substance abuse plan. Such plan shall include a
29 mission statement, a vision statement and goals for providing
30 treatment and recovery support services to adults with substance use
31 disorders. The plan shall [include state-wide, long-term planning goals
32 and objectives and annual revisions of objectives. In the development
33 of the substance abuse plan the commissioner shall solicit and consider
34 the recommendations of the subregional planning and action councils
35 established under section 17a-671] be developed by July 1, 2010, and
36 thereafter shall be triennially updated by July first of the respective
37 year. The commissioner shall develop such plan, mission statement, a
38 vision statement and goals after consultation with: (1) The Connecticut
39 Alcohol and Drug Policy Council established pursuant to section 17a-
40 667; (2) the Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission established
41 pursuant to section 18-87j; (3) the subregional planning and action
42 councils established pursuant to section 17a-671; (4) clients and their
43 families, including those involved with the criminal justice system; (5)
44 treatment providers; and (6) other interested stakeholders. The
45 commissioner shall submit a final draft of the plan to the Connecticut
46 Alcohol and Drug Policy Council for review and comment. The plan
47 shall outline the action steps, time frames and resources needed to
48 meet specified goals and shall minimally address: (A) Access to
49 services, both prior to and following admission to treatment; (B) the
50 provision of comprehensive assessments to those requesting treatment,
51 including individuals with co-occurring conditions; (C) quality of
52 treatment services and promotion of research-based and evidence-

53 based best practices and models; (D) an appropriate array of treatment
54 and recovery services along with a sustained continuum of care; (E)
55 outcome measures of specific treatment and recovery services in the
56 overall system of care; (F) department policies and guidelines
57 concerning recovery oriented care; and (G) provisions of the
58 community reentry strategy concerning substance abuse treatment and
59 recovery services needed by the offender population as developed by
60 the Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division within the Office of
61 Policy and Management. The plan shall define measures and set
62 benchmarks for the overall treatment system and for each state-
63 operated program. Measures and benchmarks specified in the plan
64 shall include, but not be limited to, the time required to receive
65 substance abuse assessments and treatment services either from state
66 agencies directly or through the private provider network funded by
67 state agencies; the percentage of clients who should receive a treatment
68 episode of ninety days or greater; treatment provision rates with
69 respect to those requesting treatment; connection to the appropriate
70 level of care rates; treatment completion rates; and treatment success
71 rates as measured by improved client outcomes in the areas of
72 substance use, employment, housing and involvement with the
73 criminal justice system.

74 Sec. 3. Subsection (o) of section 17a-451 of the general statutes is
75 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
76 *October 1, 2009*):

77 (o) The commissioner shall establish uniform policies and
78 procedures for collecting, standardizing, managing and evaluating
79 data related to substance use, abuse and addiction programs
80 administered by state agencies, state-funded community-based
81 programs and the Judicial Branch, including, but not limited to: (1) The
82 use of prevention, education, treatment and criminal justice services
83 related to substance use, abuse and addiction; (2) client demographic
84 and substance use, abuse and addiction information; and (3) the
85 quality and cost effectiveness of substance use, abuse and addiction
86 services. The commissioner shall, in consultation with the Secretary of

87 the Office of Policy and Management, ensure that the Judicial Branch,
88 all state agencies and state-funded community-based programs with
89 substance use, abuse and addiction programs or services comply with
90 such policies and procedures. Notwithstanding any other provision of
91 the general statutes concerning confidentiality, the commissioner,
92 within available appropriations, shall establish and maintain a central
93 repository for such substance use, abuse and addiction program and
94 service data from the Judicial Branch, state agencies and state-funded
95 community-based programs administering substance use, abuse and
96 addiction programs and services. The central repository shall not
97 disclose any data that reveals the personal identification of any
98 individual. The Connecticut Alcohol and Drug Policy Council
99 established pursuant to section 17a-667 shall have access to the central
100 repository for aggregate analysis. The commissioner shall submit a
101 biennial report to the General Assembly, [in accordance with the
102 provisions of section 11-4a,] the Office of Policy and Management and
103 the Connecticut Alcohol and Drug Policy Council in accordance with
104 the provisions of section 11-4a. The report shall include, but need not
105 be limited to, a summary of: (A) Client and patient demographic
106 information; (B) trends and risks factors associated with alcohol and
107 drug use, abuse and dependence; (C) effectiveness of services based on
108 outcome measures; (D) progress made in achieving the measures,
109 benchmarks and goals established in the state substance abuse plan,
110 developed and implemented in accordance with subsection (j) of this
111 section, as amended by this act; and [(D)] (E) a state-wide cost analysis.

112 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2009*) Not later than January 1, 2011,
113 the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services shall
114 develop and publish a report card on the state substance abuse
115 treatment system. The report card shall rate the system in areas that
116 include, but need not be limited to: (1) Accessibility; (2) quality and
117 appropriateness of the treatment offered; and (3) treatment outcomes,
118 including client satisfaction rates and client success rates relating to
119 abstinence and reduced substance abuse, reduced criminal justice
120 involvement, and the attainment of stable employment and housing

121 and social supports. The treatment system report card shall be
122 accessible on the department's web site and shall be included with the
123 biennial report submitted by the commissioner to the General
124 Assembly in accordance with the provisions of subsection (o) of
125 section 17a-451 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

126 Sec. 5. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Mental Health
127 and Addiction Services shall establish clear definitions of research-
128 based practice and evidence-based practice and shall thereafter
129 develop a strategy for the use of such practices in substance abuse
130 assessments and treatment services. Such practices shall include, but
131 not be limited to, assessment tools, program adherence fidelity checks
132 and assessment of the therapeutic alliance between the service
133 provider and the client. The commissioner shall develop such strategy,
134 as well as a timetable for implementation, by July 1, 2010, and such
135 strategy shall be included in the state substance abuse plan developed
136 in accordance with the provisions of subsection (j) of section 17a-451 of
137 the general statutes, as amended by this act.

138 Sec. 6. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Mental Health
139 and Addiction Services shall develop a strategy that encourages the
140 use of staff licensed or certified by the Department of Public Health
141 when providing a clinical service in any state-funded or state-operated
142 substance abuse treatment program. The commissioner shall develop
143 such strategy, as well as a timetable for implementation, by July 1,
144 2010, and such strategy shall be included in the state substance abuse
145 plan developed in accordance with the provisions of subsection (j) of
146 section 17a-451 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

147 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2009*) The Department of Mental
148 Health and Addiction Services shall create a provider profile for each
149 substance abuse treatment provider who receives funding from the
150 state, either in whole or in part. In addition, the department, in
151 consultation with the Department of Correction, shall develop a
152 similar profile for substance abuse treatment programs that are
153 operated by state agencies. Each profile shall be updated on an annual

154 basis and shall be accessible on the web site of the Department of
155 Mental Health and Addiction Services on or before January 1, 2011.
156 Such profiles shall include at a minimum: (1) Client populations
157 served; (2) the provider's accreditation status for those programs not
158 operated by state agencies; (3) language competency of the provider
159 staff; (4) types of services available; (5) capacity levels for the types of
160 services provided; (6) identification of services offered that are
161 evidence-based; (7) client satisfaction survey results; (8) the percentage
162 of staff who are responsible for assessment, treatment plan
163 development and the delivery of treatment services who are licensed
164 or certified by the Department of Public Health; (9) treatment
165 completion rates for services offered; (10) the average wait times to
166 receive assessment and treatment services; and (11) outcome
167 information that includes the use of national outcome measures
168 developed by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services
169 Administration of the United States Department of Health and Human
170 Services.

171 Sec. 8. (*Effective from passage*) On or before July 1, 2010, the
172 Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services shall develop
173 and review performance and outcome information concerning
174 methadone maintenance treatment programs and other opioid
175 replacement therapy programs that are either operated by the state or
176 funded by the state. Such review shall, at a minimum, include the
177 average duration of treatment, provider compliance with state and
178 federal requirements concerning treatment programs and client
179 outcomes based on the treatment received. The results of such review
180 shall be included in the biennial report submitted by the commissioner
181 to the General Assembly in accordance with the provisions of
182 subsection (o) of section 17a-451 of the general statutes, as amended by
183 this act.

184 Sec. 9. (*Effective from passage*) On or before January 1, 2011, the
185 Department of Public Health, in consultation with the Department of
186 Mental Health and Addiction Services, shall amend the department's
187 substance abuse treatment regulations and shall implement a dual

188 licensure program for behavioral health care providers who provide
189 both mental health services and substance abuse services.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	17a-451(i)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	17a-451(j)
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	17a-451(o)
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	New section

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Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

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