



**Substitute House Bill No. 5244**

**Public Act No. 10-170**

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE ISSUANCE OF EMERGENCY CERTIFICATES BY CERTAIN STAFF OF THE EMERGENCY MOBILE PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES PROGRAM.**

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

Section 1. Section 17a-78 of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (f) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2010*):

(NEW) (f) Any clinical social worker licensed under chapter 383b, advanced practice registered nurse licensed under chapter 378 or professional counselor licensed under chapter 383c who has (1) received a minimum of eight hours of specialized training in the conduct of direct evaluations as a member of any emergency mobile psychiatric services team under contract with the Department of Children and Families, and (2) reasonable cause to believe, based on a direct evaluation of a child, that such child (A) has psychiatric disabilities, (B) is dangerous to himself or others or gravely disabled, and (C) is in need of immediate care and treatment may issue an emergency certificate that requires the hospitalization of such child for a psychiatric and medical evaluation. Such child shall be evaluated not later than twenty-four hours after the issuance of the emergency certificate and shall not be held for more than seventy-two hours pursuant to such certificate unless committed pursuant to section 17a-

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77. The Commissioner of Children and Families shall collect and maintain statistical and demographic information pertaining to emergency certificates issued under this subsection.

Approved June 9, 2010