



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 353

February Session, 2010

Senate Bill No. 401

Senate, April 7, 2010

The Committee on Public Health reported through SEN. HARRIS of the 5th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING AN INITIATIVE TO INCREASE AND IMPROVE THE STATE'S HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Department of Public
2 Health, in collaboration with the Department of Higher Education, the
3 Labor Department, the Office of Workforce Competitiveness, The
4 University of Connecticut, The University of Connecticut School of
5 Medicine, The University of Connecticut School of Dentistry, the
6 Connecticut State University System and the regional community-
7 technical college system, shall develop an initiative to address the
8 state's health care workforce shortage. Such initiative shall seek to
9 increase the number of health care workers in the state through the
10 offering of expanded and enhanced educational programs at public
11 institutions of higher education. The initiative shall include, but not be
12 limited to, the following: (1) Expansion of existing health care related
13 academic programs to promote increased enrollment and retention of
14 students in such programs; (2) development of alternative academic

15 programs that are designed to assimilate displaced workers and other
 16 individuals considering a career change into the health care workforce;
 17 (3) recruitment and retention of underserved populations into the
 18 health care workforce; (4) the establishment of collaborative
 19 relationships between health care professions that will assist in
 20 improving access to health care; (5) development of distance learning
 21 initiatives; and (6) development of on-the-job training initiatives that
 22 are designed to provide valuable work experience to those receiving
 23 the training and assist in alleviating health care workforce shortages,
 24 particularly in areas of the state with underserved populations.

25 (b) Not later than January 1, 2012, the Commissioner of Public
 26 Health shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a
 27 of the general statutes, on the initiative to the joint standing
 28 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
 29 relating to higher education and employment advancement, public
 30 health and labor and public employees.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

PH *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 11 \$	FY 12 \$
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Cost	40,308	39,969
Comptroller Misc. Accounts (Fringe Benefits) ¹	GF - Cost	10,442	26,051

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a cost to the state of \$50,750 in FY 11 and \$66,020 in FY 12 for the Department of Public Health (DPH) to implement a comprehensive initiative to increase and improve the state's health care workforce. By January 1, 2012, DPH shall report on this initiative to various committees of the General Assembly. Cost details are provided in the table below:

Item	FY 11	FY 12
Education Specialist (durational for one year, January 1, 2011 to Jan 1, 2012)	39,169	39,169
Other expenses (supplies and printing of the final report in FY 12)	60	800
Equipment (computer)	1,079	
SUBTOTAL	40,308	39,969
Fringe Benefits	10,442	26,051
TOTAL	50,750	66,020

No funding has been included within sHB 5018 (the Revised FY 11

¹ The estimated non-pension fringe benefit rate as a percentage of payroll is 26.66% which includes health insurance, social security, Medicare, life insurance, and unemployment compensation. Fringe benefit costs for new positions do not include pension costs as new positions will not impact the state's pension contribution until FY 12 after the next scheduled actuarial valuation.

Budget, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee) to support this initiative.

The Out Years

No fiscal impact is anticipated in the out years, as the initiative would be concluded by January 1, 2012.

OLR Bill Analysis

SB 401

AN ACT CONCERNING AN INITIATIVE TO INCREASE AND IMPROVE THE STATE'S HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE

SUMMARY:

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 31 Nay 0 (03/24/2010)