



General Assembly

February Session, 2010

**Raised Bill No. 401**

LCO No. 1915

\*01915\_\_\_\_\_PH\_\*

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:  
(PH)

***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

**Statement of Purpose:**

To develop an academic initiative that addresses the critical shortage of health care professionals in the state.

*[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.]*