



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

**Raised Bill No. 1202**

LCO No. 4747

\* SB01202PH\_\_040111\_\_\*

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:  
(PH)

**AN ACT CONCERNING 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; (6) mechanisms for ensuring that a health care professional  
22 is practicing at such professional's highest level of competency; (7)  
23 streamlined processes within the Department of Public Health which  
24 ensure that out-of-state professionals with licensing credentials that  
25 are substantially similar to those required by the Department of Public  
26 Health are able to expeditiously obtain licensure in this state in order  
27 to alleviate workforce shortage areas; and (8) development of on-the-  
28 job training initiatives that are designed to provide valuable work  
29 experience to those receiving the training and assist in alleviating  
30 health care workforce shortages, particularly in areas of the state with  
31 underserved populations.

32 (b) Not later than January 1, 2013, the Commissioner of Public  
33 Health shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a  
34 of the general statutes, on the initiative to the joint standing  
35 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
36 relating to higher education and employment advancement, public  
37 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*