



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6521

January Session, 2013



AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAL ORDERS FOR LIFE-SUSTAINING TREATMENT.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of Public
2 Health may, within available appropriations, establish a pilot program
3 in one or more geographic areas in the state to implement the use of
4 medical orders for life-sustaining treatment by health care providers.
5 For purposes of this section: (1) "Medical order for life-sustaining
6 treatment" means a physician's written medical order to effectuate a
7 patient's request for life-sustaining treatment; and (2) "health care
8 provider" means any person, corporation, limited liability company,
9 facility or institution operated, owned or licensed by this state to
10 provide health care or professional services, or an officer, employee or
11 agent thereof acting in the course and scope of his or her employment.

12 (b) The Commissioner of Public Health may establish an advisory
13 group of health care providers to make recommendations concerning
14 the pilot program described in this section. The members of such
15 advisory group may include one or more: (1) Physicians, (2) advanced
16 practice registered nurses, (3) physician assistants, (4) emergency
17 medical service providers, (5) patient advocates, (6) hospital
18 representatives, or (7) long-term care facility representatives.

19 (c) Prior to commencement of a pilot program pursuant to this
20 section, said commissioner may contact a representative of each health
21 care institution, as defined in section 19a-490 of the general statutes, a
22 representative of each emergency medical service organization, as
23 defined in section 19a-175 of the general statutes, any physician
24 licensed under chapter 370 of the general statutes, and any advanced
25 practice registered nurse licensed under chapter 378 of the general
26 statutes in the geographic area in which the commissioner intends to
27 establish the pilot program to request such institution's, organization's,
28 physician's or advanced practice registered nurse's participation in the
29 pilot program. Participation by each institution, organization,
30 physician and advanced practice registered nurse shall be voluntary.

31 (d) Patient participation in the pilot program shall be voluntary.
32 Any such agreement to participate in the pilot program shall be made
33 in writing, signed by the patient or the patient's legally-authorized
34 representative. Such agreement shall be maintained by the health care
35 institution, emergency medical services organization, physician or
36 advanced practice registered nurse that presented such agreement to
37 the patient and shall be made available to the commissioner upon
38 request.

39 (e) After the termination of the pilot program, said commissioner
40 may submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a
41 of the general statutes, to the Governor and the joint standing
42 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
43 relating to public health concerning the pilot program.

44 (f) Said commissioner may implement policies and procedures
45 necessary to implement the pilot program while in the process of
46 adopting such policies and procedures in regulation form, provided
47 the commissioner prints notice of the intent to adopt regulations in the
48 Connecticut Law Journal not later than thirty days after the date of
49 implementation of such policies and procedures. Policies implemented
50 pursuant to this section shall be valid until the time final regulations
51 are adopted or until the pilot program terminates, whichever occurs

52 earlier.

53 (g) Any pilot program established in accordance with this section
54 shall terminate not later than October 1, 2014.

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

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In section 1(b)(3), the phrase "physicians assistants" was changed to "physician assistants", for accuracy and statutory consistency, and in section 1(c), the phrase "licensed in accordance with section 19a-490" was changed to "as defined in section 19a-490" for accuracy.

PH *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*