



General Assembly

January Session, 2013

Raised Bill No. 991

LCO No. 3798



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:
(PH)

AN ACT CONCERNING AN ADVISORY COUNCIL ON PALLIATIVE CARE.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2013*) (a) There is established
2 within the Department of Public Health a Palliative Care Advisory
3 Council. The advisory council shall: (1) Analyze the current state of
4 palliative care in the state; and (2) advise the department on matters
5 relating to the improvement of palliative care and the quality of life for
6 persons with terminal illnesses.

7 (b) The advisory council shall consist of the following members:

8 (1) Two appointed by the Governor, one who shall be a physician
9 certified by the American Board of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
10 and one who shall be a registered nurse or advanced practice
11 registered nurse certified by the National Board for Certification of
12 Hospice and Palliative Nurses;

13 (2) Five appointed by the Commissioner of Public Health, one each

14 who shall be a licensed health care provider with experience or
15 expertise in the provision of: (A) Inpatient palliative care in a hospital
16 or nursing home facility; (B) palliative care in the patient's home or a
17 community setting; (C) pediatric palliative care; (D) palliative care for
18 young adults; and (E) palliative care for adults or elderly persons;

19 (3) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
20 who shall be a licensed social worker experienced in working with
21 patients with terminal illness and their family members;

22 (4) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who
23 shall be a licensed pharmacist experienced in working with patients
24 with terminal illness;

25 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
26 Representatives, who shall be a spiritual counselor experienced in
27 working with persons with terminal illness and their family members;
28 and

29 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be
30 a representative of the American Cancer Society or a person
31 experienced in advocating for persons with terminal illness and their
32 family members.

33 (c) All appointments to the advisory council shall be made not later
34 than ninety days after October 1, 2013. Council members shall serve
35 three-year terms. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing
36 authority.

37 (d) Members shall receive no compensation except for
38 reimbursement for necessary expenses incurred in performing their
39 duties.

40 (e) The members shall elect the chairperson of the advisory council
41 from among the members of the advisory council. A majority of the
42 council members shall constitute a quorum. Such chairperson shall

43 schedule the first meeting of the advisory council, which shall be held
44 not later than ninety days after October 1, 2013. The advisory council
45 shall meet biannually and at other times upon the call of the chair or
46 upon the request of a majority of the council members.

47 (f) Not later than January 1, 2015, and annually thereafter, the
48 advisory council shall submit a report on its findings and
49 recommendations to the Commissioner of Public Health and the joint
50 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
51 matters relating to public health, in accordance with the provisions of
52 section 11-4a of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2013</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To establish an advisory council on palliative care.

[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.]