



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 991**

January Session, 2013



**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 available appropriations, within the Department of Public  
3 Health, a Palliative Care Advisory Council. The advisory council shall:  
4 (1) Analyze the current state of palliative care in the state; and (2)  
5 advise the department on matters relating to the improvement of  
6 palliative care and the quality of life for persons with serious or  
7 chronic illnesses.

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

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

14 (2) Six appointed by the Commissioner of Public Health, each of  
15 whom shall be a licensed health care provider, with each appointee  
16 having experience or expertise in the provision of one of the following:  
17 (A) Inpatient palliative care in a hospital; (B) inpatient palliative care in  
18 a nursing home facility; (C) palliative care in the patient's home or a

19 community setting; (D) pediatric palliative care; (E) palliative care for  
20 young adults; or (F) palliative care for adults or elderly persons;

21 (3) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,  
22 who shall be a licensed social worker experienced in working with  
23 persons with serious or chronic illness and their family members;

24 (4) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who  
25 shall be a licensed pharmacist experienced in working with persons  
26 with serious or chronic illness;

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

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

35 (c) All appointments to the advisory council shall be made not later  
36 than December 31, 2013. Advisory council members shall serve three-  
37 year terms. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.

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

41 (e) The members shall elect the chairperson of the advisory council  
42 from among the members of the advisory council. A majority of the  
43 advisory council members shall constitute a quorum. Any action taken  
44 by the advisory council shall require a majority vote of those present.  
45 Such chairperson shall schedule the first meeting of the advisory  
46 council, which shall be held not later than December 31, 2013. The  
47 advisory council shall meet biannually and at other times upon the call  
48 of the chairperson or upon the request of a majority of the advisory

49 council members.

50 (f) Not later than January 1, 2015, and annually thereafter, the  
51 advisory council shall submit a report on its findings and  
52 recommendations to the Commissioner of Public Health and the joint  
53 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
54 matters relating to public health, in accordance with the provisions of  
55 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

**PH**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*