
OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 1070

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SCHOOL NURSE ADVISORY COUNCIL.

SUMMARY:

This bill creates a School Nurse Advisory Council to advise the Department of Public Health (DPH) and State Department of Education (SDE) commissioners on matters that affect school nurses, including their professional development, staffing levels, and delivery of health care services.

Under the bill, the DPH commissioner appoints the council's six voting members. The DPH and SDE commissioners, or their designees, are ex-officio, nonvoting members.

The council must report at least annually on its recommendations concerning the matters specified above to the DPH and SDE commissioners and the Public Health and Education committees. The first report is due January 1, 2014.

The bill requires the DPH commissioner to notify local and regional school boards of the advisory council's recommendations not later than 30 days after she receives council reports.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP AND PROCEDURE

The bill requires the DPH commissioner to appoint the council's voting members, within 30 days after July 1, 2013. The appointments are as follows:

1. one school nurse who is a member of the American Federation of Teachers Connecticut,

2. one school nurse who is a member of Council 4 of the American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees,
3. one school nurse who is a member of the Connecticut Education Association,
4. one representative of the Association of School Nurses of Connecticut,
5. one representative of the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents, and
6. one representative of the Connecticut Federation of School Administrators.

The DPH and SDE commissioners, or their designees, are ex-officio, nonvoting members and must attend the council's meetings.

Council members must elect a chairperson from among the members who are school nurses.

The DPH commissioner must schedule the first council meeting, to be held not later than 60 days after July 1, 2013. The council must meet upon the call of the chairperson or upon the request of a majority of the members. A majority of the members constitutes a quorum, and a majority vote of a quorum is needed for any official council action.

The bill provides that council members are not paid for their service, except for reimbursement for necessary expenses incurred in performing their duties.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 27 Nay 0 (04/02/2013)