



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

February 20, 2013

Jewel Mullen MD, MPH, MPA, Commissioner, (860)509-7101

Senate Bill 366 – AN ACT REQUIRING LICENSED SOCIAL WORKERS AND COUNSELORS TO COMPLETE CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSEWORK IN CULTURAL FOUNDATIONS

The Department of Public Health provides the following information regarding Senate Bill 366.

This proposal would amend the mandatory continuing education requirements for licensed clinical social workers, master social workers, professional counselors, alcohol and drug counselors and marital and family therapists to require coursework in “cultural foundations.” The statutory requirements for continuing education for each of these professions would need to be amended to clearly define term “cultural foundations” and identify the specific number of hours to be completed. Should this proposal move forward, the Department of Public Health respectfully requests the opportunity to participate in any discussions regarding revised statutory language to ensure that the requirements are consistent with similar provisions for other licensed professions and that implementation of the proposal has no fiscal impact to the Department.

Thank you for your consideration of the Department’s views on this bill.

*Phone: (860) 509-7269, Fax: (860) 509-7100
Telephone Device for the Deaf (860) 509-7191
410 Capitol Avenue - MS # 13GRE
P.O. Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134
An Equal Opportunity Employer*