



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5385

February Session, 2014



AN ACT CONCERNING LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS IN HOSPITALS.

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

- 1 Section 1. Section 19a-490i of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):
- 3 Each acute care hospital in this state shall:
- 4 (1) Develop and annually review a policy on the provision of
- 5 interpreter services to non-English-speaking patients;
- 6 (2) Ensure [, to the extent possible,] the availability of interpreter
- 7 services to patients whose primary language is spoken by a group
- 8 comprising not less than five per cent of the population residing in the
- 9 geographic area served by the hospital;
- 10 (3) Prepare and maintain a list of qualified interpreters;
- 11 (4) Notify hospital staff of the requirement to provide interpreters to
- 12 non-English-speaking patients;
- 13 (5) Post multilingual notices of the availability of interpreters to
- 14 non-English-speaking patients;
- 15 (6) Review standardized forms to determine the need for translation
- 16 for use by non-English-speaking patients;

17 (7) Consider providing hospital staff with picture and phrase sheets
18 for communication with non-English-speaking patients; and

19 (8) Establish liaisons to non-English-speaking communities in the
20 geographic area served by the hospital.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2014	19a-490i

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In the title, "act" was inserted, for accuracy.

PH *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*