



General Assembly

February Session, 2014

Raised Bill No. 5528

LCO No. 2257



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:
(PH)

AN ACT CONCERNING ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES.

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

1 Section 1. Section 19a-245 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):

3 Upon application to the Department of Public Health, each health
4 district that has a total population of fifty thousand or more, or serves
5 three or more municipalities irrespective of the combined total
6 population of such municipalities, shall annually receive from the state
7 an amount equal to one dollar and eighty-five cents per capita for each
8 town, city and borough of such district, provided (1) the
9 Commissioner of Public Health approves the public health program
10 and budget of such health district, [and] (2) the towns, cities and
11 boroughs of such district appropriate for the maintenance of the health
12 district not less than one dollar per capita from the annual tax receipts,
13 and (3) the health district meets the requirements of section 3 of this
14 act. Such district departments of health are authorized to use
15 additional funds, which the Department of Public Health may secure
16 from federal agencies or any other source and which it may allot to

17 such district departments of health. The district treasurer shall
18 disburse the money so received upon warrants approved by a majority
19 of the board and signed by its chairman and secretary. The
20 Comptroller shall quarterly, in July, October, January and April, upon
21 such application and upon the voucher of the Commissioner of Public
22 Health, draw the Comptroller's order on the State Treasurer in favor of
23 such district department of health for the amount due in accordance
24 with the provisions of this section and under rules prescribed by the
25 commissioner. Any moneys remaining unexpended at the end of a
26 fiscal year shall be included in the budget of the district for the ensuing
27 year. This aid shall be rendered from appropriations made from time
28 to time by the General Assembly to the Department of Public Health
29 for this purpose.

30 Sec. 2. Section 19a-202 of the general statutes is repealed and the
31 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):

32 Upon application to the Department of Public Health any municipal
33 health department shall annually receive from the state an amount
34 equal to one dollar and eighteen cents per capita, provided such
35 municipality (1) employs a full-time director of health, except that if a
36 vacancy exists in the office of director of health or the office is filled by
37 an acting director for more than three months, such municipality shall
38 not be eligible for funding unless the Commissioner of Public Health
39 waives this requirement; (2) submits a public health program and
40 budget which is approved by the Commissioner of Public Health; (3)
41 appropriates not less than one dollar per capita, from the annual tax
42 receipts, for health department services; [and] (4) has a population of
43 fifty thousand or more; and (5) meets the requirements of section 3 of
44 this act. Such municipal department of health may use additional
45 funds, which the Department of Public Health may secure from federal
46 agencies or any other source and which it may allot to such municipal
47 department of health. The money so received shall be disbursed upon
48 warrants approved by the chief executive officer of such municipality.
49 The Comptroller shall annually in July and upon a voucher of the

50 Commissioner of Public Health, draw the Comptroller's order on the
51 State Treasurer in favor of such municipal department of health for the
52 amount due in accordance with the provisions of this section and
53 under rules prescribed by the commissioner. Any moneys remaining
54 unexpended at the end of a fiscal year shall be included in the budget
55 of such municipal department of health for the ensuing year. This aid
56 shall be rendered from appropriations made from time to time by the
57 General Assembly to the Department of Public Health for this purpose.

58 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) Each district department of
59 health or the municipal health department shall ensure the provision
60 of a basic health program that includes, but is not limited to, the
61 following services for each community served by the district
62 department of health or the municipal health department: (1)
63 Monitoring of health status to identify and solve community health
64 problems; (2) investigating and diagnosing health problems and health
65 hazards in the community; (3) informing, educating and empowering
66 persons in the community concerning health issues; (4) mobilizing
67 community partnerships and action to identify and solve health
68 problems for persons in the community; (5) developing policies and
69 plans that support individual and community health efforts; (6)
70 enforcing laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety;
71 (7) connecting persons in the community to needed health care
72 services when appropriate; (8) assuring the existence of a competent
73 workforce of health care professionals; (9) evaluating effectiveness,
74 accessibility and quality of personal and population-based health
75 services; and (10) researching to find innovative solutions to health
76 problems.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	19a-245
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	19a-202
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To require local health departments to provide essential public health services as a condition for receiving certain state funding.

[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.]