



AN ACT CONCERNING CAMPERS' EDUCATION.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than January 1,
2 2015, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Public Health, in
3 consultation with groups that have been actively involved in
4 community prevention, education and awareness of Lyme disease and
5 other tick-borne diseases, including, but not limited to, BLAST Lyme
6 Disease Prevention Program and various health districts in the state,
7 shall (1) identify or develop best practices for the prevention,
8 identification, diagnosis and treatment of Lyme disease and other tick-
9 borne diseases, including, but not limited to, bartonellosis, babesiosis,
10 anaplasmosis and ehrlichiosis; and (2) disseminate information on
11 Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases through the Department of
12 Public Health's Internet web site and printed materials published by
13 the department to notify members of the public of such best practices
14 and to increase coordination among the state, local government
15 agencies and health care providers in the state.

16 (b) Not later than July 1, 2015, and annually thereafter, the
17 commissioner shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section
18 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the
19 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public
20 health and children on the status of the commissioner's initiatives

21 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

22 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) (a) Not later than July 1,
23 2015, and annually thereafter, each youth camp licensed pursuant to
24 chapter 368r of the general statutes shall develop or approve a Lyme
25 disease education program utilizing the information disseminated by
26 the Department of Public Health pursuant to subsection (a) of section 1
27 of this act. Such program shall consist of written and oral components,
28 including, but not limited to, information regarding: (1) Identification
29 of ticks and other parasitic or potentially harmful insects; (2)
30 identification of early warning signs associated with Lyme disease and
31 other tick-borne diseases, including, but not limited to, bartonellosis,
32 babesiosis, anaplasmosis and ehrlichiosis; (3) proper procedures for
33 campers to notify youth camp staff members of a suspected tick bite;
34 (4) proper methods of conducting tick checks; (5) proper methods for
35 removing ticks and other parasitic or potentially harmful insects,
36 including whether to dispose of or reserve the specimen for further
37 examination; and (6) current best practices for avoiding exposure to
38 ticks and other parasitic or potentially harmful insects.

39 (b) Prior to each new youth camp session, the director or assistant
40 director of the youth camp shall distribute the written components of
41 the education program developed or approved pursuant to subsection
42 (a) of this section to (1) each staff member who is a paid employee or
43 volunteer providing ongoing services at the youth camp, and (2) a
44 parent or legal guardian of each camper enrolled in the youth camp.

45 (c) Not later than the first day of each new youth camp session, the
46 director or assistant director of each youth camp shall present the oral
47 components of the education program developed or approved
48 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section to (1) each staff member who
49 is a paid employee or volunteer providing ongoing services at the
50 youth camp, and (2) each camper enrolled in the youth camp.

51 (d) Not later than twenty-four hours after a camper reports a
52 suspected tick bite to a youth camp staff member, the director or

53 assistant director of the youth camp shall notify the camper's parent or
54 legal guardian or the emergency contact on file with the youth camp of
55 the report.

56 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) (a) Not later than January 1,
57 2015, and annually thereafter, each youth camp licensed pursuant to
58 chapter 368r of the general statutes shall develop or approve a camper
59 injury and abuse education program. Such program shall consist of
60 written and oral components, including, but not limited to,
61 information regarding: (1) Physical injury, sexual abuse and emotional
62 abuse; (2) identification of the early warning signs associated with
63 such injury or abuse; (3) proper procedures for notifying the director,
64 assistant director, injury or abuse resource counselor or other staff
65 member at the youth camp of the suspected or actual injury or abuse of
66 a camper; and (4) current best practices for preventing and treating
67 injury or abuse in the youth camp setting.

68 (b) Prior to each new youth camp session, the director or assistant
69 director of the youth camp shall distribute the written components of
70 the education program developed or approved pursuant to subsection
71 (a) of this section to (1) each staff member who is a paid employee or
72 volunteer providing ongoing services at the youth camp, and (2) a
73 parent or legal guardian of each camper enrolled in the youth camp.

74 (c) Not later than the first day of each new youth camp session, the
75 director or assistant director of each youth camp shall present the oral
76 components of the education program developed or approved
77 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section to (1) each staff member who
78 is a paid employee or volunteer providing ongoing services at the
79 youth camp, and (2) each camper enrolled in the youth camp.

80 (d) Each youth camp shall provide the option for any camper who is
81 attending the youth camp and who (1) is the victim of injury or abuse,
82 or (2) has witnessed a camper suffering injury or abuse or suspects that
83 a camper is the victim of injury or abuse, to report or disclose such
84 injury or abuse to such youth camp anonymously, provided

85 maintaining the confidentiality of such camper does not result in a
86 violation of state or federal law.

87 (e) Prior to each new youth camp session, the director or assistant
88 director of the youth camp shall designate a staff member at the youth
89 camp as an injury or abuse resource counselor. Not later than the first
90 day of each new youth camp session, the director or assistant director
91 of each youth camp shall identify the injury or abuse resource
92 counselor to all campers and describe to each camper the procedure
93 for contacting the counselor if any camper suffers injury or abuse or
94 suspects that a camper has suffered injury or abuse.

95 (f) Not later than twenty-four hours after a camper reports an
96 incident of injury or abuse, the director or assistant director of the
97 youth camp shall notify the camper's parent or legal guardian or the
98 camper's emergency contact on file with the youth camp of the report.

99 (g) No youth camp shall prohibit a camper from contacting his or
100 her parent or legal guardian or his or her emergency contact on file
101 with the youth camp within twelve hours of requesting to do so.

102 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) (a) (1) Except as provided in
103 subsection (c) of this section, each youth camp licensed pursuant to
104 chapter 368r of the general statutes shall require each director or
105 assistant director who is (A) a paid employee, or (B) a volunteer
106 providing ongoing services at the youth camp to submit to state and
107 national criminal history records checks conducted in accordance with
108 section 29-17a of the general statutes prior to such director or assistant
109 director performing his or her duties at the youth camp.

110 (2) If such director or assistant director is performing his or her
111 duties at the youth camp on the effective date of this section, the youth
112 camp shall require such director or assistant director to submit to such
113 state and national criminal history records checks prior to the renewal
114 of the youth camp's license pursuant to chapter 368r of the general
115 statutes.

116 (3) The criminal history records checks required under this
117 subsection shall not be required for any director or assistant director
118 who (A) has successfully completed a state and national criminal
119 history records check for immigration purposes in accordance with
120 federal law not more than six months prior to the date such director or
121 assistant director (i) begins employment at the camp, or (ii) begins
122 volunteering at the camp, or (B) has previously submitted to state and
123 national criminal history records checks pursuant to subdivision (1) or
124 (2) of this subsection.

125 (b) (1) Each youth camp licensed pursuant to chapter 368r of the
126 general statutes shall require each director or assistant director who is
127 (A) a paid employee, or (B) a volunteer providing ongoing services at
128 the youth camp to certify to such youth camp that he or she is not
129 listed on the state child abuse or neglect registry established pursuant
130 to section 17a-101k of the general statutes prior to such director or
131 assistant director performing his or her duties at the youth camp.

132 (2) If such director or assistant director is performing his or her
133 duties at the youth camp on the effective date of this section, the youth
134 camp shall require such director or assistant director to certify to such
135 youth camp that he or she is not listed on the state child abuse or
136 neglect registry prior to the renewal of the youth camp's license
137 pursuant to chapter 368r of the general statutes.

138 (c) Pursuant to section 29-17a of the general statutes, the
139 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection may
140 charge a youth camp fees for conducting the state and national
141 criminal history records checks required under the provisions of
142 subsection (a) of this section.

143 (d) In the course of inspecting the facilities of a youth camp
144 pursuant to section 19a-426 of the general statutes, the Department of
145 Public Health shall verify that each director or assistant director of the
146 youth camp has (1) submitted to state and national criminal history
147 records checks pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, and (2)

148 certified to such youth camp that he or she is not listed on the state
149 child abuse or neglect registry pursuant to subsection (b) of this
150 section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Sec. 3(d), after "witnessed", "a camper suffering injury or abuse" was added for clarity, and in Sec. 4(a)(3), "subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection" was inserted in lieu of "subsection (a) of this section" for clarity.

KID *Joint Favorable Subst.*