



General Assembly

February Session, 2014

Raised Bill No. 257

LCO No. 1478



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:
(PH)

AN ACT CONCERNING HEPATITIS C TESTING.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) (a) For purposes of this
2 section:

3 (1) "Hepatitis C screening test" means a laboratory test that detects
4 the presence of hepatitis C virus antibodies in the blood;

5 (2) "Hepatitis C diagnostic test" means a laboratory test that detects
6 the presence of hepatitis C virus in the blood and provides
7 confirmation of whether the person whose blood is being tested has a
8 hepatitis C virus infection;

9 (3) "Primary care provider" means a physician, advanced practice
10 registered nurse or nurse practitioner who provides primary care
11 services and is licensed by the Department of Public Health pursuant
12 to Title 20 of the general statutes; and

13 (4) "Primary care" means the medical fields of family medicine,
14 general pediatrics, primary care, internal medicine, primary care

15 obstetrics or primary care gynecology, without regard to board
16 certification.

17 (b) On and after October 1, 2014, a primary care provider shall offer
18 to provide a hepatitis C screening test or hepatitis C diagnostic test to
19 each patient who was born between 1945 to 1965, inclusive, at the time
20 a primary care provider provides services to such patient, except a
21 primary care provider is not required to offer to provide a hepatitis C
22 screening test or hepatitis C diagnostic test to such person when the
23 primary care provider reasonably believes: (1) Such person is being
24 treated for a life-threatening emergency; (2) such person has
25 previously been offered or has received a hepatitis C screening test; or
26 (3) such person lacks the capacity to consent to a hepatitis C screening
27 test.

28 (c) A health care provider who provides a hepatitis C screening test
29 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, and receives notice that said
30 test is reactive shall offer the person having a reactive test continuing
31 health care relating to the reactive test or refer such person to another
32 health care provider for such continuing health care. Such continuing
33 health care shall include a hepatitis C diagnostic test.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To require certain health care providers to offer hepatitis C screening tests to certain patients.

[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.]