



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON AGING

February 25, 2014

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

Senate Bill 179

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND DEMENTIA TASK FORCE'S RECOMMENDATIONS ON TRAINING

The Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) offers the following information concerning Senate Bill 179.

The Department is supportive of the concept raised in this bill and agrees that more widespread training in dementia care would not only benefit patients and their families, but also the various health care providers noted in the proposal. However we respectfully request the Committee consider the following proposed technical changes:

- Lines 34 and 35 contains outdated references to Section 19a-36 and the Public Health Code. The Department respectfully requests changing the language to the following: "(d) In accordance with section 19a-495, the Commissioner of Public Health may amend the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies to implement the provisions of this section." Section 19a-495 is the enabling statute that allows DPH to create regulations pertaining to facility licensing.
- Sections 1, 2, 3, 8, and 14 mandate the Commissioner to create or update regulations to implement the provisions of this bill. DPH respectfully requests changing the "shall" to a "may" as DPH believes that regulations related to these provisions are unnecessary.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

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