



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

Raised Bill No. 5265

LCO No. 1411



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:
(PH)

***AN ACT CONCERNING MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING AND
MEDWATCH PROGRAM INFORMATION.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 17a-453h of the general statutes is repealed and
2 the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) The Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services, in
4 consultation with the Commissioner of Education, shall administer a
5 mental health first aid training program. Said program shall: (1) Help
6 persons attending the training program recognize the signs of mental
7 disorders in children and young adults; and (2) connect children and
8 young adults who show signs of having a mental disorder with a
9 professional who offers the appropriate services.

10 (b) Said commissioners may seek federal and state funding and may
11 accept private donations for the administration of, and providing for
12 persons to participate in, the mental health first aid training program.

13 (c) (1) For the school year commencing July 1, 2014, the

14 Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services shall provide
15 mental health first aid training to any person appointed to serve as the
16 district safe school climate coordinator, pursuant to section 10-222k.
17 Each such district safe school climate coordinator shall successfully
18 complete such mental health first aid training.

19 (2) For the school year commencing July 1, 2015, the Commissioner
20 of Mental Health and Addiction Services shall provide mental health
21 and first aid training to any person appointed to serve as the district
22 safe school climate coordinator for such school year and who did not
23 serve as the district safe school climate coordinator for the prior school
24 year or did not otherwise successfully complete such training. Each
25 such district safe school climate coordinator shall successfully
26 complete such mental health first aid training.

27 (3) No district safe school climate coordinator shall be required to
28 successfully complete such mental health first aid training more than
29 once.

30 (d) Each local and regional board of education may require teachers,
31 school nurses, counselors and other school employees to participate in
32 mental health first aid training.

33 (e) On and after July 1, 2016, any person receiving mental health
34 first aid training pursuant to this section shall be provided with the
35 Internet web site address and toll-free telephone number for the
36 federal Food and Drug Administration's safety information and
37 adverse event reporting program known as MedWatch.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	17a-453h

Statement of Purpose:

To require that information concerning the federal Food and Drug Administration's MedWatch program be provided to recipients of mental health first aid.

[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.]