



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

Raised Bill No. 5301

LCO No. 1346



Referred to Committee on COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

Introduced by:
(KID)

***AN ACT CONCERNING OPIOID ANALGESIC PRESCRIPTIONS
ISSUED TO MINORS.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2016*) (a) A prescribing
2 practitioner, as defined in section 20-571 of the general statutes, who is
3 authorized to prescribe controlled substances in schedule II, III, IV or
4 V, shall, prior to issuing the first prescription for an opioid analgesic in
5 a single course of treatment to a patient under the age of eighteen:

6 (1) Review the patient's medical records, including, but not limited
7 to, those maintained in the electronic prescription drug monitoring
8 program established pursuant to section 21a-254 of the general
9 statutes, if available;

10 (2) Assess whether the patient has ever suffered from or currently
11 suffers from a psychiatric disability or substance abuse disorder and
12 whether the patient has taken or is currently taking prescription
13 medication for treatment of such disability or disorder;

14 (3) Discuss with the patient and the patient's parent or guardian the
15 risks of addiction and overdose associated with opioid analgesics and
16 the dangers of taking opioid analgesics with alcohol, benzodiazepines
17 and other central nervous system depressants; and

18 (4) Obtain written consent for the prescription from the patient's
19 parent or guardian on a form that shall be separate from any other
20 document the prescribing practitioner uses to obtain informed consent
21 for other treatment provided to the patient, and maintained in the
22 patient's medical record. Such form shall contain:

23 (A) A statement indicating that the opioid analgesic prescribed has
24 been identified as having a potential for abuse;

25 (B) A statement certifying that the prescribing practitioner discussed
26 with the patient and the patient's parent or guardian the matters
27 described in subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section;

28 (C) The number of refills, if any, authorized by the prescription; and

29 (D) The signature of the patient's parent or guardian and the date of
30 signing.

31 (b) The provisions of this section shall not apply if:

32 (1) The treatment of the patient is associated with or incident to a
33 medical emergency;

34 (2) The treatment of the patient is associated with or incident to
35 inpatient or outpatient surgery;

36 (3) The treatment of the patient is rendered in a hospital, emergency
37 facility, ambulatory surgical center, nursing home, respite care
38 program, residential care facility or freestanding rehabilitation facility,
39 unless the prescribing practitioner maintains a primary office on the
40 premises of the hospital, emergency facility, ambulatory surgical
41 center, nursing home, respite care program, residential care facility or

42 freestanding rehabilitation facility;

43 (4) The prescription is issued at the time of discharge from a
44 hospital, emergency facility, ambulatory surgical center, nursing home,
45 respite care program, residential care facility or freestanding
46 rehabilitation facility; or

47 (5) In the prescribing practitioner's judgment, complying with the
48 requirements of this section would be a detriment to the patient's
49 health, safety or welfare.

50 (c) For the purposes of this section, "parent or guardian" means the
51 parent or guardian of a patient under the age of eighteen or, in the case
52 of a patient under the age of eighteen who is an emancipated minor,
53 the patient.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2016	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To require prescribing practitioners to obtain parental consent for opioid analgesic prescriptions issued to patients under the age of eighteen.

[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.]