



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

**Raised Bill No. 5452**

LCO No. 1877



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:  
(PH)

***AN ACT CONCERNING A PRESCRIPTION DRUG EDUCATION PROGRAM.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 10a-132e of the 2016 supplement to the general  
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
3 (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

4 (a) The University of Connecticut [Health Center shall, in  
5 consultation with the Yale University School of Medicine,] School of  
6 Medicine, The University of Connecticut School of Nursing, the Health  
7 Care Costs Containment Committee, as defined in section 3-123rrr, and  
8 the Commissioner of Social Services shall, within existing budgetary  
9 resources, jointly develop, implement and promote an evidence-based  
10 outreach and education program concerning the therapeutic and cost-  
11 effective utilization of prescription drugs for the benefit of licensed  
12 physicians, pharmacists and other health care professionals authorized  
13 to prescribe and dispense prescription drugs. [In developing such  
14 program, The University of Connecticut Health Center shall consider  
15 whether such program may be developed in coordination with, or as a  
16 part of, the Connecticut Area Health Education Center.]

17 (b) The program [established pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
18 section shall: (1) Arrange] (1) may arrange for licensed physicians,  
19 pharmacists and nurses to conduct in person educational visits with  
20 prescribing practitioners, utilizing evidence-based materials,  
21 borrowing methods from behavioral science and educational theory  
22 and, when appropriate, utilizing pharmaceutical industry data and  
23 outreach techniques; [(2) inform prescribing practitioners about drug  
24 marketing that is designed to prevent competition to brand name  
25 drugs from generic or other therapeutically equivalent pharmaceutical  
26 alternatives or other evidence-based treatment options; and (3)] and (2)  
27 shall provide outreach and education to licensed physicians and other  
28 health care practitioners who are participating providers in state-  
29 funded health care programs, including, but not limited to, Medicaid,  
30 the HUSKY Health program, the Department of Correction inmate  
31 health services program and the state employees' health insurance  
32 plan.

33 (c) The [University of Connecticut Health Center] program shall, to  
34 the extent feasible, utilize or incorporate [into the program] other  
35 independent educational resources or models that are proven to be  
36 effective in disseminating high quality, evidenced-based, cost-effective  
37 information to prescribing practitioners regarding the effectiveness  
38 and safety of prescription drugs. [Such other resources or models that  
39 The University of Connecticut Health Center reviews shall include: (1)  
40 The Pennsylvania PACE Independent Drug Information Service  
41 affiliated with the Harvard Medical School; (2) the Vermont Academic  
42 Detailing Program sponsored by the University of Vermont College of  
43 Medicine Office of Primary Care; and (3) the Drug Effectiveness  
44 Review project conducted by the Oregon Health and Science  
45 University Evidence-based Practice Center.]

46 (d) The [University of Connecticut Health Center shall] University  
47 of Connecticut or the Commissioner of Social Services may seek  
48 federal funds and The University of Connecticut and the Health Care  
49 Costs Containment Committee may seek funding from

50 nongovernmental health access foundations, for the administration  
51 and operation of the program. [In addition, The University of  
52 Connecticut Health Center may seek funding from nongovernmental  
53 health access foundations for the program. The University of  
54 Connecticut Health Center shall not be required to develop, implement  
55 and promote the program described in this section, if federal, state and  
56 private funds in the aggregate are insufficient to pay for the initial and  
57 ongoing expenses of such program.]

58 (e) Not later than January 1, 2017, and annually thereafter, The  
59 University of Connecticut School of Medicine, The University of  
60 Connecticut School of Nursing, the Health Care Costs Containment  
61 Committee and the Commissioner of Social Services shall jointly  
62 report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint  
63 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
64 matters relating to public health on the status of the program,  
65 including, but not limited to, the program's effectiveness in reducing  
66 state spending on prescription drugs.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2016	10a-132e

**PH**      *Joint Favorable*