



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

Raised Bill No. 5456

LCO No. 1989



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:
(PH)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES
FOR REVISIONS TO THE MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION
SERVICES STATUTES.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 17a-456 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

3 There shall be a Board of Mental Health and Addiction Services that
4 shall consist of: (1) Nineteen members appointed by the Governor,
5 subject to the provisions of section 4-9a, five of whom shall have had
6 experience in the field of substance abuse, five of whom shall be from
7 the mental health community, three of whom shall be physicians
8 licensed to practice medicine in this state who have had experience in
9 the field of psychiatry, two of whom shall be psychologists licensed to
10 practice in this state, two of whom shall be persons representing
11 families of individuals with psychiatric disabilities, and two of whom
12 shall be persons representing families of individuals recovering from
13 substance [abuse problems] use disorders; (2) the chairmen of the

14 regional mental health boards established pursuant to section 17a-484;
15 (3) one designee of each such board; (4) two designees from each of the
16 five subregions represented by the substance abuse subregional
17 planning and action councils established pursuant to section 17a-671;
18 (5) one designee from each mental health region established pursuant
19 to section 17a-478, each of whom shall represent individuals with
20 psychiatric disabilities, selected by such regional mental health boards
21 in collaboration with advocacy groups; and (6) one designee from each
22 of the five subregions represented by such substance abuse
23 subregional planning and action councils, each of whom shall
24 represent individuals recovering from substance [abuse problems] use
25 disorders, selected by such substance abuse subregional planning and
26 action councils in collaboration with advocacy groups. The members of
27 the board shall serve without compensation except for necessary
28 expenses incurred in performing their duties. The members of the
29 board may include representatives of nongovernment organizations or
30 groups, and of state agencies, concerned with planning, operation or
31 utilization of facilities providing mental health and substance abuse
32 services, including consumers and providers of such services who are
33 familiar with the need for such services, except that no more than half
34 of the members of the board shall be providers of such services.
35 Appointed members shall serve on the board for terms of four years
36 each and members who are designees shall serve on the board at the
37 pleasure of the designating authority. No appointed member of the
38 board shall be employed by the state or be a member of the staff of any
39 institution for which such member's compensation is paid wholly by
40 the state. A majority of the board shall constitute a quorum.

41 Sec. 2. Subsection (c) of section 17a-485d of the general statutes is
42 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
43 *October 1, 2016*):

44 (c) The Commissioner of Social Services shall take such action as
45 may be necessary to amend the Medicaid state plan to provide for
46 coverage of optional adult rehabilitation services supplied by

47 providers of mental health services or substance abuse rehabilitation
48 services for adults with serious and persistent mental illness or who
49 have alcoholism or other substance [abuse conditions] use disorders,
50 that are certified by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction
51 Services. The Commissioner of Social Services shall adopt regulations,
52 in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to implement optional
53 rehabilitation services under the Medicaid program. The commissioner
54 shall implement policies and procedures to administer such services
55 while in the process of adopting such policies or procedures in
56 regulation form, provided notice of intention to adopt the regulations
57 is printed in the Connecticut Law Journal within forty-five days of
58 implementation, and any such policies or procedures shall be valid
59 until the time final regulations are effective.

60 Sec. 3. Subsection (e) of section 17a-485d of the general statutes is
61 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
62 *October 1, 2016*):

63 (e) The Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services
64 shall have the authority to certify providers of mental health or
65 substance abuse rehabilitation services for adults with serious and
66 persistent mental illness or who have alcoholism or other substance
67 [abuse conditions] use disorders for the purpose of coverage of
68 optional rehabilitation services. The Commissioner of Mental Health
69 and Addiction Services shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the
70 provisions of chapter 54, for purposes of certification of such
71 providers. The commissioner shall implement policies and procedures
72 for purposes of such certification while in the process of adopting such
73 policies or procedures in regulation form, provided notice of intention
74 to adopt the regulations is printed in the Connecticut Law Journal no
75 later than twenty days after implementation and any such policies and
76 procedures shall be valid until the time the regulations are effective.

77 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 17a-485i of the general statutes is
78 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*

79 *October 1, 2016):*

80 (a) The Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services
81 shall, within available appropriations, operate a behavioral health
82 recovery program to provide clinical substance abuse treatment,
83 psychiatric treatment and nonclinical recovery support services, which
84 are not covered under the Medicaid program, for individuals with
85 substance [abuse] use disorders or psychiatric disabilities who are
86 eligible for Medicaid pursuant to Sections 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(VIII) and
87 1902(k)(2) of the Social Security Act. Services provided under the
88 program may include, but shall not be limited to, residential substance
89 abuse treatment, recovery support services, peer supports, housing
90 assistance, transportation, food, clothing and personal care items. The
91 Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services shall be
92 responsible for all services and payments related to the provision of
93 the behavioral health recovery support services for eligible recipients.

94 Sec. 5. Subsection (p) of section 17a-451 of the 2016 supplement to
95 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
96 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

97 (p) The commissioner may contract for services to be provided for
98 the department or by the department for the prevention of mental
99 illness or substance [abuse] use in persons, as well as other mental
100 health or substance [abuse] use disorder services described in section
101 17a-478 and shall consult with providers of such services in developing
102 methods of service delivery.

103 Sec. 6. Subsection (a) of section 17a-674 of the general statutes is
104 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
105 *October 1, 2016*):

106 (a) There is established a Substance [Abuse] Use Disorder Revolving
107 Loan Fund. The fund shall contain any moneys required by law to be
108 deposited in the fund and may contain any other funds as provided in
109 subsection (b) of this section. The fund shall be administered and used

110 by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services for loans
111 to private nonprofit agencies for the cost of establishing group homes
112 for four or more persons recovering from substance [abuse problems]
113 use disorders. Payments made on any loans made pursuant to this
114 section shall be deposited in said fund.

115 Sec. 7. Subsection (a) of section 17a-710 of the general statutes is
116 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
117 *October 1, 2016*):

118 (a) It shall be the policy of the Department of Mental Health and
119 Addiction Services to develop and implement treatment programs for
120 [substance-abusing] pregnant women of any age with substance use
121 disorders and their children. The department shall seek private and
122 public funds for such programs. Each program shall, to the extent
123 possible and within available appropriations, offer comprehensive
124 services, including (1) education and prevention programs in high
125 schools and family planning clinics; (2) outreach services to identify
126 pregnant women with substance [abusers] use disorders early and
127 enroll them in prenatal care and substance abuse treatment programs;
128 (3) case management services; (4) hospital care with substance abuse
129 treatment available in coordination with obstetric services; (5) pediatric
130 care, including therapeutic care for neurologically, behaviorally or
131 developmentally impaired infants; (6) child care for other siblings; (7)
132 classes on parenting skills; (8) home visitation for those who need
133 additional support or who are reluctant to enter a treatment program;
134 (9) access to WIC and other entitlement programs; (10) vocational
135 training for mothers seeking entry to the job market; and (11) a
136 housing component. To the extent possible all services shall be
137 coordinated to be delivered from a centralized location, utilizing
138 medical vans where available and providing transportation assistance
139 when needed.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	17a-456
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	17a-485d(c)
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	17a-485d(e)
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	17a-485i(a)
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	17a-451(p)
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	17a-674(a)
Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	17a-710(a)

Statement of Purpose:

To change references in the Department of Mental Health and Addiction statutes to "substance abuse conditions" and "substance abuse disorders" to "substance use disorders".

[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.]