



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 6887**

January Session, 2017

\* \_\_\_\_\_HB06887\NSPH\_031617\_\_\_\_\_\*

**AN ACT CONCERNING MENTAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES AND  
SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES PROVIDED BY CERTIFIED PEER  
COUNSELORS.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2018*) (a) For the purposes of  
2 this section: (1) "Certified peer counselor" means an individual  
3 certified by the Commissioner of Public Health to provide peer  
4 support services; and (2) "peer support services" means such  
5 nonmedical mental health care services and substance abuse services,  
6 as designated by the commissioner, that a certified peer counselor may  
7 provide to another individual.

8 (b) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with  
9 chapter 54 of the general statutes, to provide for the certification of  
10 peer counselors. At a minimum, such regulations shall specify the: (1)  
11 Education and certification of certified peer counselors; and (2) peer  
12 support services a certified peer counselor may provide to another  
13 person.

14 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2018*) Each individual health  
15 insurance policy providing coverage of the type specified in  
16 subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469 of the general  
17 statutes delivered, issued for delivery, amended, renewed or  
18 continued in this state shall provide coverage for peer support services

19 provided by a certified peer counselor. The Insurance Commissioner  
20 may adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54 of the general  
21 statutes, to implement the purposes of this section.

22 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2018*) Each group health insurance  
23 policy providing coverage of the type specified in subdivisions (1), (2),  
24 (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469 of the general statutes delivered,  
25 issued for delivery, amended, renewed or continued in this state shall  
26 provide coverage for peer support services provided by a certified peer  
27 counselor. The Insurance Commissioner may adopt regulations, in  
28 accordance with chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement the  
29 purposes of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>January 1, 2018</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>January 1, 2018</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>January 1, 2018</i>	New section

**INS**

*Joint Favorable Subst. C/R*

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