



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2017

LCO No. 8448



Offered by:

REP. STEINBERG, 136th Dist.

REP. COOK, 65th Dist.

To: House Bill No. 5741

File No. 578

Cal. No. 380

"AN ACT CONCERNING SOBER LIVING HOMES."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2017*) (a) As used in this section:

4 (1) "Sober living home" means a residence with an operator that
5 provides, or offers to provide, a supportive environment for adults
6 who are recovering from a substance use disorder;

7 (2) "Operator" means the lawful owner of a sober living home or
8 agent of such owner who maintains standards and conditions in the
9 home that create an environment supportive of substance use disorder
10 recovery;

11 (3) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Mental Health and
12 Addiction Services;

13 (4) "Department" means the Department of Mental Health and

14 Addiction Services; and

15 (5) "Opioid antagonist" has the same meaning as provided in section
16 17a-714a of the general statutes.

17 (b) No operator of a sober living home shall (1) advertise or
18 represent that a sober living home is a facility that is certified or
19 licensed to provide substance use disorder treatment services, or (2)
20 publish any claims of particular outcomes for individuals residing in
21 such homes. Any Internet web site or publication maintained by a
22 sober living home shall include a clear and conspicuous statement in
23 bold typeface that the sober living home (A) is not licensed or certified
24 to provide substance use disorder treatment services, and (B) is a type
25 of housing in which individuals recovering from a substance use
26 disorder voluntarily choose to live together in a supportive
27 environment during their recovery. Any violation of the provisions of
28 this subsection shall constitute an unfair trade practice pursuant to
29 section 42-110b of the general statutes.

30 (c) (1) On or before August 1, 2017, the commissioner shall create a
31 printable one-page disclosure form for distribution to prospective
32 sober living home residents. Such disclosure form shall (A) be written
33 in plain language and in an easily readable format, (B) state that sober
34 living homes are not licensed or certified to provide substance use
35 disorder treatment services, (C) provide information on sober living
36 homes and resources for individuals recovering from a substance use
37 disorder, and (D) contain a signature line on which a prospective
38 resident may sign the form. Such disclosure form shall be made
39 available to the public on the department's Internet web site. The
40 commissioner shall review and update such disclosure form as
41 necessary.

42 (2) On and after August 15, 2017, each operator of a sober living
43 home shall, prior to the execution of a rental agreement with a
44 prospective resident, (A) obtain a signature from such prospective
45 resident on the disclosure form distributed by the operator under

46 subdivision (1) of this subsection affirming that he or she has read,
47 understood and received such disclosure form, and (B) provide each
48 signed disclosure form to the department. The department shall
49 maintain each disclosure form received under this subdivision in
50 accordance with all applicable confidentiality laws and regulations,
51 including, but not limited to, 42 CFR Part 2, as amended from time to
52 time.

53 (3) On and after August 15, 2017, each operator of a sober living
54 home shall obtain the signature of each current resident of the sober
55 living home on the disclosure form distributed by the operator under
56 subdivision (1) of this subsection affirming that he or she has read,
57 understood and received such disclosure form. The operator shall
58 maintain each disclosure form received under this subdivision for not
59 less than three years after the date the resident signed the disclosure
60 form.

61 (d) Each operator of a sober living home shall:

62 (1) Maintain a supply of opioid antagonists on the premises and
63 provide training in the administration of opioid antagonists to all of its
64 residents when such home is occupied by at least one resident who has
65 been diagnosed with opioid use disorder;

66 (2) Post in at least one common area of the sober living home (A) all
67 requirements of residents while living in the home, including all
68 required recovery activities, (B) policies regarding a resident's personal
69 property within the home, and (C) any grievance policies and
70 procedures for the residents to follow; and

71 (3) Comply with all requirements of a landlord pursuant to chapter
72 830 of the general statutes, provided such operator is the lawful owner
73 of the sober living home, and adhere to any provisions of any
74 applicable municipal ordinance, the State Building Code or the Fire
75 Safety Code."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	New section