



General Assembly

February Session, 2022

Raised Bill No. 5303

LCO No. 2465



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:
(PH)

AN ACT CONCERNING CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING ENDOMETRIOSIS AND CULTURAL COMPETENCY AND THE CREATION OF A PLAN FOR AN ENDOMETRIOSIS DATA AND BIOREPOSITORY PROGRAM.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 20-10b of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3 *1, 2022*):

4 (b) Except as otherwise provided in subsections (d), (e) and (f) of this
5 section, a licensee applying for license renewal shall earn a minimum of
6 fifty contact hours of continuing medical education within the
7 preceding twenty-four-month period. Such continuing medical
8 education shall (1) be in an area of the physician's practice; (2) reflect the
9 professional needs of the licensee in order to meet the health care needs
10 of the public; and (3) during the first renewal period in which continuing
11 medical education is required and not less than once every six years
12 thereafter, include at least one contact hour of training or education in
13 each of the following topics: (A) Infectious diseases, including, but not
14 limited to, acquired immune deficiency syndrome and human

15 immunodeficiency virus, (B) risk management, including, but not
16 limited to, prescribing controlled substances and pain management, and
17 [for registration periods beginning on or after October 1, 2019, such risk
18 management continuing medical education may also include] screening
19 for inflammatory breast cancer and gastrointestinal cancers, including
20 colon, gastric, pancreatic and neuroendocrine cancers and other rare
21 gastrointestinal tumors, and, for registration periods beginning on or
22 after October 1, 2022, such risk management continuing medical
23 education may also include screening for endometriosis, (C) sexual
24 assault, (D) domestic violence, (E) cultural competency, including, but
25 not limited to, the effects of systemic racism, explicit and implicit bias,
26 racial disparities, and the experiences of transgender and gender diverse
27 persons on patient diagnosis, care and treatment, and (F) behavioral
28 health, provided further that [on and after January 1, 2016,] such
29 behavioral health continuing medical education may include, but not be
30 limited to, at least two contact hours of training or education during the
31 first renewal period in which continuing education is required and not
32 less than once every six years thereafter, on diagnosing and treating (i)
33 cognitive conditions, including, but not limited to, Alzheimer's disease,
34 dementia, delirium, related cognitive impairments and geriatric
35 depression, or (ii) mental health conditions, including, but not limited
36 to, mental health conditions common to veterans and family members
37 of veterans. Training for mental health conditions common to veterans
38 and family members of veterans shall include best practices for (I)
39 determining whether a patient is a veteran or family member of a
40 veteran, (II) screening for conditions such as post-traumatic stress
41 disorder, risk of suicide, depression and grief, and (III) suicide
42 prevention training. For purposes of this section, qualifying continuing
43 medical education activities include, but are not limited to, courses
44 offered or approved by the American Medical Association, American
45 Osteopathic Association, Connecticut Hospital Association,
46 Connecticut State Medical Society, Connecticut Osteopathic Medical
47 Society, county medical societies or equivalent organizations in another
48 jurisdiction, educational offerings sponsored by a hospital or other
49 health care institution or courses offered by a regionally accredited

50 academic institution or a state or local health department. The
51 commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, may grant a waiver for
52 not more than ten contact hours of continuing medical education for a
53 physician who: (I) Engages in activities related to the physician's service
54 as a member of the Connecticut Medical Examining Board, established
55 pursuant to section 20-8a; (II) engages in activities related to the
56 physician's service as a member of a medical hearing panel, pursuant to
57 section 20-8a; or (III) assists the department with its duties to boards and
58 commissions as described in section 19a-14.

59 Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2022*) (a) As used in this section:

60 (1) "Biorepository" means a facility that collects, catalogs, and stores
61 samples of biological material, including, but not limited to, urine,
62 blood, tissue, cells, DNA, RNA and protein, from humans for laboratory
63 research; and

64 (2) "Phenotypic data" means clinical information regarding a person's
65 disease symptoms and relevant demographic data regarding the
66 person, including, but not limited to, the person's age, sex, race and
67 ethnicity.

68 (b) The Department of Public Health, in consultation with The
69 University of Connecticut Health Center and a research laboratory, shall
70 develop a plan to establish an endometriosis data and biorepository
71 program in the state to promote (1) early detection of endometriosis in
72 adolescents and adults, (2) new therapeutic strategies for treatment and
73 better overall management of endometriosis, and (3) early access to the
74 latest therapeutic options for persons diagnosed with endometriosis.

75 (c) In developing the plan pursuant to subsection (b) of this section,
76 the commissioner shall require the endometriosis data and
77 biorepository program to have the following functions:

78 (1) Collecting standardized phenotypic data along with the collection
79 of biological samples of a person's endometriosis and control samples to
80 improve the characterization of endometriosis and of the person with

81 endometriosis;

82 (2) Developing standard operating procedures for retention and
83 storage of biological samples of endometriosis and control samples,
84 including, but not limited to, collection, transportation, processing and
85 long-term storage of such samples;

86 (3) Curating biological samples of endometriosis from a diverse
87 cross-section of communities to ensure representation of all groups
88 affected by endometriosis, including, but not limited to, black persons,
89 Latino persons, other persons of color, transgender and gender diverse
90 persons and persons with disabilities;

91 (4) Researching the pathogenesis, pathophysiology, progression and
92 prognosis of endometriosis and the development of noninvasive
93 diagnostic biomarkers, novel targeted therapeutics, curative therapies
94 and preventive interventions with regard to endometriosis, including
95 medical and surgical interventions;

96 (5) Serving as a centralized resource for endometriosis information;

97 (6) Facilitating collaboration among researchers and health care
98 professionals, educators and students regarding best practices for the
99 diagnosis, care and treatment of endometriosis; and

100 (7) Researching the impact of endometriosis on residents of the state,
101 including, but not limited to, its impact on health and comorbidity,
102 health care costs and overall quality of life.

103 (c) Not later than January 1, 2023, the Commissioner of Public Health
104 shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
105 general statutes, regarding the plan developed pursuant to subsections
106 (b) and (c) of this section and the anticipated timeline for establishing
107 the endometriosis data and biorepository program to the joint standing
108 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
109 relating to public health.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	20-10b(b)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To permit continuing medical education to include education regarding endometriosis and cultural competency and require the establishment of a plan to develop an endometriosis data and biorepository program.

[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.]