



Substitute House Bill No. 6775

Public Act No. 23-168

AN ACT CONCERNING MANDATED REPORTERS.

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

Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 17b-451 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) A mandatory reporter who has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that any elderly person has been abused, neglected, exploited or abandoned, or is in a condition that is the result of such abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment, or is in need of protective services, shall, not later than twenty-four hours after such suspicion or belief arose, report such information or cause a report to be made in any reasonable manner to the Commissioner of Social Services or to the person or persons designated by the commissioner to receive such reports. Any mandatory reporter who fails for the first time to make such report within the prescribed time shall retake the mandatory training on detecting potential abuse, neglect, exploitation and abandonment of elderly persons and provide the commissioner with proof of successful completion of such training. Any mandatory reporter who subsequently fails to make such report within the prescribed time period shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars and shall retake the mandatory training on detecting potential abuse, neglect, exploitation and

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abandonment of elderly persons and provide the commissioner with proof of successful completion of such training. If such person intentionally fails to make such report within the prescribed time period, such person shall be guilty of a class C misdemeanor for the first offense and a class A misdemeanor for any subsequent offense. Any institution, organization, agency or facility employing individuals to care for persons sixty years of age or older shall provide mandatory training on detecting potential abuse, neglect, exploitation and abandonment of such persons and inform such employees of their obligations under this section. For purposes of this subsection, "mandatory reporter" means any (1) physician or surgeon licensed under the provisions of chapter 370, (2) resident physician or intern in any hospital in this state, whether or not so licensed, (3) registered nurse, (4) nursing home administrator, nurse's aide or orderly in a nursing home facility or residential care home, (5) person paid for caring for a resident in a nursing home facility or residential care home, (6) staff person employed by a nursing home facility or residential care home, (7) residents' advocate, other than a representative of the Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman, as established under section 17a-870, including the State Ombudsman, (8) licensed practical nurse, medical examiner, dentist, optometrist, chiropractor, podiatrist, social worker, [clergyman] member of the clergy, police officer, pharmacist, psychologist or physical therapist, (9) person paid for caring for an elderly person by any institution, organization, agency or facility, including but not limited to, any employee of a community-based services provider, senior center, home care agency, homemaker and companion agency, adult day care center, village-model community and congregate housing facility, (10) person licensed or certified as an emergency medical services provider pursuant to chapter 368d or 384d, including any such emergency medical services provider who is a member of a municipal fire department, [and] (11) driver of a paratransit vehicle, as defined in section 13b-38k, (12) licensed professional counselor, (13) adult probation officer, (14) adult parole

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officer, (15) physician assistant, (16) dental hygienist, and (17) resident services coordinator, clinical care coordinator and manager employed by a housing authority or municipal developer operating an elderly housing project.

Approved June 28, 2023