



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Raised Bill No. 6976

LCO No. 4196



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:
(PH)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S
RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING HOSPITAL EMERGENCY
DEPARTMENT DIVERSION.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) For the purposes of this
2 section, (1) "emergency department diversion" means the status of a
3 hospital licensed pursuant to chapter 368v of the general statutes that
4 reroutes incoming ambulances to other hospitals due to the diverting
5 hospital's emergency department saturation or lack of medical
6 capability, and (2) "emergency department saturation" means the status
7 of a hospital licensed pursuant to chapter 368v of the general statutes
8 wherein its emergency department resources are fully committed and
9 are not available for additional incoming ambulance patients.

10 (b) The Commissioner of Public Health shall establish (1) emergency
11 department diversion requirements for hospitals, including, but not
12 limited to, the requirement that each hospital adopt emergency
13 department diversion policies and the required content of such policies,
14 (2) the permissible grounds for, and procedures to be followed by, a

15 hospital to declare an emergency department diversion and the
16 procedures to be followed by the hospital after declaring such diversion,
17 (3) requirements for hospitals to receive diverted patients, and (4)
18 requirements for emergency medical service organizations licensed or
19 certified under chapter 368d of the general statutes in the event that a
20 hospital declares an emergency department diversion. Prior to declaring
21 an emergency department diversion, a hospital shall provide notice to
22 the Department of Public Health in a form and manner prescribed by
23 the commissioner.

24 (c) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the
25 provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement the
26 provisions of this section. The commissioner may implement policies
27 and procedures necessary to implement the provisions of this section
28 while in the process of adopting such policies and procedures as
29 regulations, provided notice of intent to adopt regulations is published
30 on the eRegulations System not later than twenty days after the date of
31 implementation. Policies and procedures implemented pursuant to this
32 section shall be valid until final regulations are adopted in accordance
33 with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes.

34 (d) Failure of an emergency medical service organization to comply
35 with the requirements established pursuant to the provisions of this
36 section shall be grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to subsection
37 (c) of section 19a-180 of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2025	New section

PH *Joint Favorable*