General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 1538

January Session, 2025

LCO No. **6423**

Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:
(PH)

AN ACT CONCERNING EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT BOARDING AND CROWDING.

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

Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Probate Court Administrator and the Commissioner of Social Services shall evaluate the feasibility of establishing an expedited process for the appointment of a conservator for patients of hospital emergency departments who lack the capacity to consent to receive health care services from the hospital to ensure such patients receive such services in a timely fashion and help alleviate emergency department boarding and crowding. Not later than January 1, 2026, said administrator and commissioner shall jointly report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health regarding such evaluation and any recommendations for legislation necessary to establish an expedited conservator process for emergency department patients. As used in this section, "emergency department boarding" means holding patients who have been admitted to the hospital after presenting to the emergency department in the emergency department

while awaiting an inpatient bed.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	*from passage*	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To require an evaluation of the feasibility of establishing an expedited conservator process for emergency department patients to alleviate emergency department boarding and crowding.

[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.]