

Legislative Program Review and Investigation Committee

Connecticut General Assembly

Senate Members
John W. Fonfara, *Co-Chair*
Steve Cassano
Eric D. Coleman
Anthony Guglielmo
John A. Kissel
Joe Markley

State Capitol Room 506
Hartford, CT 06106
Phone 860-240-0300
Facsimile 860-240-0327
www.cga.ct.gov/pri/index.asp

House Members
T.R. Rowe, *Co-Chair*
Brian Becker
Marilyn Guiliano
Mary M. Mushinsky
Selim G. Noujaim
Diana S. Urban

SCOPE OF STUDY

Hospice Residential Facilities: Implications of Use for For-Profit Entities

FOCUS

The study will focus on identifying any health and safety implications related to for-profit development of hospice residential facilities in Connecticut. Included in the review will be the current health facility inspection and enforcement structure and other elements in place intended to ensure quality care for Connecticut residents, and their anticipated application to a new type of hospice facility.

BACKGROUND

Hospice is the term used for a certain type of care for a person who is terminally ill and has chosen not to pursue curative care. A core concept of hospice is to allow a person who is dying to be at home or in as home-like an environment as possible, and includes in Connecticut: the patient's home; a skilled nursing facility (considered the individual's home); and what is called a "short term care hospital, special, hospice."

Most hospice care is provided at home through licensed home health care agencies. Currently, the only state license available to provide inpatient hospice care is for "short-term hospitals, special, hospice", based on regulations developed in 1979. (General hospitals have a role in serving hospice patients when certain types of care such as pain management or nausea control are needed, but do not themselves have "hospice beds".) Proposed regulations to allow for hospice residential care are expected to come back before the Regulations Review Committee toward the end of July.

PRI STAFF CONTACTS

Carrie Vibert: carrie.vibert@cga.ct.gov
860-240-0300