

Senate, April 14, 1998. The Committee on Appropriations reported through SEN. CRISCO, 17th DIST., Chairman of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CREATING AN OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL HEALTH.

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

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (a) There is established,
2 within the Department of Public Health, an Office
3 of Multicultural Health. The responsibility of the
4 office is to improve the health of all Connecticut
5 residents by eliminating differences in disease,
6 disability and death rates among ethnic, racial
7 and cultural populations.
- 8 (b) The department may apply for, accept and
9 expend such funds as may be available from
10 federal, state or other sources and may enter into
11 contracts to carry out the responsibilities of the
12 office.
- 13 (c) The office shall:
- 14 (1) With regard to health status: (A) Monitor
15 the health status of African Americans;
16 Latinos/Hispanics; Native Americans/Alaskan
17 Natives; and Asians, Native Hawaiians and other
18 Pacific Islanders; (B) compare the results of the
19 health status monitoring with the health status of
20 non-Hispanic Caucasians/whites; and (C) assess the
21 effectiveness of state programs in eliminating
22 differences in health status;

23 (2) Assess the health education and health
24 resource needs of ethnic, racial and cultural
25 populations listed in subdivision 1 of this
26 subsection; and

27 (3) Maintain a directory of, and assist in
28 development and promotion of, multicultural and
29 multiethnic health resources in Connecticut.

30 (d) The office may:

31 (1) Provide grants for culturally appropriate
32 health education demonstration projects and may
33 apply for, accept and expend public and private
34 funding for such projects; and

35 (2) Recommend policies, procedures,
36 activities and resource allocations to improve
37 health among racial, ethnic and cultural
38 populations in Connecticut.

39 (e) The Commissioner of Public Health shall
40 submit an annual report concerning the activities
41 of the office to the Governor, the General
42 Assembly, the Permanent Commission on the Status
43 of Women established under section 46a-1 of the
44 general statutes, the Latino and Puerto Rican
45 Affairs Commission established under section 2-120
46 of the general statutes, the Indian Affairs
47 Council established under section 47-59b of the
48 general statutes and the Connecticut
49 African-American Affairs Commission. The office
50 shall also hold community workshops and use other
51 means to disseminate its findings state-wide.

52 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect July 1,
53 1998.

54 STATEMENT OF LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONERS:
55 Subdivision (1) of subsection (c) was reworded for
56 clarity and grammatical correctness. In subsection
57 (e) a statutory reference for the PCSW was added
58 for consistency.

59 PH COMMITTEE VOTE: YEA 13 NAY 9 JFS C/R APP
60 APP COMMITTEE VOTE: YEA 28 NAY 20 JFS

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"THE FOLLOWING FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND BILL ANALYSIS ARE PREPARED FOR THE BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SOLELY FOR PURPOSES OF INFORMATION, SUMMARIZATION AND EXPLANATION AND DO NOT REPRESENT THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR EITHER HOUSE THEREOF FOR ANY PURPOSE."

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT - BILL NUMBER sSB 543

STATE IMPACT Implements a Provision in the Budget, Potential Revenue Gain(Federal Funds), see below

MUNICIPAL IMPACT None

STATE AGENCY(S) Department of Public Health

	Current FY	1998-99	1999-2000
State Cost (savings)	:	: 157,123	: 167,300
St Revenue (loss)	:	: see below	:
Net St Cost (savings)	:	:	:
Municipal Impact	:	:	:

EXPLANATION OF ESTIMATES:

STATE IMPACT: Funding, in the amount of \$157,123, has been included within SHB 5021 (the Revised SFY 1998-99 Appropriations Act, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee) to reflect costs of establishing an Office of Multicultural Health within the Department of Public Health, effective July 1, 1998. Included in this sum is \$122,123 to reflect the full year costs of 1 Epidemiologist, 1 Community Health Coordinator and 1 clerical support staff. Also included is \$35,000 in associated Other Expenses

funding. The annualized cost of this initiative is \$167,300.

It appears that the establishment of this office will enable the state to apply for a basic federal grant of \$30,000. These funds may be supplemented by additional monies recommended within the President's 1999 Budget. The amount of any such federal contributions cannot be determined at this time.

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OLR BILL ANALYSIS

sSB 543

AN ACT CREATING AN OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL HEALTH

SUMMARY: This bill establishes an Office of Multicultural Health within the Department of Public Health (DPH). It is responsible for improving the health of all state residents by eliminating differences in disease, disability, and death rates among ethnic, racial and cultural populations. DPH can apply for, accept, and spend available federal, state, and other funds and enter into contracts to carry out the office's responsibilities. The office may (1) provide grants for culturally appropriate health education demonstration projects and apply for, accept, and spend public and private funds for these projects and (2) recommend policies, procedures, activities and resource allocations to improve health among the state's racial, ethnic, and cultural populations.

DPH must report annually on the office's activities.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 1998

FURTHER EXPLANATION

Office Duties

The office must: (1) monitor the health status of African-Americans, Latinos/Hispanics, Native Americans/Alaskan Natives, and Asians, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders; (2) compare the results with the health status of non-Hispanic Caucasians/Whites; and (3) assess the effectiveness of

state programs in eliminating differences in health status.

The office must also assess the health education and resource needs of the ethnic, racial, and cultural populations listed above; and maintain a directory of, and assist in developing and promoting, multicultural and multiethnic health resources.

Reporting Requirement

DPH must submit an annual report on the office's activities to the governor, General Assembly, Permanent Commission on the Status of Women, Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission, Indian Affairs Council, and Connecticut African-American Commission. The office must disseminate its findings statewide through community workshops and other means.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference
Yea 13 Nay 9

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 28 Nay 20