



Senate Bill No. 763

Public Act No. 21-122

AN ACT REQUIRING DRIVERS OF PARATRANSIT VEHICLES TO REPORT SUSPECTED ABUSE, NEGLECT, EXPLOITATION OR ABANDONMENT OF ELDERLY PERSONS.

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 Subsection (a) of section 17b-451 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) A mandatory reporter [, as defined in this section,] 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 seventy-two 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. [The term "mandatory reporter" means (1) any physician or surgeon licensed under the provisions of chapter 370, (2) any resident physician or intern in any hospital in this state, whether or not so licensed, (3) any registered nurse, (4) any nursing home administrator, nurse's aide or orderly in a nursing home facility or residential care home, (5) any person paid for caring for a resident in a

Senate Bill No. 763

nursing home facility or residential care home, (6) any staff person employed by a nursing home facility or residential care home, (7) any residents' advocate, other than a representative of the Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman, as established under section 17a-405, including the State Ombudsman, (8) any licensed practical nurse, medical examiner, dentist, optometrist, chiropractor, podiatrist, social worker, clergyman, police officer, pharmacist, psychologist or physical therapist, (9) any person paid for caring for an elderly person by any institution, organization, agency or facility, including without limitation, 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, and (10) any person licensed or certified as an emergency medical services provider pursuant to chapter 368d or chapter 384d, including any such emergency medical services provider who is a member of a municipal fire department.] Any mandatory reporter who fails to make such report within the prescribed time [period] shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars, except that, 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, ["person paid for caring for an elderly person by any institution, organization, agency or facility" includes an employee of a community-based services provider, senior center, home health care agency, homemaker and companion agency, adult day care center, village-model community and congregate housing facility] "mandatory reporter" means any (1) physician or surgeon licensed under the provisions of chapter 370, (2) resident physician or intern in any hospital

Senate Bill No. 763

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-405, including the State Ombudsman, (8) licensed practical nurse, medical examiner, dentist, optometrist, chiropractor, podiatrist, social worker, clergyman, 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.

Approved July 6, 2021