



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 418

January Session, 2021

Substitute Senate Bill No. 102

Senate, April 13, 2021

The Committee on Public Health reported through SEN. DAUGHERTY ABRAMS of the 13th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE CERTIFICATION OF MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING PROGRAMS.

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

1 Section 1. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 20-206mm of the general
2 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3 (*Effective from passage*):

4 (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section, an
5 applicant for a license as a paramedic shall submit evidence satisfactory
6 to the Commissioner of Public Health that the applicant has successfully
7 (1) completed a paramedic training program approved by the
8 commissioner, (2) for applicants applying on and after January 1, 2020,
9 completed mental health first aid training as part of a program provided
10 by an instructor certified by the National Council for Behavioral Health
11 or any other certifying organization with substantially similar
12 certification requirements, as determined by the commissioner, and (3)
13 passed an examination prescribed by the commissioner.

14 (b) An applicant for licensure by endorsement shall present evidence
 15 satisfactory to the commissioner that the applicant (1) is licensed or
 16 certified as a paramedic in another state or jurisdiction whose
 17 requirements for practicing in such capacity are substantially similar to
 18 or higher than those of this state and that the applicant has no pending
 19 disciplinary action or unresolved complaint against him or her, or (2)
 20 (A) is currently licensed or certified as a paramedic in good standing in
 21 any New England state, New York or New Jersey, (B) has completed an
 22 initial training program consistent with the National Emergency
 23 Medical Services Education Standards, as promulgated by the National
 24 Highway Traffic Safety Administration for the paramedic scope of
 25 practice model conducted by an organization offering a program that is
 26 recognized by the national emergency medical services program
 27 accrediting organization, (C) for applicants applying on or after January
 28 1, 2020, has completed mental health first aid training as part of a
 29 program provided by an instructor certified by the National Council for
 30 Behavioral Health or any other certifying organization with
 31 substantially similar certification requirements, as determined by the
 32 commissioner, and (D) has no pending disciplinary action or unresolved
 33 complaint against him or her.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	20-206mm(a) and (b)

PH Joint Favorable Subst.

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the 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 chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

Current law requires applicants for paramedic licensure to have successfully completed mental health first aid training provided by a National Council for Behavioral Health-certified instructor. This bill allows applicants to complete this training by other organizations with substantially similar certification requirements. This bill has no fiscal impact as the Department of Public Health has the staff expertise to handle this requirement.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 102

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE CERTIFICATION OF MENTAL HEALTH
FIRST AID TRAINING PROGRAMS.***

SUMMARY

Current law requires applicants for paramedic licensure to have successfully completed mental health first aid training provided by a National Council for Behavioral Health-certified instructor. This bill additionally allows applicants to have completed this training provided by other organizations with substantially similar certification requirements, as determined by the public health commissioner.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 33 Nay 0 (03/26/2021)