



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 538

February Session, 2022

Senate Bill No. 165

Senate, April 20, 2022

The Committee on Judiciary reported through SEN. WINFIELD of the 10th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT PROVIDING IMMUNITY FROM CIVIL LIABILITY TO A PHYSICIAN WHO ACCOMPANIES AND ASSISTS A STATE, REGIONAL OR MUNICIPAL SWAT TEAM.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2022*) Any person licensed to
2 practice medicine and surgery under the provisions of chapter 370 of
3 the general statutes, who, voluntarily and gratuitously and other than
4 in the course of such person's employment or practice, renders
5 emergency medical assistance in connection with the law enforcement
6 duties of a state, regional or municipal special weapons and tactics team,
7 shall not be liable to any person assisted for civil damages for any
8 personal injuries that result from acts or omissions by such licensed
9 person in rendering emergency medical assistance, which may
10 constitute ordinary negligence. The immunity provided in this section
11 shall not apply to acts or omissions constituting gross, wilful or wanton
12 negligence.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	New section
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JUD *Joint Favorable*

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**

This bill specifically grants civil immunity to physicians who voluntarily, without compensation, and outside of the course of employment or practice, provide emergency medical assistance in connection with a special weapons and tactics (SWAT) team's law enforcement duties. This bill has no fiscal impact on the state or municipalities.

The Out Years**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 165*****AN ACT PROVIDING IMMUNITY FROM CIVIL LIABILITY TO A PHYSICIAN WHO ACCOMPANIES AND ASSISTS A STATE, REGIONAL OR MUNICIPAL SWAT TEAM.*****SUMMARY**

This bill specifically grants civil immunity to physicians who voluntarily, without compensation, and outside of the course of employment or practice, provide emergency medical assistance in connection with a special weapons and tactics (SWAT) team's law enforcement duties. Under the bill, physicians are not liable for civil damages for personal injuries resulting from ordinary negligence in their acts or omissions in providing this assistance. The bill applies whether they are assisting a state, regional, or local SWAT team.

Existing law already grants civil immunity for ordinary negligence to physicians who voluntarily, without compensation, and outside of the ordinary course of employment or practice, provide emergency assistance to people in need (CGS § 52-557b(a)).

Under the bill, as under existing law, the immunity does not apply to gross, willful, or wanton negligence.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2022

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 39 Nay 0 (04/04/2022)