



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 477

February Session, 2022



AN ACT CONCERNING THE PUBLIC HEALTH OF RESIDENTS OF THE STATE.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force
2 to study assisted living services agencies that provide services as a
3 dementia special care unit or program, as defined in section 19a-562 of
4 the general statutes. Such study shall include, but need not be limited
5 to, an examination of (1) the regulation of such agencies by the
6 Department of Public Health and whether additional oversight by the
7 department is required, (2) whether minimum staffing levels for such
8 agencies should be required, and (3) the maintenance of records by such
9 agencies of meals served to, bathing of, administration of medication to
10 and the overall health of each resident.

11 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

12 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

13 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

14 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
15 Representatives;

16 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

17 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
18 Representatives;

19 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; and

20 (7) The Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's
21 designee.

22 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),
23 (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member
24 of the General Assembly.

25 (d) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later
26 than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall
27 be filled by the appointing authority.

28 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro
29 tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force from
30 among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule
31 the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty
32 days after the effective date of this section.

33 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
34 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public
35 health shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

36 (g) Not later than January 1, 2023, the task force shall submit a report
37 on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of
38 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public
39 health, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
40 statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such
41 report or January 1, 2023, whichever is later.

42 Sec. 2. Section 19a-59i of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
43 is amended by adding subsection (g) as follows (*Effective from passage*):

44 (NEW) (g) Not later than January 1, 2023, the maternal mortality

45 review committee shall develop educational materials regarding:

46 (1) The health and safety of pregnant and postpartum persons with
47 mental health disorders, including, but not limited to, perinatal mood
48 and anxiety disorders, for distribution by the Department of Public
49 Health to each birthing hospital in the state. As used in this subdivision,
50 "birthing hospital" means a health care facility, as defined in section 19a-
51 630, operated and maintained in whole or in part for the purpose of
52 caring for patients during the delivery of a child and for a postpartum
53 person and such person's newborn following birth;

54 (2) Evidence-based screening tools for screening patients for intimate
55 partner violence, peripartum mood disorders and substance use
56 disorder for distribution by the Department of Public Health to
57 obstetricians and other health care providers who practice obstetrics;
58 and

59 (3) Indicators of intimate partner violence for distribution by the
60 Department of Public Health to (A) hospitals for use by health care
61 providers in the emergency department and hospital social workers,
62 and (B) obstetricians and other health care providers who practice
63 obstetrics.

64 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2022*) (a) As used in this section,
65 "birthing hospital" means a health care facility, as defined in section 19a-
66 630 of the general statutes, operated and maintained in whole or in part
67 for the purpose of caring for a person during the delivery of a child and
68 for a postpartum person and such person's newborn following birth.

69 (b) On and after October 1, 2022, each birthing hospital shall provide
70 to each patient who has undergone a caesarean section written
71 information regarding the importance of mobility following a caesarean
72 section and the risks associated with immobility following a caesarean
73 section.

74 (c) Not later than January 1, 2023, each birthing hospital shall
75 establish a patient portal through which a postpartum patient can

76 virtually access, through an Internet web site or application, any
77 educational materials and other information that the birthing hospital
78 provided to the patient during the patient's stay at the birthing hospital
79 and at the time of the patient's discharge from the birthing hospital.

80 (d) On and after January 1, 2023, each birthing hospital shall provide
81 to each postpartum patient the educational materials regarding the
82 health and safety of pregnant and postpartum persons with mental
83 health disorders, including, but not limited to, perinatal mood and
84 anxiety disorders, developed by the maternal mortality review
85 committee pursuant to subsection (g) of section 19a-59i of the general
86 statutes, as amended by this act.

87 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 10-29a of the 2022 supplement to the
88 general statutes is amended by adding subdivisions (104) and (105) as
89 follows (*Effective from passage*):

90 (NEW) (104) Maternal Mental Health Month. The Governor shall
91 proclaim the month of May of each year to be Maternal Mental Health
92 Month, to raise awareness of issues surrounding maternal mental
93 health. Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere
94 as the Governor designates for the observance of the month.

95 (NEW) (105) Maternal Mental Health Day. The Governor shall
96 proclaim May fifth of each year to be Maternal Mental Health Day, to
97 raise awareness of issues surrounding maternal mental health. Suitable
98 exercises may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the
99 Governor designates for the observance of the day.

100 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a
101 Commission on Gun Violence Intervention and Prevention to
102 coordinate the funding and implementation of evidence-based,
103 evidenced-informed, community-centric gun programs and strategies
104 to reduce community gun violence in the state. The commission shall be
105 part of the Legislative Department.

106 (b) The commission shall be composed of the following members:

107 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
108 one of whom shall be a representative of the Connecticut Hospital
109 Association and one of whom shall be a representative of Compass
110 Youth Collaborative;

111 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of
112 whom shall be a representative of the Connecticut Violence Intervention
113 Program and one of whom shall be a representative of the Regional
114 Youth Adult Social Action Partnership;

115 (3) Two appointed by the majority leader of the House of
116 Representatives, one of whom shall be a representative of Hartford
117 Communities That Care, Inc. and one of whom shall be a representative
118 of CT Against Gun Violence;

119 (4) Two appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, one of whom
120 shall be a representative of Project Longevity and one of whom shall be
121 a representative of Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center;

122 (5) Two appointed by the minority leader of the House of
123 Representatives, one of whom shall be a representative of Yale New
124 Haven Hospital and one of whom shall be a representative of the
125 Greater Bridgeport Adolescence Program;

126 (6) Two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, one of whom
127 shall be a representative of Hartford Hospital and one of whom shall be
128 a youth representative of the Connecticut Justice Alliance;

129 (7) Two appointed by the House chairperson of the joint standing
130 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
131 relating to public health, one of whom shall be a representative of the
132 Greater Bridgeport Area Prevention Program and one of whom shall be
133 a parent member of the Two Generation Initiative;

134 (8) Two appointed by the Senate chairperson of the joint standing
135 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
136 relating to public health, one of whom shall be a representative of

137 Mothers United Against Violence and one of whom shall be a
138 representative of Violent Crime Survivors;

139 (9) One appointed by the executive director of the Commission on
140 Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity, who shall be a
141 representative of the Health Alliance for Violence Intervention;

142 (10) Two appointed by the Commissioner of Public Health, who shall
143 be representatives of the Department of Public Health's Injury and
144 Violence Surveillance Unit;

145 (11) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee;
146 and

147 (12) The executive director of the Commission on Women, Children,
148 Seniors, Equity and Opportunity, or the executive director's designee.

149 (c) Any member of the commission appointed under subdivision (1),
150 (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7) or (8) of subsection (b) of this section may be a
151 member of the General Assembly. All initial appointments to the
152 commission shall be made not later than sixty days after the effective
153 date of this section. Appointed members shall serve a term that is
154 coterminous with the appointing official and may serve more than one
155 term.

156 (d) The executive director of the Commission on Women, Children,
157 Seniors, Equity and Opportunity, or the executive director's designee,
158 shall schedule the first meeting of the commission, which shall be held
159 not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section. At such
160 meeting, the chairperson of the commission shall be elected from among
161 the members of the commission.

162 (e) If an appointment under subsection (b) of this section is not made
163 within the sixty-day period required under subsection (c) of this section,
164 the chairperson may designate an individual with the required
165 qualifications stated for the applicable appointment to serve on the
166 commission until an appointment is made pursuant to subsection (b) of

167 this section.

168 (f) A majority of the membership of the commission shall constitute
169 a quorum for the transaction of any business and any decision shall be
170 by a majority vote of those present at a meeting, except the commission
171 may establish such subcommissions, advisory groups or other entities
172 as it deems necessary to further the purposes of the commission. The
173 commission shall adopt rules of procedure.

174 (g) The members of the commission shall serve without
175 compensation, but shall, within the limits of available funds, be
176 reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of
177 their duties.

178 (h) The commission, by majority vote, shall hire an executive director,
179 who shall serve at the pleasure of the commission to carry out the duties
180 and serve as administrative staff of the commission. The commission
181 may request the assistance of the Joint Commission on Legislative
182 Management in hiring the executive director. The executive director
183 may hire not more than two executive assistants to assist in carrying out
184 the duties and serving as administrative staff of the commission. The
185 administrative staff of the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors,
186 Equity and Opportunity shall serve as administrative staff of the
187 commission until such time as such executive director is hired.

188 (i) The commission shall have the following powers and duties: (1)
189 Coordinate the funding and implementation of evidence-based,
190 evidenced-informed, community-centric programs and strategies to
191 reduce community gun violence in the state; (2) secure state, federal and
192 other funds for the purposes of reducing community gun violence; (3)
193 determine community-level needs by engaging with communities
194 impacted by gun violence; (4) (A) establish and implement a grant
195 program, and (B) award grants and offer guidance to organizations or
196 other entities working toward reducing community gun violence in the
197 state; (5) obtain from any legislative or executive department, board,
198 commission or other agency of the state or any organization or other

199 entity such assistance as necessary and available to carry out the
200 purposes of this section; (6) accept any gift, donation or bequest for the
201 purpose of performing the duties described in this subsection; (7)
202 establish bylaws to govern its procedures; and (8) perform such other
203 acts as may be necessary and appropriate to carry out the duties
204 described in this subsection.

205 (j) Not later than January 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, the
206 commission shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the
207 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public
208 health, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
209 statutes, concerning the activities of the commission during the prior
210 twelve-month period.

211 Sec. 6. (Effective July 1, 2022) The sum of two hundred fifty thousand
212 dollars is appropriated to the Department of Public Health Fund, for the
213 fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, for promotion of the National Centers
214 for Disease Control and Prevention's "Hear Her" campaign to prevent
215 pregnancy-related deaths to obstetricians, other health care providers
216 who practice obstetrics, birthing hospitals and emergency departments.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | <i>from passage</i> | New section |
| Sec. 2 | <i>from passage</i> | 19a-59i |
| Sec. 3 | <i>July 1, 2022</i> | New section |
| Sec. 4 | <i>from passage</i> | 10-29a(a) |
| Sec. 5 | <i>from passage</i> | New section |
| Sec. 6 | <i>July 1, 2022</i> | New section |

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 5(d), the phrase, "or the executive director's designee" was added for consistency with the provisions of section 5(b)(12).

PH Joint Favorable Subst.