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sHB-5500

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING VARIOUS
REVISIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTES.

AMENDMENT

LCO No.: 5921

File Copy No.: 528

House Calendar No.: 390

OFA Fiscal Note

No Fiscal Impact

The amendment strikes the underlying bill and its associated fiscal impact.

The amendment makes a number of substantive, minor, and technical changes in statutes related to the Department of Public Health which do not result in any fiscal impact to the state or municipalities. Some of the changes include:

The amendment aligns state statute with federal regulations to ensure Residential Care Homes can receive reimbursement under Medicaid as a home and community-based setting which results in no fiscal impact.

The amendment, which establishes a 13-member Connecticut Rare Disease Advisory Council to advise state agencies on the needs of residents living with rare diseases, and their caregivers, is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact to the state or municipalities. PA 17-236 prohibits transportation allowances for taskforce members. This provision also applies to workgroups and councils.

Primary Analyst: CP
Contributing Analyst(s):

4/29/22
(NF)

The amendment, which transfers the responsibility for community benefit data collection and reporting from the Office of the Health Advocate to the Office of Health Strategy, does not result in a fiscal impact as this codifies current practice.

The amendment, which prohibits deeming someone ineligible to receive an organ transplant solely because of his or her physical, mental, or intellectual disability, is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact to the state or municipalities.

The amendment allows infection prevention and control specialists to provide services at both a nursing home and dementia special care unit or at two nursing homes that are (1) next to each other or on the same campus and (2) commonly owned or operated. It allows the Department of Public Health (DPH) commissioner to waive the law's infection prevention and control specialist requirements if she determines that doing so would not endanger the life, safety, or health of the facilities' residents or employees. This provision has no fiscal impact to DPH as the agency has the ability to investigate any complaints through normal regulatory activities.

The amendment makes modifications to provisions related to the Chief Medical Examiner. These provisions have no fiscal impact.

The amendment makes several changes related to private, public and semipublic wells. These provisions have no fiscal impact.

The amendment establishes a legionella working group. This has no fiscal impact.

The amendment, which expands the scope of the Department of Children and Family's (DCF) Youth Suicide Advisory Board to address suicide prevention across a person's lifespan, has no fiscal impact as this codifies existing practice .

The amendment, which requires hospitals and certain outpatient surgical facilities to develop and implement a policy regarding a surgical smoke evacuation system, results in no fiscal impact to the state.

The University of Connecticut Health Center has such a system in all applicable spaces and therefore no additional resources will be necessary to either develop or implement the policy.

This amendment establishes a task force to study assisted living services agencies that provide services as a dementia special care unit or program. The task force shall submit its findings and recommendations to the Public Health Committee by January 1, 2023. This has no fiscal impact as PA 17-236 prohibits transportation allowances for task force members.

The preceding Fiscal Impact statement is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for the purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does 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.