



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 414

January Session, 2023

Substitute House Bill No. 6819

House of Representatives, April 4, 2023

The Committee on Public Health reported through REP. MCCARTHY VAHEY of the 133rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING LACTATION CONSULTANTS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section,
2 "lactation consultant" means a person who holds and maintains
3 certification in good standing as an international board certified
4 lactation consultant with the International Board of Lactation
5 Consultant Examiners.

6 (b) On or before January 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, the
7 Commissioner of Public Health shall obtain from the International
8 Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners a listing of all state residents
9 maintained on said board's registry of international board certified
10 lactation consultants. The commissioner shall post such listing on the
11 Department of Public Health's Internet web site.

12 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force to
13 study licensure of lactation consultants, as defined in section 1 of this

14 act, by the Department of Public Health. Such study shall include, but
15 need not be limited to, licensure qualifications and whether the
16 department should license or certify lactation counselors holding and
17 maintaining certification in good standing as a lactation counselor with
18 the Academy of Lactation Policy and Practice.

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

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

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

22 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
23 Representatives;

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

25 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
26 Representatives;

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

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

30 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),
31 (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member
32 of the General Assembly.

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

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

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

44 (g) Not later than January 1, 2024, the task force shall submit a report
45 on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of
46 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public
47 health, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
48 statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such
49 report or January 1, 2024, whichever is later.

| | | |
|---|---------------------|-------------|
| 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> | New section |

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1, the effective date was changed from "October 1, 2023" to "from passage" for consistency.

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

Section 1, which requires the Department of Public Health to obtain a listing of all Connecticut residents on the International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners' registry of board-certified lactation consultants, and post it on the agency's website, does not result in a fiscal impact to the State or municipalities.

Section 2, which creates a task force to study the licensure of lactation consultants, does not result in a fiscal impact to the State or municipalities as the task force has the expertise to meet these requirements.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 6819****AN ACT CONCERNING LACTATION CONSULTANTS.****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Department of Public Health (DPH) to obtain a list from the International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners of all Connecticut residents on the board's registry of certified lactation consultants. The commissioner must do this annually, starting by January 1, 2024, and post the list on the DPH website.

The bill also creates a nine-member task force to study DPH lactation consultant licensure, including (1) licensure qualifications and (2) if DPH should license or certify lactation counselors certified in good standing by the Academy of Lactation Policy and Practice.

The task force must report its findings and recommendations to the Public Health Committee by January 1, 2024. It terminates on this date or the date it submits the report, whichever is later.

Lactation consultants are healthcare professionals who specialize in the clinical management of breastfeeding (e.g., low milk production, latching difficulties, or painful nursing). Connecticut does not currently certify or license these professionals.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

LACTATION CONSULTANT LICENSURE TASK FORCE***Membership***

Under the bill, task force members include the DPH commissioner, or her designee, and the following appointed members:

1. two each appointed by the House speaker and the Senate

president pro tempore and

2. one each appointed by the House and Senate majority and minority leaders.

Under the bill, appointed members may be legislators. Appointing authorities must make their initial appointments within 30 days after the bill’s passage and fill any vacancy.

Leadership and Meetings

The bill requires the House speaker and the Senate president pro tempore to select the task force chairpersons from among its members. The chairpersons must schedule the task force’s first meeting, which must be held within 60 days after the bill’s passage.

Under the bill, the Public Health Committee’s administrative staff serve in that capacity for the task force.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 37 Nay 0 (03/20/2023)