



STATE OF CONNECTICUT Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services



Legislative Update # 5

January 30, 2015

The Committee work is accelerating, as the legislature continues to raise bills and schedule bills for public hearings. This update will list bills of interest to the behavioral health community that have been “raised” for a public hearing and give you hearing dates for issues that impact our community. Please note that if a bill with a title but no number has been raised for a public hearing that means language is being developed and is not yet available. It will become available once it gets a bill number. We have included those “concept” bills in this update because we want to flag the issue for you should the language once developed have some impact on our community.

The Housing Committee raised a number of bills for a public hearing on **Tuesday Feb. 3rd** that would limit or restrict the ability of persons with disabilities to live in senior disabled housing. The details are as follows:

***HOUSING COMMITTEE TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2015**

The Housing Committee will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, February 3, 2015 at 1:00 P.M.** in **Room 1B** of the LOB. Sign-up for the hearing will begin at 11:00 A.M. in Room 2700 of the LOB. Please submit 35 copies of written testimony to Committee staff by 12:30 P.M. in Room 2700 of the LOB. Testimony received after the designated time may not be distributed until after the hearing. Please email written testimony in Word or PDF format to HSGtestimony@cga.ct.gov. Testimony should clearly state testifier name and related Bills. The Committee requests that testimony be limited to matters related to the items on the Agenda. The first hour of the hearing is reserved for Legislators, Constitutional Officers, State Agency Heads and Chief Elected Municipal Officials. Speakers will be limited to three minutes of testimony. The Committee encourages witnesses to submit a written statement and to condense oral testimony to a summary of that statement. Unofficial sign-up sheets have no standing with the Committee. All public hearing testimony, written and spoken, is public information. As such, it will be made available on the CGA website and indexed by internet search engines.

SUBJECT MATTER: Miscellaneous Housing Bills

- * **Proposed S.B. No. 170** An Act Protecting Housing For Senior Citizens
- * **Proposed S.B. No. 409** An Act Expanding Age-Restricted Housing Options For Elderly Persons
- * **Proposed H.B. No. 5583** An Act Concerning Housing For Elderly Persons
- * **Proposed H.B. No. 6144** An Act Concerning Age-Restricted Housing Options For Elderly Persons

The Insurance Committee is having a public hearing on Thursday Feb 5th and it will have a few issues on its agenda that are of interest to the behavioral health community. Info as follows:

**INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2015**

The Insurance and Real Estate Committee will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, February 5, 2015**, at **1:00 P.M.** in **Room 2D** of the LOB. Please submit 25 copies of written testimony to Committee staff two hours prior to the start of the hearing in Room 2800 of the LOB. Testimony submitted after the sign-up may not be distributed until after the hearing. Sign-up for the hearing will begin at 11:00 A.M. in Room 2800 of the LOB. The first hour of the hearing is reserved for Legislators, Constitutional Officers, State Agency Heads and Chief Elected Municipal Officials. Speakers will be limited to three minutes of testimony. The Committee encourages witnesses to submit a written statement and to condense oral testimony to a summary of that statement. Bills will be heard in the order listed in the Bulletin. Unofficial sign-up sheets have no standing with the Committee. All public hearing testimony, written and spoken, is public information. As such, it will be made available on the CGA website and indexed by internet search engines.

SUBJECT MATTER: Miscellaneous Insurance Bills

Proposed S.B. No. 21 An Act Concerning Health Insurance Coverage Of Abuse-Deterrent Opioid Analgesics (INS)

Proposed H.B. No. 5259 An Act Expanding Health Insurance Coverage For The Treatment Of Mental Or Nervous Conditions (INS)

Bills of Interest that have been raised for Public hearing

Aging Committee

An Act Concerning Senior Housing (no details available as of this update)

Human Services Committee

An Act Authorizing A Data Collection Pilot Project On High Risk Youth

An Act Concerning Interagency Collaboration To Aid Persons With Autism Spectrum Disorder

An Act Concerning Medicaid Coverage For Physical Activity Programs For Persons With Autism Spectrum Disorder

An Act Creating A Pilot Conservatorship Program For Persons With Mental Disabilities

Proposed H.B. No. 5814 An Act Concerning A Study Of Medicaid Home Health Rates

Public Health Committee

An Act Concerning Opiates

An Act Concerning Mental Health Services

Proposed S.B. No. 110 An Act Concerning A Study On Reports Of Threats And Assaults Against Hospital Employees

Proposed H.B. No. 5449 An Act Prohibiting The Use Of Electronic Cigarettes In The Same Places Where Smoking Is Prohibited.

Proposed H.B. No. 5521 An Act Requiring Licensure Of Master's-Level Psychologists.

Proposed H.B. No. 5528 An Act Concerning Continuing Education For Health Care Providers Who Prescribe Narcotic Drugs

Proposed H.B. No. 5626 An Act Concerning Prescription Drugs For Psychiatric Patients

Public Safety and Security Committee

An Act Concerning Driving While Intoxicated

Proposed H.B. No. 5378 An Act Concerning Video Slot Machines At Certain Off-Track Betting Facilities

Accessing Information via the Connecticut General Assembly Web Page:

If you wish to get the details/status on a bill, read the text of a bill, or check on committee agendas or upcoming events in the Bulletin, log onto the Connecticut General Assembly web page at: <http://www.cga.ct.gov>

If you wish to look up committee agendas or check upcoming events in the Bulletin, these can be accessed on that same page by scrolling down and clicking on the appropriate item.