

## General Assembly

## **Amendment**

January Session, 2023

LCO No. 9244



Offered by:

REP. MCCARTHY VAHEY, 133rd Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 9

File No. 507

Cal. No. 598

(As Amended)

## "AN ACT CONCERNING HEALTH AND WELLNESS FOR CONNECTICUT RESIDENTS."

- Strike sections 13 to 15, inclusive, in their entirety and insert the
- 2 following in lieu thereof:
- 3 "Sec. 13. Section 20-14p of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):
- 5 (a) For purposes of this section: (1) "Covenant not to compete" means
- 6 any provision of an employment or other contract or agreement that
- 7 creates or establishes a professional relationship with a physician and
- 8 restricts the right of a physician to practice medicine in any geographic
- 9 area of the state for any period of time after the termination or cessation
- 10 of such partnership, employment or other professional relationship; (2)
- 11 "physician" means an individual licensed to practice medicine under
- 12 this chapter; [and] (3) "primary site where such physician practices"
- means **[**(A) the office, facility or location where a majority of the revenue

derived from such physician's services is generated, or (B) any other]

- 15 <u>any single</u> office, facility or location where such physician practices,
- 16 [and] as mutually agreed to by the parties and [identified] defined in the
- 17 covenant not to compete; and (4) "private practice" means an
- 18 <u>independently owned and operated group practice of up to thirty-five</u>
- 19 <u>independent physicians</u>.
- 20 (b) (1) A covenant not to compete is valid and enforceable only if it is:
- 21 (A) Necessary to protect a legitimate business interest; (B) reasonably
- 22 limited in time, geographic scope and practice restrictions as necessary
- 23 to protect such business interest; and (C) otherwise consistent with the
- 24 law and public policy. The party seeking to enforce a covenant not to
- compete shall have the burden of proof in any proceeding.
- 26 (2) A covenant not to compete that is entered into, amended, extended or renewed on or after July 1, 2016, shall not: (A) Restrict the
- 28 physician's competitive activities (i) for a period of more than one year,
- 29 and (ii) in a geographic region of more than fifteen miles from the
- primary site where such physician practices; or (B) be enforceable against a physician if (i) such employment contract or agreement was
- against a physician if (i) such employment contract or agreement was not made in anticipation of, or as part of, a partnership or ownership
- not made in anticipation of, or as part of, a partnership or ownership agreement and such contract or agreement expires and is not renewed,
- 34 unless, prior to such expiration, the employer makes a bona fide offer to
- 35 renew the contract on the same or similar terms and conditions, or (ii)
- 36 the employment or contractual relationship is terminated by the
- 37 employer, unless such employment or contractual relationship is
- 38 terminated for cause.
- 39 (3) A covenant not to compete that is entered into, amended,
- 40 extended or renewed on or after October 1, 2023, shall not be enforceable
- 41 <u>if (A) the physician who is a party to the employment or other contract</u>
- 42 <u>or agreement does not agree to a proposed material change to the</u>
- 43 <u>compensation terms of such contract or agreement prior to or at the time</u>
- of the extension or renewal of such contract or agreement, and (B) the
- 45 contract or agreement expires and is not renewed by the employer or
- 46 the employment or contractual relationship is terminated by the

employer, unless such employment or contractual relationship is terminated by the employer for cause. The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to a covenant not to compete that is entered into with a

50 physician in a private practice.

- [(3)] (4) Each covenant not to compete entered into, amended or renewed on and after July 1, 2016, shall be separately and individually signed by the physician.
  - (c) The remaining provisions of any contract or agreement that includes a covenant not to compete that is rendered void and unenforceable, in whole or in part, under the provisions of this section shall remain in full force and effect, including provisions that require the payment of damages resulting from any injury suffered by reason of termination of such contract or agreement.
  - Sec. 14. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) For purposes of this section: (1) "Covenant not to compete" means any provision of an employment or other contract or agreement that creates or establishes a professional relationship with an advanced practice registered nurse and restricts the right of an advanced practice registered nurse to practice as an advanced practice registered nurse in any geographic area of the state for any period of time after the termination or cessation of such partnership, employment or other professional relationship; (2) "advanced practice registered nurse" means an individual licensed as an advanced practice registered nurse pursuant to chapter 378 of the general statutes; and (3) "primary site where such advanced practice registered nurse practices" means any single office, facility or location where such advanced practice registered nurse practices, as mutually agreed to by the parties and defined in the covenant not to compete.
  - (b) (1) A covenant not to compete that is entered into, amended, extended or renewed on or after October 1, 2023, shall be valid and enforceable only if it is: (A) Necessary to protect a legitimate business interest; (B) reasonably limited in time, geographic scope and practice restrictions as necessary to protect such business interest; and (C)

otherwise consistent with the law and public policy. The party seeking to enforce a covenant not to compete shall have the burden of proof in any proceeding.

- (2) A covenant not to compete that is entered into, amended, extended or renewed on or after October 1, 2023, shall not: (A) Restrict the advanced practice registered nurse's competitive activities (i) for a period of more than one year, and (ii) in a geographic region of more than fifteen miles from the primary site where such advanced practice registered nurse practices; or (B) be enforceable against an advanced practice registered nurse if (i) such employment contract or agreement was not made in anticipation of, or as part of, a partnership or ownership agreement and such contract or agreement expires and is not renewed, unless, prior to such expiration, the employer makes a bona fide offer to renew the contract on the same or similar terms and conditions, or (ii) the employment or contractual relationship is terminated by the employer, unless such employment or contractual relationship is terminated for cause.
- (3) A covenant not to compete that is entered into, amended, extended or renewed on or after October 1, 2023, shall not be enforceable if (A) the advanced practice registered nurse who is a party to the employment or other contract or agreement does not agree to a proposed material change to the compensation terms of such contract or agreement prior to or at the time of the extension or renewal of such contract or agreement; and (B) the contract or agreement expires and is not renewed by the employer or the employment or contractual relationship is terminated by the employer, unless such employment or contractual relationship is terminated for cause.
- (4) Each covenant not to compete entered into, amended or renewed on or after October 1, 2023, shall be separately and individually signed by the advanced practice registered nurse.
- 109 (c) The remaining provisions of any contract or agreement that 110 includes a covenant not to compete that is rendered void and

unenforceable, in whole or in part, under the provisions of this section shall remain in full force and effect, including provisions that require the payment of damages resulting from any injury suffered by reason of termination of such contract or agreement.

- Sec. 15. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) For purposes of this section: (1) "Covenant not to compete" means any provision of an employment or other contract or agreement that creates or establishes a professional relationship with a physician assistant and restricts the right of a physician assistant to practice as a physician assistant in any geographic area of the state for any period of time after the termination or cessation of such partnership, employment or other professional relationship; (2) "physician assistant" means an individual licensed as a physician assistant pursuant to chapter 370 of the general statutes; and (3) "primary site where such physician assistant practices" means any single office, facility or location where such physician assistant practices, as mutually agreed to by the parties and defined in the covenant not to compete.
- (b) (1) A covenant not to compete that is entered into, amended, extended or renewed on or after October 1, 2023, shall be valid and enforceable only if it is: (A) Necessary to protect a legitimate business interest; (B) reasonably limited in time, geographic scope and practice restrictions as necessary to protect such business interest; and (C) otherwise consistent with the law and public policy. The party seeking to enforce a covenant not to compete shall have the burden of proof in any proceeding.
- (2) A covenant not to compete that is entered into, amended, extended or renewed on or after October 1, 2023, shall not: (A) Restrict the physician assistant's competitive activities (i) for a period of more than one year, and (ii) in a geographic region of more than fifteen miles from the primary site where such physician assistant practices; or (B) be enforceable against a physician assistant if (i) such employment contract or agreement was not made in anticipation of, or as part of, a partnership or ownership agreement and such contract or agreement

expires and is not renewed, unless, prior to such expiration, the employer makes a bona fide offer to renew the contract on the same or similar terms and conditions, or (ii) the employment or contractual relationship is terminated by the employer, unless such employment or contractual relationship is terminated for cause.

- (3) A covenant not to compete that is entered into, amended, extended or renewed on or after October 1, 2023, shall not be enforceable if (A) the physician assistant who is a party to the employment or other contract or agreement does not agree to a proposed material change to the compensation terms of such contract or agreement prior to or at the time of the extension or renewal of such contract or agreement; and (B) the contract or agreement expires and is not renewed by the employer or the employment or contractual relationship is terminated by the employer, unless such employment or contractual relationship is terminated for cause.
- (4) Each covenant not to compete entered into, amended or renewed
  on or after October 1, 2023, shall be separately and individually signed
  by the physician assistant.
  - (c) The remaining provisions of any contract or agreement that includes a covenant not to compete that is rendered void and unenforceable, in whole or in part, under the provisions of this section shall remain in full force and effect, including provisions that require the payment of damages resulting from any injury suffered by reason of termination of such contract or agreement."
- Strike subsection (d) of section 22 in its entirety and insert the following in lieu thereof:
  - "(d) The pilot program established pursuant to this section shall comply with the relevant provisions of chapter 378 of the general statutes and sections 20-90-45 to 20-90-59, inclusive, of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10a-34 of the general statutes, if such pilot program complies with such provisions for not less than two years, and provides evidence that the

program is meeting its educational outcomes, as defined in section 20 90-47 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, such pilot
 program shall be deemed fully approved by the Connecticut State Board
 of Examiners for Nursing."