



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

Committee Bill No. 5192

LCO No. 7479



Referred to Committee on FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING

Introduced by:
(FIN)

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE ROLE OF HOSPITALS IN THE TREATMENT OF OPIOID ADDICTION.

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 the role of hospitals in the treatment of individuals suffering
3 from opioid addiction. The task force shall examine and evaluate:

4 (1) The need for additional hospital beds to be dedicated to the
5 provision of treatment services to such individuals and the needs of
6 the various regions in the state;

7 (2) The current capacity of hospitals in the state to provide such
8 treatment services, considering the number of personnel employed by
9 such hospitals, medications needed for such treatment and the
10 physical facilities of such hospitals and facilities owned by such
11 hospitals;

12 (3) Existing barriers to expanding capacity and treatment services
13 for such individuals;

14 (4) The certificate of need process for hospitals and ways to expedite
15 such process to expand the availability of such treatment services; and

16 (5) The costs associated with expanding the number of beds or
17 availability of treatment services to such individuals and possible
18 funding sources for such expansion.

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

20 (1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
21 who shall be a representative of the Connecticut Hospital Association;

22 (2) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who
23 shall be the chief executive officer of a large hospital;

24 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
25 Representatives, who shall be a health professional with experience
26 treating opioid addiction;

27 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall be
28 an individual who has received or is receiving treatment services for
29 opioid addiction;

30 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
31 Representatives, who shall be the chief executive officer of a small
32 hospital;

33 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be
34 an administrator of a health facility that provides treatment services
35 for opioid addiction;

36 (7) The Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's
37 designee;

38 (8) The Commissioner of Social Services, or the commissioner's
39 designee;

40 (9) The Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services, or

41 the commissioner's designee;

42 (10) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the
43 secretary's designee;

44 (11) The executive director of the Office of Health Strategy, or the
45 executive director's designee; and

46 (12) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing
47 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
48 relating to public health.

49 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),
50 (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member
51 of the General Assembly.

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

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

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

63 (g) Not later than January 1, 2020, the task force shall submit a
64 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
65 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
66 relating to public health, in accordance with the provisions of section
67 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date
68 that it submits such report or January 1, 2020, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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FIN *Joint Favorable*