



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2026

LCO No. 4844



Offered by:

REP. MCCARTHY VAHEY, 133rd Dist.

SEN. ANWAR, 3rd Dist.

To: House Bill No. 5514

File No. 540

Cal. No. 359

"AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTES."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 19a-490 of the general statutes is
4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
5 *1, 2026*):

6 (a) "Institution" means a hospital, short-term hospital special hospice,
7 hospice inpatient facility, residential care home, nursing home facility,
8 home health care agency, home health aide agency, behavioral health
9 facility, assisted living services agency, substance abuse treatment
10 facility, outpatient surgical facility, outpatient clinic, clinical laboratory,
11 blood collection facility, source plasma donation center, birth center, an
12 infirmary operated by an educational institution for the care of students
13 enrolled in [, and] such institution, faculty and employees of [,] such
14 institution, and the dependent family members of such students, faculty

15 and employees, which family members are enrolled in such institution's
16 health plan; a facility engaged in providing services for the prevention,
17 diagnosis, treatment or care of human health conditions, including
18 facilities operated and maintained by any state agency; and a residential
19 facility for persons with intellectual disability licensed pursuant to
20 section 17a-227 and certified to participate in the Title XIX Medicaid
21 program as an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual
22 disability. "Institution" does not include any facility for the care and
23 treatment of persons with mental illness or substance use disorder
24 operated or maintained by any state agency, except Whiting Forensic
25 Hospital and the hospital and psychiatric residential treatment facility
26 units of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center;

27 Sec. 2. (Effective July 1, 2026) (a) As used in this section:

28 (1) "Assisted living services" has the same meaning as provided in
29 section 19a-693 of the general statutes;

30 (2) "Assisted living services agency" has the same meaning as
31 provided in section 19a-693 of the general statutes;

32 (3) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Health, or the
33 commissioner's designee;

34 (4) "Department" means the Department of Public Health; and

35 (5) "Managed residential community" has the same meaning as
36 provided in section 19a-693 of the general statutes.

37 (b) The Commissioner of Public Health shall establish a working
38 group to advise the Department of Public Health regarding (1) managed
39 residential communities in the state where assisted living services
40 agencies provide assisted living services to the residents of such
41 communities, and (2) whether licensure of such communities by the
42 department would enable the department and such communities to
43 improve the health, safety and overall well-being of such residents. The
44 working group shall include, but need not be limited to, not less than

45 three representatives of different managed residential communities in
46 the state, not less than three representatives of different assisted living
47 services agencies in the state, not less than three residents who are
48 receiving assisted living services in a managed residential community
49 in the state, one each from a different managed residential community,
50 not less than three relatives of residents who are receiving such services
51 from a managed residential community, one each from a different
52 managed residential community, and a representative of an association
53 of aging services organizations in the state. Not later than January 1,
54 2027, the working group shall report to the commissioner regarding its
55 findings and recommendations.

56 (c) Not later than February 1, 2027, the Commissioner of Public
57 Health shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a
58 of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General
59 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health on the
60 findings and recommendations of the working group and, for each
61 finding and recommendation, whether the Department of Public Health
62 is in agreement with such finding and recommendation.

63 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) Notwithstanding the provisions
64 of chapter 381 of the general statutes, a nonprofit organization that
65 delivers optical glasses produced by an optician licensed under said
66 chapter to the ultimate wearer of such glasses at no cost to such wearer
67 may deliver such glasses to an authorized representative of such wearer
68 if such wearer is unavailable to receive the glasses in person from such
69 organization.

70 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) Not later than January 1, 2027,
71 each health care provider shall notify each patient, in writing, at the time
72 of the initial intake of such patient (1) of the laws concerning the length
73 of time that the provider is required to maintain patient medical records,
74 and (2) of the manner in which the patient may request copies of the
75 patient's medical records from the provider.

76 Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 17b-338 of the general statutes is

77 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
78 *passage*):

79 (a) There is established a Long-Term Care Advisory Council which
80 shall consist of the following: (1) The executive director of the
81 Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity, or
82 the executive director's designee; (2) the State Nursing Home
83 Ombudsman, or the ombudsman's designee; (3) the president of the
84 Coalition of Presidents of Resident Councils, or the president's designee;
85 (4) the executive director of the Legal Assistance Resource Center of
86 Connecticut, or the executive director's designee; (5) the state president
87 of AARP, or the president's designee; (6) one representative of a
88 bargaining unit for health care employees, appointed by the president
89 of the bargaining unit; (7) the president of LeadingAge Connecticut and
90 Rhode Island, Inc., or the president's designee; (8) the president of the
91 Connecticut Association of Health Care Facilities, or the president's
92 designee; (9) the president of the Connecticut Association of Residential
93 Care Homes, or the president's designee; (10) the president of the
94 Connecticut Hospital Association or the president's designee; (11) the
95 executive director of the Connecticut Assisted Living Association or the
96 executive director's designee; (12) the executive director of the
97 Connecticut Association for Homecare or the executive director's
98 designee; (13) the president of Connecticut Community Care, Inc. or the
99 president's designee; (14) one member of the Connecticut Association of
100 Area Agencies on Aging appointed by the agency; (15) the president of
101 the Connecticut chapter of the Connecticut Alzheimer's Association;
102 (16) one member of the Connecticut Association of Adult Day Centers
103 appointed by the association; (17) the president of the Connecticut
104 Chapter of the American College of Health Care Administrators, or the
105 president's designee; (18) the president of the Connecticut Council for
106 Persons with Disabilities, or the president's designee; (19) the president
107 of the Connecticut Association of Community Action Agencies, or the
108 president's designee; (20) a personal care attendant appointed by the
109 speaker of the House of Representatives; (21) a person who, in a home
110 setting, cares for a person with a disability and is appointed by the

111 president pro tempore of the Senate; (22) three persons with a disability
112 appointed one each by the majority leader of the House of
113 Representatives, the majority leader of the Senate and the minority
114 leader of the House of Representatives; (23) a legislator who is a member
115 of the Long-Term Care Planning Committee; (24) one member who is a
116 nonunion home health aide appointed by the minority leader of the
117 Senate; and (25) the executive director of the nonprofit entity designated
118 by the Governor in accordance with section 46a-10b to serve as the
119 Connecticut protection and advocacy system or the executive director's
120 designee.

121 Sec. 6. Subsection (d) of section 19a-127l of the general statutes is
122 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
123 *passage*):

124 (d) The advisory committee shall consist of (1) four members who
125 represent and shall be appointed by the Connecticut Hospital
126 Association, including three members who represent three separate
127 hospitals that are not affiliated of which one such hospital is an
128 academic medical center; (2) one member who represents and shall be
129 appointed by the Connecticut Nursing Association; (3) two members
130 who represent and shall be appointed by the Connecticut Medical
131 Society, including one member who is an active medical care provider;
132 (4) two members who represent and shall be appointed by the
133 Connecticut Business and Industry Association, including one member
134 who represents a large business and one member who represents a
135 small business; (5) one member who represents and shall be appointed
136 by the Home Health Care Association; (6) one member who represents
137 and shall be appointed by the Connecticut Association of Health Care
138 Facilities; (7) one member who represents and shall be appointed by
139 LeadingAge Connecticut and Rhode Island, Inc.; (8) two members who
140 represent and shall be appointed by the AFL-CIO; (9) one member who
141 represents consumers of health care services and who shall be
142 appointed by the Commissioner of Public Health; (10) one member who
143 represents a school of public health and who shall be appointed by the

144 Commissioner of Public Health; (11) the Commissioner of Public Health
145 or said commissioner's designee; (12) the Commissioner of Social
146 Services or said commissioner's designee; (13) the Secretary of the Office
147 of Policy and Management or said secretary's designee; (14) two
148 members who represent licensed health plans and shall be appointed by
149 the Connecticut Association of Health Care Plans; (15) one member who
150 represents and shall be appointed by the federally designated state peer
151 review organization; and (16) one member who represents and shall be
152 appointed by the Connecticut Pharmaceutical Association. The
153 chairperson of the advisory committee shall be the Commissioner of
154 Public Health or said commissioner's designee. The chairperson of the
155 committee, with a vote of the majority of the members present, may
156 appoint ex-officio nonvoting members in specialties not represented
157 among voting members. Vacancies shall be filled by the person who
158 makes the appointment under this subsection.

159 Sec. 7. Subsection (b) of section 19a-515 of the general statutes is
160 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
161 *passage*):

162 (b) Each licensee shall complete a minimum of forty hours of
163 continuing education every two years, including, but not limited to,
164 training in (1) Alzheimer's disease and dementia symptoms and care,
165 and (2) infection prevention and control. Such two-year period shall
166 commence on the first date of renewal of the licensee's license after
167 January 1, 2004. The continuing education shall be in areas related to the
168 licensee's practice. Qualifying continuing education activities are
169 courses offered or approved by the Connecticut Association of
170 Healthcare Facilities, LeadingAge Connecticut and Rhode Island, Inc.,
171 the Connecticut Assisted Living Association, the Connecticut Alliance
172 for Subacute Care, Inc., the Connecticut Chapter of the American
173 College of Health Care Administrators, the Association For Long Term
174 Care Financial Managers, the Alzheimer's Association or any accredited
175 college or university, or programs presented or approved by the
176 National Continuing Education Review Service of the National

177 Association of Boards of Examiners of Long Term Care Administrators,
178 the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology
179 or by federal or state departments or agencies.

180 Sec. 8. Subsection (g) of section 22a-430 of the 2026 supplement to the
181 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
182 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

183 (g) (1) The commissioner shall, by regulation adopted prior to
184 October 1, 1977, establish and define categories of discharges that
185 constitute household and small commercial subsurface sewage disposal
186 systems for which the commissioner shall delegate to the Commissioner
187 of Public Health the authority to issue permits or approvals and to hold
188 public hearings in accordance with this section, on and after said date.
189 Not later than July 1, 2026, but only after the working group has
190 convened pursuant to section 49 of public act 25-97* and consideration
191 of the recommendations provided by such working group pursuant to
192 said section, the commissioner shall post a notice of intent to amend
193 such regulations on the eRegulations System to establish and define
194 categories of discharges that constitute small community sewerage
195 systems and household and small commercial subsurface sewage
196 disposal systems. The Commissioner of Public Health shall adopt
197 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to establish
198 minimum requirements for small community sewerage systems and
199 household and small commercial subsurface sewage disposal systems
200 and procedures for the issuance of such permits or approvals by the
201 local director of health or an environmental health specialist registered
202 pursuant to chapter 395. The commissioner shall issue and update
203 technical standards applicable to the design, installation, engineering
204 and operation of on-site sewage disposal systems under the jurisdiction
205 of the Department of Public Health. Such technical standards shall not
206 be considered regulations of Connecticut state agencies, as defined in
207 section 4-166. The commissioner may implement policies and
208 procedures necessary to implement the provisions of this subsection
209 while in the process of adopting such policies and procedures as

210 regulations, provided notice of intent to adopt regulations is published
211 on the eRegulations System not later than twenty days after the date of
212 implementation of such policies and procedures. Policies and
213 procedures implemented pursuant to this subsection shall be valid until
214 the time final regulations are adopted in accordance with the provisions
215 of chapter 54. As used in this subsection, small community sewerage
216 systems and household and small commercial disposal systems shall
217 include those subsurface sewage disposal systems with a capacity of ten
218 thousand gallons per day or less. Notwithstanding any provision of the
219 general statutes (1) the regulations adopted by the commissioner
220 pursuant to this subsection that are in effect as of July 1, 2017, shall apply
221 to household and small commercial subsurface sewage disposal
222 systems with a capacity of seven thousand five hundred gallons per day
223 or less, and (2) the regulations adopted by the commissioner pursuant
224 to this subsection that are in effect on or after July 1, 2026, shall apply to
225 small community sewerage systems, household systems and small
226 commercial subsurface sewerage disposal systems with a capacity of ten
227 thousand gallons per day or less. Any permit denied by the
228 Commissioner of Public Health, or a director of health or registered
229 environmental health specialist shall be subject to hearing and appeal in
230 the manner provided in section 19a-229. Any permit granted by the
231 Commissioner of Public Health, or a director of health or registered
232 environmental health specialist on or after October 1, 1977, shall be
233 deemed equivalent to a permit issued under subsection (b) of this
234 section.

235 (2) As used in this subdivision, "nitrogen removal technology" means
236 a system designed to remove nitrogen for use in subsurface sewage
237 disposal systems delegated to the Commissioner of Public Health
238 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, except systems regulated
239 pursuant to section 19a-35a. Not later than July 1, 2028, the
240 Commissioners of Public Health and Energy and Environmental
241 Protection shall consult with stakeholders with expertise in nitrogen
242 removal to:

243 (A) Determine nitrogen credit equal to the nitrogen credit values for
244 nitrogen removal technologies approved by the Department of Energy
245 and Environmental Protection and published in the technical standards
246 established pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection prior to July 1,
247 2028;

248 (B) Determine nitrogen credit equal to the nitrogen credit values for
249 nitrogen removal technologies approved by the Department of Energy
250 and Environmental Protection that have not been published prior to July
251 1, 2028, in the technical standards established pursuant to subdivision
252 (1) of this subsection, for nitrogen removal technologies that meet the
253 definition of subsurface sewage disposal systems as established in
254 regulation pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection; and

255 (C) Establish procedures and standards for the review and approval
256 of new nitrogen removal technologies, which procedures and standards
257 shall be supported by independent third-party testing and climate-
258 relevant field data demonstrating the effectiveness of the technology in
259 removing nitrogen. The Commissioner of Public Health shall (i) adopt
260 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to
261 implement the provisions of this subparagraph, and (ii) publish
262 specifications for nitrogen removal technologies approved in
263 accordance with such procedures and standards in the technical
264 standards established pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection.

265 Sec. 9. Section 20-200 of the general statutes is repealed and the
266 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

267 (a) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 20-198, the
268 Department of Public Health may issue a license by endorsement to any
269 veterinarian of good professional character who is currently licensed
270 and practicing in some other state or territory, having requirements for
271 admission determined by the department to be at least equal to the
272 requirements of this state, upon the payment of a fee of five hundred
273 sixty-five dollars to said department. Notwithstanding the provisions of
274 section 20-198, the department may, upon payment of a fee of five

275 hundred sixty-five dollars, issue a license without examination to a
276 currently practicing, competent veterinarian in another state or territory
277 who [(1)] (A) holds a current valid license in good professional standing
278 issued after examination by another state or territory that maintains
279 licensing standards which, except for examination, are commensurate
280 with this state's standards, and [(2)] (B) has worked continuously as a
281 licensed veterinarian in an academic or clinical setting in another state
282 or territory for a period of not less than five years immediately
283 preceding the application for licensure without examination. No license
284 shall be issued under this section to any applicant against whom
285 professional disciplinary action is pending or who is the subject of an
286 unresolved complaint. The department shall inform the board annually
287 of the number of applications it receives for licensure under this section.

288 [(b)] (2) The Department of Public Health may issue a temporary
289 permit under this subsection to an applicant for licensure without
290 examination upon receipt of a completed application form,
291 accompanied by the fee for licensure without examination, a copy of a
292 current license from another state of the United States, the District of
293 Columbia or a commonwealth or territory subject to the laws of the
294 United States, and a notarized affidavit attesting that the license is valid
295 and belongs to the person requesting notarization. Such temporary
296 permit shall be valid for a period not to exceed one hundred twenty
297 calendar days and shall not be renewable. The department shall not
298 issue a temporary permit under this section to any applicant against
299 whom professional disciplinary action is pending, or who is the subject
300 of an unresolved complaint.

301 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 20-198, the Department
302 of Public Health may issue a temporary permit to an applicant who (1)
303 is a graduate from a school located outside of the United States, its
304 territories or Canada with a degree of doctor of veterinary medicine, or
305 its equivalent, from a program acceptable to the American Veterinary
306 Medical Association as required to receive certification by the
307 Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates, and (2) is

308 working toward receiving certification from the Educational
309 Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates or Program for the
310 Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence. Such temporary
311 permit shall authorize the holder to practice veterinary medicine only
312 under the direct supervision of a veterinarian who has been licensed
313 under chapter 384 for not less than two years. Such temporary permit
314 shall be valid for a period not to exceed two years after the date of
315 issuance, except such temporary permit shall be renewable once for a
316 period of two years if the applicant fails to receive certification from the
317 Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates or Program
318 for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence within the first
319 two-year period. No fee shall be required for the issuance or renewal of
320 a temporary permit under this section. As used in this subsection,
321 "direct supervision" means the licensed veterinarian is present in the
322 office where the temporary permit holder is performing such holder's
323 duties and immediately available to furnish assistance and direction to
324 such holder throughout the performance of such duties.

325 Sec. 10. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a veterinary
326 telemedicine working group. The working group shall (1) evaluate the
327 feasibility of permitting the establishment of a veterinarian-client-
328 patient relationship through veterinary telemedicine in the state when
329 an animal is in need of medical care or treatment, and (2) if the working
330 group determines that permitting such establishment is feasible, make
331 recommendations regarding the parameters of such relationship. The
332 working group shall be within the Legislative Department.

333 (b) The working group shall consist of the following members:

334 (1) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing
335 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
336 relating to public health, or their designees;

337 (2) One appointed by the Senate chairperson of the joint standing
338 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
339 relating to public health, who shall be a member of an association of

340 veterinarians in the state;

341 (3) One appointed by the House chairperson of the joint standing
342 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
343 relating to public health, who shall be a proponent of the establishment
344 of a veterinarian-client-patient relationship through veterinary
345 telemedicine when an animal is in need of medical care or treatment;

346 (4) One appointed by the Senate ranking member of the joint standing
347 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
348 relating to public health, who shall be a proponent of the establishment
349 of a veterinarian-client-patient relationship through veterinary
350 telemedicine when an animal is in need of medical care or treatment;
351 and

352 (5) One appointed by the House ranking member of the joint standing
353 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
354 relating to public health, who shall be a member of an association of
355 veterinarians in the state.

356 (c) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
357 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public
358 health shall serve as administrative staff of the working group.

359 (d) Not later than January 1, 2027, the working group shall report, in
360 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,
361 regarding its evaluation and recommendations to the joint standing
362 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
363 relating to public health.

364 Sec. 11. Section 19a-127k of the general statutes is amended by adding
365 subsection (j) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

366 (NEW) (j) When conducting a community health needs assessment,
367 each hospital shall, if warranted by data available to the hospital,
368 consider including the nutritional needs of community members with
369 diabetes and congestive heart failure and, to the extent permissible

370 under federal law, include such nutritional needs in the hospital's
371 community health needs assessment.

372 Sec. 12. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) As used in this section:

373 (1) "Bridging prescription" means a temporary, short-term
374 prescription issued to ensure continuity of medication while a patient
375 awaits specialized care;

376 (2) "Buprenorphine" means a synthetic opiate with partial agonist
377 actions approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration or any
378 successor agency for the treatment of opioid use disorder;

379 (3) "Community provider" means a health care provider permitted by
380 state and federal law to prescribe buprenorphine for the treatment of
381 opioid use disorder;

382 (4) "Last-dose letter" means a formal, sealed document provided by a
383 hospital to a patient that confirms the exact date, time and amount of
384 the last dose of methadone administered to the patient;

385 (5) "Methadone" means a long-acting synthetic opioid agonist
386 approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration or any
387 successor agency for the treatment of opioid use disorder;

388 (6) "Opioid antagonist" means naloxone hydrochloride or any other
389 similarly acting and equally safe drug approved by the federal Food and
390 Drug Administration or any successor agency for the treatment of a
391 drug overdose;

392 (7) "Opioid use disorder" has the same meaning as provided in the
393 most recent edition of the American Psychiatric Association's
394 Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders; and

395 (8) "Opioid treatment program" means a certified opioid treatment
396 program, as described in 42 CFR 8, as amended from time to time, that
397 is permitted by state and federal law to administer methadone for the
398 treatment of opioid use disorder.

399 (b) On and after January 1, 2027, each hospital licensed pursuant to
400 chapter 368v of the general statutes (1) may, to the extent permitted
401 under federal law, (A) administer buprenorphine or methadone to each
402 patient presenting to the hospital's emergency department with
403 symptoms of opioid use disorder without requiring the admission of the
404 patient to the hospital for the sole purpose of such administration,
405 provided (i) the administration of buprenorphine or methadone is
406 clinically indicated, and (ii) the patient consents to such administration,
407 (B) offer the patient a prescription for or a supply of an opioid antagonist
408 at the time of such patient's discharge from the emergency department
409 and, if the patient accepts the offer, provide the patient with such
410 prescription or dispense an opioid antagonist to the patient, and (C)
411 refer the patient to one or more community providers or opioid
412 treatment programs that can provide continuity in the prescription of
413 buprenorphine or administration of methadone, as applicable, and (2)
414 may, if clinically indicated, dispense a supply of methadone to each
415 such patient in accordance with the provisions of section 21 CFR 1306.
416 If a hospital administers buprenorphine to a patient under this
417 subsection, the hospital shall provide the patient, to the extent permitted
418 by federal law, with a bridging prescription for buprenorphine for the
419 anticipated time period during which the patient will be awaiting
420 treatment from the community provider to which the hospital refers the
421 patient. If a hospital administers or dispenses methadone to a patient
422 under this subsection, the hospital shall provide the patient with a last-
423 dose letter to provide to the local opioid treatment program to which
424 the hospital refers the patient.

425 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to (1) require the
426 provision of any medication when clinically contraindicated, (2) limit
427 the exercise of professional judgment by a treating clinician, or (3)
428 preclude the use of any medication other than buprenorphine or
429 methadone for opioid use disorder when such medication is clinically
430 indicated and the patient consents to the administration of such
431 medication.

432 Sec. 13. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a
433 working group regarding endometriosis for the purpose of evaluating
434 and making recommendations regarding the diagnosis, treatment,
435 research, education and public awareness of endometriosis in the state.
436 The working group shall be within the Legislative Department. The
437 working group shall evaluate the following:

438 (1) The prevalence and impact of endometriosis on residents of the
439 state;

440 (2) Barriers to timely and accurate diagnosis of endometriosis;

441 (3) Access to evidence-based treatment for endometriosis, including,
442 but not limited to, medical, surgical and therapeutic interventions;

443 (4) Insurance coverage and reimbursement practices for the
444 treatment of endometriosis;

445 (5) The impact of endometriosis in the workplace, including, but not
446 limited to, leave, accommodations and employment protections;

447 (6) Gaps in public and provider education and training concerning
448 endometriosis; and

449 (7) Opportunities to improve endometriosis data collection, research
450 initiatives and patient outcomes.

451 (b) The working group shall consist of the following members, who
452 shall be appointed not later than thirty days after the effective date of
453 this section:

454 (1) Four appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
455 (A) one of whom shall be a member of the House or Representatives, (B)
456 one of whom shall be a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the
457 general statutes with demonstrated experience in the diagnosis and
458 treatment of endometriosis, (C) one of whom shall be a representative
459 of a federally qualified health center, and (D) one of whom shall be an
460 individual residing in the state who has been diagnosed with

461 endometriosis;

462 (2) Four appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, (A)
463 one of whom shall be a member of the Senate, (B) one of whom shall be
464 a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the general statutes who
465 is a member of the American College of Obstetricians and
466 Gynecologists, (C) one of whom shall be a researcher affiliated with an
467 academic or research institution in the state with expertise in
468 endometriosis, and (D) one of whom shall be a patient advocate with
469 experience advocating on behalf of individuals with endometriosis;

470 (3) Four appointed by the minority leader of the House of
471 Representatives, (A) one of whom shall be a member of the House of
472 Representatives, (B) one of whom shall be a pediatric or an adolescent
473 medicine physician licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the general
474 statutes and currently practicing in the state, (C) one of whom shall be
475 an individual in the state with expertise in racial and health equity or
476 who represents a community-based organization serving historically
477 underserved populations, and (D) one of whom shall be a representative
478 of an association of hospitals in the state or an administrator of a hospital
479 in the state;

480 (4) Four appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, (A) one of
481 whom shall be a member of the Senate, (B) one of whom shall be a
482 representative of a school-based health center in the state, (C) one of
483 whom shall be a representative of a therapeutic or pharmaceutical
484 manufacturer with experience in treatments related to endometriosis,
485 and (D) one of whom shall be an individual residing in the state who
486 has been diagnosed with endometriosis;

487 (5) The Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's
488 designee;

489 (6) The Insurance Commissioner, or the commissioner's designee;
490 and

491 (7) The cochairpersons of the endometriosis data and biorepository

492 program established pursuant to section 10a-132f of the general statutes.

493 (c) Except for members of the General Assembly, members who
494 represent state agencies and the cochairpersons of the endometriosis
495 data and biorepository program, six of the members first appointed
496 shall serve for a term of two years, six of such members shall serve for a
497 term of three years and, thereafter, members shall serve for a term of
498 two years. The executive director of the Commission on Women,
499 Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity shall determine which of the
500 members first appointed shall serve for a term of two years and which
501 of such members shall serve for a term of three years. Any vacancy shall
502 be filled by the appointing authority not later than thirty calendar days
503 after the appointment becomes vacant. Any member previously
504 appointed to the working group may be reappointed. The members of
505 the working group shall receive no compensation for their services but
506 may be reimbursed for any necessary expenses incurred in the
507 performance of their duties.

508 (d) The administrative staff of the Commission on Women, Children,
509 Seniors, Equity and Opportunity shall serve as administrative staff of
510 the working group. The executive director of said commission shall
511 schedule the first meeting of the working group which shall be held not
512 later than sixty days after the effective date of this section. The working
513 group shall appoint a chairperson and vice-chairperson from among its
514 members at its first meeting. The working group shall meet not less than
515 quarterly and provide an opportunity for public comment at its
516 meetings.

517 (e) Not later than January 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, the
518 working group shall report to the Governor and, in accordance with the
519 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing
520 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
521 relating to human services and public health regarding its evaluation
522 and recommendations, including, but not limited to, for legislation
523 necessary to implement any of such recommendations.

524 Sec. 14. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) (a) There is established an
525 advisory council on chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy and other
526 gene therapies. The council shall advise and make recommendations to
527 the Department of Public Health and other state agencies, as
528 appropriate, regarding (1) the availability of chimeric antigen receptor
529 T-cell therapy and other gene therapies in the state for the treatment of
530 cancer, (2) safe, equitable and financially sustainable delivery of such
531 therapies, (3) advanced training for clinical providers of such therapies,
532 (4) long-term follow-up and vector safety for patients receiving such
533 therapies, (5) the development of referral and management protocols for
534 such therapies, (6) education for clinicians, patients and patients'
535 relatives and caregivers regarding such therapies and such protocols, (7)
536 advising patients and their relatives and caregivers regarding the cost
537 and availability of insurance coverage for such therapies, (8)
538 opportunities for coordinating with research collaborations,
539 government agencies, including, but not limited to, the Centers for
540 Medicare and Medicaid Services, accrediting bodies and national
541 registries regarding such therapies, (9) the development of centers of
542 excellence in the state for the delivery of such therapies, including, but
543 not limited to, requiring accreditation of such centers, (10) the
544 development of a state-wide referral network to ensure all eligible
545 patients are matched with a center of excellence in the state, (11) the
546 development of safety protocols to address complications experienced
547 by patients receiving such therapies and other safety concerns, (12)
548 methods of providing psychosocial support to patients receiving such
549 therapies and their relatives and caregivers, and (13) methods of
550 tracking patient outcomes with a focus on equity as it relates to
551 diagnosis, race, ethnicity, geography and income.

552 (b) The council may perform the following functions:

553 (1) Consult with experts on chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy
554 and other gene therapies for the treatment of cancer to develop policy
555 recommendations for improving patient access to such therapies in the
556 state;

557 (2) Hold public hearings and otherwise make inquiries of and solicit
558 comments from the general public to assist with a study or survey of
559 persons living with cancer who have received such therapies, such
560 persons' caregivers and health care providers and patient advocates;
561 and

562 (3) Research and make recommendations to the Department of Public
563 Health and other state agencies.

564 (c) The council shall consist of the following members:

565 (1) The Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's
566 designee;

567 (2) The Insurance Commissioner, or the commissioner's designee,
568 who may be the representative of a health carrier;

569 (3) The Commissioner of Social Services, or the commissioner's
570 designee;

571 (4) The health information technology officer, designated in
572 accordance with section 19a-754a of the general statutes, or the officer's
573 designee;

574 (5) Four appointed by the Senate chairperson of the joint standing
575 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
576 relating to public health, one of whom shall be a hematologist or
577 oncologist providing services to adults, one of whom shall be a specialist
578 in emerging cellular and genetic therapy, one of whom shall be an
579 expert in pharmacology and one of whom shall be an advocate for
580 patients with a condition that is treated by gene therapy;

581 (6) Four appointed by the House chairperson of the joint standing
582 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
583 relating to public health, one of whom shall be a patient who has
584 received chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy, one of whom shall be
585 a representative of an association of hospitals in the state, one of whom

586 shall be a pediatric hematologist or oncologist and one of whom shall be
587 a community health equity advocate;

588 (7) Four appointed by the Senate ranking member of the joint
589 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
590 matters relating to public health, one of whom shall be a representative
591 of an internationally recognized accreditation body for institutions
592 providing cellular therapies, one of whom shall be a representative of
593 an association of health carriers in the state, one of whom shall be the
594 director of a cellular therapy program in the state and one of whom shall
595 be a representative of the life sciences or biotechnology industry; and

596 (8) Four appointed by the House ranking member of the joint
597 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
598 matters relating to public health, one of whom shall be a representative,
599 family member or caregiver of a person living with cancer who has
600 received gene therapy, one of whom shall be an advocate for cancer
601 patients in the state, one of whom shall be a social worker or patient
602 navigator and one of whom shall be a director of a transplant and
603 cellular therapy program in the state.

604 (d) All initial appointments to the council shall be made not later than
605 October 31, 2026. Except for members of the council who represent state
606 agencies, members shall serve for a term of three years and any vacancy
607 shall be filled by the appointing authority. The members shall receive
608 no compensation for their services but may be reimbursed for any
609 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. The
610 Commissioner of Public Health shall select an acting chairperson of the
611 council from its members for the purpose of organizing the first council
612 meeting. Such chairperson shall schedule and convene the first meeting,
613 which shall be held not later than November 30, 2026. The members of
614 the council shall appoint, by majority vote, a chairperson and vice-
615 chairperson during the first meeting of the council. Thereafter, the
616 council shall meet not less than quarterly in person or on a remote
617 platform, as determined by the chairperson.

618 (e) The council shall be within the Department of Public Health for
619 administrative purposes only.

620 (f) Not later than one year after the date of its first meeting, and
621 annually thereafter, the council shall report, in accordance with the
622 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing
623 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
624 relating to public health and insurance regarding its findings and
625 recommendations, including, but not limited to, (1) the council's
626 activities, research findings and any recommendations for proposed
627 legislative changes, and (2) any potential sources of funding for the
628 council's activities, including, but not limited to, grants, donations,
629 sponsorships or in-kind donations.

630 (g) The council may (1) apply for and accept grants, gifts, bequests,
631 sponsorships and in-kind donations of funds from federal and interstate
632 agencies, private firms, individuals and foundations for the purpose of
633 carrying out its responsibilities, and (2) enter into any contracts or
634 agreements, in accordance with any established procedures, as may be
635 necessary for the distribution or use of any received funds, services or
636 property in accordance with any requirements to fulfill any conditions
637 of a grant, gift, bequest, sponsorship or in-kind donation.

638 Sec. 15. Section 10-206 of the general statutes, as amended by section
639 39 of public act 26-1, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
640 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

641 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall require each pupil
642 enrolled in the public schools to have health assessments pursuant to
643 the provisions of this section. Such assessments shall be conducted by
644 (1) a legally qualified practitioner of medicine, (2) an advanced practice
645 registered nurse or registered nurse, licensed pursuant to chapter 378,
646 (3) a physician assistant, licensed pursuant to chapter 370, (4) a school
647 medical advisor, or (5) a legally qualified practitioner of medicine, an
648 advanced practice registered nurse or a physician assistant stationed at
649 any military base, to ascertain whether such pupil is suffering from any

650 physical disability tending to prevent such pupil from receiving the full
651 benefit of school work and to ascertain whether such school work
652 should be modified in order to prevent injury to the pupil or to secure
653 for the pupil a suitable program of education. No health assessment
654 shall be made of any pupil enrolled in the public schools unless such
655 examination is made in the presence of the parent or guardian or in the
656 presence of another school employee. The parent or guardian of such
657 pupil shall receive prior written notice and shall have a reasonable
658 opportunity to be present at such assessment or to provide for such
659 assessment himself or herself. A local or regional board of education
660 may deny continued attendance in public school to any pupil who fails
661 to obtain the health assessments required under this section.

662 (b) Each local or regional board of education shall require each pupil
663 to have a health assessment prior to public school enrollment. The
664 assessment shall include: (1) A physical examination [which] that shall
665 include hematocrit or hemoglobin tests, height, weight, blood pressure,
666 a medical risk assessment for lead poisoning and, when indicated by
667 such assessment, a test of the pupil's blood lead level, and, beginning
668 with the 2003-2004 school year, a chronic disease assessment which shall
669 include, but not be limited to, asthma. The assessment form shall
670 include (A) a check box for the provider conducting the assessment, as
671 provided in subsection (a) of this section, to indicate an asthma
672 diagnosis, (B) screening questions relating to appropriate public health
673 concerns to be answered by the parent or guardian, and (C) screening
674 questions to be answered by such provider; (2) an updating of
675 immunizations as required under section 10-204a, provided a registered
676 nurse may only update said immunizations pursuant to a written order
677 by a physician or physician assistant, licensed pursuant to chapter 370,
678 or an advanced practice registered nurse, licensed pursuant to chapter
679 378; (3) vision, hearing, speech and gross dental screenings; and (4) such
680 other information, including health and developmental history, as the
681 physician feels is necessary and appropriate. The assessment shall also
682 include tests for tuberculosis, sickle cell anemia and Cooley's anemia
683 where the local or regional board of education determines after

684 consultation with the school medical advisor and the local health
685 department, or in the case of a regional board of education, each local
686 health department, that such tests are necessary, provided a registered
687 nurse may only perform said tests pursuant to the written order of a
688 physician or physician assistant, licensed pursuant to chapter 370, or an
689 advanced practice registered nurse, licensed pursuant to chapter 378.

690 (c) Each local or regional board of education shall require each pupil
691 enrolled in the public schools to have health assessments in either grade
692 six or grade seven and in either grade nine or grade ten. The assessment
693 shall include: (1) A physical examination [which] that shall include
694 hematocrit or hemoglobin tests, height, weight, blood pressure, and,
695 beginning with the 2003-2004 school year, a chronic disease assessment
696 which shall include, but not be limited to, asthma as defined by the
697 Commissioner of Public Health pursuant to subsection (c) of section 19a-
698 62a, as amended by this act. The assessment form shall include (A) a
699 check box for the provider conducting the assessment, as provided in
700 subsection (a) of this section, to indicate an asthma diagnosis, (B)
701 screening questions relating to appropriate public health concerns to be
702 answered by the parent or guardian, and (C) screening questions to be
703 answered by such provider; (2) an updating of immunizations as
704 required under section 10-204a, provided a registered nurse may only
705 update said immunizations pursuant to a written order of a physician
706 or physician assistant, licensed pursuant to chapter 370, or an advanced
707 practice registered nurse, licensed pursuant to chapter 378; (3) vision,
708 hearing, postural and gross dental screenings; and (4) such other
709 information including a health history as the physician feels is necessary
710 and appropriate. The assessment shall also include tests for tuberculosis
711 and sickle cell anemia or Cooley's anemia where the local or regional
712 board of education, in consultation with the school medical advisor and
713 the local health department, or in the case of a regional board of
714 education, each local health department, determines that said screening
715 or test is necessary, provided a registered nurse may only perform said
716 tests pursuant to the written order of a physician or physician assistant,
717 licensed pursuant to chapter 370, or an advanced practice registered

718 nurse, licensed pursuant to chapter 378.

719 (d) For the school year commencing July 1, 2027, and each school year
720 thereafter, each local or regional board of education shall require each
721 pupil enrolled in grades nine to twelve, inclusive, in the public schools
722 to have an athletics health assessment prior to being permitted to
723 participate in interscholastic athletics for each academic year. The
724 athletics assessment shall include a physical examination that shall
725 include screening for serious cardiac conditions that could lead to
726 sudden cardiac death, which screening shall be performed in
727 accordance with guidelines established by the American Heart
728 Association, the American College of Cardiology or another
729 organization focused on cardiovascular care in pediatric populations.
730 The athletics assessment form shall include (1) a check box for the
731 provider conducting the athletics assessment, as provided in subsection
732 (a) of this section, to indicate any patient or family history of symptoms
733 of such serious cardiac conditions, including, but not limited to, chest
734 pain with exertion or unexplained syncope, and any family history of
735 sudden cardiac death, (2) screening questions relating to a family
736 history of such serious cardiac issues to be answered by the parent or
737 guardian, including, but not limited to, chest pain with exertion,
738 unexplained syncope, sudden cardiac arrest or sudden cardiac death,
739 (3) any additional cardiac screening questions to be answered by such
740 provider, as deemed necessary and appropriate by such provider, and
741 (4) a check box for the provider conducting the athletics assessment to
742 indicate whether the provider referred the pupil for any additional
743 cardiac screening or treatment.

744 ~~[(d)]~~ (e) The results of each assessment done pursuant to this section
745 and the results of screenings done pursuant to section 10-214, as
746 amended by [this act] public act 26-1, shall be recorded on forms
747 supplied by the State Board of Education. Each school nurse may reject
748 such results submitted on forms other than the forms supplied by the
749 State Board of Education and require the resubmission of such results
750 on such forms supplied by the State Board of Education. An asthma

751 action plan shall be included with each assessment form that indicates
752 an asthma diagnosis pursuant to subsections (b) and (c) of this section.
753 Such information shall be included in the cumulative health record of
754 each pupil and shall be kept on file in the school such pupil attends. If a
755 pupil permanently leaves the jurisdiction of the board of education, the
756 pupil's original cumulative health record shall be sent to the chief
757 administrative officer of the school district to which such student
758 moves. The board of education transmitting such health record shall
759 retain a true copy. Each physician, advanced practice registered nurse,
760 registered nurse, or physician assistant performing health assessments
761 and screenings pursuant to this section and section 10-214, as amended
762 by [this act] public act 26-1, shall completely fill out and sign each form
763 and any recommendations concerning the pupil shall be in writing.

764 [(e)] (f) Appropriate school health personnel shall review the results
765 of each assessment and screening as recorded pursuant to subsection
766 [(d)] (e) of this section. When, in the judgment of such health personnel,
767 a pupil, as defined in section 10-206a, as amended by this act, is in need
768 of further testing or treatment, the superintendent of schools shall give
769 written notice to the parent or guardian of such pupil and shall make
770 reasonable efforts to assure that such further testing or treatment is
771 provided. Such reasonable efforts shall include a determination of
772 whether or not the parent or guardian has obtained the necessary testing
773 or treatment for the pupil, and, if not, advising the parent or guardian
774 on how such testing or treatment may be obtained. The results of such
775 further testing or treatment shall be recorded pursuant to subsection
776 [(d)] (e) of this section, and shall be reviewed by school health personnel
777 pursuant to this subsection.

778 [(f)] (g) On and after October 1, 2017, each local or regional board of
779 education shall report to the local health department and the
780 Department of Public Health, on an triennial basis, the total number of
781 pupils per school and per school district having a diagnosis of asthma
782 (1) at the time of public school enrollment, (2) in grade six or seven, and
783 (3) in grade nine or ten. The report shall contain the asthma information

784 collected as required under subsections (b) and (c) of this section and
785 shall include pupil age, gender, race, ethnicity and school. Beginning on
786 October 1, 2021, and every three years thereafter, the Department of
787 Public Health shall review the asthma screening information reported
788 pursuant to this section and shall submit a report to the joint standing
789 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
790 relating to public health and education concerning asthma trends and
791 distributions among pupils enrolled in the public schools. The report
792 shall be submitted in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a
793 and shall include, but not be limited to, (A) trends and findings based
794 on pupil age, gender, race, ethnicity, school and the education reference
795 group, as determined by the Department of Education for the town or
796 regional school district in which such school is located, and (B) activities
797 of the asthma screening monitoring system maintained under section
798 19a-62a, as amended by this act.

799 Sec. 16. Section 10-206a of the general statutes is repealed and the
800 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

801 Each local or regional board of education shall provide for health
802 assessments pursuant to ~~[subsection (c)]~~ subsections (c) and (d) of
803 section 10-206, as amended by this act, without charge to all pupils
804 whose parents or guardians meet the eligibility requirements for free
805 and reduced price meals under the National School Lunch Program or
806 for free milk under the special milk program. To meet its obligations
807 pursuant to this section, a board of education may utilize existing
808 community resources and services.

809 Sec. 17. Section 19a-62a of the general statutes is repealed and the
810 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

811 (a) The Commissioner of Public Health shall maintain a system of
812 monitoring asthma screening information reported to the Department
813 of Public Health pursuant to subsection ~~[(f)]~~ (g) of section 10-206, as
814 amended by this act.

815 (b) Not later than October 1, 2021, and triennially thereafter, the
816 Department of Public Health shall post on its Internet web site the
817 activities of the asthma screening monitoring system maintained under
818 subsection (a) of this section, including a report of the information
819 obtained by the department pursuant to subsection [(f)] (g) of section
820 10-206, as amended by this act.

821 Sec. 18. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) The University of
822 Connecticut Health Center's Health Disparities Institute, in consultation
823 with the Department of Public Health, persons who have experienced
824 symptoms of perimenopause, menopause and postmenopause, and
825 health care providers who treat persons with symptoms of
826 perimenopause, menopause and postmenopause, shall develop, within
827 available appropriations, a toolkit that provides practical, evidence-
828 based and culturally appropriate guidance to health care providers in
829 the state who are responsible for diagnosing or treating persons with
830 symptoms of menopause, perimenopause or postmenopause, as
831 determined by said institute, including, but not limited to, health care
832 providers in the fields of obstetrics, gynecology, internal medicine,
833 family medicine, emergency medicine, psychiatry, mental health, social
834 work, dentistry, dental hygiene and community health, regarding best
835 practices for screening, identification, clinical assessment, diagnosis and
836 treatment of symptoms of menopause, perimenopause and
837 postmenopause. Such guidance may include, but need not be limited to,
838 (1) a comprehensive description of the symptoms of menopause,
839 perimenopause and postmenopause, (2) evidence-based guidelines
840 regarding the identification and treatment of such symptoms, including,
841 but not limited to, the use of hormones, such as hormone replacement
842 therapy and testosterone therapy, (3) the availability of insurance
843 coverage for such therapies, and (4) short education modules regarding
844 such guidance that would qualify as continuing education for such
845 health care providers.

846 (b) Not later than June 1, 2028, The University of Connecticut Health
847 Center's Health Disparities Institute shall distribute the toolkit

848 developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section to such health care
849 providers. Not later than January 1, 2029, the institute shall (1) evaluate
850 any feedback received from such health care providers regarding the
851 effectiveness of the toolkit, (2) revise the toolkit as necessary to address
852 such feedback, and (3) distribute a revised toolkit, if any, to such health
853 care providers.

854 Sec. 19. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section:

855 (1) "Designated employee" means a school nurse or nurse practitioner
856 appointed pursuant to section 10-212 of the general statutes, school
857 nurse supervisor, school counselor, school social worker or school
858 psychologist who a local or regional school board of education
859 designates to access safety plans of minor patients transmitted by health
860 care providers to a school district or school's secure messaging system
861 account pursuant to the provisions of this section;

862 (2) "Health care provider" means any person, corporation, limited
863 liability company, facility or institution operated, owned or licensed by
864 this state to provide health care or professional medical services;

865 (3) "Legally authorized representative" means a minor patient's
866 parent, guardian appointed by the Probate Court or a personal
867 representative, as described in 45 CFR 164.502(g);

868 (4) "Safety plan" means a written document created collaboratively
869 between a health care provider and a patient outlining coping strategies,
870 activities and support networks the patient can access to prevent or
871 manage a potential mental health crisis;

872 (5) "School nurse supervisor" means a school nurse or nurse
873 practitioner appointed pursuant to section 10-212 of the general statutes
874 designated by the local or regional board of education as the supervisor,
875 or, if no designation has been made by the board, the lead or
876 coordinating school nurse or nurse practitioner; and

877 (6) "Secure messaging system" means a platform capable of sending

878 and receiving secure messages and may include a platform that
879 complies with the Direct Project specifications published by the federal
880 Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology.

881 (b) On and after April 1, 2027, each health care provider that prepares
882 a safety plan for a minor patient who received inpatient behavioral
883 health care treatment for a period not less than twelve consecutive days
884 shall (1) review such safety plan with the minor patient if the health care
885 provider believes such a review is medically appropriate, and (2)
886 inquire as to whether the minor patient or minor patient's parent or
887 legally authorized representative consents to sharing such safety plan
888 with the minor patient's school. If the minor patient or minor patient's
889 parent or legally authorized representative consents to sharing such
890 safety plan with the minor patient's school, the health care provider
891 shall obtain written consent from (A) the minor patient's parent or
892 legally authorized representative, or (B) if the minor patient is sixteen
893 years of age or older, such minor patient, and transmit such safety plan
894 to the minor patient's school district or school (i) using a secure
895 messaging system, or (ii) in a form and manner that complies with the
896 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, P.L. 104-
897 191, as amended from time to time, and 45 CFR 160.101 to 45 CFR
898 164.534, inclusive, as amended from time to time.

899 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to (1) create a standard
900 of medical care with respect to any minor patient, (2) require a health
901 care provider to create a safety plan, (3) require a health care provider
902 to release information to a parent or legally authorized representative if,
903 pursuant to state or federal law, a minor patient may withhold such
904 information from such minor patient's parent or legally authorized
905 representative, including, but not limited to, information regarding
906 pregnancy, abortion, contraceptives, human immunodeficiency virus or
907 other sexually transmitted disease testing or treatment, mental health
908 treatment or any other area of care that a health care provider has
909 promised a minor patient that the health care provider will keep
910 confidential, or (4) require a health care provider to transmit a safety

911 plan or provide any other information to any person in violation of the
912 provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of
913 1996, P.L. 104-191, as amended from time to time.

914 Sec. 20. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) On or before January 1, 2027,
915 each local or regional board of education shall ensure that each school
916 district or school, as determined by the board, (1) signs up for an
917 organizational account on a secure messaging system, as defined in
918 section 19 of this act, and (2) provides access to one or more designated
919 employees, as defined in section 19 of this act, one of whom shall be a
920 school nurse supervisor, as defined in section 19 of this act, to such
921 organizational account for the purpose of accessing minor patient safety
922 plans, as defined in section 19 of this act, transmitted by health care
923 providers, pursuant to the provisions of section 19 of this act. A
924 designated employee shall retain minor patient safety plans in a
925 confidential file separate from any cumulative academic or health
926 record, provided information contained in a minor patient safety plan
927 may be used to provide appropriate interventions pursuant to an
928 individualized education program or a plan pursuant to Section 504 of
929 the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

930 (b) On or before April 1, 2027, each local or regional board of
931 education shall submit each school district or school's secure messaging
932 system address to the Commissioner of Education in a form and manner
933 prescribed by the commissioner. On and after April 1, 2027, if a school
934 district or school's secure messaging system address changes, each local
935 or regional board of education shall, in a form and manner prescribed
936 by the commissioner, submit such new address to the commissioner as
937 soon as practicable but not later than thirty days after acquiring such
938 new address. The commissioner shall compile and maintain a list of each
939 school district or school's secure messaging system address and make
940 such list available to health care providers in the state for the purpose of
941 transmitting minor patient safety plans pursuant to the provisions of
942 section 19 of this act.

943 Sec. 21. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2027*) For the school year commencing

944 July 1, 2027, and each school year thereafter, each local and regional
945 board of education shall provide guidance regarding the requirements
946 of section 19 of this act for all new designated employees, as defined in
947 section 19 of this act. The Department of Education shall develop and
948 make available such guidance and training materials for use by each
949 local and regional board of education. Such materials shall include
950 instruction for using a secure messaging system for the purpose of
951 accessing minor patient safety plans, as defined in section 19 of this act,
952 transmitted by health care providers pursuant to the provisions of
953 section 19 of this act.

954 Sec. 22. Subsection (b) of section 17b-59d of the general statutes is
955 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
956 *passage*):

957 (b) It shall be the goal of the State-wide Health Information Exchange
958 to: (1) Allow real-time, secure access to patient health information and
959 complete medical records across all health care provider settings; (2)
960 provide patients with secure electronic access to their health
961 information in accordance with 45 CFR 171; (3) allow voluntary
962 participation by patients to access their health information at no cost; (4)
963 support care coordination through real-time alerts and timely access to
964 clinical information; (5) reduce costs associated with preventable
965 readmissions, duplicative testing and medical errors; (6) promote the
966 highest level of interoperability; (7) meet all state and federal privacy
967 and security requirements; (8) support public health reporting, quality
968 improvement, academic research and health care delivery and payment
969 reform through data aggregation and analytics; (9) support population
970 health analytics; (10) be standards-based; [and] (11) provide for broad
971 local governance that (A) includes stakeholders, including, but not
972 limited to, representatives of the Department of Social Services,
973 hospitals, physicians, behavioral health care providers, long-term care
974 providers, health insurers, employers, patients and academic or medical
975 research institutions, and (B) is committed to the successful
976 development and implementation of the State-wide Health Information

977 Exchange; and (12) provide, within available appropriations, (A) a
978 secure messaging system organizational account to each school district
979 or school, as determined by each local and regional board of education,
980 for the purposes of receiving minor patient safety plans pursuant to the
981 provisions of section 19 of this act, and (B) access to such organizational
982 account for designated employees, as defined in section 19 of this act, at
983 no cost to such school district, school and designated employee.

984 Sec. 23. Section 20-102aa of the general statutes is repealed and the
985 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2027*):

986 As used in subsection (c) of section 19a-14 and sections 20-102aa to
987 20-102ff, inclusive, as amended by this act:

988 (1) "Abuse" means any act of abuse, as defined in 42 CFR 483.5, as
989 amended from time to time, committed towards a client, resident or
990 patient;

991 [(1)] (2) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Health;

992 (3) "Neglect" means any act of neglect, as defined in 42 CFR 483.5, as
993 amended from time to time, committed towards a client, resident or
994 patient;

995 [(2) "nurse's aide"] (4) "Nurse's aide" means [an individual providing]
996 a registered nurse's aide who provides nursing or nursing-related
997 services [to residents in a chronic and convalescent nursing home or rest
998 home with nursing supervision] pursuant to such nurse's aide's
999 employment or contract with an institution, as defined in section 19a-
1000 490, as amended by this act, but does not include an individual who is a
1001 health professional otherwise licensed or certified by the Department of
1002 Public Health, or who volunteers to provide such services without
1003 monetary compensation;

1004 [(3) "registration"] (5) "Registration" means a document issued by the
1005 Department of Public Health to a nurse's aide which certifies that such
1006 aide has satisfied the training and competency evaluation requirements

1007 prescribed by the commissioner; [and has been found qualified for
1008 employment in a chronic and convalescent nursing home or rest home
1009 with nursing supervision;] and

1010 [(4) "registered nurse's aide"] (6) "Registered nurse's aide" means an
1011 individual who has been issued a registration as defined in this section.

1012 Sec. 24. Subsection (a) of section 20-102cc of the general statutes is
1013 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
1014 *1, 2027*):

1015 (a) The Department of Public Health shall receive, investigate and
1016 prosecute complaints against individuals who are providing or have
1017 provided services as a nurse's aide in [a chronic and convalescent
1018 nursing home or rest home with nursing supervision] an institution, as
1019 defined in section 19a-490, as amended by this act. The grounds for
1020 complaint shall include [resident abuse, resident neglect,] (1) illegal,
1021 incompetent or negligent conduct in the provision of nursing or
1022 nursing-related services, (2) abuse of a resident, patient or client, (3)
1023 neglect of a resident, patient or client, (4) misappropriation of resident,
1024 patient or client property, and (5) fraud or deceit in obtaining or
1025 attempting to obtain a registration as a nurse's aide. A nurse's aide shall
1026 be given written notice by certified mail by the commissioner of any
1027 complaint against him or her. The department may summarily suspend
1028 a nurse's aide's ability to practice in advance of a final adjudication on a
1029 complaint or during the appeals process in accordance with subsection
1030 (c) of section 19a-17. A nurse's aide who wishes to appeal a complaint
1031 against him or her shall, not later than thirty days after the date of the
1032 mailing, file with the department a request in writing for a hearing to
1033 contest the complaint. The commissioner shall render a finding on such
1034 complaint, and, if a hearing is requested, it shall be conducted pursuant
1035 to chapter 54. The commissioner shall have the authority to take any
1036 action against a nurse's aide set forth in section 19a-17, as amended by
1037 this act, and to render a finding and enter such finding on the registry
1038 against an individual who is providing or has provided services as a
1039 nurse's aide, [in a chronic and convalescent nursing home or rest home

1040 with nursing supervision,] without regard to whether such individual
1041 is on the registry or has obtained registration as a nurse's aide from the
1042 department.

1043 Sec. 25. Section 19a-17 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
1044 is amended by adding subsection (i) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1045 (NEW) (i) Such board or commission or the department may take any
1046 of the actions permitted under this section against a practitioner for
1047 failure to fulfill any material obligation resulting from the receipt of
1048 funds provided by the department pursuant to the Rural Health
1049 Transformation Program established pursuant to 42 USC 1397ee(h).

1050 Sec. 26. Section 31-57e of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
1051 is amended by adding subsection (f) as follows (*Effective from passage*):

1052 (NEW) (f) The provisions of this section shall not apply to the
1053 provision of funds to a tribe pursuant to the Rural Health
1054 Transformation Program established pursuant to 42 USC 1397ee(h).

1055 Sec. 27. Subsection (a) of section 20-102ee of the general statutes is
1056 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
1057 *1, 2027*):

1058 (a) The Commissioner of Public Health shall adopt regulations, in
1059 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, concerning the regulation
1060 of nurse's aides. Such regulations shall require a training program for
1061 nurse's aides of not less than one hundred hours. Not less than seventy-
1062 five of such hours shall include, but not be limited to, basic nursing
1063 skills, personal care skills, care of cognitively impaired [residents]
1064 patients, recognition of mental health and social service needs, basic
1065 restorative services and [residents'] patients' rights. Not less than
1066 twenty-five of such hours shall include, but not be limited to, specialized
1067 training in understanding and responding to challenging behaviors
1068 related to physical, psychiatric, psychosocial and cognitive disorders.
1069 On and after January 1, 2022, not less than two of such hours shall
1070 include (1) screening for post-traumatic stress disorder, risk of suicide,

1071 depression and grief, and (2) suicide prevention training offered or
1072 approved by the American Nurses Association, Connecticut Hospital
1073 Association, Connecticut Nurses Association or Connecticut League for
1074 Nursing, a specialty nursing society or equivalent organization in
1075 another jurisdiction, a hospital or other health care institution, a
1076 regionally accredited academic institution, or a state or local health
1077 department. The requirement described in subdivision (2) of this section
1078 may be satisfied by the completion of the evidence-based youth suicide
1079 prevention training program administered pursuant to section 17a-52a.

1080 Sec. 28. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) The Recognition of
1081 Emergency Medical Services Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact
1082 shall be enacted into law and entered into by the state of Connecticut
1083 with any and all states legally joining therein in accordance with its
1084 terms not earlier than one year after the date on which such compact is
1085 enacted in at least one of the states of Massachusetts, New York or
1086 Rhode Island. The compact is substantially as follows:

1087 RECOGNITION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
1088 PERSONNEL LICENSURE INTERSTATE COMPACT

1089 SECTION 1. PURPOSE

1090 In order to protect the public through verification of competency and
1091 ensure accountability for patient care related activities, all states license
1092 emergency medical services (EMS) personnel, such as emergency
1093 medical technicians (EMTs), advanced EMTs and paramedics. This
1094 compact is intended to facilitate the day-to-day movement of EMS
1095 personnel across state boundaries in the performance of their EMS
1096 duties as assigned by an appropriate authority and authorize state EMS
1097 offices to afford immediate legal recognition to EMS personnel licensed
1098 in a member state.

1099 This compact recognizes that states have a vested interest in
1100 protecting the public's health and safety through their licensing and
1101 regulation of EMS personnel and that such state regulation shared

1102 among the member states will best protect public health and safety. This
1103 compact is designed to achieve the following purposes and objectives:

- 1104 (1) Increase public access to EMS personnel;
- 1105 (2) Enhance the states' ability to protect the public's health and safety,
1106 especially patient safety;
- 1107 (3) Encourage the cooperation of member states in the areas of EMS
1108 personnel licensure and regulation;
- 1109 (4) Support licensing of military members who are separating from
1110 an active-duty tour and their spouses;
- 1111 (5) Facilitate the exchange of information between member states
1112 regarding EMS personnel licensure, adverse action and significant
1113 investigatory information;
- 1114 (6) Promote compliance with the laws governing EMS personnel
1115 practice in each member state; and
- 1116 (7) Invest all member states with the authority to hold EMS personnel
1117 accountable through the mutual recognition of member state licenses.

1118 SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS

1119 As used in section 1, this section and sections 3 to 15, inclusive, of
1120 the compact:

- 1121 (1) "Advanced emergency medical technician" or "AEMT" means an
1122 individual licensed with cognitive knowledge and a scope of practice
1123 that corresponds to that level in the National EMS Education Standards
1124 and National EMS Scope of Practice Model.
- 1125 (2) "Adverse action" means any administrative, civil, equitable or
1126 criminal action permitted by a state's laws that may be imposed against
1127 licensed EMS personnel by a state EMS authority or state court,
1128 including, but not limited to, actions against an individual's license such

1129 as revocation, suspension, probation, consent agreement, monitoring or
1130 other limitation or encumbrance on the individual's practice, letters of
1131 reprimand or admonition, fines, criminal convictions and state court
1132 judgments enforcing adverse actions by the state EMS authority.

1133 (3) "Alternative program" means a voluntary, nondisciplinary
1134 substance abuse recovery program approved by a state EMS authority.

1135 (4) "Certification" means the successful verification of entry-level
1136 cognitive and psychomotor competency using a reliable, validated and
1137 legally defensible examination.

1138 (5) "Commission" means the national administrative body of which
1139 all states that have enacted the compact are members.

1140 (6) "Emergency medical technician" or "EMT" means an individual
1141 licensed with cognitive knowledge and a scope of practice that
1142 corresponds to that level in the National EMS Education Standards and
1143 National EMS Scope of Practice Model.

1144 (7) "Home state" means a member state where an individual is
1145 licensed to practice emergency medical services.

1146 (8) "License" means the authorization by a state for an individual to
1147 practice as an EMT, AEMT or paramedic, or a level between EMT and
1148 paramedic.

1149 (9) "Medical director" means a physician licensed in a member state
1150 who is accountable for the care delivered by EMS personnel.

1151 (10) "Member state" means a state that has enacted this compact.

1152 (11) "Privilege to practice" means an individual's authority to deliver
1153 emergency medical services in remote states as authorized under this
1154 compact.

1155 (12) "Paramedic" means an individual licensed with cognitive
1156 knowledge and a scope of practice that corresponds to that level in the

1157 National EMS Education Standards and National EMS Scope of Practice
1158 Model.

1159 (13) "Remote state" means a member state in which an individual is
1160 not licensed.

1161 (14) "Restricted" means the outcome of an adverse action that limits a
1162 license or the privilege to practice.

1163 (15) "Rule" means a written statement by the Interstate Commission
1164 promulgated pursuant to section 12 of this compact that (A) is of general
1165 applicability, (B) implements, interprets or prescribes a policy or
1166 provision of the compact, or (C) is an organizational, procedural or
1167 practice requirement of the Commission, and (D) has the force and effect
1168 of statutory law in a member state and includes the amendment, repeal
1169 or suspension of an existing rule.

1170 (16) "Scope of practice" means defined parameters of various duties
1171 or services that may be provided by an individual with specific
1172 credentials. Whether regulated by rule, statute or court decision, it tends
1173 to represent the limits of services an individual may perform.

1174 (17) "Significant investigatory information" means:

1175 (A) Investigative information that a state EMS authority, after a
1176 preliminary inquiry that includes notification and an opportunity to
1177 respond if required by state law, has reason to believe, if proved true,
1178 would result in the imposition of an adverse action on a license or
1179 privilege to practice; or

1180 (B) Investigative information that indicates that the individual
1181 represents an immediate threat to public health and safety regardless of
1182 whether the individual has been notified and had an opportunity to
1183 respond.

1184 (18) "State" means any state, commonwealth, district or territory of
1185 the United States.

1186 (19) "State EMS authority" means the board, office or other agency
1187 with the legislative mandate to license EMS personnel.

1188 SECTION 3. HOME STATE LICENSURE

1189 (a) Any member state in which an individual holds a current license
1190 shall be deemed a home state for purposes of this compact.

1191 (b) Any member state may require an individual to obtain and retain
1192 a license to be authorized to practice in the member state under
1193 circumstances not authorized by the privilege to practice under the
1194 terms of this compact.

1195 (c) A home state's license authorizes an individual to practice in a
1196 remote state under the privilege to practice only if the home state:

1197 (1) Currently requires the use of the National Registry of Emergency
1198 Medical Technicians (NREMT) examination as a condition of issuing
1199 initial licenses at the EMT and paramedic levels;

1200 (2) Has a mechanism in place for receiving and investigating
1201 complaints about individuals;

1202 (3) Notifies the Commission, in compliance with the terms herein, of
1203 any adverse action or significant investigatory information regarding an
1204 individual;

1205 (4) Not later than five years after activation of the compact, requires
1206 a criminal background check of all applicants for initial licensure,
1207 including the use of the results of fingerprint or other biometric data
1208 checks compliant with the requirements of the Federal Bureau of
1209 Investigation with the exception of federal employees who have
1210 suitability determination in accordance with US CFR 731.202 and
1211 submit documentation of such as promulgated in the rules of the
1212 Commission; and

1213 (5) Complies with the rules of the Commission.

1214 SECTION 4. COMPACT PRIVILEGE TO PRACTICE

1215 (a) Member states shall recognize the privilege to practice of an
1216 individual licensed in another member state that is in conformance with
1217 section 3 of this compact.

1218 (b) To exercise the privilege to practice under the terms and
1219 provisions of this compact, an individual shall:

1220 (1) Be at least eighteen years of age;

1221 (2) Possess a current unrestricted license in a member state as an
1222 EMT, AEMT, paramedic or state-recognized and licensed level with a
1223 scope of practice and authority between EMT and paramedic; and

1224 (3) Practice under the supervision of a medical director.

1225 (c) An individual providing patient care in a remote state under the
1226 privilege to practice shall function within the scope of practice
1227 authorized by the home state unless and until modified by an
1228 appropriate authority in the remote state as may be defined in the rules
1229 of the Commission.

1230 (d) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, an individual
1231 practicing in a remote state shall be subject to the remote state's
1232 authority and laws. A remote state may, in accordance with due process
1233 and that state's laws, restrict, suspend or revoke an individual's
1234 privilege to practice in the remote state and may take any other
1235 necessary actions to protect the health and safety of its citizens. If a
1236 remote state takes action, it shall promptly notify the home state and the
1237 Commission.

1238 (e) If an individual's license in any home state is restricted or
1239 suspended, the individual shall not be eligible to practice in a remote
1240 state under the privilege to practice until the individual's home state
1241 license is restored.

1242 (f) If an individual's privilege to practice in any remote state is

1243 restricted, suspended or revoked, the individual shall not be eligible to
1244 practice in any remote state until the individual's privilege to practice is
1245 restored.

1246 SECTION 5. CONDITIONS OF PRACTICE IN A REMOTE STATE

1247 An individual may practice in a remote state under a privilege to
1248 practice only in the performance of the individual's EMS duties as
1249 assigned by an appropriate authority, as defined in the rules of the
1250 Commission, and under the following circumstances:

1251 (1) The individual originates a patient transport in a home state and
1252 transports the patient to a remote state;

1253 (2) The individual originates in the home state and enters a remote
1254 state to pick up a patient and provide care and transport of the patient
1255 to the home state;

1256 (3) The individual enters a remote state to provide patient care or
1257 transport within that remote state;

1258 (4) The individual enters a remote state to pick up a patient and
1259 provide care and transport to a third member state; or

1260 (5) Other conditions as determined by rules promulgated by the
1261 Commission.

1262 SECTION 6. RELATIONSHIP TO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
1263 ASSISTANCE COMPACT

1264 Upon a member state's Governor's declaration of a state of emergency
1265 or disaster that activates the Emergency Management Assistance
1266 Compact (EMAC), all relevant terms and provisions of EMAC shall
1267 apply and to the extent any terms or provisions of this compact conflict
1268 with EMAC, the terms of EMAC shall prevail with respect to any
1269 individual practicing in the remote state in response to such declaration.

1270 SECTION 7. VETERANS, SERVICE MEMBERS SEPARATING

1271 FROM ACTIVE-DUTY MILITARY AND THEIR SPOUSES

1272 (a) Member states shall consider a veteran, active military service
1273 member and member of the National Guard and Reserve separating
1274 from an active-duty tour, and a spouse thereof, who holds a current
1275 valid and unrestricted NREMT certification at or above the level of the
1276 state license being sought as satisfying the minimum training and
1277 examination requirements for such licensure.

1278 (b) Member states shall expedite the processing of licensure
1279 applications submitted by veterans, active military service members
1280 and members of the National Guard and Reserve separating from an
1281 active-duty tour, and their spouses.

1282 (c) All individuals functioning with a privilege to practice under this
1283 section shall remain subject to the adverse actions provisions of section
1284 8 of this compact.

1285 SECTION 8. ADVERSE ACTIONS

1286 (a) A home state shall have exclusive power to impose adverse action
1287 against an individual's license issued by the home state.

1288 (b) If an individual's license in any home state is restricted or
1289 suspended, the individual shall not be eligible to practice in a remote
1290 state under the privilege to practice until the individual's home state
1291 license is restored.

1292 (1) All home state adverse action orders shall include a statement that
1293 the individual's compact privileges are inactive. The order may allow
1294 the individual to practice in remote states with prior written
1295 authorization from both the home state and the remote state's EMS
1296 authority.

1297 (2) An individual currently subject to adverse action in the home state
1298 shall not practice in any remote state without prior written
1299 authorization from both the home state and the remote state's EMS

1300 authority.

1301 (c) A member state shall report adverse actions and any occurrences
1302 that the individual's compact privileges are restricted, suspended or
1303 revoked to the Commission in accordance with the rules of the
1304 Commission.

1305 (d) A remote state may take adverse action on an individual's
1306 privilege to practice within that state.

1307 (e) Any member state may take adverse action against an individual's
1308 privilege to practice in that state based on the factual findings of another
1309 member state, so long as each state follows its own procedures for
1310 imposing such adverse action.

1311 (f) A home state's EMS authority shall investigate and take
1312 appropriate action with respect to reported conduct in a remote state as
1313 it would if such conduct had occurred within the home state. In such
1314 cases, the home state's law shall control in determining the appropriate
1315 adverse action.

1316 (g) Nothing in this compact shall override a member state's decision
1317 that participation in an alternative program may be used in lieu of
1318 adverse action and that such participation shall remain nonpublic if
1319 required by the member state's laws. Member states shall require
1320 individuals who enter any alternative programs to agree not to practice
1321 in any other member state during the term of the alternative program
1322 without prior authorization from such other member state.

1323 SECTION 9. ADDITIONAL POWERS INVESTED IN A MEMBER
1324 STATE'S EMS AUTHORITY

1325 A member state's EMS authority, in addition to any other powers
1326 granted under state law, is authorized under this compact to:

1327 (1) Issue subpoenas for both hearings and investigations that require
1328 the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of

1329 evidence. Subpoenas issued by a member state's EMS authority for the
1330 attendance and testimony of witnesses or the production of evidence
1331 from another member state shall be enforced in the remote state by any
1332 court of competent jurisdiction according to that court's practice and
1333 procedure in considering subpoenas issued in its own proceedings. The
1334 issuing state's EMS authority shall pay any witness fees, travel expenses,
1335 mileage and other fees required by the service statutes of the state where
1336 the witnesses or evidence are located; and

1337 (2) Issue cease and desist orders to restrict, suspend or revoke an
1338 individual's privilege to practice in the state.

1339 SECTION 10. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INTERSTATE
1340 COMMISSION FOR EMS PERSONNEL PRACTICE

1341 (a) The compact states hereby create and establish a joint public
1342 agency known as the Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice.

1343 (1) The Commission is a body politic and an instrumentality of the
1344 compact states.

1345 (2) Venue is proper and judicial proceedings by or against the
1346 Commission shall be brought solely and exclusively in a court of
1347 competent jurisdiction where the principal office of the Commission is
1348 located. The Commission may waive venue and jurisdictional defenses
1349 to the extent it adopts or consents to participate in alternative dispute
1350 resolution proceedings.

1351 (3) Nothing in this compact shall be construed to be a waiver of
1352 sovereign immunity.

1353 (b) Membership, voting and meetings

1354 (1) Each member state shall have and be limited to one delegate. The
1355 responsible official of the state EMS authority, or such official's
1356 designee, shall be the delegate to this compact for each member state.
1357 Any delegate may be removed or suspended from office as provided by

1358 the law of the state from which the delegate is appointed. Any vacancy
1359 occurring in the Commission shall be filled in accordance with the laws
1360 of the member state in which the vacancy exists. In the event that more
1361 than one board, office or other agency with the legislative mandate to
1362 license EMS personnel at and above the level of EMT exists, the
1363 Governor of the state shall determine which entity will be responsible
1364 for assigning the delegate.

1365 (2) Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote with regard to the
1366 promulgation of rules and creation of bylaws and shall otherwise have
1367 an opportunity to participate in the business and affairs of the
1368 Commission. A delegate shall vote in person or by such other means as
1369 provided in the bylaws. The bylaws may provide for delegates'
1370 participation in meetings by telephone or other means of
1371 communication.

1372 (3) The Commission shall meet at least once during each calendar
1373 year. Additional meetings shall be held as set forth in the bylaws.

1374 (4) All meetings shall be open to the public, and public notice of
1375 meetings shall be given in the same manner as required under the
1376 rulemaking provisions in section 12 of this compact.

1377 (5) The Commission may convene in a closed, nonpublic meeting if
1378 the Commission intends to discuss:

1379 (A) Noncompliance of a member state with its obligations under the
1380 compact;

1381 (B) The employment, compensation, discipline or other personnel
1382 matters, practices or procedures related to specific employees or other
1383 matters related to the Commission's internal personnel practices and
1384 procedures;

1385 (C) Current, threatened or reasonably anticipated litigation;

1386 (D) Negotiation of contracts for the purchase or sale of goods, services

- 1387 or real estate;
- 1388 (E) Accusing any person of a crime or formally censuring any person;
- 1389 (F) Disclosure of trade secrets or commercial or financial information
1390 that is privileged or confidential;
- 1391 (G) Disclosure of information of a personal nature where disclosure
1392 would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- 1393 (H) Disclosure of investigatory records compiled for law enforcement
1394 purposes;
- 1395 (I) Disclosure of information related to any investigatory reports
1396 prepared by or on behalf of or for use of the Commission or other
1397 committee charged with responsibility of investigation or determination
1398 of compliance issues pursuant to the compact; or
- 1399 (J) Matters specifically exempted from disclosure by federal or
1400 member state statute.
- 1401 (6) If a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is closed pursuant to this
1402 provision, the Commission's legal counsel or designee shall certify that
1403 the meeting may be closed and shall reference each relevant exempting
1404 provision. The Commission shall keep minutes that fully and clearly
1405 describe all matters discussed in a meeting and shall provide a full and
1406 accurate summary of actions taken, and the reasons therefor, including
1407 a description of the views expressed. All documents considered in
1408 connection with an action shall be identified in such minutes. All
1409 minutes and documents of a closed meeting shall remain under seal,
1410 subject to release by a majority vote of the Commission or order of a
1411 court of competent jurisdiction.
- 1412 (c) (1) The Commission shall, by a majority vote of the delegates,
1413 prescribe bylaws or rules to govern its conduct as may be necessary or
1414 appropriate to carry out the purposes and exercise the powers of the
1415 compact, including, but not limited to:

- 1416 (A) Establishing the fiscal year of the Commission;
- 1417 (B) Providing reasonable standards and procedures (i) for the
1418 establishment and meetings of other committees, and (ii) governing any
1419 general or specific delegation of any authority or function of the
1420 Commission;
- 1421 (C) Providing reasonable procedures for calling and conducting
1422 meetings of the Commission, ensuring reasonable advance notice of all
1423 meetings and providing an opportunity for attendance of such meetings
1424 by interested parties, with enumerated exceptions designed to protect
1425 the public's interest, the privacy of individuals and proprietary
1426 information, including trade secrets. The Commission may meet in
1427 closed session only after a majority of the membership votes to close a
1428 meeting in whole or in part. As soon as practicable, the Commission
1429 shall make public a copy of the vote to close the meeting revealing the
1430 vote of each member with no proxy votes allowed;
- 1431 (D) Establishing the titles, duties and authority and reasonable
1432 procedures for the election of the officers of the Commission;
- 1433 (E) Providing reasonable standards and procedures for the
1434 establishment of the personnel policies and programs of the
1435 Commission. Notwithstanding any civil service or other similar laws of
1436 any member state, the bylaws shall exclusively govern the personnel
1437 policies and programs of the Commission;
- 1438 (F) Promulgating a code of ethics to address permissible and
1439 prohibited activities of Commission members and employees; and
- 1440 (G) Providing a mechanism for winding up the operations of the
1441 Commission and the equitable disposition of any surplus funds that
1442 may exist after the termination of the compact and after the payment or
1443 reserving of all of its debts and obligations.
- 1444 (2) The Commission shall publish its bylaws and file a copy thereof,
1445 and a copy of any amendment thereto, with the appropriate agency or

1446 officer in each of the member states, if any.

1447 (3) The Commission shall maintain its financial records in accordance
1448 with the bylaws.

1449 (4) The Commission shall meet and take such actions as are consistent
1450 with the provisions of this Compact and the bylaws.

1451 (d) The Commission shall have the following powers:

1452 (1) The authority to promulgate uniform rules to facilitate and
1453 coordinate implementation and administration of this compact. The
1454 rules shall have the force and effect of law and shall be binding in all
1455 member states;

1456 (2) To bring and prosecute legal proceedings or actions in the name
1457 of the Commission, provided the standing of any state EMS authority or
1458 other regulatory body responsible for EMS personnel licensure to sue or
1459 be sued under applicable law shall not be affected;

1460 (3) To purchase and maintain insurance and bonds;

1461 (4) To borrow, accept or contract for services of personnel, including,
1462 but not limited to, employees of a member state;

1463 (5) To hire employees, elect or appoint officers, fix compensation,
1464 define duties and grant such individuals appropriate authority to carry
1465 out the purposes of the compact and to establish the Commission's
1466 personnel policies and programs relating to conflicts of interest,
1467 qualifications of personnel and other related personnel matters;

1468 (6) To accept any and all appropriate donations and grants of money,
1469 equipment, supplies, materials and services and to receive, utilize and
1470 dispose of the same, provided at all times the Commission shall strive
1471 to avoid any appearance of impropriety or conflict of interest;

1472 (7) To lease, purchase, accept appropriate gifts or donations of or
1473 otherwise to own, hold, improve or use any property, real, personal or

1474 mixed, provided at all times the Commission shall strive to avoid any
1475 appearance of impropriety;

1476 (8) To sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon or
1477 otherwise dispose of any property, real, personal or mixed;

1478 (9) To establish a budget and make expenditures;

1479 (10) To borrow money;

1480 (11) To appoint committees, including advisory committees,
1481 comprised of members, state regulators, state legislators or their
1482 representatives and consumer representatives, and such other
1483 interested persons as may be designated in this compact and the bylaws;

1484 (12) To provide and receive information from, and to cooperate with,
1485 law enforcement agencies;

1486 (13) To adopt and use an official seal; and

1487 (14) To perform such other functions as may be necessary or
1488 appropriate to achieve the purposes of this compact consistent with the
1489 state regulation of EMS personnel licensure and practice.

1490 (e) Financing of the Commission

1491 (1) The Commission shall pay, or provide for the payment of, the
1492 reasonable expenses of its establishment, organization and ongoing
1493 activities.

1494 (2) The Commission may accept any and all appropriate revenue
1495 sources, donations and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials
1496 and services.

1497 (3) The Commission may levy on and collect an annual assessment
1498 from each member state or impose fees on other parties to cover the cost
1499 of the operations and activities of the Commission and its staff, which
1500 shall be in a total amount sufficient to cover its annual budget as

1501 approved each year for which revenue is not provided by other sources.
1502 The aggregate annual assessment amount shall be allocated based upon
1503 a formula to be determined by the Commission, which shall promulgate
1504 a rule binding upon all member states.

1505 (4) The Commission shall not incur obligations of any kind prior to
1506 securing the funds adequate to meet the same, nor shall the Commission
1507 pledge the credit of any of the member states, except by and with the
1508 authority of the member state.

1509 (5) The Commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and
1510 disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the Commission shall
1511 be subject to the audit and accounting procedures established under its
1512 bylaws. However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by
1513 the Commission shall be audited yearly by a certified or licensed public
1514 accountant and the report of the audit shall be included in and become
1515 part of the annual report of the Commission.

1516 (f) Qualified immunity, defense and indemnification

1517 (1) The members, officers, executive director, employees and
1518 representatives of the Commission shall be immune from suit and
1519 liability, either personally or in their official capacity, for any claim for
1520 damage to or loss of property or personal injury or other civil liability
1521 caused by or arising out of any actual or alleged act, error or omission
1522 that occurred, or that the person against whom the claim is made had a
1523 reasonable basis for believing occurred, within the scope of Commission
1524 employment, duties or responsibilities, provided nothing in this
1525 subdivision shall be construed to protect any such person from suit or
1526 liability for any damage, loss, injury or liability caused by the intentional
1527 or wilful or wanton misconduct of that person.

1528 (2) The Commission shall defend any member, officer, executive
1529 director, employee or representative of the Commission in any civil
1530 action seeking to impose liability arising out of any actual or alleged act,
1531 error or omission that occurred within the scope of Commission

1532 employment, duties or responsibilities, or that the person against whom
1533 the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within
1534 the scope of Commission employment, duties or responsibilities,
1535 provided nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit that person from
1536 retaining his or her own counsel, and, provided further, the actual or
1537 alleged act, error or omission did not result from that person's
1538 intentional or wilful or wanton misconduct.

1539 (3) The Commission shall indemnify and hold harmless any member,
1540 officer, executive director, employee or representative of the
1541 Commission for the amount of any settlement or judgment obtained
1542 against that person arising out of any actual or alleged act, error or
1543 omission that occurred within the scope of Commission employment,
1544 duties or responsibilities, or that such person had a reasonable basis for
1545 believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties
1546 or responsibilities, provided the actual or alleged act, error or omission
1547 did not result from the intentional or wilful or wanton misconduct of
1548 that person.

1549 SECTION 11. COORDINATED DATABASE

1550 (a) The Commission shall provide for the development and
1551 maintenance of a coordinated database and reporting system containing
1552 licensure, adverse action and significant investigatory information on
1553 all licensed individuals in member states.

1554 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of state law to the contrary,
1555 a member state shall submit a uniform data set to the coordinated
1556 database on all individuals to whom this compact is applicable as
1557 required by the rules of the Commission, including:

1558 (1) Identifying information;

1559 (2) Licensure data;

1560 (3) Significant investigatory information;

- 1561 (4) Adverse actions against an individual's license;
- 1562 (5) An indicator that an individual's privilege to practice is restricted,
1563 suspended or revoked;
- 1564 (6) Nonconfidential information related to alternative program
1565 participation;
- 1566 (7) Any denial of application for licensure and the reason or reasons
1567 for such denial; and
- 1568 (8) Other information that may facilitate the administration of this
1569 compact, as determined by the rules of the Commission.
- 1570 (c) The coordinated database administrator shall promptly notify all
1571 member states of any adverse action taken against, or significant
1572 investigative information on, any individual in a member state.
- 1573 (d) Member states contributing information to the coordinated
1574 database may designate information that shall not be shared with the
1575 public without the express permission of the contributing state.
- 1576 (e) Any information submitted to the coordinated database that is
1577 subsequently required to be expunged by the laws of the member state
1578 contributing the information shall be removed from the coordinated
1579 database.

1580 SECTION 12. RULEMAKING

- 1581 (a) The Commission shall exercise its rulemaking powers pursuant to
1582 the criteria set forth in this section and the rules adopted thereunder.
1583 Rules and amendments shall become binding as of the date specified in
1584 each rule or amendment.
- 1585 (b) If a majority of the legislatures of the member states rejects a rule,
1586 by enactment of a statute or resolution in the same manner used to adopt
1587 the compact, such rule shall have no further force and effect in any
1588 member state.

1589 (c) Rules or amendments to the rules shall be adopted at a regular or
1590 special meeting of the Commission.

1591 (d) Prior to promulgation and adoption of a final rule or rules by the
1592 Commission, and at least sixty days in advance of the meeting at which
1593 the rule will be considered and voted upon, the Commission shall file a
1594 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking:

1595 (1) On the Internet web site of the Commission; and

1596 (2) On the Internet web site of each member state's EMS authority or
1597 in the publication in which each state would otherwise publish
1598 proposed rules.

1599 (e) The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking shall include:

1600 (1) The proposed time, date and location of the meeting in which the
1601 rule will be considered and voted upon;

1602 (2) The text of the proposed rule or amendment and the reason for
1603 the proposed rule;

1604 (3) A request for comments on the proposed rule from any interested
1605 person; and

1606 (4) The manner in which interested persons may submit notice to the
1607 Commission of their intention to attend the public hearing and any
1608 written comments.

1609 (f) Prior to adoption of a proposed rule, the Commission shall allow
1610 persons to submit written data, facts, opinions and arguments, which
1611 shall be made available to the public.

1612 (g) The Commission shall grant an opportunity for a public hearing
1613 before it adopts a rule or amendment if a hearing is requested by:

1614 (1) At least twenty-five persons;

1615 (2) A governmental subdivision or agency; or

1616 (3) An association having at least twenty-five members.

1617 (h) If a hearing is held on the proposed rule or amendment, the
1618 Commission shall publish the place, time and date of the scheduled
1619 public hearing.

1620 (1) All persons wishing to be heard at the hearing shall notify the
1621 executive director of the Commission or other designated member in
1622 writing of their desire to appear and testify at the hearing not less than
1623 five business days before the scheduled date of the hearing.

1624 (2) Hearings shall be conducted in a manner providing each person
1625 who wishes to comment a fair and reasonable opportunity to comment
1626 orally or in writing.

1627 (3) No transcript of the hearing is required, unless a written request
1628 for a transcript is made, in which case the person requesting the
1629 transcript shall bear the cost of producing the transcript. A recording
1630 may be made in lieu of a transcript under the same terms and conditions
1631 as a transcript. This subdivision shall not preclude the Commission from
1632 making a transcript or recording of the hearing if it so chooses.

1633 (4) Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring a separate
1634 hearing on each rule. Rules may be grouped for the convenience of the
1635 Commission at hearings required by this section.

1636 (i) Following the scheduled hearing date, or by the close of business
1637 on the scheduled hearing date if the hearing was not held, the
1638 Commission shall consider all written and oral comments received.

1639 (j) The Commission shall, by majority vote of all members, take final
1640 action on the proposed rule and shall determine the effective date of the
1641 rule, if any, based on the rulemaking record and the full text of the rule.

1642 (k) If no written notice of intent to attend the public hearing by
1643 interested parties is received, the Commission may proceed with

1644 promulgation of the proposed rule without a public hearing.

1645 (l) Upon determination that an emergency exists, the Commission
1646 may consider and adopt an emergency rule without prior notice,
1647 opportunity for comment or hearing, provided the usual rulemaking
1648 procedures provided in the compact and in this section shall be
1649 retroactively applied to the rule as soon as reasonably possible, in no
1650 event later than ninety days after the effective date of the rule. For the
1651 purposes of this provision, an emergency rule is one that must be
1652 adopted immediately in order to:

1653 (1) Meet an imminent threat to public health, safety or welfare;

1654 (2) Prevent a loss of Commission or member state funds;

1655 (3) Meet a deadline for the promulgation of an administrative rule
1656 that is established by federal law or rule; or

1657 (4) Protect public health and safety.

1658 (m) The Commission or an authorized committee of the Commission
1659 may direct revisions to a previously adopted rule or amendment for
1660 purposes of correcting typographical errors, errors in format, errors in
1661 consistency or grammatical errors. Public notice of any revisions shall
1662 be posted on the Internet web site of the Commission. The revision shall
1663 be subject to challenge by any person for a period of thirty days after
1664 posting. The revision may be challenged only on grounds that the
1665 revision results in a material change to a rule. A challenge shall be made
1666 in writing and delivered to the chair of the Commission prior to the end
1667 of the notice period. If no challenge is made, the revision will take effect
1668 without further action. If the revision is challenged, the revision shall
1669 not take effect without the approval of the Commission.

1670 SECTION 13. OVERSIGHT, DISPUTE RESOLUTION AND
1671 ENFORCEMENT

1672 (a) Oversight

1673 (1) The executive, legislative and judicial branches of state
1674 government in each member state shall enforce this compact and take
1675 all actions necessary and appropriate to effectuate the compact's
1676 purposes and intent. The provisions of this compact and the rules
1677 promulgated hereunder shall have standing as statutory law.

1678 (2) All courts shall take judicial notice of the compact and the rules in
1679 any judicial or administrative proceeding in a member state pertaining
1680 to the subject matter of this compact that may affect the powers,
1681 responsibilities or actions of the Commission.

1682 (3) The Commission shall be entitled to receive service of process in
1683 any such proceeding and shall have standing to intervene in such a
1684 proceeding for all purposes. Failure to provide service of process to the
1685 Commission shall render a judgment or order void as to the
1686 Commission, this compact or promulgated rules.

1687 (b) Default, technical assistance and termination

1688 (1) If the Commission determines that a member state has defaulted
1689 in the performance of its obligations or responsibilities under this
1690 compact or the promulgated rules, the Commission shall:

1691 (A) Provide written notice to the defaulting state and other member
1692 states of the nature of the default, the proposed means of curing the
1693 default and any other action to be taken by the Commission; and

1694 (B) Provide remedial training and specific technical assistance
1695 regarding the default.

1696 (2) If a state in default fails to cure the default, the defaulting state
1697 may be terminated from the compact upon an affirmative vote of a
1698 majority of the member states, and all rights, privileges and benefits
1699 conferred by this compact may be terminated on the effective date of
1700 termination. A cure of the default does not relieve the offending state of
1701 obligations or liabilities incurred during the period of default.

1702 (3) Termination of membership in the compact shall be imposed only
1703 after all other means of securing compliance have been exhausted.
1704 Notice of intent to suspend or terminate shall be given by the
1705 Commission to the Governor and the majority and minority leaders of
1706 the defaulting state's legislature, and each of the member states.

1707 (4) A state that has been terminated is responsible for all assessments,
1708 obligations and liabilities incurred through the effective date of
1709 termination, including obligations that extend beyond the effective date
1710 of termination.

1711 (5) The Commission shall not bear any costs related to a state that is
1712 found to be in default or that has been terminated from the compact,
1713 unless agreed upon in writing between the Commission and the
1714 defaulting state.

1715 (6) The defaulting state may appeal the action of the Commission by
1716 petitioning the United States District Court for the District of Columbia
1717 or the federal district where the Commission has its principal offices.
1718 The prevailing member shall be awarded all costs of such litigation,
1719 including reasonable attorney's fees.

1720 (c) Dispute resolution

1721 (1) Upon request by a member state, the Commission shall attempt to
1722 resolve disputes related to the compact that arise among member states
1723 and between member and nonmember states.

1724 (2) The Commission shall promulgate a rule providing for both
1725 mediation and binding dispute resolution for disputes as appropriate.

1726 (d) Enforcement

1727 (1) The Commission, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion, shall
1728 enforce the provisions and rules of this compact.

1729 (2) By majority vote, the Commission may initiate legal action in the
1730 United States District Court for the District of Columbia or the federal

1731 district where the Commission has its principal offices against a member
1732 state in default to enforce compliance with the provisions of the compact
1733 and its promulgated rules and bylaws. The relief sought may include
1734 both injunctive relief and damages. In the event judicial enforcement is
1735 necessary, the prevailing member shall be awarded all costs of such
1736 litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.

1737 (3) The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive remedies of the
1738 Commission. The Commission may pursue any other remedies
1739 available under federal or state law.

1740 SECTION 14. DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERSTATE
1741 COMMISSION FOR EMS PERSONNEL PRACTICE AND
1742 ASSOCIATED RULES, WITHDRAWAL AND AMENDMENT

1743 (a) The compact shall come into effect on the date on which the
1744 compact statute is enacted into law in the tenth member state. The
1745 provisions, which become effective at that time, shall be limited to the
1746 powers granted to the Commission relating to assembly and the
1747 promulgation of rules. Thereafter, the Commission shall meet and
1748 exercise rulemaking powers necessary to the implementation and
1749 administration of the compact.

1750 (b) Any state that joins the compact subsequent to the Commission's
1751 initial adoption of the rules shall be subject to the rules as they exist on
1752 the date on which the compact becomes law in that state. Any rule that
1753 has been previously adopted by the Commission shall have the full force
1754 and effect of law on the day the compact becomes law in that state.

1755 (c) Any member state may withdraw from this compact by enacting
1756 a statute repealing the same.

1757 (1) A member state's withdrawal shall not take effect until six months
1758 after enactment of the repealing statute.

1759 (2) Withdrawal shall not affect the continuing requirement of the
1760 withdrawing state's EMS authority to comply with the investigative and

1761 adverse action reporting requirements of this act prior to the effective
1762 date of withdrawal.

1763 (d) Nothing contained in this compact shall be construed to
1764 invalidate or prevent any EMS personnel licensure agreement or other
1765 cooperative arrangement between a member state and a nonmember
1766 state that does not conflict with the provisions of this compact.

1767 (e) This compact may be amended by the member states. No
1768 amendment to this compact shall become effective and binding upon
1769 any member state until it is enacted into the laws of all member states.

1770 SECTION 15. CONSTRUCTION AND SEVERABILITY

1771 This compact shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the
1772 purposes thereof. If this compact shall be held contrary to the
1773 constitution of any state member thereto, the compact shall remain in
1774 full force and effect as to the remaining member states. Nothing in this
1775 compact supersedes state law or rules related to licensure of EMS
1776 agencies.

1777 Sec. 29. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) On and after one year after
1778 the date on which the Recognition of Emergency Medical Services
1779 Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact is enacted in at least one of the
1780 states of Massachusetts, New York or Rhode Island, in accordance with
1781 the provisions of section 28 of this act, the Commissioner of Public
1782 Health shall require any applicant for licensure or certification pursuant
1783 to the provisions of chapter 384d of the general statutes to submit to
1784 criminal history records checks, including state and national criminal
1785 history records checks, in accordance with the provisions of section 29-
1786 17a of the general statutes as a condition of licensure or certification.

1787 Sec. 30. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) Not later than five years after
1788 the date on which the provisions of section 28 of this act are
1789 implemented, the Commissioner of Public Health, in consultation with
1790 the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, shall submit a
1791 report on such implementation, in accordance with the provisions of

1792 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of
1793 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public
1794 health. Such report shall include an assessment on the impact of the
1795 implementation of such provisions on the state's emergency medical
1796 services workforce and patients' access to medical care and make
1797 recommendations to further support emergency medical services
1798 workforce development.

1799 Sec. 31. Subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 19a-37 of the 2026
1800 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
1801 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1802 (c) (1) Any laboratory or firm which conducts a water quality test on
1803 a private well serving a residential property or semipublic well in the
1804 state shall, not later than thirty days after the completion of such test,
1805 report the results of such test to the local health authority of the
1806 municipality where the property is located and the Department of
1807 Public Health in a format specified by the department. Results
1808 submitted to the Department of Public Health or the local health
1809 authority pursuant to this subsection, information obtained from any
1810 Department of Public Health or local health authority investigation
1811 regarding those results and any Department of Public Health or local
1812 health authority study of morbidity and mortality regarding the results
1813 shall be confidential pursuant to section 19a-25, except the local health
1814 authority and the department may [if approved by the commissioner,]
1815 disclose the results or information obtained from an investigation of the
1816 results to (A) the owner of the property on which the well is located, the
1817 owner of any other property that obtains water from the well, and the
1818 owner of each property that is adjacent to the property on which the
1819 well is located or to any other property that obtains water from the well,
1820 (B) a prospective buyer of such property who has signed a contract to
1821 purchase such property, (C) other persons or entities, when such
1822 disclosure is necessary to carry out a statutory or regulatory
1823 responsibility of the local health authority or department, [or] and (D)
1824 an agent of a state agency.

1825 Sec. 32. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) Not later than January 1,
1826 2027, (1) the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland
1827 Security within the Department of Emergency Services and Public
1828 Protection, in consultation with the Departments of Housing, Social
1829 Services and Mental Health and Addiction Services, the 2-1-1 Infoline
1830 operated by the United Way of Connecticut, and the Connecticut
1831 Coalition to End Homelessness, shall develop guidance, in consultation
1832 with the Office of the Governor, the Office of Policy and Management
1833 and municipal leaders, regarding (A) extreme hot and cold weather
1834 protocols that may include, but need not limited to, weather factors,
1835 such as temperatures and wind chill, that will prompt the state and
1836 municipalities to open cooling centers and warming centers throughout
1837 the state, and (B) improvements to methods of communicating to the
1838 public during the activation of extreme hot and cold weather protocols,
1839 and (2) the Department of Housing, in consultation with the
1840 Departments of Social Services and Mental Health and Addiction
1841 Services, shall develop methods of improving outreach to unhoused
1842 individuals during extreme hot and cold weather events based on an
1843 evaluation conducted by the Department of Housing in conjunction
1844 with providers of services to such individuals.

1845 Sec. 33. Section 20-112a of the general statutes is repealed and the
1846 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1847 (a) As used in this section:

1848 (1) "Direct supervision" means a licensed dentist has authorized
1849 certain procedures to be performed on a patient by a dental assistant or
1850 an expanded function dental assistant with such dentist remaining on-
1851 site in the dental office or treatment facility while such procedures are
1852 being performed by the dental assistant or expanded function dental
1853 assistant and that, prior to the patient's departure from the dental office,
1854 such dentist reviews and approves the treatment performed by the
1855 dental assistant or expanded function dental assistant;

1856 (2) "Indirect supervision" means a licensed dentist is in the dental

1857 office or treatment facility, has personally diagnosed the condition,
1858 planned the treatment, authorized the procedures to be performed and
1859 remains in the dental office or treatment facility while the procedures
1860 are being performed by the dental assistant or expanded function dental
1861 assistant and evaluates the performance of the dental assistant or
1862 expanded function dental assistant;

1863 (3) "Dental assistant" means a person who: (A) Has (i) completed on-
1864 the-job training in dental assisting under direct supervision, (ii)
1865 successfully completed a dental assistant education program accredited
1866 by the American Dental Association's Commission on Dental
1867 Accreditation, or (iii) successfully completed a dental assistant
1868 education program that is accredited or recognized by any national or
1869 regional accrediting agency recognized by the United States
1870 Department of Education; and (B) meets any requirements established
1871 by the Commissioner of Public Health in regulations adopted pursuant
1872 to subsection (f) of this section;

1873 (4) "Expanded function dental assistant" means a dental assistant
1874 who has passed the Dental Assisting National Board's certified dental
1875 assistant or certified orthodontic assistant examination and then
1876 successfully completed: (A) An expanded function dental assistant
1877 program at an institution of higher education that is accredited by the
1878 Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental
1879 Association that includes (i) educational courses relating to didactic and
1880 laboratory preclinical objectives for skills used by an expanded function
1881 dental assistant and that requires demonstration of such skills prior to
1882 advancing to clinical practice, (ii) not less than four hours of education
1883 in the area of ethics and professional standards for dental professionals,
1884 and (iii) a comprehensive clinical examination administered by the
1885 institution of higher education at the conclusion of such program; and
1886 (B) a comprehensive written examination concerning certified
1887 preventive functions and certified restorative functions administered by
1888 the Dental Assisting National Board; and

1889 (5) "Fluoride varnish treatment" means the application of a highly

1890 concentrated form of fluoride to the surface of the teeth.

1891 (b) Each expanded function dental assistant shall: (1) Maintain dental
1892 assistant or orthodontic assistant certification from the Dental Assisting
1893 National Board; (2) conspicuously display his or her dental assistant or
1894 orthodontic assistant certificate at his or her place of employment or
1895 place where he or she provides expanded function dental assistant
1896 services; (3) maintain professional liability insurance or other indemnity
1897 against liability for professional malpractice in an amount not less than
1898 five hundred thousand dollars for one person, per occurrence, with an
1899 aggregate liability of not less than one million five hundred thousand
1900 dollars while employed as an expanded function dental assistant; (4)
1901 provide expanded function dental assistant services only under direct
1902 or indirect supervision; and (5) meet any requirements established by
1903 the Commissioner of Public Health in regulations adopted pursuant to
1904 subsection (f) of this section.

1905 (c) (1) A licensed dentist may delegate to a dental [assistants] assistant
1906 such dental procedures as the dentist may deem advisable, including:
1907 (A) The taking of dental x-rays if the dental assistant can demonstrate
1908 successful completion of the dental radiation health and safety
1909 examination administered by the Dental Assisting National Board or a
1910 radiation health and safety competency assessment administered by a
1911 dental education program in the state that is accredited by the American
1912 Dental Association's Commission on Dental Accreditation; (B) the
1913 taking of impressions of teeth for study models; and (C) the provision
1914 of fluoride varnish treatments. [Such procedures] A dentist delegating
1915 the taking of dental x-rays pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this
1916 subdivision shall approve the taking of dental x-rays by the dental
1917 assistant and assume responsibility for such procedure, but need not
1918 remain on-site in the dental office or treatment facility while the dental
1919 assistant performs such procedure. The procedures described in
1920 subparagraphs (B) and (C) of this subdivision shall be performed under
1921 the direct supervision of a licensed dentist and the dentist providing
1922 direct supervision shall assume responsibility for such procedures.

1923 (2) A licensed dentist may delegate to an expanded function dental
1924 assistant such dental procedures as the dentist may deem advisable,
1925 including: (A) The placing, finishing and adjustment of temporary
1926 restorations and long-term individual fillings, capping materials and
1927 cement bases; (B) oral health education for patients; (C) dental sealants;
1928 (D) coronal polishing, provided the procedure is not represented or
1929 billed as prophylaxis; (E) administration of topical anesthetic under the
1930 direct supervision of the dentist prior to the administration of local
1931 anesthetic by a dentist or dental hygienist; and (F) taking alginate
1932 impressions of teeth, under the direct supervision of the dentist, for use
1933 in study models, orthodontic appliances, whitening trays, mouth
1934 guards or fabrication of temporary crowns. Such procedures shall be
1935 performed under either direct or indirect supervision, except as
1936 specifically provided in this subdivision, and the dentist providing such
1937 supervision shall assume responsibility for such procedures.

1938 (3) (A) No licensed dentist may delegate dental procedures to a dental
1939 assistant or expanded function dental assistant unless the dental
1940 assistant or expanded function dental assistant provides records
1941 demonstrating successful completion of the Dental Assisting National
1942 Board's infection control examination or an infection control
1943 competency assessment administered by a dental education program in
1944 the state that is accredited by the American Dental Association's
1945 Commission on Dental Accreditation, except as provided in subdivision
1946 (2) of this subsection, (B) a dental assistant may receive not more than
1947 fifteen months of on-the-job training by a licensed dentist for purposes
1948 of preparing the dental assistant for the infection control examination or
1949 infection control competency assessment, and (C) any licensed dentist
1950 who delegates dental procedures to a dental assistant shall retain and
1951 make such records available for inspection upon request of the
1952 Department of Public Health.

1953 (4) On and after January 1, 2018, upon successful completion of the
1954 Dental Assisting National Board's infection control examination or an
1955 infection control competency assessment administered by a dental

1956 education program in the state that is accredited by the American Dental
1957 Association's Commission on Dental Accreditation, each dental
1958 assistant or expanded function dental assistant shall complete not less
1959 than one hour of training or education in infection control in a dental
1960 setting every two years, including, but not limited to, courses, including
1961 online courses, offered or approved by a dental school or another
1962 institution of higher education that is accredited or recognized by the
1963 Commission on Dental Accreditation, a regional accrediting
1964 organization, the American Dental Association or a state, district or local
1965 dental association or society affiliated with the American Dental
1966 Association or the American Dental Assistants Association.

1967 (d) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, under no
1968 circumstances may a dental assistant or expanded function dental
1969 assistant engage in: (1) Diagnosis for dental procedures or dental
1970 treatment; (2) the cutting or removal of any hard or soft tissue or
1971 suturing; (3) the prescribing of drugs or medications that require the
1972 written or oral order of a licensed dentist or physician; (4) the
1973 administration of local, parenteral, inhalation or general anesthetic
1974 agents in connection with any dental operative procedure; (5) the taking
1975 of any final impression of the teeth or jaws or the relationship of the
1976 teeth or jaws for the purpose of fabricating any appliance or prosthesis;
1977 or (6) the practice of dental hygiene as defined in section 20-126l.

1978 (e) Each licensed dentist employing or otherwise engaging the
1979 services of an expanded function dental assistant shall: (1) Prior to hiring
1980 or otherwise engaging the services of the expanded function dental
1981 assistant, verify that the expanded function dental assistant meets the
1982 requirements described in subdivision (4) of subsection (a) and
1983 subdivisions (1) and (3) of subsection (b) of this section; (2) maintain
1984 documentation verifying that the expanded function dental assistant
1985 meets such requirements on the premises where the expanded function
1986 dental assistant provides services; (3) make such documentation
1987 available to the Department of Public Health upon request; and (4)
1988 provide direct or indirect supervision to not more than two expanded

1989 function dental assistants who are providing services at one time or, if
1990 the dentist's practice is limited to orthodontics, provide direct or indirect
1991 supervision to not more than four expanded function dental assistants
1992 who are providing services at one time.

1993 (f) The Commissioner of Public Health, in consultation with the State
1994 Dental Commission, established pursuant to section 20-103a, may adopt
1995 regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 to
1996 implement the provisions of this section. Such regulations, if adopted,
1997 shall include, but need not be limited to, identification of the: (1) Specific
1998 types of procedures that may be performed by a dental assistant and an
1999 expanded function dental assistant, consistent with the provisions of
2000 this section; (2) appropriate number of didactic, preclinical and clinical
2001 hours or number of procedures to be evaluated for clinical competency
2002 for each skill employed by an expanded function dental assistant; and
2003 (3) the level of supervision, that may include direct or indirect
2004 supervision, that is required for each procedure to be performed by an
2005 expanded function dental assistant.

2006 Sec. 34. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) As used in this section,
2007 "cosmetic injection" means a nonsurgical procedure involving the
2008 injection of a substance, including, but not limited to, botulinum toxin
2009 or dermal filler, to alter or enhance a person's physical appearance.

2010 (b) A dentist licensed pursuant to chapter 379 of the general statutes
2011 who (1) has successfully completed an in-person hands-on training in
2012 the administration of cosmetic injections administered by a continuing
2013 education provider or program approved by the Commissioner of
2014 Public Health or accredited by a national professional accrediting body,
2015 and (2) maintains professional liability insurance that covers cosmetic
2016 injection procedures, may administer a cosmetic injection to a patient's
2017 face.

2018 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize a dentist to
2019 administer injections into the tear trough, infraorbital hollow, eyelids,
2020 medial canthal region or other orbit-adjacent soft tissue for the purpose

2021 of periocular volumization or under-eye hollow correction, or into the
2022 forehead, glabella or eyebrows for the purpose of improved cosmesis.
2023 Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit a dentist from
2024 administering (1) a neuromodulator to the lateral canthal region,
2025 including for the treatment of lateral canthal rhytids; (2) an injection for
2026 the management of orofacial pain, temporomandibular disorders or
2027 other oromandibular conditions; or (3) dermal filler to the malar,
2028 zygomatic or midface region when the primary intended treatment site
2029 is the cheek or midface and the injection site remains inferior to the
2030 infraorbital rim.

2031 (d) A dentist shall not delegate the administration of cosmetic
2032 injections to any dental hygienist, dental assistant or other auxiliary
2033 personnel.

2034 (e) The Commissioner of Public Health may adopt regulations, in
2035 accordance with chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement the
2036 provisions of this section, including, but not limited to, minimum
2037 training standards, approved training courses and patient safety
2038 requirements.

2039 Sec. 35. Subsection (a) of section 20-123 of the general statutes is
2040 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
2041 *1, 2026*):

2042 (a) No person shall engage in the practice of dentistry unless he or
2043 she is licensed pursuant to the provisions of this chapter. The practice of
2044 dentistry or dental medicine is defined as the diagnosis, evaluation,
2045 prevention or treatment by surgical or other means, of an injury,
2046 deformity, disease or condition of the oral cavity or its contents, or the
2047 jaws or the associated structures of the jaws. The practice of dentistry
2048 does not include: (1) The treatment of dermatologic diseases or
2049 disorders of the skin or face; (2) the performance of microvascular free
2050 tissue transfer; (3) the treatment of diseases or disorders of the eye; (4)
2051 ocular procedures; (5) the performance of cosmetic surgery or other
2052 cosmetic procedures other than (A) those related to the oral cavity, its

2053 contents, or the jaws, or (B) the administration of a cosmetic injection
2054 pursuant to section 34 of this act; or (6) nasal or sinus surgery, other than
2055 that related to the oral cavity, its contents or the jaws.

2056 Sec. 36. Subsection (b) of section 20-126c of the general statutes is
2057 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
2058 *2026*):

2059 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a licensee applying
2060 for license renewal shall earn a minimum of twenty-five contact hours
2061 of continuing education within the preceding twenty-four-month
2062 period. Such continuing education shall (1) be in an area of the licensee's
2063 practice; (2) reflect the professional needs of the licensee in order to meet
2064 the health care needs of the public; and (3) include not less than one
2065 contact hour of training or education in (A) any three of the [ten] twelve
2066 mandatory topics for continuing education activities prescribed by the
2067 commissioner pursuant to this subdivision, (B) [for registration periods
2068 beginning on and after October 1, 2016,] infection control in a dental
2069 setting, and (C) prescribing controlled substances and pain
2070 management. [For registration periods beginning on and after October
2071 1, 2011, the] The Commissioner of Public Health, in consultation with
2072 the Dental Commission, shall on or before October 1, 2010, and
2073 biennially thereafter until October 1, 2026, issue a list that includes ten
2074 mandatory topics for continuing education activities that will be
2075 required for the following two-year registration period. For registration
2076 periods beginning on and after October 1, 2026, the commissioner, in
2077 consultation with said commission, shall on or before October 1, 2026,
2078 and biennially thereafter, issue a list that includes twelve mandatory
2079 topics, including, but not limited to, the provision of dental care to
2080 persons with an intellectual or developmental disability and identifying
2081 victims of human trafficking, that will be required for the following two-
2082 year registration period. Qualifying continuing education activities
2083 include, but are not limited to, courses, including on-line courses,
2084 offered or approved by the American Dental Association or state,
2085 district or local dental associations and societies affiliated with the

2086 American Dental Association; national, state, district or local dental
 2087 specialty organizations or the American Academy of General Dentistry;
 2088 a hospital or other health care institution; dental schools and other
 2089 schools of higher education accredited or recognized by the Council on
 2090 Dental Accreditation or a regional accrediting organization; agencies or
 2091 businesses whose programs are accredited or recognized by the Council
 2092 on Dental Accreditation; local, state or national medical associations; a
 2093 state or local health department; or the Accreditation Council for
 2094 Graduate Medical Education. Eight hours of volunteer dental practice
 2095 at a public health facility, as defined in section 20-126l, or a temporary
 2096 dental clinic may be substituted for one contact hour of continuing
 2097 education, up to a maximum of ten contact hours in one twenty-four-
 2098 month period.

2099 Sec. 37. Sections 17a-227d and 17a-476a of the general statutes are
 2100 repealed. (*Effective October 1, 2026*)"

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | 19a-490(a) |
| Sec. 2 | <i>July 1, 2026</i> | New section |
| Sec. 3 | <i>July 1, 2026</i> | New section |
| Sec. 4 | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | New section |
| Sec. 5 | <i>from passage</i> | 17b-338(a) |
| Sec. 6 | <i>from passage</i> | 19a-127l(d) |
| Sec. 7 | <i>from passage</i> | 19a-515(b) |
| Sec. 8 | <i>from passage</i> | 22a-430(g) |
| Sec. 9 | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | 20-200 |
| Sec. 10 | <i>from passage</i> | New section |
| Sec. 11 | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | 19a-127k(j) |
| Sec. 12 | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | New section |
| Sec. 13 | <i>from passage</i> | New section |
| Sec. 14 | <i>July 1, 2026</i> | New section |
| Sec. 15 | <i>July 1, 2026</i> | 10-206 |
| Sec. 16 | <i>July 1, 2026</i> | 10-206a |
| Sec. 17 | <i>July 1, 2026</i> | 19a-62a |
| Sec. 18 | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | New section |

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| Sec. 19 | <i>from passage</i> | New section |
| Sec. 20 | <i>from passage</i> | New section |
| Sec. 21 | <i>July 1, 2027</i> | New section |
| Sec. 22 | <i>from passage</i> | 17b-59d(b) |
| Sec. 23 | <i>October 1, 2027</i> | 20-102aa |
| Sec. 24 | <i>October 1, 2027</i> | 20-102cc(a) |
| Sec. 25 | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | 19a-17(i) |
| Sec. 26 | <i>from passage</i> | 31-57e(f) |
| Sec. 27 | <i>October 1, 2027</i> | 20-102ee(a) |
| Sec. 28 | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | New section |
| Sec. 29 | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | New section |
| Sec. 30 | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | New section |
| Sec. 31 | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | 19a-37(c)(1) |
| Sec. 32 | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | New section |
| Sec. 33 | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | 20-112a |
| Sec. 34 | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | New section |
| Sec. 35 | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | 20-123(a) |
| Sec. 36 | <i>July 1, 2026</i> | 20-126c(b) |
| Sec. 37 | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | Repealer section |