



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES
A Healthcare Service Agency

NED LAMONT
GOVERNOR

MIRIAM E. DELPHIN-RITTMON, Ph.D.
COMMISSIONER

Legislative Update # 1
January 22, 2021

Welcome to a most unusual legislative session! Since the session falls on an odd-numbered year, it will be a “long” session and will last five months. Due to the pandemic, this session will be conducted virtually, at least for the first few months. This means hearings will be conducted via Zoom, and to watch all the action that occurs at the Capitol during hearings or sessions of the House and Senate we all must tune into YouTube or [CT-N](#). Information on how to watch the proceedings will be available on the [Legislative Calendar](#). I will make every effort to use these updates to help keep you informed as bills move through the legislative process.

Over the last week, there have been legislative proposals that may impact the behavioral health community. These proposals are largely “concepts,” which means the full language of the bill is not available but the underlying purpose of the bill is published.

To date, we are tracking quite a few of these concepts and looking forward to expanded language related to them. The following legislative proposals may be of interest:

Proposed [SB-158](#) AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY EVICTION AND FORECLOSURE PREVENTION ACT

Proposed [SB-160](#) AN ACT STUDYING PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FARES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Proposed [HB-5179](#) AN ACT CREATING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE USE OF GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEMS AND OTHER TECHNOLOGIES IN ORDER TO TRACK DRUG OVERDOSES

Proposed [HB-5194](#) AN ACT CONCERNING THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF COURT-APPOINTED CONSERVATORS AND THE RIGHTS OF CONSERVED PERSONS

Proposed [HB-5195](#) ACT CREATING A THREE STRIKES POLICY FOR RESIDENTIAL RENTERS AND OWNERS UPON WHOSE PROPERTY OPIOID OVERDOSES HAVE OCCURRED

Proposed [HB-5162](#) AN ACT CREATING A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE DIVISION OF STATE POLICE, THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES AND MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES REGARDING CARE OF PEOPLE ADDICTED TO OPIOIDS

Proposed [SB-143](#) AN ACT PROHIBITING ON-CALL SHIFT SCHEDULING

Proposed [SB-146](#) AN ACT AUTHORIZING SPORTS WAGERING, INTERNET GAMING, INTERNET LOTTERY AND INTERNET KENO'

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Proposed [SB-58](#) AN ACT INCREASING FUNDING FOR TOBACCO PREVENTION AND CESSATION EFFORTS

Proposed [SB-73](#) AN ACT CONCERNING AUDITS OF STATE-FUNDED PROGRAMS

Proposed [SB-78](#) AN ACT CONCERNING PROBATE COURT ORDERS RELATING TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF ELECTROCONVULSIVE THERAPY

Proposed [SB-86](#) AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR HOUSING RESOURCES FOR THE HOMELESS AND TO PREVENT HOMELESSNESS

Proposed [SB-88](#) AN ACT CONCERNING RENTAL ASSISTANCE FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Proposed [SB-102](#) AN ACT CONCERNING THE CERTIFICATION OF MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING PROGRAMS

Proposed [SB-103](#) AN ACT CONCERNING THE PACKAGING OF CERTAIN OPIOID DRUGS

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions about any of the information contained in the legislative updates. I can be reached at (860) 418-6839 or mary.mason@ct.gov. While email is the best way to reach me, you can also text or call my cell phone at (860) 985-2120 since I am away from my desk phone.