



Agency Legislative Proposal – 2023 Session

Document Name:

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| Document Name | DMHAS1-Tech Changes |
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Naming Format: AGENCY ACRONYM PROPOSAL NUMBER - TOPIC

Please insert a copy of the fully drafted bill at the end of this document (required for review)

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| Legislative Liaison | Mary Kate Mason |
| Division Requesting This Proposal | DMHAS- Office of the Commissioner |
| Drafter | Mary Kate Mason |

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|---|---|
| Title of Proposal | An Act Concerning the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services Technical Revisions |
| Statutory Reference, if any | Sec. 17a-460. (Formerly Sec. 17-209b). Center Advisory Board Sec. 17a-470. (Formerly Sec. 17-213a). Advisory boards for state hospitals and facilities. Sec. 17a-471a. Connecticut Valley Hospital: Development of policies and standards for resident clients; advisory council. |
| Brief Summary and Statement of Purpose | The proposal modernizes and repeals agency statutes that prevent equitable accomplishment of the agency’s mission. It creates similar advisory boards for all DMHAS facilities, with the exception of Whiting that had a new oversight board created in statute in PA 22-45. |

SECTION-BY-SECTION SUMMARY

Summarize sections in groups where appropriate



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17a-470 authorized facility advisory boards and mechanism for appointing to them.
Sec. 17a-471a (b) adds people with lived experience
Sec. 17a-460. (Formerly Sec. 17-209b). Center advisory board. Repeals as proposal adds this board to 17a-470

BACKGROUND

Origin of Proposal **New Proposal** **Resubmission**

If this is a resubmission, please share the prior bill number, the reason the bill did not move forward, and any changes made or conversations had since it was last proposed:
N/A

Please consider the following, if applicable:

| | |
|---|---|
| Have there been changes in federal/state laws or regulations that make this legislation necessary? | no |
| Has this proposal or a similar proposal been implemented in other states? If yes, to what result? | no |
| Have certain constituencies called for this proposal? | Advocates and DMHAS have worked to include the voice of people with lived experience be included in decision-making structures. This proposal provides opportunity for input. |



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INTERAGENCY IMPACT

List each affected agency. Copy the table as needed.

[X] Check here if this proposal does NOT impact other agencies

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Agency Name | |
| Agency Contact (name, title) | |
| Date Contacted | |
| Status | <input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Talks Ongoing |
| Open Issues, if any | |

FISCAL IMPACT

Include the section number(s) responsible for the fiscal impact and the anticipated impact

[X] Check here if this proposal does NOT have a fiscal impact

| | |
|---|-----|
| State | N/A |
| Municipal (Include any municipal mandate that can be found within legislation) | N/A |
| Federal | N/A |
| Additional notes | N/A |



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[Empty box for document name]

MONITORING & EVALUATION PLAN

If applicable, please describe the anticipated measurable outcomes and the data that will be used to track those outcomes. Include the section number(s) responsible for those outcomes

[X] Check here if this proposal does NOT lead to any measurable outcomes

[Empty box for monitoring and evaluation plan details]

ANYTHING ELSE WE SHOULD KNOW?

[Empty box for anything else we should know]

INSERT FULLY DRAFTED BILL HERE

Section 17a-470 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective January 1, 2024):

Sec. 17a-470. (Formerly Sec. 17-213a). Advisory boards for state hospitals and facilities. Each [state hospital,] state-operated facility [or the Whiting Forensic Hospital] for the treatment of persons with psychiatric disabilities or persons with substance use disorders, or both [, except the Connecticut Mental Health Center, may] shall have an advisory board appointed by the superintendent or director of the facility for terms to be decided by such superintendent or director. The advisory board shall include persons with lived experience with a behavioral health disorder as appointed members. In any case where the present number of members of an advisory board is less than the number of members designated by the superintendent or director of the facility, he shall appoint additional members to such board in accordance with this section in such manner that the terms of an approximately equal number of members shall expire in each odd-numbered year. The superintendent or director shall fill any vacancy that may occur for the unexpired portion of any term. No member may serve more than two successive terms plus the balance of any unexpired term to which he had been appointed. The superintendent or director of the facility shall be an ex-officio



member of the advisory board. Each member of an advisory board of a state-operated facility within the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services assigned a geographical territory shall be a resident of the assigned geographical territory. Members of said advisory boards shall receive no compensation for their services but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses involved in the performance of their duties. At least one-third of such members shall be from a substance abuse subregional planning and action council established pursuant to section 17a-671, and at least one-third shall be members of the catchment area councils, as provided in section 17a-483, for the catchment areas served by such facility, except that members serving as of October 1, 1977, shall serve out their terms.

Sec. 17a-471a. Connecticut Valley Hospital: Development of policies and standards for resident clients; advisory council. (a) The Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services, in consultation and coordination with the advisory council established under subsection (b) of this section, shall develop policies and set standards related to clients residing on the Connecticut Valley Hospital campus and to the discharge of such clients from the hospital into the adjacent community. Any such policies and standards shall assure that no discharge of any client admitted to Whiting Forensic Hospital under commitment by the Superior Court or transfer from the Department of Correction shall take place without full compliance with sections 17a-511 to 17a-524, inclusive, 17a-566 to 17a-575, inclusive, 17a-580 to 17a-603, inclusive, and 54-56d.

(b) There is established a Connecticut Valley Hospital Advisory Council that shall advise the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services on policies concerning, but not limited to, building use, security, clients residing on the campus and the discharge of clients from the campus into the adjacent community. In addition, the advisory council shall periodically review the implementation of the policies and standards established by the commissioner in consultation with the advisory council. The council shall be composed of six members appointed by the mayor of Middletown, six members appointed by the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services, two of whom shall have lived experience with a behavioral health disorder and one member who shall serve as chairperson appointed by the Governor.

Section 17a-460 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective upon passage)

Sec. 17a-460. (Formerly Sec. 17-209b). Center advisory board. [The Connecticut Mental Health Center Advisory Board shall be composed of nine members. On or before July 1, 1973, and quadrennially thereafter, the Commissioner of Mental Health



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and Addiction Services, with the approval of the Board of Mental Health and Addiction Services, shall appoint five members of the advisory board for four-year terms and until their successors are appointed and have qualified to replace those whose terms expire. On or before July 1, 1975, and quadrennially thereafter, said commissioner, with the approval of the Board of Mental Health and Addiction Services, shall appoint four members of said advisory board for four-year terms and until their successors are appointed and have qualified to replace those whose terms expire. No member shall serve on said advisory board for more than two full consecutive terms. Two members of said board shall be nominated by Yale University, two members by the Yale-New Haven Hospital, Inc., and five members shall be appointed in the sole discretion of said commissioner. The advisory board shall cooperate with and advise and assist the director of the center in carrying out his duties. Upon his request, the advisory board shall advise the director in regard to policies and shall recommend on its own initiative policies and practices, which shall be considered at a duly called meeting of the advisory board.]