General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 1509

January Session, 2025

LCO No. **6207**

Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:
(PH)

AN ACT CONCERNING PATIENT PROTECTIONS AND STANDARDS OF CARE AT CONNECTICUT VALLEY HOSPITAL.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 17a-471a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(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**]** relating to clients residing on the Connecticut Valley Hospital campus and to the discharge of such clients from the hospital into the adjacent community, and persons undergoing psychiatric evaluation at Connecticut Valley Hospital. Any such policies and standards shall (1) ensure 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, and (2) require persons undergoing psychiatric evaluation at Connecticut Valley

Hospital to be separated according to their biological sex at all times.

(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, eight members appointed by the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services and one member who shall serve as chairperson appointed by the Governor. On and after January 1, 2024, at least two members appointed by the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services shall have lived experience with a behavioral health disorder.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	*October 1, 2025*	17a-471a

Statement of Purpose:

To require the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services to keep persons undergoing psychiatric evaluation at Connecticut Valley Hospital separated according to biological sex at all times.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]