



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 159

January Session, 2025

House Bill No. 6985

House of Representatives, March 20, 2025

The Committee on Aging reported through REP. GARIBAY of the 60th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING NURSING HOME AND RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME ABANDONMENT.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) No nursing home or
2 residential care home, as such terms are defined in section 19a-490 of the
3 general statutes, shall abandon a nursing home or residential care home
4 resident. A violation of the requirements of this section shall constitute
5 a class A violation under section 19a-527 or 19a-527a of the general
6 statutes, as applicable. For the purposes of this section, "abandon"
7 means to desert or wilfully forsake a nursing home or residential care
8 home resident or forego, withdraw or neglect duties and obligations
9 owed by a nursing home or residential care home to a nursing home or
10 residential care home resident.

11 Sec. 2. Section 19a-524 of the general statutes is repealed and the
12 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

13 If, upon review, investigation or inspection pursuant to section 19a-

14 498, the Commissioner of Public Health determines that a nursing home
 15 facility or residential care home has violated any provision of section
 16 17a-876, 19a-491a to 19a-491c, inclusive, 19a-493a, 19a-521 to 19a-529,
 17 inclusive, 19a-531 to 19a-551, inclusive, [or] 19a-553 to 19a-555,
 18 inclusive, or section 1 of this act, or any provision of any regulation of
 19 Connecticut state agencies relating to licensure, the Fire Safety Code or
 20 the operation or maintenance of a nursing home facility or residential
 21 care home, which violation has been classified in accordance with
 22 section 19a-527, the commissioner may immediately issue or cause to be
 23 issued a citation to the licensee of such nursing home facility or
 24 residential care home. Governmental immunity shall not be a defense to
 25 any citation issued or civil penalty imposed pursuant to this section or
 26 sections 19-525 to 19a-528, inclusive. Each such citation shall be in
 27 writing, provide notice of the nature and scope of the alleged violation
 28 or violations, and include, but not be limited to, the citation and notice
 29 of noncompliance issued in accordance with section 19a-496. Each
 30 citation and notice of noncompliance issued under this section shall be
 31 sent to the licensee electronically in a form and manner prescribed by
 32 the commissioner or by certified mail at the address of the nursing home
 33 facility or residential care home in issue. A copy of such citation and
 34 notice of noncompliance shall also be sent to the licensed administrator
 35 at the address of the nursing home facility or residential care home.

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

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	19a-524

AGE *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which makes abandonment of a resident by a nursing home or residential care home (RCH) a class A violation, may result in a minimal revenue gain to the General Fund from civil penalties beginning in FY 26. A class A violation at a nursing home is punishable by a civil penalty up to \$20,000, and a class A violation at an RCH is punishable by a civil penalty up to \$5,000. The extent of the revenue gain, if any, is dependent on the number and location of violations and the Department of Public Health's discretion regarding civil penalties.

The Out Years

The ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future.

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 6985*****AN ACT CONCERNING NURSING HOME AND RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME ABANDONMENT.*****SUMMARY**

This bill prohibits a nursing home or residential care home (RCH) from abandoning a resident. Under the bill, abandoning a resident is a class A violation. By law, a class A violation at a nursing home is punishable by a civil penalty up to \$20,000, and a class A violation at an RCH is punishable by a civil penalty up to \$5,000.

Under the bill, abandoning is (1) deserting or willfully forsaking a resident or (2) neglecting or withdrawing from duties and obligations owed to a resident.

As for other class A violations (and certain other violations) under existing law, the bill specifies that the Public Health commissioner can immediately issue a citation if a review, inspection, or investigation shows that a nursing home or RCH abandoned a resident.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

COMMITTEE ACTION

Aging Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 13 Nay 1 (03/06/2025)