

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-6978

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING VARIOUS
REVISIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTES.

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

This bill makes various substantive, minor, and technical changes to Department of Public Health (DPH)-related statutes and programs. A few sections result in a potential revenue gain to DPH, as described below.

Section 1 authorizes the Connecticut Rare Disease Advisory Council to apply for and accept grants and other funds from various sources to carry out its responsibilities, which may result in a minimal revenue gain. The Council is within DPH for administrative purposes only.

Sections 2 - 4 allow DPH to use information it obtains for the Maternal Mortality Review Program, and findings of the Maternal Mortality Review Committee, to improve the accuracy of vital statistics data. This technical change results in no fiscal impact.

Section 5 allows DPH to renew licenses for additional types of facilities without performing an inspection if the facility is federally certified. This results in no fiscal impact, as staff who would have

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otherwise carried out these renewal inspections will instead address an existing backlog of inspections and complaint investigations.

Section 6 makes clarifying changes related to the Public Health Commissioner's ability to enter into contracts or agreements as needed to distribute or use funds received from gifts, grants, or contracts. This results in no fiscal impact.

Section 7 allows the Board of Examiners for Nursing to hold contested case hearings before hearing officers as well as board members. This procedural change results in no fiscal impact.

Section 8 expands DPH's authority to take disciplinary action against non-compliant health care institutions, which may result in a revenue gain to the General Fund from civil penalties of up to \$25,000 per violation. The extent of the revenue gain, if any, is dependent on the number of violations and the department's discretion regarding civil penalties.

Section 9 makes a technical change by correcting an inaccurate statutory reference, resulting in no fiscal impact.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the disciplinary actions taken pursuant to Section 8.