
OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 1537

AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING GROUP TO STUDY NONALCOHOLIC FATTY LIVER DISEASE.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the governor to proclaim each April 19 as Connecticut Liver Health Day to raise awareness of liver health issues, including metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease (MASLD) and metabolic dysfunction-associated steatohepatitis (MASH) (see BACKGROUND). Under the bill, suitable activities may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the governor designates.

The bill also requires the public health commissioner to develop a plan to provide mobile transient elastography for liver fibrosis in the state's high-risk communities. (Fibrosis is the build-up of scar tissue, which may be caused by MASLD or MASH, among other factors; transient elastography is a non-invasive way to measure liver stiffness.) Starting by January 1, 2026, the commissioner must annually report on the plan to the Public Health Committee.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND

MASLD and MASH

MASLD is a condition in which fat builds up in the liver (among people with low alcohol use). MASH is the advanced stage of MASLD. In some cases, MASH can lead to cirrhosis (advanced scarring), which can progress to liver failure.

MASH was formerly called nonalcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH). MASLD was formerly called nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference - APP
Yea 31 Nay 0 (03/27/2025)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 54 Nay 0 (04/24/2025)