
OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 1540

AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PEDIATRIC HOSPICE WORKING GROUP.

SUMMARY

This bill adds to the required duties of the working group (established under 2024 legislation) on pediatric hospice services within the state.

Currently, the working group is responsible for (1) reviewing existing pediatric hospice services in Connecticut, (2) making recommendations for appropriate levels of these services, and (3) evaluating pediatric hospice care payment and funding options. (The group submitted its report on these matters this March.)

The bill specifies that these current duties applied through March 1, 2025. From then through June 30, 2026, the bill requires the working group to also make recommendations to establish a (1) Children's Health, Advocacy, Management, and Palliative Care program and (2) within that program, a Pediatric Palliative and Hospice Care Center of Excellence pilot program, as described in the group's March 2025 report. The recommendations must include the following:

1. appropriations needed to establish the programs;
2. requirements for operating the pilot program, including staff and facility requirements;
3. education and curriculum requirements for nurses participating in the pilot program or providing pediatric palliative or hospice care services; and
4. any licensing or certification requirements needed to operate the pilot program or expand pediatric palliative or hospice care

services in Connecticut.

Within 30 days after the bill's passage, the working group's chairpersons must schedule a meeting to start working on the additional responsibilities described above.

Under the bill, the chairpersons must report on the working group's recommendations to the Public Health Committee by March 1, 2026.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

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)