

General Law Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No: HB-5225 / [Bill Status](#) / [Public Hearing Testimony](#)

AN ACT PROHIBITING CERTAIN LICENSEES AND REGISTRANTS FROM SELLING, DISPENSING, TRANSFERRING OR DELIVERING ANY DRUG OR DEVICE TO EXECUTE A SENTENCE OF DEATH.

Title: DEVICE TO EXECUTE A SENTENCE OF DEATH.

Vote Date: 3/11/2026

Vote Action: Joint Favorable Substitute

PH Date: 2/23/2026

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL

General Law Committee/ Rep. Elliott

REASONS FOR BILL

This request was brought to the committee in 2025, received a subject matter public hearing ([2025 SB 430](#)), passed the Senate in an amendment to [2025 SB 1355](#). The amended version of SB 1355 was then passed temporarily in the House. Its intent is to require that drug and medical device manufacturers in Connecticut attest that they will not knowingly sell their products for the purposes of carrying out the death penalty. This legislation was proposed after various investigative reports, including a segment on [Last Week Tonight with John Oliver](#), revealed that Connecticut companies were the knowing source of execution drugs and devices.

SUBSTITUTE LANGUAGE

To address concerns raised in public hearing testimony, the substitute language (LCO 2946) specifies that the death sentence is imposed by a court.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY

None recorded.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

[Worth Rises–Alice Hamblett, Policy Campaigns Manager and Bianca Tylek, Executive Director](#)– Worth Rises provided written and spoken testimony in strong support of HB 5225. Hamblett spoke at the public hearing, and Tylek submitted written testimony. They characterize the bill as a needed extension of Connecticut’s abolition of the death penalty.

They point to a 2024 feature on the program Last Week Tonight with John Oliver that revealed that a Hamden-based company was the source of lethal injection drugs for 13 federal executions. Worth Rises testified that a Windsor-based company produced masks used to execute the death penalty by nitrogen suffocation. According to their testimony, the bill reflects the position of several professional organizations, including the American Medical Association, American Nurses Association, and American Pharmacists Association, that oppose the misuse of healthcare products in executions. Overall, Worth Rises supports the bill, arguing, “Connecticut corporations should reflect the values of the state.”

Requested amendment: Change the phrase “to execute a sentence of death” to “to carry out a judicially imposed sentence of death of a human being.”

Reprieve US–Matt Wells, Deputy Director–Reprieve US provided written testimony in strong support of HB 5225. Wells writes that the testimony draws on over 20 years of experience monitoring execution methods in the United States. He argues that the bill protects public health and safety and aligns state law with healthcare industry standards. Wells contends that there are no legitimate markets for execution drugs and that “every compounding pharmacy known to have supplied drugs for executions has been found to have committed serious legal or safety violations.” Reprieve US argues that the bill does not impact any legitimate, therapeutic uses of the drugs or their use in veterinary euthanasia. They point out that it only impacts those who knowingly supply devices or drugs for the purpose of carrying out a judicially imposed death sentence.

Requested amendment: Change the phrase “to execute a sentence of death” to “to carry out a judicially imposed sentence of death of a human being.”

ACLU Connecticut–Jess Zaccagnino, Policy Counsel–ACLU-CT submitted written testimony in support of HB 5225, noting that the organization fully opposes the death penalty. The testimony characterizes the death penalty as highly prone to mistakes, pointing to 192 exonerations between 1973 and 2023. Zaccagnino argues that the death penalty is particularly prone to systemic bias and is disproportionately applied to people of color. She asserts that the bill supports Connecticut values and encourages the committee to report it favorably.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA)--CHA provided general written commentary on HB 5225. They express concern about potential unintended consequences of the bill. CHA notes that the impacted drugs have appropriate uses in the legitimate delivery of healthcare services, and some are used in veterinary euthanasia. If the bill becomes law, they caution that Connecticut providers could lose access to these drugs. CHA also argues that the bill’s provisions are inconsistent with the General Assembly’s efforts to expand shield laws that protect Connecticut providers who perform services that are illegal in other states.

Requested amendment: Include language requiring the Department of Consumer Protection to monitor shortages of any drugs potentially impacted by this Act. (full language in written testimony)

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION

[An anonymous resident](#) testified in opposition to the bill for reasons largely unrelated to its content.

Reported by: Betsy Francolino

Date: March 17, 2026