

**2017 CT Legislative Session – VOICES Forum Executive Summary Update of
Selected Long Term Care Bills That Have Become Law** (thru 9/25/17)

SB 762 - Clarifying Role of Office of the Long Term Care Ombudsman (LTCOP) in Mandated Reporting or Abuse of Elderly Persons and Delete Obsolete Statutory Provisions, Public Act 17-34, Governor Signed

To clarify that LTCOP staff and volunteers are not mandated reporters regarding abuse of elderly persons to make CT law consistent with federal law and delete obsolete CT statutory provisions.

SB 772 - Require Emergency Generator At Certain Private-Owned Housing for the Elderly, Public Act 17-62, Governor Signed

To ensure that elderly persons have sufficient backup power in emergencies. Shall install and maintain one or more emergency power generators capable of providing a minimum of four to twelve hours of sufficient electrical power to (1) each unit for heating, water, lighting and critical medical equipment, and (2) each passenger elevator. Only applies to certain towns/buildings.

SB 796 - Use of Respectful and Person First Language, Public Act 17-202, Governor Signed


To revise statutes to eliminate outdated and disrespectful references and implement the Governor's budget recommendations including livery service for elderly persons and persons with disabilities, State Dept on Aging technical changes, and reference to Centers for Independent Living.

SB 811 - Patient Bill of Rights for Long Term Care Residents, SA 17-14, Governor Signed

To study whether the rights of patients in long-term care facilities are adequately protected for purposes of room transfers.

SB 884 - Adopting CT Uniform Recognition of Substitute Decision-Making Documents Act and Revising CT Uniform POA Act, Public Act 17-91, Governor Signed

To: (1) Adopt the Connecticut Uniform Recognition of Substitute Decision-Making Documents Act, (2) revise the Connecticut Uniform Power of Attorney Act by (A) providing that forms that are substantially in the form of the statutory short form or long form may be used, and (B) adding provisions concerning intellectual property interests and access to digital devices, digital assets, user accounts and electronically stored information, and (3) ensure that a validly executed power of attorney may be used to convey land.



SB 938 - DPH's Recommendations for State-Wide Adoption of Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (MOLST) Program, Public Act 17-70, Governor Signed
The Commissioner of Public Health shall establish a state-wide program to implement the use of medical orders for life-sustaining treatment by health care providers. Patient participation in the program shall be voluntary. An agreement to participate in the program shall be documented by the signature of the patient or the patient's legally authorized representative on the medical order for life sustaining treatment form and verified by the signature of a witness. "Medical order for life-sustaining treatment" means a written medical order by a physician, advanced practice registered nurse or physician assistant to effectuate a patient's request for life-sustaining treatment when the patient has been determined by a physician or advanced practice registered nurse to be approaching the end stage of a serious, life-limiting illness or is in a condition of advanced, chronic progressive frailty.

SB 976 - Conservator Accountability, Public Act 17-7, Governor Signed

To provide the Probate Court Administrator with the authority to: (1) Audit an account of a conservator of the estate, and (2) adopt, in consultation with the Connecticut Probate Assembly, standards of practice that will provide guidance to court-appointed conservators in the performance of their duties.

HB 6999 - Use of Therapy Dogs to Comfort and Support Testifying Witnesses in Certain Criminal Prosecutions, PA 17-185, Governor Signed

Includes that the Judicial Branch shall maintain on its Internet website notice that the court may exercise its discretion to permit a dog to provide comfort and support to a testifying witness

HB 7192 - Protection and Advocacy For Persons With Disabilities, PA 17-96, Gov Signed

The nonprofit entity designated by the Governor (Disability Rights CT) in accordance with this section to serve as the Connecticut protection and advocacy system shall report to the Governor not later than July 1, 2018, and thereafter annually on or before January first, and at any other time upon request of the Governor, concerning the status of services for persons with disabilities, the operation of the nonprofit entity and administrative and legislative recommendations concerning the protection of the rights and welfare of persons with disabilities living in Connecticut.

HB 7222 - DPH's Revisions to the Public Health Statutes, PA 17-146, Governor Signed

With certain conditional exceptions, a long-term care facility shall not employ, enter into a contract with or allow to volunteer any individual required to submit to a background search until the long-term care facility receives notice from the Department of Public Health. In addition, home health and RCH staff certified for medication administration on or before 6/30/15 must be re-certified by 7/1/18.

