



## Legislative Update

April 8, 2010

### Deadlines For Favorable Reports Have Passed

All of the deadlines for Favorable Reports (JFs) have passed. After the JF Deadline, bills that have not been acted upon are dead. Bills that have been acted upon get a file number, a process which usually takes about 1-2 weeks.

When a bill comes out in file copy, it will have fiscal analysis, which gives the cost of the bill and a legislative research analysis which is a summary of the bill. Once the bill becomes a file, it is placed on the House or Senate Calendar.

The Rules for Referral to a committee after Joint Favorable deadlines have passed are as follows:

- If the bill is referred to a committee before the last deadline for all committees, that committee has 10 calendar days or 3 regular session days after the day of referral to meet and consider the bill.
- If the bill is referred to a committee after the last deadline for all committees, that committee has 7 calendar days or 3 regular session days after the day of referral to meet and consider the bill.

### Patient Protection Bills Progressing

The following bills regarding patient protections of particular interest to CAHCH members are progressing. **S.B. 265** requires health care providers who provide direct patient care to wear photo I.D. badges during the course of normal working hours. The bill specifically includes Homemaker Companion Agencies. **H.B. 5110** clarifies the background check requirements for employees of homemaker-companion agencies and establishes a statutory requirement for home health agencies to conduct such checks.

#### **[Raised S.B. No. 265](#)**

AN ACT REQUIRING HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS TO DISPLAY PHOTOGRAPHIC IDENTIFICATION BADGES.

#### In This Issue

##### JF Deadlines Have Passed

##### Security & Safety Bills Progressing

##### Other Bills of Interest

hours.

2/23/10 - Referred to Joint Committee on Public Health  
2/24/10 - Public Hearing 3/1  
3/10/10 - Joint Favorable  
3/18/10 - Senate Calendar Number 78

#### **Raised H.B. No. 5110**

AN ACT CONCERNING CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR EMPLOYEES OF HOMEMAKER-COMPANION AGENCIES AND HOME HEALTH AGENCIES.

To enhance the background check requirements for employees of homemaker-companion and home health agencies.

2/10/10 - Referred to Joint Committee on Aging  
2/11/10 - Public Hearing 2/16  
2/18/10 - Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference Public Health  
2/18/10 - Filed with Legislative Commissioner's Office  
2/22/10 - Reported Out of Legislative Commissioner's Office  
2/22/10 - Favorable Change of Reference, House to Committee on Public Health  
2/23/10 - Favorable Change of Reference, Senate to Committee on Public Health  
3/25/10 - House Calendar Number 92

## **Other House & Senate Bills of Interest**

#### **Raised H.B. No. 5411**

AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAID.

To require the Commissioner of Social Services to amend the Medicaid state plan to include podiatry services and treatment for smoking cessation, to make changes to the composition and duties of the Medicaid managed care council and to require the Commissioner of Social Services to apply for a waiver under Section 1115 of the Social Security Act to benefit the Connecticut home care program for the elderly.

3/2/10 - Referred to Joint Committee on Human Services  
3/5/10 - Public Hearing 3/11  
3/23/10 - Joint Favorable Substitute

#### **Raised S.B. No. 399**

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CIVIL ACTION WITH RESPECT TO CRIMINAL RECORDS USED IN EMPLOYMENT DECISIONS.

To permit a civil action against a consumer reporting agency or an employer, employer's agent, representative or designee for a violation of statutory requirements concerning the request for, use of and reporting of criminal records with respect to employment decisions.

3/4/10 - Referred to Joint Committee on Judiciary  
3/19/10 - Public Hearing 3/24  
3/29/10 - Joint Favorable Substitute

#### **Raised S.B. 428**

AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH RELATED

To make various revisions to public health related statutes.

3/5/10 - Referred to Joint Committee on Public Health

3/8/10 - Public Hearing 3.12.10

3/24/10 - Joint Favorable Substitute

**Raised S.B. No. 424**

AN ACT CONCERNING AGENCY CONSOLIDATION AND THE CREATION OF THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES CONSOLIDATION STEERING COMMITTEE.

To establish a steering committee to make recommendations for legislative action for the gradual merging of the Departments of Public Health, Developmental Services, Children and Families, Mental Health and Addiction Services and Social Services into the Department of Human Services, and to extend the term of the pilot program for janitorial work for disadvantaged or disabled persons from 4 years to 7 years.

3/5/10 - Referred to Joint Committee on Government Administration and Elections

3/12/10 - Public Hearing 3/17

3/26/10 - Joint Favorable

**Raised S.B. No. 251**

AN ACT CONCERNING THE LONG-TERM CARE ADVISORY COUNCIL.

To add a member of the Long-Term Care Advisory Council and make technical changes to the statute establishing the council.

2/23/10 - Referred to Joint Committee on Human Services

3/5/10 - Public Hearing 3/9

3/11/10 - Joint Favorable Substitute

3/29/10 - Senate Calendar Number 124

**Raised S.B. No. 258**

AN ACT CONCERNING APPEALS OF HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS DENIALS.

To specify a presumption of medical necessity for appeals reviewed by review entities on behalf of the Insurance Commissioner pursuant to section 38a-478n of the general statutes, to require managed care companies, health insurers and utilization review companies to provide providers of record and enrollees after a final determination not to certify an admission, service, procedure or extension of stay, documents and information considered in such final determination and to require dispensation and coverage of prescribed drug for the duration of any appeal of a determination not to certify such dispensation.

2/23/10 - Referred to Joint Commission on Insurance and Real Estate

2/26/10 - Public Hearing 3/4

3/16/10 - Joint Favorable Substitute

3/31/10 - Senate Calendar Number 161

**Governor's S.B. No. 32**

AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING SOCIAL SERVICES.

To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

2/4/10 - Referred to Joint Committee on Human Services

2/17/10 - Public Hearing 2/23

**Raised S.B. No. 401**

AN ACT CONCERNING AN INITIATIVE TO INCREASE AND IMPROVE THE STATE'S HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE.

To develop an academic initiative that addresses the critical shortage of health care professionals in the state.

3/4/10 - Referred to Joint Committee on Judiciary  
3/18/10 - Public Hearing  
3/24/10 - Joint Favorable  
4/7/10 - Senate Calendar Number 241

**Raised S.B. No. 283**

AN ACT CONCERNING AUDITS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES.

To change the procedure for audits conducted by the Department of Social Services and to provide a right of appeal.

2/24/10 - Referred to Joint Committee on Human Services  
2/26/10 - Public Hearing 3.2.10  
3/23/10 - Joint Favorable  
4/7/10 - Senate Calendar Number 230

**Substitute for Raised S.B. No. 172**

AN ACT MANDATING HOME HEALTH AGENCIES PROVIDE PAID SICK LEAVE TO EMPLOYEES.

To provide a property tax frees for residents eighty-five years of age and older.

2/21/10 - Referred to Joint Committee on Aging  
3/11/10 - Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference Labor and Public Employees  
3/16/10 - Joint Favorable  
3/31/10 - Senate Calendar Number 110