



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Proposed Bill No. 6551

LCO No. 2533



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:
REP. KEITT, 134th Dist.

AN ACT CONCERNING ASSISTED OUTPATIENT TREATMENT FOR PERSONS WITH SEVERE MENTAL ILLNESS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 That the general statutes be amended to (1) define "serious harm" to
2 include a substantial inability to meet basic needs and psychiatric
3 deterioration, (2) broaden the criteria for evaluating a person's need for
4 mental health intervention, (3) allow more health care professionals,
5 including, but not limited to, psychiatric advanced practice registered
6 nurses and clinical social workers, to participate in mental health
7 assessments, (4) establish a flexible approach to involuntary treatment
8 that emphasizes individual potential and employs the least restrictive
9 interventions, (5) require hospitals and psychiatric treatment facilities to
10 evaluate patients for potential assisted outpatient treatment before
11 discharge, (6) require notification of community mental health care
12 providers about patient admissions and discharges from hospitals or
13 psychiatric treatment facilities, and (7) require the Department of
14 Mental Health and Addiction Services to provide training to health care
15 providers relating to the provisions of subdivisions (1) to (6), inclusive,

16 of this act.

Statement of Purpose:

To reduce recurrent hospitalizations of persons with severe mental illness, prevent premature deaths, enhance public safety and provide more compassionate and effective mental health care while maintaining a commitment to increasing community-based mental health services and respecting individual rights.