

**2019 -- H 5751 SUBSTITUTE A**

LC001618/SUB A/4

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019**

**H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N**

**CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE EFFICACY OF  
INVOLUNTARY INPATIENT TREATMENT FOR NON-COURT INVOLVED  
INDIVIDUALS DIAGNOSED WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER**

Introduced By: Representatives Casey, Canario, Jacquard, Hull, and Morin

Date Introduced: February 27, 2019

Referred To: House Judiciary

1           RESOLVED, That a special legislative commission be and the same is hereby created  
2 consisting of seventeen (17) members: three (3) of whom shall be members of the Rhode Island  
3 House of Representatives, not more than two (2) from the same political party, to be appointed by  
4 the Speaker of the House; one of whom shall be the Director of the Rhode Island Department of  
5 Health (RIDOH), or designee; one of whom shall be the Director of the Rhode Island Department  
6 of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities, and Hospitals, or designee; one of whom  
7 shall be from the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, to be appointed by the  
8 Speaker of the House; one of whom shall be the Rhode Island Mental Health Advocate, or  
9 designee; one of whom shall be the President of the Hospital Association of Rhode Island, or  
10 designee; one of whom shall be the Rhode Island state Attorney General, or designee; one of  
11 whom shall be a representative of the health insurance industry, to be appointed by the Speaker of  
12 the House; three (3) of whom shall be representatives from groups that work with or advocate for  
13 persons who experience mental illness of substance use disorders, to be appointed by the Speaker  
14 of the House; one of whom shall be the President and Chief Operating Officer of Butler Hospital,  
15 or designee; one of whom shall be the Chief Justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court, or  
16 designee; one of whom shall be the Executive Director of the Rhode Island Medical Society, or  
17 designee; and one of whom shall be of the President of the Rhode Island Chapter of the American  
18 College of Emergency Physicians, or designee.

19           In lieu of any appointment of a member of the legislature to a permanent advisory

1 commission, a legislative study commission, or any commission created by a General Assembly  
2 resolution, the appointing authority may appoint a member of the general public to serve in lieu  
3 of a legislator.

4 The purpose of said commission shall be to examine the need for an advance directive or  
5 other mechanism to hold persons who are under the immediate effects of a substance use disorder  
6 involving opioids, and shall include, but not be limited to, a study and review of:

7 Medical literature and expert opinions on the long-term relapse rates of individuals  
8 diagnosed with substance use disorder following involuntary inpatient treatment including:

9 The differences in outcomes for coerced and non-coerced patients;

10 The potential increased risk of an individual suffering a fatal overdose following a period  
11 of involuntary treatment;

12 The length of time necessary for detoxification of opioids and recommended time  
13 following detoxification to begin medication-assisted treatment;

14 The legal implications of holding a non-court involved individual who is diagnosed with  
15 substance use disorder but is no longer under the influence of substances;

16 Whether the current capacity, including acute treatment services, clinical stabilization  
17 services, transitional support services and recovery homes, is sufficient to treat individuals  
18 seeking voluntary treatment for substance use disorder;

19 The availability of other treatments for substance use disorder, including those treatments  
20 used in less restrictive settings; and

21 The effectiveness of the existing involuntary commitment procedures pursuant to this  
22 chapter at reducing long-term relapse rates.

23 Forthwith upon passage of this resolution, the members of the commission shall meet at  
24 the call of the Speaker of the House and organize and shall select a chairperson from among the  
25 legislators.

26 Vacancies in said commission shall be filled in like manner as the original appointment.

27 The membership of said commission shall receive no compensation for their services.

28 All departments and agencies of the state, shall furnish such advice and information,  
29 documentary and otherwise, to said commission and its agents as is deemed necessary or  
30 desirable by the commission to facilitate the purposes of this resolution.

31 The Speaker of the House is hereby authorized and directed to provide suitable quarters  
32 for said commission; and be it further

33 RESOLVED, That the commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the  
34 House of Representatives no later than June 18, 2020, and said commission shall expire on July

1 13, 2020.

=====  
LC001618/SUB A/4  
=====

EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
HOUSE RESOLUTION  
CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE EFFICACY OF  
INVOLUNTARY INPATIENT TREATMENT FOR NON-COURT INVOLVED  
INDIVIDUALS DIAGNOSED WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

\*\*\*

1           This resolution would create a seventeen (17) member special legislative study  
2 commission whose purpose it would be to make a comprehensive study of the efficacy of  
3 involuntary inpatient treatment for non-court involved individuals diagnosed with substance use  
4 disorder, and who would report back to the House of Representatives no later than June 18, 2020,  
5 and whose life would expire on July 13, 2020.

=====  
LC001618/SUB A/4  
=====