Insurance and Real Estate Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.:HB-7117
AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INSURANCE
Title:Title:FUND WORKING GROUP.Vote Date:3/11/2025Vote Action:Joint FavorablePH Date:3/6/2025File No.:320

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Insurance and Real Estate Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

These programs were originally funded via the General Fund but were shifted into the Insurance Fund during a period of recurring state deficits. The working group found that these programs are more appropriately funded under the General Fund where the expenses are spread across the wider sector of the population that they are intended to benefit rather than on insurance policy holders, which will reduce CT policy holders' annual premiums.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None Expressed.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Connecticut Hospital Association – Supports

Believes that the phased approach would result in a reduced financial assessment on health insurers in the state. The Connecticut Hospital Association supports this change in policy and seeks a similar phased transition for assessments currently made on hospitals to support certain aspects of OHS's work.

Christopher Davis, Connecticut Business and Industry Association - Supports

Davis shares that he was a member of the Working Group to Study Payments by Insurance Companies for Deposit into the Insurance Fund. Davis shares that CBIA is in strong support of the phaseout and believes it will effectively reduce assessments on insurance carriers, directly driving down costs for consumers. Davis also shares that CBIA strongly supports section 2 of the bill because CBIA believes that the proposed transfer will promote affordability of all lines of insurance in the state by helping to lower the costs of not only health benefit coverage but also auto, home, life, and other property and casualty insurance premiums for Connecticut's residents and employers.

Susan Halpin, Connecticut Association of Health Plans - Supports

Halpin shared that the CT Association of Health Plans believes that this bill is a fiscally responsible and fair solution to longstanding concerns about the Insurance Fund's structure. They believe that by adopting these recommendations, Connecticut can maintain the effectiveness of public health programs while improving affordability for insurance policyholders. CTAHP also encouraged Section 1 to be revised to mirror Section 2 more closely.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

Nancy Tanash – Opposes

Provided general comments in opposition of the bill.

Reported by: Allison Kyff

Date: 03/31/2025