# Insurance and Real Estate Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.:SB-1269<br/>AN ACT CONCERNING LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE.Vote Date:3/11/2025Vote Action:Joint Favorable SubstitutePH Date:2/11/2025File No.:Image: Substitute

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### SPONSORS OF BILL:

Insurance and Real Estate Committee Rep. Hubert D. Delany, 144th District Rep. Susan M. Johnson, 49th District Rep. Gary A. Turco, 27th District

#### **REASONS FOR BILL:**

The bill requires the Insurance Department to create a report regarding long-term care insurance, specifically evaluating an alternate pool for policyholders. This study would provide more information to consumers about their policies. The bill would also cap the increases in premium rates by insurance companies. This legislation is likely borne out of initiatives to protect consumers from sudden spikes in costs that could price them out of their policies. The bill would also implement a tax credit for people who purchase long-term care policies and would hope to encourage citizens to invest in their future health.

# SUBSTITUTE LANGUAGE:

The proposed substitute language deletes Section 2, which would have required the Insurance Department to hold a public hearing for long-term care premium rate increases above 10% and provide policyholders advanced written notice. Second, the proposed substitute language deletes Section 3 regarding providing written notice to individuals prior to the purchase of any long-term care policy on the risk of future premium rate increases. This piece was deleted as it is already law. Finally, the proposed substitute language incorporates Section 4 into Sections 6 and 7. This part establishes a cap on premium rate increases to the rate of inflation for older policies.

#### **RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

# NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

#### Matthew Blumenthal, Representative, 147th District - Supports

Representative Blumenthal supports the bill but offered suggestions to strengthen the language. He proposed additions to the bill to protect against "shock lapse", a strategy used by insurance companies to drop customers. He suggests that insurance companies be required to certify their risks of insolvency, which they cite in certain rate increases. He also suggests that there be more notice for policyholders when increases are being considered and implemented.

Gordon Brown, Insurance Advisor, Green Wealth Management Group - Supports

Supports the bill, claiming that it will help insurers and policyholders. Specifically, believes that the bill will provide rate stabilization measures, transparency to policyholders, and help the outlook for long-term insurance care in Connecticut.

#### Rev. Amelia Smith – Supports

Smith supports the bill, citing personal experiences with rate increases and difficulty getting out of policies.

# NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

Brooke Foley, General Counsel, Insurance Association of CT – Opposes Amanda Herrington, Executive Director, AHIP – Opposes Jill Rickard, Regional Vice President, ACLI – Opposes

Oppose the bill, citing that there are already laws in place to protect policyholders. They believe that the bill would hinder the ability of insurance companies to adequately provide coverage for their customers.

Kenneth Kollmeyer – Opposes David Schwartzer – Opposes Judy Mandel – Opposes

Testimony was offered by the following people who feel that the does not effectively protect consumers from abuses by insurance companies.

#### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

#### Elizabeth Pratt

Pratt provided general comments on the bill, citing personal experiences with rate increases and difficulty getting out of policies.

**Reported by:** Collin Lamontagne

Date: 03/26/2025