

Aging Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-1333

AN ACT CONCERNING VALUE-BASED MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT TO

Title: NURSING HOMES.

Vote Date: 3/6/2025

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 2/28/2025

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Aging Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

This legislation sets up a working group to study DSS's quality metrics program for nursing home services used for the acuity-based Medicaid reimbursement model for nursing home rates and requires the group to submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the Aging Committee. This bill is meant to help ensure that the existing quality metrics program is working as intended and continues to improve which will incentivize nursing homes to continually enhance their quality of care.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Dept. of Social Services, Ms. Andrea Barton Reeves, Commissioner: The Department offered comments in **opposition** to this proposal. The bill is duplicative of section 319 of PA 21-2 from the June 2021 special session that required the Dept. to comply with collection and reporting of quality metrics after consultation with the nursing home industry, consumers, employees and the Dept. of Public Health. The DSS report that is due in June 2025 will discuss the model and the Dept. welcomes the opportunity to discuss advancement of the already established nursing home value-based payment model.

State of Connecticut Aging and Disability Services, Ms. Mairead Painter, Long-Term Care Ombudsman: They are in **support** of legislation that prioritizes quality and accountability in nursing home funding. She believes that the establishment of a working group to study this issue is a necessary step to ensure that Medicaid reimbursement policies align with best practices for improving nursing home care.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

[LeadingAge Connecticut, Ms. Mag Morelli, President](#): Her comments were in **support** of this bill. The state recently implemented an acuity-based nursing home reimbursement program which includes a set of quality measures that can be modified or updated over time. The program is ready to move forward once additional funding is identified.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None submitted.

Reported by: Richard Ferrari, Assistant Clerk
Alexander Mercier, Clerk

Date: 3/10/2025