



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Raised Bill No. 6894

LCO No. 3954



Referred to Committee on HOUSING

Introduced by:
(HSG)

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established an
2 interagency council on homelessness to advise and assist the
3 Commissioner of Housing in improving homelessness prevention and
4 response efforts in the state.

5 (b) The council shall consist of the following regular members, or
6 their designees: (1) The Commissioner of Housing; (2) the
7 Commissioner of Aging and Disability Services; (3) the Commissioner
8 of Children and Families; (4) the Commissioner of Correction; (5) the
9 Labor Commissioner; (6) the Commissioner of Mental Health and
10 Addiction Services; (7) the Commissioner of Social Services; (8) the
11 Commissioner of Veterans Affairs; (9) the Secretary of the Office of
12 Policy and Management; (10) the executive director of the Court
13 Support Services Division of the Judicial Department; and (11) the
14 executive director of the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority.

15 (c) In addition to the regular members set forth in subsection (b) of

16 this section, the council may consist of the following ad hoc members,
17 as determined by the chairperson, or their designees: (1) The
18 Commissioner of Developmental Services; (2) the Commissioner of
19 Economic and Community Development; (3) the Commissioner of
20 Emergency Services and Public Protection; (4) the Commissioner of
21 Public Health; (5) the Commissioner of Early Childhood; (6) the
22 Commissioner of Education; (7) the Commissioner of Transportation;
23 and (8) the Commissioner of Higher Education.

24 (d) The chairperson of the council shall be the Commissioner of
25 Housing.

26 (e) The council shall convene on or before October 1, 2025, and shall
27 meet quarterly thereafter, and more often upon the call of the
28 chairperson or a majority of the regular members, to (1) consider
29 methods to strengthen existing programs designed to prevent
30 homelessness by coordinating policies across state agencies, including,
31 but not limited to, policies that improve health and human services for
32 persons experiencing homelessness, increase housing stability for
33 individuals and create more affordable housing in the state; (2) improve
34 the effectiveness of state programs that constitute the homelessness
35 response system, including immediate assistance for persons
36 experiencing homelessness and support for emergency shelters and
37 investments in housing stability for individuals; and (3) meet housing
38 demands in the state by maximizing the use of funding for housing
39 assistance, increasing the supply of permanent supportive housing,
40 improving the effectiveness of rapid rehousing programs and
41 evaluating and finding solutions for expanded access to safe and
42 affordable housing with an interagency approach designed to support
43 the needs of individuals in the state.

44 (f) On or before July 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, the council shall
45 submit, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
46 statutes, a report to the Governor and the joint standing committees of
47 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
48 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, housing and human

49 services on the recommendations of the council.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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HSG *Joint Favorable*