



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6987

January Session, 2025



***AN ACT CONCERNING CLOSURES AND EVACUATIONS OF
RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES AND NURSING HOMES.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (g) of section 19a-535 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (g) The facility shall be responsible for assisting the resident in
5 finding appropriate placement and, in providing such assistance, shall
6 consider the resident's proximity to family members and any other
7 known support networks.

8 Sec. 2. Subsection (c) of section 19a-535a of the general statutes is
9 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
10 *passage*):

11 (c) The facility shall be responsible for assisting the resident in finding
12 an alternative residence and, in providing such assistance, shall consider
13 the resident's proximity to family members and any other known
14 support networks. A discharge plan, prepared by the facility, in a form
15 and manner prescribed by the commissioner, as modified from time to
16 time, shall include the resident's individual needs and shall be
17 submitted to the resident not later than seven days after the notice of

18 transfer or discharge is issued to the resident. The facility shall submit
19 the discharge plan to the commissioner at or before the hearing held
20 pursuant to subsection (d) of this section.

21 Sec. 3. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Social Services, in
22 conjunction with the Commissioner of Public Health and the State
23 Ombudsman, shall convene a working group to examine (1) residential
24 care home evacuation procedures, and (2) whether to require residential
25 care homes to participate in a mutual aid digital platform that supports
26 the risk management needs of health care organizations, including
27 dedicated solutions for emergency management, inspection, testing and
28 maintenance management, inspections management and health care
29 coalition management. The working group shall include not less than
30 two representatives of residential care homes. Not later than January 1,
31 2026, the working group shall submit a report, in accordance with the
32 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing
33 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
34 relating to human services, public health and aging regarding the
35 findings and recommendations of the working group.

36 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) No person acting individually
37 or jointly with any other person shall establish, conduct, operate or
38 maintain a nursing home or residential care home, as such terms are
39 defined in section 19a-490 of the general statutes, without maintaining
40 insurance that provides coverage for loss or damage to the personal
41 property of nursing home or residential care home residents as a result
42 of the closure or evacuation of such nursing home or residential care
43 home. The amount of such insurance shall be sufficient to replace any
44 such personal property lost or damaged as a result of such a closure or
45 evacuation.

46 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Not later than January 1, 2026,
47 the Commissioner of Public Health shall develop and maintain a
48 database that tracks real-time bed availability in nursing homes and
49 residential care homes, as such terms are defined in section 19a-490 of
50 the general statutes, to facilitate placements in nursing homes and

51 residential care homes. The commissioner shall make such database
52 accessible to nursing homes, residential care homes and any state
53 agency or other entity that the commissioner deems appropriate.

54 Sec. 6. Subsection (h) of section 19a-533 of the general statutes is
55 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
56 *1, 2025*):

57 (h) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a nursing home
58 shall, without regard to the order of its waiting list, admit an applicant
59 who (1) seeks to transfer from a nursing home that is closing, [or] (2)
60 seeks to transfer from a nursing home in which the applicant was placed
61 following the closure of the nursing home where such applicant
62 previously resided or, in the case of a nursing home placed in
63 receivership, the anticipated closure of the nursing home where such
64 applicant previously resided, provided (A) the transfer occurs not later
65 than sixty days following the date that such applicant was transferred
66 from the nursing home where he or she previously resided, and (B)
67 except when the nursing home that is closing transferred the resident
68 due to an emergency, the applicant submitted an application to the
69 nursing home to which he or she seeks admission at the time of the
70 applicant's transfer from the nursing home where he or she previously
71 resided, or (3) seeks to transfer from a nursing home that (A) has filed a
72 certificate of need request pursuant to section 17b-352 on which the
73 Commissioner of Social Services has not issued a final decision, and (B)
74 has ten residents or less, provided the Commissioners of Social Services
75 and Public Health and the State Ombudsman jointly agree that the
76 subject of such certificate of need will have a significant impact on such
77 nursing home's residents. A nursing home that qualifies for a waiting
78 list exemption pursuant to subsection (f) or (g) of this section shall not
79 be required to admit an indigent person under this subsection except
80 when the resident is being transferred from a nursing home that is
81 closing due to an emergency. No nursing home shall be required to
82 admit an applicant pursuant to the provisions of this subsection if the
83 nursing home has determined that (i) the applicant does not have a
84 payor source because the applicant has been denied Medicaid eligibility

85 or the applicant has failed to pay a nursing home that is closing for the
86 three months preceding the date of the application for admittance and
87 has no pending application for Medicaid, (ii) the applicant is subject to
88 a Medicaid penalty period, or (iii) the applicant does not require nursing
89 home level of care as determined in accordance with applicable state
90 and federal requirements.

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

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	19a-535(g)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	19a-535a(c)
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	19a-533(h)

AGE *Joint Favorable Subst.*