



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

***Raised Bill No. 7103***

LCO No. 5310



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:  
(HS)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE KATIE BECKETT WORKING GROUP  
RECOMMENDATIONS.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 17b-283 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

3 The Commissioner of Social Services shall, within available  
4 appropriations, administer a Medicaid waiver program pursuant to  
5 Section 1915(c) of the Social Security Act to provide home and  
6 community-based services for persons who are institutionalized or at  
7 risk of institutionalization and who (1) are [twenty-one] eighteen years  
8 of age or younger; (2) have a physical disability and may also have a co-  
9 occurring developmental disability; and (3) meet the financial eligibility  
10 criteria established in the waiver.

11 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) For purposes of this section and  
12 sections 3 and 4 of this act, the "Katie Beckett Waiver Program" means  
13 the Medicaid waiver program established pursuant to section 17b-283  
14 of the general statutes, as amended by this act. Not later than September  
15 1, 2025, the Commissioner of Social Services shall establish a Katie  
16 Beckett Waiver Program Internet web site that includes, but is not

17 limited to:

18 (1) A portal that allows a person to (A) log in, (B) undergo an initial  
19 screening process to determine eligibility for the waiver program and  
20 receive information on whether the waiver program is the most  
21 appropriate program to meet such person's needs, and (C) receive  
22 periodic updates as to such person's rank on a waiting list for the waiver  
23 program, estimated time for such person to receive services under the  
24 waiver program and whether such person remains eligible for the  
25 program;

26 (2) Information on eligibility criteria for the waiver program,  
27 including any income or asset thresholds;

28 (3) A summary of services available under the program;

29 (4) A listing with contact information for family support groups and  
30 advocacy groups for children and young adults with severe debilitating  
31 diseases or conditions;

32 (5) Assistance available to determine private insurance coverage for  
33 services for such children and young adults, including, but not limited  
34 to, a link to the Internet web site of the Office of the Healthcare  
35 Advocate;

36 (6) A listing of other Medicaid waiver programs or Medicaid state  
37 plan services which offer services for such children and young adults,  
38 including eligibility criteria for such programs; and

39 (7) A listing of private organizations and state programs that may  
40 offer funding for home modification or adaptive equipment for persons  
41 with disabilities, including a link to the Internet web site of the  
42 Department of Aging and Disability Services for information on  
43 adaptive equipment purchases pursuant to section 17a-788 of the  
44 general statutes or assistive technology loans pursuant to section 17a-  
45 795 of the general statutes.

46       Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Department of Social  
 47       Services shall create a brochure with information and eligibility criteria  
 48       for the Katie Beckett Waiver Program. Not later than September 1, 2025,  
 49       the department shall distribute the brochure to medical providers,  
 50       including, but not limited to, children's hospitals, geneticists, nurses and  
 51       social workers.

52       (b) The Department of Social Services, at least annually, shall provide  
 53       information on the Katie Beckett Waiver Program, including eligibility  
 54       criteria, in the department's bulletin to Medicaid-enrolled providers.

55       Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of Social  
 56       Services shall develop a five-year plan to eliminate the waiting list for  
 57       the Katie Beckett Waiver Program and add home modification coverage  
 58       for waiver participants with disabilities through the program.

59       (b) Not later than October 1, 2025, the commissioner shall file a report,  
 60       in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,  
 61       on the plan with the joint standing committees of the General Assembly  
 62       having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets  
 63       of state agencies and human services. The report shall include  
 64       recommendations concerning state appropriations needed to  
 65       implement the plan.

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

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	17b-283
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	New section

***Statement of Purpose:***

To increase access to the Katie Beckett Medicaid waiver program for children with complex, severe illnesses or conditions.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*

