



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 Section 17b-283 of the general statutes is repealed and the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

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

HS *Joint Favorable*