



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

***Raised Bill No. 1416***

LCO No. 4784



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:  
(HS)

***AN ACT EXPANDING LONG-TERM CARE OPTIONS FOR MEDICAID BENEFICIARIES.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 17b-369 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
3 *passage*):

4 (c) (1) The Commissioner of Social Services shall develop a strategic  
5 plan, consistent with the long-term care plan established pursuant to  
6 section 17b-337, as amended by this act, to rebalance Medicaid long-  
7 term care supports and services, including, but not limited to, those  
8 supports and services provided in home, community-based settings and  
9 institutional settings. The commissioner shall include home,  
10 community-based and institutional providers in the development of the  
11 strategic plan. In developing the strategic plan the commissioner shall  
12 consider topics that include, but are not limited to: [(1)] (A) Regional  
13 trends concerning the state's aging population; [(2)] (B) trends in the  
14 demand for home, community-based and institutional services; [(3)] (C)  
15 gaps in the provision of home and community-based services which

16 prevent community placements; [(4)] (D) gaps in the provision of  
 17 institutional care; [(5)] (E) the quality of care provided by home,  
 18 community-based and institutional providers; [(6)] (F) the condition of  
 19 institutional buildings; [(7)] (G) the state's regional supply of  
 20 institutional beds; [(8)] (H) the current rate structure applicable to home,  
 21 community-based and institutional services; [(9)] (I) the methods of  
 22 implementing adjustments to the bed capacity of individual nursing  
 23 facilities; and [(10)] (J) a review of the provisions of subsection (a) of  
 24 section 17b-354.

25 (2) On and after July 1, 2025, the Commissioner of Social Services shall  
 26 rebalance the strategic plan for Medicaid long-term care supports and  
 27 services to increase opportunities for Medicaid beneficiaries to receive  
 28 care in a home or community-based setting. The rebalanced plan shall  
 29 include, but need not be limited to, (A) increased outreach by the  
 30 Department of Social Services to Medicaid beneficiaries who may be  
 31 eligible for the Connecticut home-care program for the elderly,  
 32 established pursuant to section 17b-342 and Medicaid waiver programs  
 33 that provide home and community-based care, and (B) assistance  
 34 provided by the department to such beneficiaries in completing  
 35 applications for such programs.

36 Sec. 2. Section 17b-337 of the general statutes is amended by adding  
 37 subsection (g) as follows (*Effective from passage*):

38 (NEW) (g) The Long-Term Care Planning Committee shall study  
 39 systems and methods to expand long-term care options for Medicaid  
 40 beneficiaries, including, but not limited to, allowing more persons to  
 41 receive care at home or in a community-based setting rather than in  
 42 skilled nursing facilities. Not later than December 1, 2025, the Long-  
 43 Term Care Planning Committee shall submit a report, in accordance  
 44 with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of  
 45 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to aging,  
 46 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, human services and  
 47 public health on the study and any recommendations for appropriations

48 or legislation necessary to expand long-term care options for Medicaid  
49 beneficiaries. The report shall include any estimated savings to the state  
50 related to reducing care in skilled nursing facilities in favor of care at  
51 home or in a community-based setting.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	17b-369(c)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	17b-337(g)

***Statement of Purpose:***

To expand long-term care options for Medicaid beneficiaries.

*[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.]*