



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Substitute Bill No. 1416



**AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXPANSION OF 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2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*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)] (I) 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 strategic
29 plan shall include, but need not be limited to, (A) increased outreach by
30 the 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 or 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 beneficiaries
41 to 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 as a result of
51 increasing options for care at home or in a community-based setting.

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

HS *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*

APP *Joint Favorable*