



House Bill No. 6894

Public Act No. 25-52

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS.

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

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established an interagency council on homelessness to advise and assist the Commissioner of Housing in improving homelessness prevention and response efforts in the state.

(b) The council shall consist of the following regular members:

(1) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of whom is an individual who is experiencing or has experienced homelessness and one of whom is a representative of a continuum of care organization;

(2) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom is a representative of an organization that advocates for victims of domestic violence or domestic violence prevention and one of whom is a representative of an organization that provides shelters or housing for individuals experiencing homelessness;

(3) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who is a representative of a public housing authority;

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(4) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives, who has expertise in mental health or addiction treatment;

(5) Two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, one of whom is a representative of local government and one of whom is a representative of a philanthropic organization;

(6) Two appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, one of whom is a representative of a faith-based organization and one of whom is a representative of a group that advocates for housing developers;

(7) Two appointed by the Commissioner of Housing;

(8) The Commissioner of Housing, or the commissioner's designee;

(9) The Commissioner of Aging and Disability Services, or the commissioner's designee;

(10) The Commissioner of Children and Families, or the commissioner's designee;

(11) The Commissioner of Correction, or the commissioner's designee;

(12) The Labor Commissioner, or the commissioner's designee;

(13) The Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services, or the commissioner's designee;

(14) The Commissioner of Social Services, or the commissioner's designee;

(15) The Commissioner of Veterans Affairs, or the commissioner's designee;

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(16) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's designee;

(17) The executive director of the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Department, or the executive director's designee;

(18) The executive director of the Office of Health Strategy, or the executive director's designee;

(19) The chief executive officer of the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, or the chief executive officer's designee; and

(20) The Long-Term Care Ombudsman.

(c) In addition to the regular members set forth in subsection (b) of this section, the council may consist of the following ad hoc members, as determined by the chairperson, or their designees: (1) The Commissioner of Developmental Services; (2) the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development; (3) the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection; (4) the Commissioner of Public Health; (5) the Commissioner of Early Childhood; (6) the Commissioner of Education; (7) the Commissioner of Transportation; and (8) the Commissioner of Higher Education.

(d) The chairperson of the council shall be the Commissioner of Housing.

(e) The council shall convene on or before October 1, 2025, and shall meet thereafter upon the call of the chairperson or a majority of the regular members, to (1) consider methods to strengthen existing programs designed to prevent homelessness by coordinating policies across state agencies, including, but not limited to, policies that improve health and human services for persons experiencing homelessness, increase housing stability for individuals and create more affordable housing in the state; (2) improve the effectiveness of state programs that

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constitute the homelessness response system, including immediate assistance for persons experiencing homelessness and support for emergency shelters and investments in housing stability for individuals; and (3) meet housing demands in the state by maximizing the use of funding for housing assistance, increasing the supply of permanent supportive housing, improving the effectiveness of rapid rehousing programs and evaluating and finding solutions for expanded access to safe and affordable housing with an interagency approach designed to support the needs of individuals in the state.

(f) On or before July 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, the council shall submit, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, a report to the Governor and the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, housing and human services on the recommendations of the council.

Governor's Action:
Approved June 10, 2025