OLR Bill Analysis sHB 6911

AN ACT CONCERNING ASSET LIMITS FOR HUSKY C BENEFICIARIES.

SUMMARY

This bill expands eligibility for Connecticut's Medicaid program known as HUSKY C, which is available to qualifying residents who are age 65 or older or who are ages 18 to 64 and are disabled or blind. It does so by increasing how much program applicants can have in assets to participate.

The bill specifically requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) commissioner, starting by July 1, 2025, to annually increase the program's asset limits by amounts at least equal to the percentage increase, if any, in the most recent calendar year's average consumer price index for urban consumers over the average for the previous year. Under current law, the HUSKY C asset limits are generally \$1,600 for an unmarried individual and \$2,400 for a married couple.

Relatedly, the bill also requires the DSS commissioner, starting by July 1, 2026, to annually submit a report on (1) the number of people eligible for HUSKY C for the prior fiscal year and (2) any additional costs the state incurred because of changes to the asset limits. She must submit these reports to the Aging, Appropriations, and Human Services committees.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND

Consumer Price Index for Urban Consumers

The consumer price index for urban consumers is the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics' measure of the average change over time in the prices paid by urban consumers for a market basket of consumer goods and services.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Aging Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Yea 12 Nay 1 (03/04/2025)