



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

Substitute Bill No. 433



AN ACT EXPANDING LONG-TERM CARE OPTIONS.

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2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*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, 2026, the Commissioner of Social Services shall
26 rebalance the strategic plan for long-term care supports and services to
27 increase opportunities for Medicaid beneficiaries and other persons
28 with limited income who do not qualify for Medicaid for aged, blind
29 and disabled persons to receive care in a home or community-based
30 setting. The rebalanced strategic plan shall include, but need not be
31 limited to, (A) increased outreach by the Department of Social Services
32 to Medicaid beneficiaries and other such persons who may be eligible
33 for the Connecticut home-care program for the elderly, established
34 pursuant to section 17b-342, and Medicaid waiver programs that
35 provide home or community-based care, and (B) assistance provided by
36 the department to such beneficiaries or other such persons in
37 completing applications for such programs. For purposes of this
38 subdivision, "limited income" means income not exceeding three
39 hundred per cent of the federal poverty level.

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

42 (NEW) (g) The Long-Term Care Planning Committee shall study
43 systems and methods to expand long-term care options for Medicaid
44 beneficiaries and other persons with limited income who do not qualify
45 for Medicaid for aged, blind and disabled persons, including, but not
46 limited to, allowing a greater number of such beneficiaries and persons
47 to receive care at home or in a community-based setting rather than in
48 skilled nursing facilities. Not later than December 1, 2026, the Long-
49 Term Care Planning Committee shall submit a report, in accordance
50 with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of
51 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to aging,
52 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, human services and
53 public health on the study and any recommendations for appropriations

54 or legislation necessary to expand long-term care options. The report
55 shall include any estimated savings to the state related to reducing care
56 in skilled nursing facilities as a result of increasing options for care at
57 home or in a community-based setting. For purposes of this subsection,
58 "limited income" means income not exceeding three hundred per cent
59 of the federal poverty level.

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| 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 Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 2(g), "more such beneficiaries" was changed to "a greater number of such beneficiaries" for clarity.

HS *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*