



General Assembly

February Session, 2000

Raised Bill No. 420

LCO No. 1682

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:
(PH)

An Act Concerning Long-Term Housing Options For Persons With Psychiatric Disabilities And Chemical Addictions.

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

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) As used in this section and section 2 of this act:
- 2 (1) "Eligible households" means persons or families who are affected
3 by psychiatric disabilities or chemical dependency, or both, and who
4 are homeless or at risk of homelessness;
- 5 (2) "Homeless or at risk of homelessness" means (A) living on the
6 streets or in shelters, (B) coming out of homeless programs or
7 transitional housing and having no permanent housing, (C) living in
8 unsafe or abusive environments, (D) paying more than fifty per cent of
9 income for rent, (E) living in overcrowded conditions, or (F) being in
10 need of supportive services in order to maintain permanent housing;
11 and
- 12 (3) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Mental Health and
13 Addiction Services.
- 14 Sec. 2. (NEW) (a) The commissioner shall implement and administer

15 a program to provide grants-in-aid to nonprofit corporations for the
16 purpose of providing support services to eligible households. Such
17 services shall be designed to enable residents of eligible households to
18 (1) obtain and keep permanent housing, (2) increase their job skills and
19 income, and (3) achieve greater self-determination.

20 (b) The commissioner shall leverage funding from other state
21 agencies and from private, federal and local funding sources in
22 providing grants-in-aid for support services under this section.

23 (c) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with
24 chapter 54 of the general statutes, to carry out the provisions of this
25 section.

26 Sec. 3. The sum of two million dollars is appropriated to the
27 Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, from the
28 General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, for the program
29 established under section 2 of this act.

30 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

Statement of Purpose:

To enable the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services to administer grants-in-aid to nonprofit corporations to provide support services which allow people with psychiatric illnesses or chemical dependency to maintain permanent housing.

[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.]