



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 640

January Session, 2001

House Bill No. 6704

House of Representatives, May 7, 2001

The Committee on Appropriations reported through REP. DYSON of the 94th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING AN ASSISTED LIVING DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

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

1 Section 1. Section 8-206e of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development
4 shall, within available appropriations, establish a demonstration
5 housing assistance and counseling program to offer advice on matters
6 concerning landlord and tenant relations and the financing of owner-
7 occupied and rental housing purchases, improvements and
8 renovations. The program shall provide: (1) Educational services
9 designed to inform landlords and tenants of their respective rights and
10 responsibilities; (2) dispute mediation services for landlords and
11 tenants; (3) information on securing housing-related financing,
12 including mortgage loans, home improvement loans, energy assistance
13 and weatherization assistance; and (4) such other housing-related

14 counseling and assistance as the commissioner shall provide by
15 regulations.

16 (b) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development
17 may, within available appropriations, enter into a contract or contracts
18 to provide financial assistance in the form of grants-in-aid to nonprofit
19 corporations, as defined in section 8-39, to carry out the purposes of
20 subsection (a) of this section.

21 (c) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development
22 shall adopt regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54
23 to carry out the purposes of subsections (a) and (b) of this section.

24 (d) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development
25 shall establish a demonstration program in [one] up to four United
26 States Department of Housing and Urban Development, Section 202 [,
27 elderly housing development and one United States Department of
28 Housing and Urban Development,] or Section 236 [,] elderly housing
29 [development] developments to provide assisted living services. [for
30 persons who are residents of the state.]

31 (e) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development
32 shall establish criteria for making disbursements under the provisions
33 of subsection (d) of this section which shall include, but are not limited
34 to: (1) Size of the United States Department of Housing and Urban
35 Development, Section 202 and Section 236 [,] elderly housing
36 developments; (2) geographic locations in which the developments are
37 located; (3) anticipated social and health value to the resident
38 population; (4) each Section 202 and Section 236 housing
39 development's designation as a managed residential community, as
40 defined in section 19-13-D105 of the regulations of Connecticut state
41 agencies; and (5) the potential community development benefit to the
42 relevant municipality. Such criteria may specify who may apply for
43 grants, the geographic locations determined to be eligible for grants,
44 and the eligible costs for which a grant may be made.

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: Potential Cost

Affected Agencies: Department of Economic and Community Development

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

State Impact:

This bill increases to four the number of assisted living demonstration projects in federally funded elderly housing developments that the Department of Economic and Community Development may fund. Such projects are subject to available appropriations. The Appropriations Act, sHB 6668 (as favorably approved by the Appropriations Committee) includes \$488,540 in FY02 and \$481,220 in FY03 to extend assisted living services to two additional federally funded facilities.

OLR BILL ANALYSIS

HB 6704

AN ACT CONCERNING AN ASSISTED LIVING DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.**SUMMARY:**

This bill doubles, from two to four, the number of federally funded elderly housing developments where the economic and community development commissioner can establish assisted living demonstration programs.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2001

ASSISTED LIVING DEMONSTRATIONS IN FEDERAL ELDERLY HOUSING

PA 00-2, June Special Session, required the commissioner to establish assisted living programs in two federally funded elderly housing developments. One had to be in a development administered under the U.S. Housing and Urban Development's Section 202 program and the other under its Section 236 program. (The Section 202 program provides low-interest federal loans for elderly and handicapped elderly housing construction. Section 236 provides rental and cooperative housing subsidies and mortgage insurance on rental units for lower-income families).

The bill instead requires the commissioner to establish up to four such demonstration programs and allows them to be in any combination of Section 202 or Section 236 housing.

BACKGROUND***Assisted Living***

Assisted living is an emerging care model that provides health care

and other assistance primarily to elderly people who may not need or want nursing home care, yet need some help with things like dressing, walking, eating, bathing, errands, and chores. Typically, privately-funded assisted living services are provided in managed residential communities where the elderly person has his own apartment, receives three meals a day in a common dining room, and shares some services with other tenants.

Related Assisted Living Law

Legislation in 1998 and 1999 required the Department of Social Services, in cooperation with the Department of Economic and Community Development and the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, to establish an assisted living demonstration project for moderate- and lower-income people living in state-subsidized affordable housing. Eligible residents must be at least age 65, at risk for being unnecessarily placed in a nursing home, and be eligible for the Connecticut home care program. The project can include up to 300 units. Five facilities have already been selected for this project, some of which are expected to be operational in the second half of 2002. Legislation in 2000 allowed state-funded elderly congregate housing facilities to offer assisted living services and allowed the Connecticut home care program to pay for these services for eligible individuals in these congregate facilities, the five assisted living demonstration facilities, and other such projects established under state law.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference
Yea 15 Nay 0

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Report
Yea 51 Nay 0