



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

**Raised Bill No. 6728**

LCO No. 3573

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:  
(PH)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PILOT PROGRAM OF NURSING HOME CARE FOR DEAF SENIOR CITIZENS.**

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

1 (NEW) (a) The Commissioner of Social Services, in consultation  
2 with the Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired created  
3 pursuant to section 46a-27 of the general statutes, shall establish a pilot  
4 program, within available appropriations, to provide specialized  
5 nursing home care to senior citizens who are deaf. The commissioner  
6 shall conduct such pilot program in at least one nursing home in the  
7 state that elects to participate in the pilot program. The commissioner  
8 shall provide grants-in-aid under the pilot program for: (1) The  
9 dedication of an entire floor, wing or other residential area within the  
10 nursing home solely for the care of senior citizens who are deaf; (2) the  
11 training of nursing home staff in sign language or other interpreting  
12 skills necessary for communication with such senior citizens; and (3)  
13 other staffing costs directly associated with operating such floor, wing  
14 or other residential area.

15 (b) The Commissioner of Social Services may adopt regulations, in  
16 accordance with chapter 54 of the general statutes, to carry out the

17 provisions of this section. Not later than October 1, 2002, the  
18 commissioner shall submit a report to the General Assembly  
19 concerning the status of the pilot program established pursuant to this  
20 section in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes.

***PH***

*Joint Favorable C/R*

HS