



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

Committee Bill No. 680

LCO No. 2949

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:

(HS)

AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE FEDERAL WAIVER APPLICATION PROCESS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 17b-8 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2003*):

3 (a) The Commissioner of Social Services shall submit an application
4 for a federal waiver of any assistance program requirements, except
5 such application pertaining to routine operational issues, to the joint
6 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
7 matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies
8 and to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
9 cognizance of matters relating to human services prior to the
10 submission of such application to the federal government. [Within]
11 Not later than thirty days after the date of their receipt of such
12 application, the joint standing committees [may] shall advise the
13 commissioner of their approval, denial or modifications, if any, of [his]
14 the commissioner's application. If such committees do not concur, the
15 committee chairpersons shall appoint a committee on conference
16 which shall be comprised of three members from each joint standing

17 committee. At least one member appointed from each joint standing
18 committee shall be a member of the minority party. The report of the
19 committee on conference shall be made to each joint standing
20 committee, which shall vote to accept or reject the report. The report of
21 the committee on conference may not be amended. If a joint standing
22 committee rejects the report of the committee on conference, the
23 commissioner's application shall be deemed approved. If the joint
24 standing committees accept the report the committee having
25 cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of
26 state agencies shall advise the commissioner of their approval, denial
27 or modifications, if any, of the commissioner's application. If the joint
28 standing committees do not advise the commissioner during the thirty-
29 day period, the application shall be deemed approved. Any
30 application for a federal waiver submitted by the commissioner,
31 pursuant to this section, shall be in accordance with the recommended
32 approval or modifications, if any, of the joint standing committee
33 having cognizance of matters of appropriations and the budgets of
34 state agencies and the joint standing committee having cognizance of
35 matters relating to human services.

36 (b) If in developing the budget for the department for the next fiscal
37 year, the commissioner contemplates applying for a federal waiver,
38 [he] the commissioner shall notify the joint standing committee of the
39 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
40 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and the joint standing
41 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
42 relating to human services of the possibility of such application.

43 (c) Prior to submission of an application for a waiver from federal
44 law to the General Assembly under subsection (a) of this section, the
45 Commissioner of Social Services shall publish a notice that the
46 commissioner intends to seek such a waiver in the Connecticut Law
47 Journal, along with a summary of the provisions of the waiver
48 application and the manner in which individuals may submit
49 comments. The commissioner shall allow fifteen days for written

50 comments on the waiver application prior to submission of the
51 application for a waiver to the General Assembly under subsection (a)
52 of this section and shall include all written comments with the waiver
53 application in the submission to the General Assembly.

54 (d) The commissioner shall include with any waiver application
55 submitted to the federal government pursuant to this section (1) any
56 written comments received pursuant to subsection (c) of this section;
57 and (2) a complete transcript of the joint committee proceedings held
58 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, including any additional
59 written comments submitted to the joint committees at such
60 proceedings.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	July 1, 2003

Statement of Purpose:

To ensure that waiver applications submitted to the federal government by the Commissioner of Social Services pursuant to section 17b-8 of the general statutes, (1) incorporate modifications approved by the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services, and (2) include any written comments submitted to the commissioner or joint committees concerning such waiver applications.

[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.]

Co-Sponsors: SEN. HANDLEY, 4th Dist.