



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 364**

January Session, 2005

House Bill No. 6594

*House of Representatives, April 14, 2005*

The Committee on Planning and Development reported through REP. WALLACE of the 109th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRAINING AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF RESIDENT SERVICE COORDINATORS.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 8-114d of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2005*):

3 (a) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development  
4 shall award grants-in-aid to housing authorities, municipal developers  
5 and nonprofit corporations operating elderly housing projects  
6 pursuant to this part [(1)] to hire resident services coordinators to (1)  
7 facilitate conflict resolution between residents, including between  
8 seniors and younger residents, (2) establish and maintain relationships  
9 with community service providers and link residents to appropriate  
10 community services, (3) act as a liaison to assist in problem solving, (4)  
11 assist residents of such housing to maintain an independent living  
12 status, [(2) to] (5) assess the individual needs of residents of such  
13 housing for the purpose of establishing and maintaining support

14 services, [(3) to] (6) provide orientation services to new residents and  
 15 maintain regular contact with residents of such housing, [(4) to] (7)  
 16 monitor the delivery of support services to residents of such housing,  
 17 [(5) to] (8) organize resident activities and meetings that promote  
 18 socialization among all residents, and (9) advocate changes in services  
 19 sought or required by residents of such housing. [, and (6) to provide  
 20 mediation and conflict resolution services.] The commissioner shall  
 21 award grants-in-aid based on demonstration of need and availability  
 22 of matching funds. A joint application made by more than one housing  
 23 authority, municipal developer or nonprofit corporation shall have the  
 24 same preference as an application made by one housing authority,  
 25 municipal developer or nonprofit corporation.

26 (b) The employment of resident services coordinators by a housing  
 27 authority, municipal developer or nonprofit corporation operating  
 28 elderly housing projects pursuant to this part shall be considered an  
 29 allowable expense.

30 (c) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development  
 31 shall be responsible for arranging for monthly meetings of the resident  
 32 services coordinators for in-service training and information sharing.  
 33 Training topics shall include, but not be limited to, the health care  
 34 needs of seniors and persons with disabilities, mediation and conflict  
 35 resolution, and local and regional service resources.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2005	8-114d

**HSG**      *Joint Favorable C/R*      PD  
**PD**      *Joint Favorable*

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:

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 06 \$	FY 07 \$
Department of Economic & Community Development	GF - Cost	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

Requiring the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) be responsible for arranging monthly meetings of resident service coordinators (rsc’s) for in service training and information sharing, will increase costs to DECD. It is anticipated that DECD will need an additional \$25,000 per year for trainers and supplies as well as divert ¼ of an Economic and Community Development specialist away from current duties or require additional resources of approximately \$15,000 per year.

The changes in the bill could lead to additional housing authorities hiring rsc’s. Based on a DECD survey it is estimated that 11 additional housing authorities would choose to do so. It is unclear at this time who would ultimately incur the costs for the additional rsc’s.

**OLR Bill Analysis**

HB 6594

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRAINING AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF RESIDENT SERVICE COORDINATORS*****SUMMARY:**

This bill expands and redefines the responsibilities of resident service coordinators (RSCs). By law, RSCs assist residents of state-assisted elderly housing projects. The bill also requires the Department of Economic and Community Development to arrange monthly in-service training and information sharing meetings for RSCs. Training topics must include information on the health care needs of seniors and people with disabilities, mediation and conflict resolution, and local and regional service resources.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2005

**RSC DUTIES**

The bill adds to RSCs' responsibilities the requirement that they (1) organize meetings and plan activities to promote socialization among residents; (2) provide orientation services to new residents; and (3) establish and maintain relationships with community service providers, including linking residents to appropriate services.

The bill redefines RSCs' responsibilities for conflict mediation and resolution by specifying that they must (1) facilitate conflict resolution between residents, including between elderly and younger residents, and (2) act as liaisons to assist in problem solving.

**BACKGROUND*****State-Assisted Elderly Housing Developments***

By law, those who qualify to live in state-assisted elderly housing are low-income people who (1) are age 62 and older and (2) age 61 or younger and certified by the Social Security Board or any other federal board or agency as totally disabled (CGS § 8-113a).

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Select Committee on Housing

Joint Favorable Change of Reference

Yea 11 Nay 0

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 18 Nay 0