



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 677**

*January Session, 2005*

Senate Bill No. 1329

*Senate, May 4, 2005*

The Committee on Appropriations reported through SEN. HARP of the 10th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE CONNECTICUT ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CEAP) ANNUAL PLAN SUBMITTED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY BY THE COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SERVICES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FEDERAL LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1981.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 16a-41a of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
3 *1, 2005*):

4 (a) The Commissioner of Social Services shall submit to the joint  
5 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
6 energy planning and activities, appropriations, and human services the  
7 following on the implementation of the block grant program  
8 authorized under the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of  
9 1981, as amended:

10 (1) Not later than August first, annually, a Connecticut energy  
11 assistance program annual plan which establishes guidelines for the  
12 use of funds authorized under the Low-Income Home Energy  
13 Assistance Act of 1981, as amended, and includes the following:

14 (A) Criteria for determining which households are to receive  
15 emergency and weatherization assistance;

16 (B) A description of a basic grant for households eligible for heating  
17 assistance that is designed to be equitable for all such households  
18 without regard to energy type;

19 [(B)] (C) A description of systems used to ensure referrals to other  
20 energy assistance programs and the taking of simultaneous  
21 applications, as required under section 16a-41;

22 [(C)] (D) A description of outreach efforts; and

23 [(D)] (E) Estimates of the total number of households eligible for  
24 assistance under the program and the number of households in which  
25 one or more elderly or physically disabled individuals eligible for  
26 assistance reside;

27 (2) Not later than January thirtieth, annually, a report covering the  
28 preceding months of the program year, including:

29 (A) In each community action agency geographic area and  
30 Department of Social Services region, the number of fuel assistance  
31 applications filed, approved and denied, the number of emergency  
32 assistance requests made, approved and denied and the number of  
33 households provided weatherization assistance;

34 (B) In each such area and district, the total amount of fuel,  
35 emergency and weatherization assistance, itemized by such type of  
36 assistance, and total expenditures to date; and

37 (C) For each state-wide office of each state agency administering the  
38 program, each community action agency and each Department of

39 Social Services region, administrative expenses under the program, by  
40 line item, and an estimate of outreach expenditures; and

41 (3) Not later than November first, annually, a report covering the  
42 preceding twelve calendar months, including:

43 (A) In each community action agency geographic area and  
44 Department of Social Services region, (i) seasonal totals for the  
45 categories of data submitted under subdivision (1) of this subsection,  
46 (ii) the number of households receiving fuel assistance in which elderly  
47 or physically disabled individuals reside, and (iii) the average  
48 combined benefit level of fuel, emergency and renter assistance;

49 (B) Types of weatherization assistance provided;

50 (C) Percentage of weatherization assistance provided to tenants;

51 (D) The number of homeowners and tenants whose heat or total  
52 energy costs are not included in their rent receiving fuel and  
53 emergency assistance under the program by benefit level;

54 (E) The number of homeowners and tenants whose heat is included  
55 in their rent and who are receiving assistance, by benefit level; and

56 (F) The number of households receiving assistance, by energy type  
57 and total expenditures for each energy type.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2005	16a-41a(a)

**APP**      *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:*** None

***Municipal Impact:*** None

***Explanation***

This bill requires the Department of Social Services to include in its annual energy assistance program plan a description of a basic grant designed to be equitable without regard to energy type. Although such a plan may change the pattern of distribution of applicable funds, it does not change the overall state or federal resources dedicated to energy assistance, and therefore has no fiscal impact.

**OFA Bill Analysis**

SB 1329

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE CONNECTICUT ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CEAP) ANNUAL PLAN SUBMITTED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY BY THE COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SERVICES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FEDERAL LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1981.***

**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the Department of Social Services to include in its annual energy assistance program plan a description of a basic grant designed to be equitable without regard to energy type.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2005

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 48      Nay 0