



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Raised Bill No. 476

LCO No. 2562

02562_____HS_

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:
(HS)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY HOUSING
PILOT PROJECT FOR RECIPIENTS OF TEMPORARY FAMILY
ASSISTANCE.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) (a) The Commissioner of
2 Social Services, in collaboration with the Secretary of the Office of
3 Policy and Management and the Commissioners of Mental Health and
4 Addiction Services, Children and Families and Economic and
5 Community Development and the Connecticut Housing Finance
6 Authority, shall establish, the supportive community housing pilot
7 project. Said pilot project shall provide not less than twenty-five
8 dwelling units of affordable housing and support services to eligible
9 temporary family assistance recipients. Such affordable housing
10 dwelling units, to the extent feasible, shall be located on a single plot of
11 land and comprised of one or more buildings occupied for residential
12 purposes. The Commissioner of Social Services, in making a
13 determination as to the location of the pilot program shall give due
14 consideration to the proposed location's (1) proximity to health care
15 facilities to ensure that the health care needs of pilot project residents
16 will be adequately met, (2) proximity to schools, early childhood

17 education programs and institutions of higher education, (3) proximity
18 to public transportation options, (4) proximity to employment
19 opportunities that promote self-sufficiency, and (5) public safety
20 history, that includes, but is not limited to, an examination of incidents
21 of criminal activity within the immediate proximity of the proposed
22 location. The Commissioner of Social Services shall select the location
23 for the pilot project not later than January 1, 2007.

24 (b) Upon the selection of a location for the pilot project as prescribed
25 in subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary of the Office of Policy
26 and Management and the Commissioner of Social Services shall enter
27 into a memorandum of understanding with the Departments of Mental
28 Health and Addiction Services, Children and Families and Economic
29 and Community Development and the Connecticut Housing Finance
30 Authority. The memorandum of understanding shall provide that: (1)
31 A collaborative plan be submitted with specific timetables to create up
32 to twenty-five dwelling units of supportive community housing under
33 the pilot project; (2) the Department of Social Services contract with a
34 home health care agency for the provision of home health aide services
35 to families participating in the pilot project; (3) the Commissioner of
36 Social Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of Public
37 Health, permit an entity to offer state-funded child day care services,
38 that include night care, at the location chosen for the pilot project; (4)
39 the Department of Social Services has authority to provide subsidies,
40 including, but not limited to, project-based rental subsidy certificates
41 during the term of any mortgage loan, that may include payments to
42 fund reasonable repair and replacement reserves; (5) the Connecticut
43 Housing Finance Authority and the Department of Economic and
44 Community Development have authority to provide grants, mortgage
45 loans or tax credits, or any combination thereof that offer a viable
46 financing package, including capitalized operating reserves; (6) the
47 Departments of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Social Services
48 and Children and Families have authority to provide annual grants to
49 the projects for supportive services during the term of any mortgage
50 loan; (7) there be a plan for private and federal predevelopment

51 financing and financing from nonstate sources for grants and loans
52 from private investment through federal and state tax credit programs
53 and federal project-based rental subsidies; and (8) the parties to the
54 memorandum of understanding have authority to include such other
55 provisions to the memorandum of understanding that the parties find:
56 (A) Necessary for the successful implementation of the supportive
57 community housing pilot project, and (B) appropriate for repayment of
58 state assistance to the state, as a result of payment of mortgage loans
59 by the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority from federal or other
60 sources of revenue, if any. Not later than ____, the Connecticut
61 Housing Finance Authority shall issue one or more requests for
62 proposals by persons or entities interested in participating in such
63 initiative with priority given to applicants that include organizations
64 deemed qualified to provide services by the Departments of Mental
65 Health and Addiction Services, Social Services and Children and
66 Families. The Connecticut Housing Finance Authority shall review and
67 underwrite projects developed under the supportive community
68 housing pilot project. For purposes of this subsection, "state assistance"
69 means a payment by the state of actual debt service, comprised of
70 principal, interest, interest rate swap payments, liquidity fees, letter of
71 credit fees, trustee fees, and other similar bond-related expenses.

72 (f) Not later than February 1, 2007, the Commissioner of Social
73 Services shall submit, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general
74 statutes, an interim status report relative to the supportive community
75 housing pilot project established under this section to the joint
76 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
77 matters relating to public health, human services, finance, revenue and
78 bonding and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies. Not
79 later than January 1, 2008, the Commissioner of Social Services shall
80 submit a final report to said committees with respect to the supportive
81 community housing pilot project and the report shall include, but not
82 be limited to, information indicating (1) the number and location of the
83 dwelling units of supportive community housing created, (2) the
84 number of individuals served, and (3) the number and type of services

85 offered.

86 Sec. 2. Subsection (d) of section 17a-485c of the 2006 supplement to
 87 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
 88 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2006*):

89 (d) The Next Steps Initiative shall provide up to five hundred
 90 additional units of affordable housing and support services to: (1)
 91 Eligible households, as defined in section 17a-484a; (2) families who
 92 are eligible under the state plan for the federal temporary assistance
 93 for needy families program, including families participating in the
 94 pilot project established pursuant to section 1 of this act; (3) adults who
 95 are eighteen to twenty-three years of age, inclusive, and who are
 96 homeless, or at risk for becoming homeless because they are
 97 transitioning from foster care or other residential programs; and (4)
 98 persons with serious mental health needs who are community-
 99 supervised offenders supervised by the executive or judicial branch.
 100 Such housing shall be permanent supportive housing and may include
 101 both individuals and families with special needs and individuals and
 102 families without such needs.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	17a-485c(d)

Statement of Purpose:

To provide for the establishment of supportive community housing pilot project for recipients of temporary family assistance.

[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.]