



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 646

February Session, 2008

Substitute Senate Bill No. 414

Senate, April 17, 2008

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

AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE-FUNDED HOME CARE PROGRAM FOR THE DISABLED.

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

1 Section 1. Section 17b-617 of the 2008 supplement to the general
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3 (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

4 (a) The Commissioner of Social Services shall, within available
5 appropriations, establish and operate a state-funded pilot program to
6 allow not more than fifty persons with disabilities (1) who are age
7 eighteen to sixty-four, inclusive, (2) who are inappropriately
8 institutionalized or at risk of inappropriate institutionalization, and (3)
9 whose assets [, if single, do not exceed the minimum community
10 spouse protected amount pursuant to section 4022.05 of the
11 Department of Social Services uniform policy manual or, if married,
12 the couple's assets do not exceed one hundred fifty per cent of said
13 community spouse protected amount] do not exceed the asset limits of
14 the state-funded home care program for the elderly, established

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 chamber thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This bill ties the asset eligibility for the 50-slot state funded pilot for the disabled to the asset limit for the state funded home care program. Although this may increase the number of individuals eligible for the program, it does not change the overall number of slots, and therefore will not increase the program expenditures.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 414*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE-FUNDED HOME CARE PROGRAM FOR THE DISABLED.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill increases the asset limits in the state-funded, pilot home and community-based services program for adults under age 65. Currently, assets are limited to 100% and 150% of the minimum community spouse protected amount (CSPA) (spousal asset protection in Medicaid long-term care law) for single and married applicants, respectively. The bill increases the limits to 150% and 200% of the minimum CSPA, respectively, by tying the limits to those in the state-funded Connecticut Home Care Program for Elders (CHCPE). Thus, under the bill, the increases for 2008 are: (1) \$20,888 to \$31,320 for a single person and (2) \$31,320 to \$41,760 for a married couple.

BACKGROUND***Pilot Program***

By law, there is no income limit for the pilot, but once an individual's income reaches 200% of the federal poverty level (\$20,800 for a single person in 2008), he or she must contribute towards his or her care costs. And annualized program costs for an individual cannot exceed 50% of the weighted average cost of care in the state's nursing homes. The services available through the pilot program are the same as those available under the CHCPE, and include homemakers, adult day care, and minor home modifications, among several others.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2008

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference

Yea 19 Nay 0 (03/11/2008)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 51 Nay 0 (04/01/2008)