



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

**Raised Bill No. 414**

LCO No. 2075

\*02075\_\_\_\_\_HS\_\*

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:  
(HS)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE-FUNDED HOME CARE PROGRAM FOR THE DISABLED AND PERSONAL CARE ASSISTANCE 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2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  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] seventy persons with disabilities (1) who  
7 are age 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  
15 pursuant to subsection (i) of section 17b-342, to be eligible to receive

16 the same services that are provided under the state-funded home care  
17 program for the elderly. [, established pursuant to subsection (i) of  
18 section 17b-342.] At the discretion of the Commissioner of Social  
19 Services, such persons may also be eligible to receive services that are  
20 necessary to meet needs attributable to disabilities in order to allow  
21 such persons to avoid institutionalization.

22 (b) Any person participating in the pilot program whose income  
23 exceeds two hundred per cent of the federal poverty level shall  
24 contribute to the cost of care in accordance with the methodology  
25 established for recipients of medical assistance pursuant to sections  
26 5035.20 and 5035.25 of the department's uniform policy manual.

27 (c) The annualized cost of services provided to an individual under  
28 the pilot program shall not exceed fifty per cent of the weighted  
29 average cost of care in nursing homes in the state.

30 (d) If the number of persons eligible for the pilot program  
31 established pursuant to this section exceeds [fifty] seventy persons or if  
32 the cost of the program exceeds available appropriations, the  
33 commissioner shall establish a waiting list designed to serve applicants  
34 by order of application date.

35 Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2008*) The sum of one million dollars is  
36 appropriated to the Department of Social Services, from the General  
37 Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, for the home care  
38 program for the disabled pursuant to section 1 of this act.

39 Sec. 3. (*Effective July 1, 2008*) The sum of two million five hundred  
40 thousand dollars is appropriated to the Department of Social Services,  
41 from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, for the  
42 purpose of increasing the number of participants in the personal care  
43 assistance program for the disabled, established pursuant to section  
44 17b-605a of the general statutes, by one hundred persons.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	17b-617
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To increase the number of slots available under the Connecticut home care program for the disabled from fifty to seventy; to increase the asset limits to match the asset limits of the Connecticut home care program for the elderly; and to provide increased funds for the personal care assistance program for the disabled.

*[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.]*