



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5057

January Session, 2009

* HB05057HS 031809 *

AN ACT CONCERNING A SINGLE POINT OF ENTRY FOR LONG-TERM CARE.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2009*) (a) The Department of Social
2 Services shall establish a state-wide single point of entry system for
3 individuals seeking long-term care. The goal of the single point of
4 entry system shall be to (1) permit any individual seeking long-term
5 care services in the state to obtain the same information on long-term
6 care services from any one of the entities designated as a single point
7 of entry agency pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, and (2)
8 promote consumer choice of long-term care options.

9 (b) Not later than January 1, 2010, the department shall incorporate
10 the use of the 2-1-1 telephone information system into the single point
11 of entry system to serve as an access point.

12 (c) The department, in consultation with the Long-Term Care
13 Advisory Council and members of the public, shall designate
14 geographical service areas for the establishment of single point of entry
15 agencies. The department shall select entities to serve as such single
16 point of entry agencies for each of the geographical service areas
17 through a request for proposals process.

18 (d) Each entity designated a single point of entry agency pursuant to

19 subsection (c) of this section shall be required to:

20 (1) Work collaboratively with each other to operate the single point
21 of entry system;

22 (2) Provide to all individuals seeking information on long-term care,
23 including individuals who pay privately for such care, with
24 information on all the long-term care options and services available in
25 the state, including community and home-based care and nursing
26 home care;

27 (3) Assess an individual's eligibility for long-term care services and
28 programs in the state, including Medicaid and other public programs
29 and services offered by private and nonprofit organizations, through a
30 comprehensive, uniform screening process;

31 (4) Assist individuals in obtaining a timely determination of
32 eligibility from the Department of Social Services for publicly funded
33 long-term care services and programs;

34 (5) Assist individuals in developing a long-term care support plan
35 that is person-centered throughout the planning process; and

36 (6) Implement quality assurance standards and procedures.

37 (e) In addition to the requirements established in subsection (d) of
38 this section, the Commissioner of Social Services may establish
39 additional requirements, criteria and standards for the operation of
40 agencies designated as single point of entry agencies. The
41 commissioner shall implement a quality assurance program to
42 measure the performance of such designated agencies. Any designated
43 entity that fails to meet the requirements and standards in subsection
44 (d) of this section, any additional criteria established under this
45 subsection or the commissioner's quality assurance measures may be
46 subject to termination as a single point of entry agency.

47 Sec. 2. Section 17b-367 of the general statutes is repealed and the
48 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

49 The Office of Policy and Management, [within existing budgetary
 50 resources and] in consultation with the [Select Committee on Aging,]
 51 select committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
 52 matters relating to aging, the Commission on Aging, personnel
 53 designated by the Commissioner of Social Services who administer the
 54 CHOICES health insurance assistance program, personnel who
 55 administer the single point of entry system established in section 1 of
 56 this act and the Long-Term Care Advisory Council, shall develop and
 57 maintain a single consumer-oriented Internet [website] web site that
 58 provides comprehensive information on long-term care options that
 59 are available in Connecticut and information on the single point of
 60 entry system established pursuant to section 1 of this act. The [website]
 61 web site shall also include direct links and referral information
 62 regarding long-term care resources, including private and nonprofit
 63 organizations offering advice, counseling and legal services.

64 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Not later than January 1, 2010,
 65 the Commissioner of Social Services, in collaboration with the
 66 Commissioners of Children and Families, Mental Health and
 67 Addiction Services, Public Health and Developmental Services, shall
 68 develop, and implement the use of, a single, simplified application for
 69 state residents to use in applying for programs and services
 70 administered by the Department of Children and Families, the
 71 Department of Social Services, the Department of Mental Health and
 72 Addiction Services, the Department of Public Health or the
 73 Department of Developmental Services.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	17b-367
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section

HS *Joint Favorable Subst.*