



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 29

January Session, 2013

Substitute House Bill No. 6370

House of Representatives, March 7, 2013

The Committee on Human Services reported through REP. ABERCROMBIE of the 83rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT EXPANDING ELIGIBILITY FOR SUBSIDIZED ASSISTED LIVING.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 17b-347e of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2013*):

4 (a) The Commissioner of Social Services, in collaboration with the
5 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development and the
6 Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, shall establish a
7 demonstration project to provide subsidized assisted living services, as
8 defined in section 19-13-D105 of the regulations of Connecticut state
9 agencies, for persons residing in affordable housing, as defined in
10 section 8-39a. The demonstration project shall be conducted in at least
11 three municipalities to be determined by the Commissioner of Social
12 Services. The demonstration project shall be limited to a maximum of
13 three hundred subsidized dwelling units. [Applicants] An applicant

14 shall be eligible for such subsidized assisted living services [shall be
 15 subject to the same eligibility requirements as] if such applicant is (1)
 16 eligible for the Connecticut home care program for the elderly
 17 pursuant to section 17b-342, or (2) sixty-five years of age or older and
 18 eligible for the home and community-based program for persons with
 19 severe and persistent psychiatric disabilities established pursuant to
 20 section 17b-602a.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2013	17b-347e(a)

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

Section 1(a)(2) was reworded for accuracy and statutory consistency.

HS *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

The bill, which expands eligibility for the subsidized assisted living services demonstration project to certain DMHAS waiver clients, has no fiscal impact. The demonstration project is capped at 300 units, which remains unchanged under the bill.

The Out Years**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 6370*****AN ACT EXPANDING ELIGIBILITY FOR SUBSIDIZED ASSISTED LIVING.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill expands eligibility for the subsidized assisted living services demonstration project to include people (1) age 65 or older with persistent and severe psychiatric disabilities and (2) eligible for the home and community-based program operated by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), otherwise known as the mental health waiver program (see BACKGROUND).

Currently, an applicant must be eligible for the Connecticut Home Care Program for Elders (CHCPE), which provides Medicaid and state-funded home and community-based services to individuals age 65 and older as an alternative to nursing home care.

The Department of Social Services (DSS) commissioner, in collaboration with the Department of Economic and Community Development commissioner and the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, established the subsidized assisted living services demonstration project for people living in affordable housing. The project serves subsidized assisted living communities in Glastonbury, Hartford, Middletown, and Seymour. Maximum participation is capped at 300 subsidized dwelling units. There is currently a waiting list for each location.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

BACKGROUND***Mental Health Waiver***

DMHAS, with DSS oversight, currently operates the mental health

waiver program. The program, authorized under a federal Medicaid Section 1915(c) waiver, provides home and community based services for Medicaid-eligible adults who need nursing home levels of care and have a diagnosis of serious mental illness. The program currently serves approximately 550 people.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 18 Nay 0 (02/19/2013)