



General Assembly

January Session, 2013

Proposed Bill No. 5345

LCO No. 1087

Referred to Committee on GENERAL LAW

Introduced by:
REP. RITTER E., 38th Dist.

**AN ACT CONCERNING HOMEMAKER COMPANION AGENCIES AND
CONSUMER PROTECTION.**

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

1 That sections 20-678 and 20-679 of the general statutes be amended
2 to provide greater consumer protection in contracts for service with
3 homemaker companion agencies. Such protection shall include, but
4 not be limited to, requirements that: (1) Such agencies inform a client
5 of the results of background checks on agency employees before such
6 employees are sent to a client's home; (2) section 20-678 of the general
7 statutes contain a more clear definition of "comprehensive background
8 check"; (3) services and levels of care be clearly defined by such
9 agencies and validated by a third-party, primary care provider; (4) a
10 client pay only for services rendered and cannot be billed for excess
11 costs when such agency provides a higher-skilled individual than
12 needed; (5) contracts between such agencies and clients not be
13 enforceable if they do not comply with all requirements provided in
14 section 20-679 of the general statutes; (6) contracts contain a
15 conspicuous, boldface notice from such agency that it cannot

16 guarantee the extent to which services will be covered under insurance
17 plans; and (7) a client has a right to cancel at any time in the absence of
18 a stated period of duration and must be clearly so informed by such
19 agencies.

Statement of Purpose:

To provide greater protection for consumers contracting for services with homemaker companion agencies.