
OFA Bill Analysis

sHB 6354

AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING GENERAL GOVERNMENT.

SUMMARY:

The bill makes the following changes to programs administered by the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange and various state agencies:

Sections 1 and 3- 8 make various changes to the responsibilities of the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange, many related to the all-payers claims database established in Section 9. Specifically, 1) the exchange board of directors must adopt procedures for implementing and administering the database, 2) permits the exchange to award grants to certain individuals and entities to assist consumers in enrolling in insurance through the exchange, 3) permits the exchange to impose a civil penalty on reporting entities who fail to report information for the database, 3) imposes a deadline for assigning a rating to qualified health plans offered through the exchange, 4) requires the exchange to seek federal, and other public and private sources of funding to cover the costs of the database, and 5) requires the annual report of the exchange to include a status update on the all-payers claims database.

Section 2 makes changes to the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange Board of Directors. Specifically, 1) the number of voting members on the board is reduced from 12 to 11, 2) the Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services is added as a non-voting member, and 3) six as opposed to seven members constitutes a quorum.

Section 9 establishes the all-payers claims database in the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange. The exchange is required to

seek federal, and other public and private sources of funding to cover the costs of the database. The exchange may charge a fee to entities who request information contained in the database.

Sections 10 and 11 remove references to the Office of Health Reform and Innovation which is eliminated in Section 18.

Sections 12 and 13 make technical and conforming changes.

Section 14 eliminates the requirement that the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) must provide potable water to residences and elementary and secondary schools under certain conditions.

Section 15 closes the Renters' Rebate Program to new applicants as of July 1, 2013, except for spouses of current participants. The program is administered by the Office of Policy and Management for renters who are elderly or totally disabled, and whose incomes do not exceed certain limits.

Section 16 eliminates salary increases for appointed officials in FY 14 and FY 15.

Section 17 repeals section 4 of PA 12-166 which established the All-Payers Claims Database Advisory Group.

Section 18 repeals the following sections of statute: 1) Section 19a-724, which established the Office of Health Reform and Innovation, 2) Section 19a-724a which established the All-Payer Claims Advisory Group and 3) Section 19a-724b which established the all-payers claims database in the Office of Health Reform and Innovation.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Sections 1 - 13, 17, 18 effective from passage; Sections 14 - 16 effective as of July 1, 2013.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 41 Nay 11 (04/22/2013)