



General Assembly

February Session, 2014

Raised Bill No. 251

LCO No. 1043



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:
(HS)

***AN ACT CONCERNING PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2014*) (a) The Commissioner of
2 Social Services shall accept any documents required to be submitted by
3 applicants for or recipients of benefits available under programs
4 administered by the Department of Social Services by: (1) Manual
5 delivery at any regional office of the department, (2) facsimile to a
6 designated facsimile number or numbers, (3) mail through the United
7 States Postal Service to a designated department postal address, or (4)
8 electronic mail with attachments to a designated electronic mail
9 address. The commissioner shall inform applicants for and recipients
10 of benefits of each of these means of delivering required documents in
11 writing and by posting a notice concerning delivery means at locations
12 including, but not limited to, department offices and social service
13 agencies.

14 (b) The commissioner shall affix to each document delivered by the
15 means specified in subsection (a) of this section the date the document

16 is received by the department and shall record such date in the
17 applicant's or recipient's online benefits account, if such account exists,
18 in a list of document details that is visible to the applicant or recipient
19 whether or not the document itself can be retrieved. The commissioner
20 shall ensure that the date a document is received pursuant to this
21 section is affixed to the document in such a manner as to be readily
22 visible to the person submitting the document, or that person's
23 representative, when such person or representative views the
24 document in paper or electronic form. A document is received by the
25 department on the date such document is received at: (1) A regional
26 office of the department, (2) the Connecticut Health Insurance
27 Exchange, (3) the department's scanning center regardless of the date
28 of scanning, or (4) any other agency or contractor acting on the
29 department's behalf.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To ensure that documents received by recipients of or applicants for public assistance are processed in a timely, accurate manner.

[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.]