



House of Representatives

File No. 692

General Assembly

February Session, 2014

(Reprint of File No. 82)

House Bill No. 5227
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
April 28, 2014

AN ACT CONCERNING LIVABLE COMMUNITIES AND ELDERLY NUTRITION.

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

1 Section 1. Section 17b-420a of the 2014 supplement to the general
2 statutes is amended by adding subsection (f) as follows (*Effective July 1,*
3 *2014*):

4 (NEW) (f) Not later than January 1, 2015, the Commission on Aging,
5 as part of the livable community initiative established pursuant to this
6 section, shall recognize communities that have implemented livable
7 community initiatives allowing individuals to age in place and to
8 remain in the home setting of their choice. Such initiatives shall
9 include, but not be limited to: (1) Affordable and accessible housing,
10 (2) community and social services, (3) planning and zoning
11 regulations, (4) walkability, and (5) transportation-related
12 infrastructure.

13 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2014*) The Department on Aging and
14 the Department of Social Services shall hold quarterly meetings with

15 nutrition service stakeholders to (1) develop recommendations to
16 address complexities in the administrative processes of nutrition
17 services, (2) establish quality control benchmarks, and (3) help move
18 toward greater quality, efficiency and transparency in the elderly
19 nutrition program. Stakeholders shall include, but not be limited to,
20 area agencies on aging, access agencies, the Commission on Aging,
21 nutrition providers, representatives of food security programs and
22 contractors, nutrition host site representatives and consumers.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	17b-420a
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	New section

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 requires the Commission on Aging to recognize communities that have implemented livable communities initiatives. The bill also requires the Departments of Aging and Social Services to hold quarterly meetings concerning elderly nutrition. There is no fiscal impact.

House "A" struck the underlying bill, and resulted in the fiscal impact noted above.

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

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 5227 (as amended by House "A")******AN ACT CONCERNING AGING.*****SUMMARY:**

By January 1, 2015, this bill requires the Aging Commission, as part of the livable community initiative, to recognize communities that have implemented such initiatives allowing people to age in place and remain in the home setting they choose. The initiatives must include (1) affordable and accessible housing, (2) community and social services, (3) planning and zoning regulations, (4) walkability, and (5) transportation-related infrastructure.

The bill also requires the Aging and Social Services departments to hold quarterly meetings with nutrition service stakeholders to (1) develop recommendations to address complexities in the administrative processes of nutrition services; (2) establish quality control benchmarks; and (3) help move toward greater quality, efficiency, and transparency in the elderly nutrition program. Stakeholders include the Aging Commission, area agencies on aging, access agencies, nutrition providers, representatives of food security programs and contractors, nutrition host site representatives, and consumers.

*House Amendment "A" replaces the original file (a special act), which required the Aging commissioner to conduct a study of state services to the aging population.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

BACKGROUND***Livable Community Initiative***

PA 13-109 required the Aging Commission to establish a “Livable Communities” initiative to serve as a (1) forum for best practices and (2) resource clearinghouse to help municipal and state leaders design livable communities that allow residents to age in place.

Elderly Nutrition Program

Pursuant to federal law, the Department of Social Services operates elderly nutrition projects that provide nutritionally sound meals to people age 60 and older and their spouses. Programs must provide one meal per day, five days a week. These meals are offered at congregate sites, known as “senior community cafés,” or delivered to the homes of people too frail to come to the congregate locations or cook for themselves. Disabled people living in housing facilities that are congregate meal sites can also receive meals. The meals are free, although voluntary contributions are encouraged. Both federal and state funds are used to pay the program costs.

Related Bill

sHB 5395 (File 162) contains the same provisions as this bill and also authorizes up to \$5 million in general obligation bonds to provide grants to help income-eligible seniors and adults with disabilities modify their homes so they may age in place.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Aging Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 12 Nay 0 (03/11/2014)