



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 179

January Session, 2015

Substitute House Bill No. 6717

House of Representatives, March 23, 2015

The Committee on Aging reported through REP. SERRA of the 33rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER PROGRAM.

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

1 Section 1. Section 17a-316a of the general statutes is repealed and
2 the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

3 (a) The Commissioner on Aging shall develop and administer a
4 [Community Choices] program to provide a single, coordinated
5 system of information and access for individuals seeking long-term
6 support, including in-home, community-based and institutional
7 services. The [Community Choices] program shall be the state Aging
8 and Disability Resource Center Program in accordance with the federal
9 Older Americans Act Amendments of 2006, P.L. 109-365 and shall be
10 administered as part of the Department on Aging's CHOICES program
11 in accordance with subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 17a-314.
12 Consumers served by the [Community Choices] program shall
13 include, but not be limited to, those sixty years of age or older and
14 those eighteen years of age or older with disabilities and caregivers.

15 (b) The [Community Choices] program shall, within available
 16 resources, provide (1) information, referral and assistance concerning
 17 aging and disability issues and long-term care planning; (2)
 18 comprehensive assessments to identify possible consumer needs or
 19 desires; (3) counseling for purposes of obtaining (A) employment or
 20 employment-related services, (B) screening for public benefits and
 21 private resources, and (C) information on long-term care planning; (4)
 22 follow-up to ensure consumer referrals were appropriate and to offer
 23 additional assistance and individual advocacy if needed; (5) support to
 24 consumers making decisions about current and future supports and
 25 services; (6) coordination of transitions between providers or sites of
 26 care; (7) preparation and distribution of written materials regarding
 27 the availability of [Community Choices] program services; (8)
 28 maintenance of a toll-free telephone number; (9) assistance in
 29 improving and managing the program, monitoring quality and
 30 measuring responsiveness of systems of care; (10) assistance as
 31 necessary to conform to federal and other grant requirements; and (11)
 32 other related services.

33 (c) The commissioner shall establish program requirements and
 34 procedures for entering into agreements to operate the [Community
 35 Choices] program. The commissioner may adopt regulations, in
 36 accordance with chapter 54, as necessary to implement the provisions
 37 of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2015	17a-316a

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:
 In Subsec. (a), "CHOICES program in accordance with section 17a-314"
 was changed to "CHOICES program in accordance with subdivision
 (1) of subsection (a) of section 17a-314" for accuracy and clarity.

AGE Joint Favorable Subst.

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 renames the Community Choices program and requires the Department on Aging to administer it as part of the existing CHOICES program. There is no fiscal impact.

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

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6717

AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER PROGRAM.

SUMMARY:

This bill (1) renames the Community Choices program as the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) program and (2) requires the Department on Aging to administer it as part of the CHOICES program.

Community Choices (1) provides seniors, caregivers, and people with disabilities with a single, coordinated information and access program for long-term support and institutional services and (2) is the state's designated ADRC program pursuant to the federal Older Americans Act (P.L. 109-365). CHOICES provides seniors and Medicare beneficiaries with, among other things, health insurance information and counseling.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2015

COMMITTEE ACTION

Aging Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 13 Nay 0 (03/05/2015)