



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5814

January Session, 2015



**AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT
FOR HOME HEALTH CARE.**

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2015*) (a) The Commissioner of Social
2 Services shall study the benefits and costs of restructuring the
3 Medicaid reimbursement system for home health care agencies from a
4 flat-rate model to an acuity-based model that (1) reimburses agencies
5 based on the level of health care needs of a Medicaid beneficiary, and
6 (2) supports state efforts to deinstitutionalize residents who are
7 capable of receiving care in a home or community-based setting
8 through the Money Follows the Person demonstration project
9 established pursuant to section 17b-369 of the general statutes.

10 (b) As part of the study, the commissioner shall also examine the
11 impact of the existing Medicaid provider rate structure on (1)
12 providing quality medical and behavioral home and community-based
13 services, including, but not limited to, (A) licensed home health care,
14 (B) home health aide, homemaker and companion services, and (C)
15 adult day care; and (2) recruiting and retaining an adequate number of
16 providers. The study shall include a review of the implications of
17 basing Medicaid reimbursement for home and community-based
18 services on a percentage of Medicare rates for such services. For home
19 and community-based services not included under the Medicare

20 program, the study shall recommend an alternative rate system based
21 on the level of home and community-based services required and the
22 acuity of patient health needs.

23 (c) The commissioner may develop and fund the study in
24 collaboration with interested representatives from home and
25 community-based provider associations. Not later than December 1,
26 2015, the commissioner shall report the results of the study, in
27 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,
28 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
29 cognizance of matters relating to human services.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	New section

HS *Joint Favorable Subst.*