



General Assembly

January Session, 2015

**Committee Bill No. 271**

LCO No. 4922



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:  
(HS)

***AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAID REFORM TO PROMOTE AGING IN PLACE.***

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) On and after July 1, 2015, the  
2 Commissioner of Social Services shall establish a one-year pilot  
3 program to fund services under the Connecticut home-care program  
4 for the elderly for a period of up to ninety days for not more than fifty  
5 applicants who require a skilled level of nursing care and who are  
6 determined to be presumptively eligible for Medicaid coverage. The  
7 pilot program shall be established in a county where the per capita rate  
8 of nursing home institutionalization exceeds such average for counties  
9 state-wide.

10 (b) The pilot program shall include, but not be limited to: (1) The  
11 development of a preliminary screening tool by the Department of  
12 Social Services to determine whether an applicant is functionally able  
13 to live at home or in a community setting and is likely to be financially  
14 eligible for Medicaid; (2) authorization by the commissioner for the  
15 access agency selected pursuant to section 17b-342 of the general  
16 statutes to screen such applicants and initiate home care services not

17 later than five days after such screening; (3) a presumptive financial  
18 Medicaid eligibility determination for such applicants by the  
19 department not later than five days after such screening; and (4) a  
20 written agreement to be signed by such applicant attesting to the  
21 accuracy of financial and other information such applicant provides  
22 and acknowledging that (A) state-funded services shall be provided  
23 for not longer than ninety days from the date on which home care  
24 services are initiated under the program, and (B) such applicant shall  
25 complete a Medicaid application on the date such applicant is screened  
26 for functional ability to live at home or in a community setting or not  
27 later than five days after such screening. The department shall make a  
28 final determination as to Medicaid eligibility for presumptive  
29 eligibility applicants not later than ninety days after such applicant  
30 completes a Medicaid application.

31 (c) To the extent permissible under 42 CFR 435.915, the  
32 Commissioner of Social Services shall retroactively apply a final  
33 determination of Medicaid eligibility for presumptive Medicaid  
34 eligibility applicants.

35 (d) Not later than July 1, 2016, the commissioner shall submit a  
36 report on the program in accordance with the provisions of section 11-  
37 4a of the general statutes to the joint standing committee of the General  
38 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services.  
39 The report shall include, but not be limited to: (1) The number of  
40 applicants who were determined presumptively eligible for Medicaid  
41 who later were determined not to be eligible for Medicaid; (2) the cost  
42 to the state to provide care for such applicants; (3) the savings to the  
43 state in institutionalization costs for applicants who were determined  
44 to be eligible for Medicaid after a presumptive Medicaid eligibility  
45 determination; and (4) recommendations on expanding the program  
46 state-wide to allow more persons to age in place, as described in  
47 section 17b-420a of the general statutes, and reduce state Medicaid  
48 expenditures on institutional care.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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**Statement of Purpose:**

To establish a pilot program to allow more persons to age in place at home by reforming the Medicaid eligibility process.

*[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.]*

Co-Sponsors: SEN. KENNEDY, 12th Dist.

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