



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:

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| Section 1 | <i>from passage</i> | New section |
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HS *Joint Favorable C/R* APP

APP *Joint Favorable*