



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 482

January Session, 2017

Substitute Senate Bill No. 796

Senate, April 10, 2017

The Committee on Public Health reported through SEN. GERRATANA of the 6th Dist. and SEN. SOMERS of the 18th Dist., Chairpersons of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF RESPECTFUL AND PERSON-FIRST LANGUAGE.

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

1 Section 1. Section 4a-25a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

3 The Commissioner of Administrative Services is authorized to enter
4 into a loss portfolio arrangement program for the purpose of
5 transferring a group of workers' compensation claims to an
6 independent third party. Claims that qualify for transfer to such
7 program shall be approved state employees' claims which require
8 payment of future indemnity benefits and payment of medical benefits
9 to certain [disabled] workers with disabilities. Such program shall
10 provide that the independent third party shall, as part of the
11 assumption of liability, become responsible for the management and
12 administration of the transferred liability and shall require such party
13 to administer the individual workers' compensation claims in

14 accordance with the Connecticut general statutes.

15 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 4b-31 of the general statutes is
16 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
17 *October 1, 2017*):

18 (a) "Human services" means adoption and foster care services;
19 advocacy services; alcohol and drug abuse services; case management
20 services; school readiness programs; Head Start programs; family
21 resource centers; child and adult day care; community-based services;
22 community organization services; counseling, guidance and appraisal
23 services; day treatment services; employment, compensatory
24 education, adult education and training; energy payment assistance;
25 family planning services; health services; home care, management and
26 maintenance services; housing services; human resource development
27 services; income assistance; information and referral services; mental
28 health services; intellectual disability services; nutrition services;
29 parole supervision; protective services; residential treatment services;
30 services to [the blind, the deaf, the developmentally disabled, the
31 disabled, the hearing impaired, the visually impaired, the
32 handicapped] persons who are blind or visually impaired, persons
33 who are deaf or hard of hearing, persons with developmental
34 disabilities, persons with disabilities, the non-English-speaking and the
35 poor; social development services; social services; special
36 transportation services; and planning, management and evaluation
37 activities related to the services listed in this section.

38 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 8-119t of the general statutes is
39 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
40 *October 1, 2017*):

41 (a) The Commissioner of Housing shall encourage the development
42 of independent living opportunities for low and moderate income
43 [handicapped and developmentally disabled] persons with physical or
44 developmental disabilities by making grants-in-aid, within available
45 appropriations, to state-wide, private, nonprofit housing development
46 corporations which are organized and operating for the purpose of

47 expanding independent living opportunities for such persons. Such
48 grants-in-aid shall be used to facilitate the development of small,
49 noninstitutionalized living units for such persons, through programs
50 including, but not limited to, preproject development, receipt of
51 federal funds, site acquisition and architectural review. For the
52 purposes of this part, ["handicapped and developmentally disabled
53 persons"] "person with physical or developmental disability" means
54 any [persons who are physically or mentally handicapped] person
55 with physical or developmental disability, including, but not limited
56 to, persons with [autism, persons with intellectual disability or persons
57 who are physically disabled or sensory impaired] autism spectrum
58 disorder or intellectual disability.

59 Sec. 4. Subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of
60 section 8-37qqq of the general statutes is repealed and the following is
61 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

62 (B) A comprehensive assessment of current and future needs for
63 rental assistance under section 8-119kk for housing projects for [the
64 elderly and disabled] persons who are elderly and persons with
65 disabilities, in consultation with the Connecticut Housing Finance
66 Authority;

67 Sec. 5. Section 8-119f of the general statutes is repealed and the
68 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

69 The Commissioner of Housing shall design, implement, operate and
70 monitor a program of congregate housing. For the purpose of this
71 program, the Commissioner of Housing shall consult with the
72 Commissioner on Aging for the provision of services for [the
73 physically disabled] persons with physical disabilities in order to
74 comply with the requirements of section 29-271.

75 Sec. 6. Section 8-119ll of the general statutes is repealed and the
76 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

77 Annually, the Department of Housing in consultation with the

78 Connecticut Housing Finance Authority shall conduct a
79 comprehensive assessment of current and future needs for rental
80 assistance under section 8-119kk for housing projects for [the state's]
81 elderly persons and [disabled] persons with disabilities in this state.
82 Such analyses shall be incorporated into the report required pursuant
83 to section 8-37qqq, as amended by this act.

84 Sec. 7. Subdivisions (4) and (5) of subsection (a) of section 8-169c of
85 the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in
86 lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

87 (4) A description of a program designed to (A) eliminate or prevent
88 slums, blight and deterioration where such conditions or needs exist;
89 (B) provide improved community facilities and public improvements,
90 including the provision of supporting health, social and similar
91 services where necessary and appropriate; and in a manner to insure
92 fully the opportunity for participation by, and benefits to, [the
93 physically disabled] persons with physical disabilities; and (C)
94 improved conditions for low and moderate income persons residing in
95 or expected to reside in the community and foster neighborhood
96 development in order to induce higher income persons to remain in, or
97 return to, the community;

98 (5) A description of a housing assistance plan which (A) accurately
99 describes the conditions of the housing stock within the community,
100 [and] assesses the housing assistance needs of low and moderate
101 income persons, including elderly [and handicapped persons] persons,
102 persons with disabilities, large families and persons displaced or to be
103 displaced residing in or expected to reside in the community, and
104 identifies housing stock which is in a deteriorated condition; (B)
105 specifies a realistic goal during the program period for the number of
106 dwelling units or persons to be assisted, including (i) the relative
107 proportion of new, rehabilitated and existing dwelling units, (ii) the
108 size and types of housing projects and assistance best suited to the
109 needs of the low and moderate income families and persons and (iii),
110 in the case of subsidized rehabilitation, adequate provisions to assure

111 that a preponderance of persons assisted are of low and moderate
112 income, and (C) indicates the general locations of proposed housing
113 for low and moderate income families and persons with the objective
114 of (i) furthering the revitalization of the community, including the
115 restoration and rehabilitation of stable neighborhoods to the maximum
116 extent possible, and the reclamation of the housing stock where
117 feasible through the use of a broad range of techniques for housing
118 restoration by local government, the private sector or community
119 organizations, including provision of a reasonable opportunity for
120 tenants displaced as a result of such activities to relocate in their
121 immediate neighborhood, (ii) promoting greater choice of housing
122 opportunities and avoiding undue concentration of assisted persons in
123 areas containing a high proportion of low-income persons and (iii)
124 assuring the availability of public facilities and services adequate to
125 serve proposed housing projects.

126 Sec. 8. Subsection (d) of section 8-210 of the general statutes is
127 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
128 *October 1, 2017*):

129 (d) The state, acting by and in the discretion of the Commissioner of
130 Early Childhood, may enter into a contract with a municipality, a
131 human resource development agency or a nonprofit corporation for
132 state financial assistance for a project of renovation of any child care
133 center receiving assistance under this section, to make such center
134 accessible to [the physically disabled] persons with physical
135 disabilities, in the form of a state grant-in-aid equal to (1) the total net
136 cost of the project, as approved by the Commissioner of Early
137 Childhood, or (2) the total amount by which the net cost of the project,
138 as approved by the Commissioner of Early Childhood, exceeds the
139 federal grant-in-aid thereof.

140 Sec. 9. Subsection (c) of section 8-216b of the general statutes is
141 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
142 *October 1, 2017*):

143 (c) Any grant-in-aid awarded to a housing site development agency

144 for a housing and community development project under this section
145 shall be used for one or more of the following activities: (1) Acquisition
146 of real property for housing or community facilities; (2) rehabilitation
147 of buildings for use as housing or community facilities; (3)
148 improvements supporting the development of low and moderate
149 housing, including site assemblage and preparation, site and public
150 improvements and preconstruction costs; (4) construction,
151 rehabilitation or renovation of community facilities or infrastructure
152 supporting community facilities, including neighborhood centers,
153 centers for [the handicapped] persons with disabilities, senior centers,
154 historic properties, public utilities, streets, street lighting, parking
155 facilities, sewer and drainage facilities, parks, playgrounds, and
156 recreation facilities; (5) removal of architectural barriers which restrict
157 the mobility and accessibility of [elderly and handicapped persons]
158 persons who are elderly and persons with disabilities; (6) relocation
159 payments and assistance to individuals and families; (7) building,
160 health and housing code enforcement activities; and (8) reasonable
161 administrative costs incurred by the grantee in connection with the
162 project. A redevelopment agency acting as a housing site development
163 agency shall have the power to condemn real property, in accordance
164 with the procedures set forth in sections 8-129 to 8-133, inclusive, for
165 the purpose of a housing and community development project.

166 Sec. 10. Subsection (a) of section 8-420 of the general statutes is
167 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
168 *October 1, 2017*):

169 (a) The Commissioner of Housing shall develop a program of loans
170 to homeowners for costs incurred in the repair, replacement or
171 enlargement of subsurface sewage disposal systems that have been
172 determined to be a nuisance in accordance with the Public Health
173 Code. As used in this section, "costs" include technical and installation
174 expenses and stabilization of topsoil but does not include landscaping.
175 Any loan provided pursuant to this section shall bear interest at a rate
176 to be determined in accordance with subsection (t) of section 3-20.
177 Repayment of any loan made to a person [who is handicapped or]

178 with physical disability or a person sixty-two years of age or older may
179 be deferred until such person transfers the property.

180 Sec. 11. Subsection (a) of section 9-168d of the general statutes is
181 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
182 *October 1, 2017*):

183 (a) On or before July 1, 1980, each polling place shall be made
184 accessible to and usable by [physically disabled] persons with physical
185 disabilities by complying with the following standards of accessibility:
186 (1) Doors, entrances, and exits used to gain access to or egress from the
187 polling place shall have a minimum width of thirty-one inches; (2)
188 temporary ramps shall be made available or curb cuts provided where
189 necessary for accessibility to the entrance; (3) any stairs necessarily
190 used to enter the polling place shall have a temporary handrail and
191 ramp; (4) in the polling place, no barrier shall impede the path of [the
192 physically disabled] a person with physical disability to the voting
193 booth.

194 Sec. 12. Subdivision (9) of section 10-160 of the general statutes is
195 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
196 *October 1, 2017*):

197 (9) Assure that children with disabilities are integrated into
198 programs available to children who [are not disabled] do not have
199 disabilities; and

200 Sec. 13. Subdivision (44) of subsection (a) of section 10-29a of the
201 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
202 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

203 (44) The Governor shall proclaim the third week in May of each year
204 to be ["A Week to Remember Persons who are Disabled or Shut-in"] A
205 Week to Remember Persons who have a Disability or are Shut-in.
206 Suitable exercises shall be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as
207 the Governor designates for the observance of the week.

208 Sec. 14. Subsection (d) of section 10-73a of the general statutes is

209 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
210 *October 1, 2017*):

211 (d) The board of education of any providing school district may
212 waive fees of any kind to [a handicapped adult] an adult with a
213 disability, as defined by the State Board of Education, or to a person
214 sixty-two years of age or older registered for, or enrolled in, adult
215 programs, classes or activities permitted by subparagraph (B) of
216 subsection (a) of section 10-69, provided such board may charge a
217 cooperating school district (1) a registration fee for any [handicapped]
218 adult with a disability or any person sixty-two years of age or older
219 who is a resident of such cooperating district and who is enrolled,
220 through cooperative arrangements approved by the State Board of
221 Education, in any adult class or program of adult classes maintained
222 by such providing school district and required under section 10-69;
223 and (2) a charge for any books or materials furnished to any such
224 person for use in any adult class or activity or program of adult classes
225 or activities required under section 10-69 or permitted by
226 subparagraph (B) of subsection (a) of section 10-69.

227 Sec. 15. Subsection (d) of section 10-145b of the general statutes is
228 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
229 *October 1, 2017*):

230 (d) (1) On and after July 1, 2016, in order to be eligible to obtain an
231 initial educator certificate, each person shall be required to complete
232 (A) a course of study in special education comprised of not fewer than
233 thirty-six hours, which shall include an understanding of the growth
234 and development of exceptional children, including [handicapped
235 and] children with a disability, gifted and talented children and
236 children who may require special education, and methods for
237 identifying, planning for and working effectively with special needs
238 children in a regular classroom, and (B) a course or courses of study in
239 special education relating to instruction on classroom techniques in
240 reading, differentiated instruction, social-emotional learning, cultural
241 competencies and assistive technology. The provisions of this

242 subdivision shall not apply to any person who has been issued an
243 initial educator certificate prior to July 1, 2016.

244 (2) On and after July 1, 2016, in order to be eligible to obtain a
245 provisional educator certificate, each person shall be required to
246 complete a course of study in special education comprised of not fewer
247 than thirty-six hours, which shall include an understanding of the
248 growth and development of exceptional children, including
249 [handicapped and] children with a disability, gifted and talented
250 children and children who may require special education, and
251 methods for identifying, planning for and working effectively with
252 special needs children in a regular classroom.

253 (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection to the
254 contrary, each applicant for such certificates who has met all
255 requirements for certification except the completion of the course in
256 special education shall be entitled to a certificate (A) for a period not to
257 exceed one year, provided the applicant completed a teacher
258 preparation program either in the state prior to July 1, 1987, or outside
259 the state, or completed the necessary combination of professional
260 experience or coursework as required by the State Board of Education
261 or (B) for a period not to exceed two years if the applicant applies for
262 certification in an area for which a bachelor's degree is not required.

263 Sec. 16. Subsection (a) of section 10-220a of the general statutes is
264 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
265 *October 1, 2017*):

266 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall provide an in-
267 service training program for its teachers, administrators and pupil
268 personnel who hold the initial educator, provisional educator or
269 professional educator certificate. Such program shall provide such
270 teachers, administrators and pupil personnel with information on (1)
271 the nature and the relationship of drugs, as defined in subdivision (17)
272 of section 21a-240, and alcohol to health and personality development,
273 and procedures for discouraging their abuse, (2) health and mental
274 health risk reduction education that includes, but need not be limited

275 to, the prevention of risk-taking behavior by children and the
276 relationship of such behavior to substance abuse, pregnancy, sexually
277 transmitted diseases, including HIV-infection and AIDS, as defined in
278 section 19a-581, violence, teen dating violence, domestic violence, child
279 abuse and youth suicide, (3) the growth and development of
280 exceptional children, including [handicapped and] children with a
281 disability, gifted and talented children and children who may require
282 special education, including, but not limited to, children with
283 attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder or learning disabilities, and
284 methods for identifying, planning for and working effectively with
285 special needs children in a regular classroom, including, but not
286 limited to, implementation of student individualized education
287 programs, (4) school violence prevention, conflict resolution, the
288 prevention of and response to youth suicide and the identification and
289 prevention of and response to bullying, as defined in subsection (a) of
290 section 10-222d, except that those boards of education that implement
291 any evidence-based model approach that is approved by the
292 Department of Education and is consistent with subsection (d) of
293 section 10-145a, sections 10-222d, 10-222g and 10-222h, subsection (g)
294 of section 10-233c and sections 1 and 3 of public act 08-160, shall not be
295 required to provide in-service training on the identification and
296 prevention of and response to bullying, (5) cardiopulmonary
297 resuscitation and other emergency life saving procedures, (6) computer
298 and other information technology as applied to student learning and
299 classroom instruction, communications and data management, (7) the
300 teaching of the language arts, reading and reading readiness for
301 teachers in grades kindergarten to three, inclusive, (8) second language
302 acquisition in districts required to provide a program of bilingual
303 education pursuant to section 10-17f, (9) the requirements and
304 obligations of a mandated reporter, (10) the teacher evaluation and
305 support program adopted pursuant to subsection (b) of section 10-
306 151b, (11) the detection and recognition of, and evidence-based
307 structured literacy interventions for, students with dyslexia, as defined
308 in section 10-3d, and (12) cultural competency consistent with the
309 training in cultural competency described in subsection (i) of section

310 10-145a. Each local and regional board of education may allow any
311 paraprofessional or noncertified employee to participate, on a
312 voluntary basis, in any in-service training program provided pursuant
313 to this section. The State Board of Education, within available
314 appropriations and utilizing available materials, shall assist and
315 encourage local and regional boards of education to include: (A)
316 Holocaust and genocide education and awareness; (B) the historical
317 events surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (C) African-American
318 history; (D) Puerto Rican history; (E) Native American history; (F)
319 personal financial management; (G) domestic violence and teen dating
320 violence; (H) mental health first aid training; (I) trauma-informed
321 practices for the school setting to enable teachers, administrators and
322 pupil personnel to more adequately respond to students with mental,
323 emotional or behavioral health needs; (J) second language acquisition,
324 including, but not limited to, language development and culturally
325 responsive pedagogy; and (K) topics approved by the state board upon
326 the request of local or regional boards of education as part of in-service
327 training programs pursuant to this subsection.

328 Sec. 17. Subsection (a) of section 10-292 of the general statutes is
329 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
330 *October 1, 2017*):

331 (a) Upon receipt by the Commissioner of Administrative Services of
332 the final plans for any phase of a school building project as provided in
333 section 10-291, said commissioner shall promptly review such plans
334 and check them to the extent appropriate for the phase of development
335 or construction for which final plans have been submitted to determine
336 whether they conform with the requirements of the Fire Safety Code,
337 the Department of Public Health, the life-cycle cost analysis approved
338 by the Commissioner of Administrative Services, the State Building
339 Code and the state and federal standards for design and construction
340 of public buildings to meet the needs of [disabled] persons with
341 disabilities, and if acceptable a final written approval of such phase
342 shall be sent to the town or regional board of education and the school
343 building committee. No phase of a school building project, subject to

344 the provisions of subsection (c) or (d) of this section, shall go out for
345 bidding purposes prior to such written approval.

346 Sec. 18. Section 10-293 of the general statutes is repealed and the
347 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

348 (a) There is established [a Board of Education and Services for the
349 Blind] an Advisory Board for Persons with Blindness or Visual
350 Impairment that shall serve as an advisor to the Department of
351 Rehabilitation Services in fulfilling its responsibilities in providing
352 services to [the blind and] persons who are blind or visually impaired
353 in the state.

354 (b) (1) The [Board of Education and Services for the Blind] Advisory
355 Board for Persons with Blindness or Visual Impairment shall consist of
356 members appointed as follows: Six appointed by the Governor, one
357 appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one appointed
358 by the speaker of the House of Representatives, one appointed by the
359 majority leader of the Senate, one appointed by the minority leader of
360 the Senate, one appointed by the majority leader of the House of
361 Representatives and one appointed by the minority leader of the
362 House of Representatives and all shall be residents of the state. The
363 Commissioner of Social Services shall be [a member, ex officio] an ex-
364 officio member. One of the members appointed by the Governor shall
365 be the parent of a child who receives services provided by the [board]
366 Department of Rehabilitation Services, and not less than two of the
367 members appointed by the Governor shall be [blind] persons who are
368 blind.

369 (2) Three members appointed by the Governor shall serve a term of
370 four years. Three members appointed by the Governor shall serve a
371 term of two years. The three members appointed by the president pro
372 tempore of the Senate, the majority leader of the Senate and the
373 minority leader of the Senate shall serve a term of four years. The three
374 members appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
375 the majority leader of the House of Representatives, and the minority
376 leader of the House of Representatives shall serve a term of two years.

377 Thereafter, all members shall be appointed for a term of four years,
378 commencing on January fourth of the year of the appointment.

379 (3) One of the members appointed by the Governor shall be
380 designated by the Governor as the chairperson of the advisory board.
381 The advisory board shall meet annually in the month of September
382 and may meet at any other time upon the call of its chairperson; and
383 the chairperson shall call a meeting at the request of two or more
384 members. Any appointed member who fails to attend three
385 consecutive meetings or fifty per cent of all meetings held during any
386 calendar year shall be deemed to have resigned. A majority of the
387 members in office shall constitute a quorum. The appointing authority
388 may, for reasonable cause, remove any appointed member and appoint
389 another person to fill the vacancy for the unexpired portion of the
390 term. Any vacancy in the [Board of Education and Services for the
391 Blind] advisory board shall be filled by the appointing authority for
392 the unexpired portion of the term.

393 Sec. 19. Subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of section 2c-2h of the
394 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
395 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

396 (3) [Board of Education and Services for the Blind] Advisory Board
397 for Persons with Blindness or Visual Impairment, established under
398 section 10-293, as amended by this act;

399 Sec. 20. Subsection (b) of section 5-175a of the general statutes is
400 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
401 *October 1, 2017*):

402 (b) Any member of the state employees retirement system who
403 operated vending stands under permits held by the [State Board of
404 Education and Services for the Blind] Advisory Board for Persons with
405 Blindness or Visual Impairment pursuant to section 10-303, prior to
406 October 1, 1971, may obtain credit for such period or periods of service
407 for retirement purposes; provided [he] such member has been in the
408 active full-time employment of the state continuously for twelve

409 months next preceding [his] such member's written request to the
410 Retirement Commission for such credit, and by making retirement
411 contributions of five per cent of [his] such member's adjusted gross
412 income arising out of the operation of such stands for each of such
413 years with interest thereon at the rate of five per cent per year from the
414 time of such operation to the date of payment, all as certified by the
415 [State Board of Education and Services for the Blind] Advisory Board
416 for Persons with Blindness or Visual Impairment. Such payments may
417 be made in twelve equal monthly installments but such service credit
418 shall not be granted unless payment of installments is completed.

419 Sec. 21. Section 5-177 of the general statutes is repealed and the
420 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

421 Any person in the unclassified service employed full time by the
422 Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut, the State Board of
423 Education, the [Board of Education and Services for the Blind]
424 Advisory Board for Persons with Blindness or Visual Impairment, the
425 Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, the American School for
426 the Deaf, the Connecticut Institute for the Blind, the Newington
427 Children's Hospital, the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State
428 University System or the Board of Trustees of the Community-
429 Technical Colleges, as a teacher or administrator in a position directly
430 involved in educational activities in any state-operated institution or
431 the Board of Regents for Higher Education, who served prior to [his]
432 such person's employment by the state in a full-time teaching,
433 administrative or research position in an educational institution in or
434 under the authority of a state department of education or a department
435 of education for the blind in the United States approved by the
436 Retirement Commission, or who was employed by such institution but
437 served all or part of such service time in a foreign country, for which
438 service [he] such person has received or will receive no retirement
439 benefit or pension, may gain credit for such prior service, not to exceed
440 ten years in the aggregate, by making retirement contributions for each
441 year of such prior service equal to six per cent of [his] such person's
442 annual rate of compensation when [he] such person first became a full-

443 time employee of this state; provided such payment shall be made
444 within one year of [his] such person's first full-time employment with
445 the state, or before July 1, 1968, whichever is later, but for the Board of
446 Higher Education and Technical Colleges, July 1, 1974. When a person
447 who has gained credit for such prior service retires, not more than one
448 year of such service may be counted for each two years of state service;
449 provided, if such person has purchased more of such service than can
450 be counted, refund on the amount paid on the extra years of service
451 shall be made.

452 Sec. 22. Section 10-295 of the general statutes is repealed and the
453 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

454 (a) All residents of this state, regardless of age, who, because of
455 blindness or impaired vision, require specialized vision-related
456 educational programs, goods and services, on the signed
457 recommendation of the Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services, shall
458 be entitled to receive such instruction, programs, goods and services
459 for such length of time as is deemed expedient by said commissioner.
460 Upon the petition of any parent or guardian of a [blind child or a child
461 with impaired vision] child with blindness or visual impairment, a
462 local board of education may provide such instruction within the town
463 or it may provide for such instruction by agreement with other towns
464 as provided in subsection (d) of section 10-76d. All educational
465 privileges prescribed in part V of chapter 164, not inconsistent with the
466 provisions of this chapter, shall apply to the pupils covered by this
467 subsection.

468 (b) The Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services shall expend funds
469 for the services made available pursuant to subsection (a) of this
470 section from the educational aid for [blind and visually handicapped]
471 children with blindness or visual impairment account in accordance
472 with the provisions of this subsection. The Commissioner of
473 Rehabilitation Services may adopt, in accordance with the provisions
474 of chapter 54, such regulations as the commissioner deems necessary
475 to carry out the purpose and intent of this subsection.

476 (1) The Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services shall provide, upon
477 written request from any interested school district, the services of
478 teachers [of the visually impaired] who instruct students with visual
479 impairments, based on the levels established in the individualized
480 education or service plan. The Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services
481 shall also make available resources, including, but not limited to, the
482 [Braille] braille and large print library, to all teachers of public and
483 nonpublic school children. The commissioner may also provide vision-
484 related professional development and training to all school districts
485 and cover the actual cost for paraprofessionals from school districts to
486 participate in agency-sponsored [Braille] braille training programs.
487 The commissioner shall utilize education consultant positions, funded
488 by moneys appropriated from the General Fund, to supplement new
489 staffing that will be made available through the educational aid for
490 [the blind and visually handicapped] children with blindness or visual
491 impairment account, which shall be governed by formal written
492 policies established by the commissioner.

493 (2) The Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services may use funds
494 appropriated to said account to provide specialized books, materials,
495 equipment, supplies, adaptive technology services and devices,
496 specialist examinations and aids, preschool programs and vision-
497 related independent living services, excluding primary educational
498 placement, for eligible children.

499 (3) The Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services may, within
500 available appropriations, employ certified teachers [of the visually
501 impaired] who instruct students with visual impairments in sufficient
502 numbers to meet the requests for services received from school
503 districts. In responding to such requests, the commissioner shall utilize
504 a formula for determining the number of teachers needed to serve the
505 school districts, crediting six points for each [Braille-learning] child
506 learning braille and one point for each other child, with one full-time
507 certified teacher [of the visually impaired] who instructs students with
508 visual impairments assigned for every twenty-five points credited. The
509 commissioner shall exercise due diligence to employ the needed

510 number of certified teachers [of the visually impaired] who instruct
511 students with visual impairments, but shall not be liable for lack of
512 resources. Funds appropriated to said account may also be utilized to
513 employ additional staff in numbers sufficient to provide compensatory
514 skills, evaluations and training to children who are blind [and] or
515 visually impaired, [children and] special assistants [to the blind] and
516 other support staff necessary to ensure the efficient operation of
517 service delivery. Not later than October first of each year, the
518 Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services shall determine the number
519 of teachers needed based on the formula provided in this subdivision.
520 Based on such determination, the Commissioner of Rehabilitation
521 Services shall estimate the funding needed to pay such teachers'
522 salaries and related expenses.

523 (4) In any fiscal year, when funds appropriated to cover the
524 combined costs associated with providing the services set forth in
525 subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection are projected to be
526 insufficient, the Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services may collect
527 revenue from all school districts that have requested such services on a
528 per student pro rata basis, in the sums necessary to cover the projected
529 portion of these services for which there are insufficient
530 appropriations.

531 (c) The Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services may provide for the
532 instruction of [the adult] adults who are blind in their homes,
533 expending annually for this purpose such sums as the General
534 Assembly may appropriate.

535 (d) The Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services may expend up to
536 ten thousand dollars per fiscal year per person twenty-one years of age
537 or [over] older who is both blind or visually impaired and deaf, in
538 addition to any other expenditures for such person, for the purpose of
539 providing community inclusion services through specialized public
540 and private entities from which such person can benefit. The
541 commissioner may determine the criteria by which a person is eligible
542 to receive specialized services and may adopt regulations necessary to

543 carry out the provisions of this subsection. For purposes of this
544 subsection, "community inclusion services" means the assistance
545 provided to persons with disabilities to enable them to connect with
546 their peers without disabilities and with the community at large.

547 (e) The Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services may, within
548 available appropriations, purchase adaptive equipment for persons
549 receiving services pursuant to this chapter.

550 Sec. 23. Section 10-296 of the general statutes is repealed and the
551 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

552 The Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services may, within available
553 appropriations, contract with public or private entities, individuals or
554 private enterprises for the instruction of [the] persons who are blind.

555 Sec. 24. Section 10-297 of the general statutes is repealed and the
556 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

557 The Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services is authorized to aid in
558 securing employment for [legally blind] persons who are legally blind.
559 Said commissioner may aid [legally blind] persons who are legally
560 blind in such way as said commissioner deems expedient, expending
561 for such purpose such sum as the General Assembly appropriates.

562 Sec. 25. Subsection (a) of section 10-298 of the general statutes is
563 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
564 *October 1, 2017*):

565 (a) The Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services shall prepare and
566 maintain a register of [the] persons who are blind in this state which
567 shall describe their condition, cause of blindness and capacity for
568 education and rehabilitative training. The commissioner may register
569 cases of persons [whose eyesight is seriously defective and] who are
570 liable to become visually [disabled] impaired or blind, and may take
571 such measures in cooperation with other authorities as the
572 commissioner deems advisable for the prevention of blindness or
573 conservation of eyesight and, in appropriate cases, for the education of

574 children and for the vocational guidance of adults [having seriously
575 defective sight but who are not blind] whose eyesight approaches
576 visual impairment or blindness. The commissioner shall establish
577 criteria for low vision care and maintain a list of ophthalmologists and
578 optometrists that are exclusively authorized to receive agency funds
579 through established and existing state fee schedules for the delivery of
580 specifically defined low vision services that increase the capacity of
581 eligible recipients of such services to maximize the use of their
582 remaining vision.

583 Sec. 26. Section 10-305 of the general statutes is repealed and the
584 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

585 Each physician, advanced practice registered nurse and optometrist
586 shall report in writing to the Department of Rehabilitation Services
587 [within thirty days each blind person coming] not later than thirty
588 days after a person who is blind comes under his or her private or
589 institutional care within this state. The report of such [blind] person
590 shall include the name, address, Social Security number, date of birth,
591 date of diagnosis of blindness and degree of vision. Such reports shall
592 not be open to public inspection.

593 Sec. 27. Section 10-306 of the general statutes is repealed and the
594 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

595 The Department of Rehabilitation Services may maintain a
596 vocational rehabilitation program as authorized under the Federal
597 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 USC 791 et seq., for the purpose of
598 providing and coordinating the full scope of necessary services to
599 assist [legally blind recipients of] persons who are legally blind and
600 who receive services from the department to prepare for, enter into
601 and maintain employment consistent with the purposes of said act.

602 Sec. 28. Section 12-65g of the general statutes is repealed and the
603 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

604 The legislative body of any municipality may, by ordinance,

605 authorize such municipality to enter into a written agreement with an
606 owner of any real property who agrees to improve, rehabilitate or
607 renovate any building thereon to meet the standards of design and
608 construction of the State Building Code to accommodate [physically
609 disabled] persons with physical disabilities, as set forth in article 512 of
610 the State Building Code, or any subsequent corresponding section of
611 the State Building Code, as from time to time amended, to fix the
612 assessment on such property as of the date of the agreement for a
613 period of not longer than five years and to defer any increase in
614 assessment attributable to such improvement, rehabilitation or
615 renovation during such period, provided (1) the agreement shall be
616 approved by the local building official and (2) such improvement,
617 rehabilitation or renovation shall be completed not later than three
618 years from the date of the agreement and, upon completion, shall be
619 subject to inspection and certification by such local building official as
620 being in conformance with the applicable provisions of said code.

621 Sec. 29. Subparagraph (B) of subdivision (7) of section 12-81 of the
622 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
623 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

624 (B) On and after July 1, 1967, housing subsidized, in whole or in
625 part, by federal, state or local government and housing for persons or
626 families of low and moderate income shall not constitute a charitable
627 purpose under this section. As used in this subdivision, "housing" shall
628 not include real property used for temporary housing belonging to, or
629 held in trust for, any corporation organized exclusively for charitable
630 purposes and exempt from taxation for federal income tax purposes,
631 the primary use of which property is one or more of the following: (i)
632 An orphanage; (ii) a drug or alcohol treatment or rehabilitation facility;
633 (iii) housing for [homeless individuals, mentally or physically
634 handicapped individuals or] persons who are homeless, persons with
635 a mental health disorder, persons with intellectual or physical
636 disability [, or for] or victims of domestic violence; (iv) housing for ex-
637 offenders or for individuals participating in a program sponsored by
638 the state Department of Correction or Judicial Branch; and (v) short-

639 term housing operated by a charitable organization where the average
640 length of stay is less than six months. The operation of such housing,
641 including the receipt of any rental payments, by such charitable
642 organization shall be deemed to be an exclusively charitable purpose;

643 Sec. 30. Subdivision (19) of section 12-412 of the general statutes is
644 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
645 *October 1, 2017*):

646 (19) Sales of and the storage, use or other consumption of (A)
647 oxygen, blood or blood plasma when sold for medical use in humans
648 or animals; (B) artificial devices individually designed, constructed or
649 altered solely for the use of a particular [handicapped] person with
650 physical disability so as to become a brace, support, supplement,
651 correction or substitute for the bodily structure, including the
652 extremities of the individual, and repair or replacement parts and
653 repair services rendered to property described in this subparagraph;
654 (C) artificial limbs, artificial eyes and other equipment worn as a
655 correction or substitute for any functioning portion of the body,
656 custom-made wigs or hairpieces for persons with medically diagnosed
657 total and permanent hair loss as a result of disease or the treatment of
658 disease, artificial hearing aids when designed to be worn on the person
659 of the owner or user, closed circuit television equipment used as a
660 reading aid by persons who are visually impaired and repair or
661 replacement parts and repair services rendered to property described
662 in this subparagraph; (D) canes, crutches, walkers, wheel chairs and
663 inclined stairway chairlifts for the use of [invalids and handicapped
664 persons] any person with physical disability, and repair or
665 replacement parts and repair services to property described in this
666 subparagraph; (E) any equipment used in support of or to supply vital
667 life functions, including oxygen supply equipment used for humans or
668 animals, kidney dialysis machines and any other such device used in
669 necessary support of vital life functions, and apnea monitors, and
670 repair or replacement parts and repair services rendered to property
671 described in this subparagraph; and (F) support hose that is specially
672 designed to aid in the circulation of blood and is purchased by a

673 person who has a medical need for such hose. Repair or replacement
674 parts are exempt whether purchased separately or in conjunction with
675 the item for which they are intended, and whether such parts continue
676 the original function or enhance the functionality of such item. As used
677 in this subdivision, "repair services" means services that are described
678 in subparagraph (Q) or (CC) of subdivision (37) of subsection (a) of
679 section 12-407.

680 Sec. 31. Subdivision (46) of section 12-412 of the general statutes is
681 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
682 *October 1, 2017*):

683 (46) Sales of home delivered meals to [elderly, disabled and other
684 homebound] persons who are older, have physical disabilities or are
685 otherwise homebound.

686 Sec. 32. Subsection (c) of section 12-455a of the general statutes is
687 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
688 *October 1, 2017*):

689 (c) "Motor vehicle" means any vehicle propelled or drawn by any
690 power other than muscular, except aircraft, motorboats, road rollers,
691 baggage trucks used about railroad stations, electric battery-operated
692 wheel chairs when operated by [physically handicapped] persons with
693 physical disabilities at speeds not exceeding fifteen miles per hour,
694 agricultural tractors, farm implements and such vehicles as run only
695 upon rails or tracks;

696 Sec. 33. Section 12-635 of the general statutes is repealed and the
697 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

698 The Commissioner of Revenue Services shall grant a credit against
699 any tax due under the provisions of chapter 207, 208, 209, 210, 211 or
700 212: (1) In an amount not to exceed one hundred per cent of the total
701 cash amount invested during the taxable year by the business firm in
702 programs operated or created pursuant to proposals approved
703 pursuant to section 12-632 for energy conservation projects directed

704 toward properties occupied by persons, at least seventy-five per cent
705 of whom are at an income level not exceeding one hundred fifty per
706 cent of the poverty level for the year next preceding the year during
707 which such tax credit is to be granted; (2) in an amount equal to one
708 hundred per cent of the total cash amount invested during the taxable
709 year by the business firm in programs operated or created pursuant to
710 proposals approved pursuant to section 12-632 for energy conservation
711 projects at properties owned or occupied by charitable corporations,
712 foundations, trusts or other entities as determined under regulations
713 adopted pursuant to this chapter; (3) in an amount equal to one
714 hundred per cent of the total cash amount invested during the taxable
715 year by the business firm in a comprehensive college access loan
716 forgiveness program located in an "educational reform district" as
717 defined in section 10-262u, that has established minimum eligibility
718 criteria including, but not limited to, years of enrollment in the
719 educational reform district, grade point average, attendance record
720 and loan forgiveness prerequisite; or (4) in an amount not to exceed
721 sixty per cent of the total cash amount invested during the taxable year
722 by the business firm (A) in employment and training programs
723 directed at youths, at least seventy-five per cent of whom are at an
724 income level not exceeding one hundred fifty per cent of the poverty
725 level for the year next preceding the year during which such tax credit
726 is to be granted; (B) in employment and training programs directed at
727 [handicapped persons as determined under regulations adopted
728 pursuant to this chapter] persons with physical disabilities; (C) in
729 employment and training programs for unemployed workers who are
730 fifty years of age or older; (D) in education and employment training
731 programs for recipients in the temporary family assistance program; or
732 (E) in child care services. Any other program which serves persons at
733 least seventy-five per cent of whom are at an income level not
734 exceeding one hundred fifty per cent of the poverty level for the year
735 next preceding the year during which such tax credit is to be granted
736 and which meets the standards for eligibility under this chapter shall
737 be eligible for a tax credit under this section in an amount equal to
738 sixty per cent of the total cash invested by the business firm in such

739 program.

740 Sec. 34. Section 13b-4a of the general statutes is repealed and the
741 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

742 The Commissioner of Transportation may, at the request of any
743 nonprofit corporation or association providing transportation services
744 to [the elderly or handicapped] persons who are elderly or persons
745 with disabilities in this state, certify, to the extent necessary for such
746 corporation or association to apply for and receive federal funds for
747 the purchase and maintenance of buses, vans and [radiodispatch]
748 radio dispatch equipment under the provisions of the Urban Mass
749 Transportation Act, that such nonprofit corporation or association is
750 providing transportation services for [the elderly and handicapped]
751 persons who are elderly and persons with disabilities in this state. Said
752 commissioner may adopt regulations in accordance with the
753 provisions of chapter 54 to implement the purposes of this section.

754 Sec. 35. Section 13b-4c of the general statutes is repealed and the
755 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

756 Notwithstanding any section of the general statutes to the contrary,
757 no state agency, other than the Department of Transportation, shall
758 expend funds in support of, or make state property available for use
759 in, any transportation program for [the elderly or the handicapped]
760 persons who are elderly or persons with disabilities unless the
761 Commissioner of Transportation certifies, in writing, that: (1) The
762 commissioner has reviewed and concurs in such expenditure or use;
763 (2) such expenditure or use is consistent with the transportation
764 policies of the state; and (3) such expenditure or use will not result in
765 the unnecessary duplication of service. The provisions of this section
766 shall not apply to any transportation service not available to the
767 general public that is provided by any such program.

768 Sec. 36. Section 13b-105 of the general statutes is repealed and the
769 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

770 The Department of Transportation may, with or without hearing,
771 issue temporary and permanent livery permits to applicants for the
772 express purpose of providing reasonable livery service to
773 [handicapped persons and elderly persons] persons who are elderly
774 and persons with disabilities on regular or irregular routes where the
775 department finds no existing service or that the existing service is not
776 adequate to properly serve the special needs of [elderly persons and
777 handicapped persons] persons who are elderly and persons with
778 disabilities. Temporary authority shall not extend over a period of
779 more than sixty days. In determining the special needs of [the
780 handicapped and elderly] persons who are elderly and persons with
781 disabilities, the department may take into consideration the
782 convenience and the physical and mental frailties of, and the care,
783 safety and protection necessary for the best interest of, [the
784 handicapped and elderly] persons who are elderly, persons with
785 disabilities and the general public. No applicant shall be issued a
786 temporary or permanent permit unless such applicant's motor vehicle
787 meets the requirements of subsection (e) of section 14-100a. Applicants
788 who were issued a temporary or permanent permit prior to October 1,
789 2007, shall comply with the requirements of subsection (e) of section
790 14-100a not later than October 1, 2007.

791 Sec. 37. Subdivision (54) of section 14-1 of the general statutes is
792 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
793 *October 1, 2017*):

794 (54) "Motor vehicle" means any vehicle propelled or drawn by any
795 nonmuscular power, except aircraft, motor boats, road rollers, baggage
796 trucks used about railroad stations or other mass transit facilities,
797 electric battery-operated wheel chairs when operated by [physically
798 handicapped] persons with physical disabilities at speeds not
799 exceeding fifteen miles per hour, golf carts operated on highways
800 solely for the purpose of crossing from one part of the golf course to
801 another, golf-cart-type vehicles operated on roads or highways on the
802 grounds of state institutions by state employees, agricultural tractors,
803 farm implements, such vehicles as run only on rails or tracks, self-

804 propelled snow plows, snow blowers and lawn mowers, when used
805 for the purposes for which they were designed and operated at speeds
806 not exceeding four miles per hour, whether or not the operator rides
807 on or walks behind such equipment, motor-driven cycles as defined in
808 section 14-286, special mobile equipment as defined in section 14-165,
809 mini-motorcycles, as defined in section 14-289j, and any other vehicle
810 not suitable for operation on a highway;

811 Sec. 38. Subdivision (4) of subsection (e) of section 14-36 of the
812 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
813 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

814 (4) If any applicant or operator license holder has any health
815 problem which might affect such person's ability to operate a motor
816 vehicle safely, the commissioner may require the applicant or license
817 holder to demonstrate personally or otherwise establish that,
818 notwithstanding such problem, such applicant or license holder is a
819 proper person to operate a motor vehicle, and the commissioner may
820 further require a certificate of such applicant's condition, signed by a
821 medical authority designated by the commissioner, which certificate
822 shall in all cases be treated as confidential by the commissioner. A
823 license, containing such limitation as the commissioner deems
824 advisable, may be issued or renewed in any case, but nothing in this
825 section shall be construed to prevent the commissioner from refusing a
826 license, either limited or unlimited, to any person or suspending a
827 license of a person whom the commissioner determines to be incapable
828 of safely operating a motor vehicle. Consistent with budgetary
829 allotments, each motor vehicle operator's license issued to or renewed
830 by a [deaf or hearing impaired] person who is deaf or hard of hearing
831 shall, upon the request of such person, indicate such impairment. Such
832 person shall submit a certificate stating such impairment, in such form
833 as the commissioner may require and signed by a licensed health care
834 practitioner.

835 Sec. 39. Section 14-275b of the general statutes is repealed and the
836 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

837 The provisions of section 14-275 and subsection (b) of section 14-
838 275a shall not apply to any motor vehicle when used exclusively for
839 the transportation of [mobility impaired] students under the age of
840 twenty-one who have mobility impairments, provided such motor
841 vehicle has been approved for such purpose by the commissioner.

842 Sec. 40. Subsection (a) of section 14-300i of the general statutes is
843 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
844 *October 1, 2017*):

845 (a) As used in subsection (b) of this section, (1) "vulnerable user"
846 means: (A) A pedestrian; (B) a highway worker; (C) a person riding or
847 driving an animal; (D) a person riding a bicycle; (E) a person using a
848 skateboard, roller skates or in-line skates; (F) a person operating or
849 riding on an agricultural tractor; (G) a person using a wheelchair or
850 motorized chair; and (H) a [blind] person who is blind and such
851 person's service animal, and (2) "public way" includes any state or
852 other public highway, road, street, avenue, alley, driveway, parkway
853 or place, under the control of the state or any political subdivision of
854 the state, dedicated, appropriated or opened to public travel or other
855 use.

856 Sec. 41. Subsection (c) of section 14-307 of the general statutes is
857 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
858 *October 1, 2017*):

859 (c) No person shall park any vehicle in any place where parking is
860 prohibited or park any vehicle for a longer period than that indicated
861 as lawful by any sign erected and maintained in accordance with the
862 provisions of this chapter, except: (1) A person operating an armored
863 car vehicle may, while in the performance of such person's duties, park
864 for a period not to exceed ten minutes in a place where parking is
865 prohibited, provided such vehicle does not obstruct or impede the
866 normal and reasonable movement of traffic, or (2) a vehicle displaying
867 a special license plate or a removable windshield placard issued
868 pursuant to section 14-253a or by authorities of other states or
869 countries for the purpose of identifying vehicles permitted to utilize

870 parking spaces reserved for persons with disabilities which limit or
871 impair their ability to walk or [blind] persons who are blind, may park
872 in an area where parking is legally permissible, for an unlimited
873 period of time without penalty, notwithstanding the period of time
874 indicated as lawful by any (A) parking meter, or (B) sign erected and
875 maintained in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

876 Sec. 42. Subsection (a) of section 14-314c of the general statutes is
877 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
878 *October 1, 2017*):

879 (a) The Office of the State Traffic Administration, on any state
880 highway, or a local traffic authority, on any highway under its control,
881 shall, upon receipt of an application on behalf of any person under the
882 age of eighteen who is deaf, as certified by a physician or an advanced
883 practice registered nurse, erect one or more signs in the person's
884 neighborhood to warn motor vehicle operators of the presence of [the
885 deaf] such person.

886 Sec. 43. Section 14-325b of the general statutes is repealed and the
887 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

888 (a) Each retail dealer as defined in section 14-318 that offers self-
889 service and full-service facilities for the sale of gasoline or motor fuel
890 shall provide, at a self-service pump, upon request, refueling service to
891 [a handicapped driver of a vehicle] an operator who has a disability
892 and is operating a motor vehicle that bears a special license plate or a
893 removable windshield placard issued pursuant to section 14-253a, at a
894 price no greater than that which such dealer would charge the public
895 to purchase gasoline or motor fuel without any refueling service.

896 (b) Each retail dealer that is required to provide refueling service to
897 [a handicapped driver] an operator who has a disability pursuant to
898 subsection (a) of this section shall publicly display and maintain on or
899 near each self-service pump a clearly legible sign informing the public
900 that such retail dealer will provide refueling service to such
901 [handicapped driver] operator upon request. Such sign shall be

902 displayed in a location and manner that is clearly visible to
903 [handicapped drivers] operators who have disabilities and shall
904 contain instructions indicating how [a handicapped driver] an
905 operator who has a disability may contact or notify the retail dealer or
906 cashier, if applicable, [if the handicapped driver] that such operator
907 requires refueling service.

908 (c) The provisions of this section shall not apply to dealers that sell
909 gasoline or motor fuel and that (1) have remotely controlled pumps, or
910 (2) are operated by a single cashier.

911 Sec. 44. Section 16a-15a of the general statutes is repealed and the
912 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

913 The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall adopt regulations
914 in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 specifying the manner
915 in which retail dealers, as defined in section 14-318, shall notify
916 customers of the location of self-service and full-service fuel pumps or
917 any pumps at which discounts are offered for cash payment or credit
918 cards are accepted. The regulations shall include provision for the
919 direction of [handicapped drivers] motor vehicle operators with
920 disabilities to the appropriate self-service pump as provided in section
921 14-325b, as amended by this act.

922 Sec. 45. Subsection (b) of section 16a-41 of the general statutes is
923 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
924 *October 1, 2017*):

925 (b) Any state agency which administers or funds an energy
926 assistance program, an energy conservation loan, grant, audit, or
927 service program or a renewable resources loan, grant or service
928 program shall adopt regulations in accordance with chapter 54 for
929 such program in order to protect the due process rights of the
930 applicants. The regulations shall include, but not be limited to, the
931 following, where applicable: (1) Procedures for applications and their
932 disposition, including record-keeping; (2) procedures for the
933 immediate provision of appropriate assistance to eligible applicants

934 who are without or in imminent danger of being without heat, hot
935 water or utilities; (3) standards of assistance, including eligibility and
936 benefits; (4) procedures for assisting [elderly, handicapped, bilingual]
937 persons who are elderly, persons with disabilities, bilingual persons
938 and other persons who are unable to file such applications without
939 assistance; (5) procedures for assisting applicants in obtaining other
940 forms of assistance; (6) procedures for written notice to applicants of
941 the disposition of their applications and the basis for each full or
942 partial denial of assistance; and (7) administrative appeal procedures,
943 including notice to applicants of the availability of such procedures.

944 Sec. 46. Section 17a-301a of the general statutes is repealed and the
945 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

946 (a) Effective January 1, 2013, there shall be established a Department
947 on Aging that shall be under the direction and supervision of the
948 Commissioner on Aging who shall be appointed by the Governor in
949 accordance with the provisions of sections 4-5 to 4-8, inclusive, with
950 the powers and duties prescribed in said sections. The commissioner
951 shall be knowledgeable and experienced with respect to the conditions
952 and needs of [elderly] older persons and shall serve on a full-time
953 basis.

954 (b) The Commissioner on Aging shall administer all laws under the
955 jurisdiction of the Department on Aging and shall employ the most
956 efficient and practical means for the provision of care and protection of
957 [elderly] older persons. The commissioner shall have the power and
958 duty to do the following: (1) Administer, coordinate and direct the
959 operation of the department; (2) adopt and enforce regulations, in
960 accordance with chapter 54, as necessary to implement the purposes of
961 the department as established by statute; (3) establish rules for the
962 internal operation and administration of the department; (4) establish
963 and develop programs and administer services to achieve the purposes
964 of the department; (5) contract for facilities, services and programs to
965 implement the purposes of the department; (6) act as advocate for
966 necessary additional comprehensive and coordinated programs for

967 [elderly] older persons; (7) assist and advise all appropriate state,
968 federal, local and area planning agencies for [elderly] older persons in
969 the performance of their functions and duties pursuant to federal law
970 and regulation; (8) plan services and programs for [elderly] older
971 persons; (9) coordinate outreach activities by public and private
972 agencies serving [elderly] older persons; and (10) consult and
973 cooperate with area and private planning agencies.

974 (c) The Department on Aging is designated as the State Unit on
975 Aging to administer, manage, design and advocate for benefits,
976 programs and services for [the elderly] older persons and their families
977 pursuant to the Older Americans Act. The department shall study
978 continuously the conditions and needs of [elderly] older persons in
979 this state in relation to nutrition, transportation, home care, housing,
980 income, employment, health, recreation and other matters. The
981 department shall be responsible, in cooperation with federal, state,
982 local and area planning agencies on aging, for the overall planning,
983 development and administration of a comprehensive and integrated
984 social service delivery system for [elderly] older persons. The
985 department shall: (1) Measure the need for services; (2) survey
986 methods of administration of programs for service delivery; (3)
987 provide for periodic evaluations of social services; (4) maintain
988 technical, information, consultation and referral services in
989 cooperation with other state agencies to local and area public and
990 private agencies to the fullest extent possible; (5) develop and
991 coordinate educational outreach programs for the purposes of
992 informing the public and [elderly] older persons of available
993 programs; (6) cooperate in the development of performance standards
994 for licensing of residential and medical facilities with appropriate state
995 agencies; (7) supervise the establishment, in selected areas and local
996 communities of the state, of pilot programs for [elderly] older persons;
997 (8) coordinate with the Department of Transportation to provide
998 adequate transportation services related to the needs of [elderly] older
999 persons; and (9) cooperate with other state agencies to provide
1000 adequate and alternate housing for [elderly] older persons, including
1001 congregate housing, as defined in section 8-119e.

1002 (d) The functions, powers, duties and personnel of the Division of
1003 Aging Services of the Department of Social Services, or any subsequent
1004 division or portion of a division with similar functions, powers,
1005 personnel and duties, shall be transferred to the Department on Aging
1006 pursuant to the provisions of sections 4-38d, 4-38e and 4-39.

1007 [(e) The Department of Social Services shall administer programs
1008 under the jurisdiction of the Department on Aging until the
1009 Commissioner on Aging is appointed and administrative staff are
1010 hired.

1011 (f) The Governor may, with the approval of the Finance Advisory
1012 Committee, transfer funds between the Department of Social Services
1013 and the Department on Aging pursuant to subsection (b) of section 4-
1014 87 during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013.]

1015 [(g)] (e) Any order or regulation of the Department of Social
1016 Services or the former Commission on Aging that is in force on
1017 January 1, 2013, shall continue in force and effect as an order or
1018 regulation until amended, repealed or superseded pursuant to law.

1019 Sec. 47. Subsection (a) of section 17a-302 of the general statutes is
1020 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
1021 *October 1, 2017*):

1022 (a) The Department on Aging shall be responsible for the
1023 administration of programs which provide nutritionally sound diets to
1024 needy [elderly] older persons and for the expansion of such programs
1025 when possible. Such programs shall be continued in such a manner as
1026 to fully utilize congregate feeding and nutrition education of [elderly]
1027 older citizens who qualify for such program.

1028 Sec. 48. Section 17a-302a of the general statutes is repealed and the
1029 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1030 [(a)] The Department on Aging and the Department of Social
1031 Services shall hold quarterly meetings with nutrition service
1032 stakeholders to (1) develop recommendations to address complexities

1033 in the administrative processes of nutrition services programs, (2)
1034 establish quality control benchmarks in such programs, and (3) help
1035 move toward greater quality, efficiency and transparency in the
1036 elderly nutrition program. Stakeholders shall include, but need not be
1037 limited to, (A) one representative of each of the following: (i) Area
1038 agencies on aging, (ii) access agencies, (iii) the Commission on Women,
1039 Children and Seniors, and (iv) nutrition providers, and (B) one or more
1040 representatives of food security programs, contractors, nutrition host
1041 sites and consumers.

1042 [(b) The departments and stakeholders shall study alternative
1043 sources of funding for nutrition services programs. The departments
1044 and the nutrition service stakeholders shall, in accordance with the
1045 provisions of section 11-4a, submit a summary report on their findings
1046 and recommendations concerning any such alternative sources of
1047 funding, along with a report on any other recommendations they may
1048 have regarding nutrition services programs, to the joint standing
1049 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
1050 relating to aging not later than July 1, 2016.]

1051 Sec. 49. Section 17a-303a of the general statutes is repealed and the
1052 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1053 The Department on Aging shall establish, within available
1054 appropriations, a fall prevention program. Within such program, the
1055 department shall:

1056 (1) Promote and support research to: (A) Improve the identification,
1057 diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of older [adults] persons and
1058 others who have a high risk of falling; (B) improve data collection and
1059 analysis to identify risk factors for falls and factors that reduce the
1060 likelihood of falls; (C) design, implement and evaluate the most
1061 effective fall prevention interventions; (D) improve intervention
1062 strategies that have been proven effective in reducing falls by tailoring
1063 such strategies to specific populations of older [adults] persons; (E)
1064 maximize the dissemination of proven, effective fall prevention
1065 interventions; (F) assess the risk of falls occurring in various settings;

1066 (G) identify barriers to the adoption of proven interventions with
1067 respect to the prevention of falls among older [adults] persons; (H)
1068 develop, implement and evaluate the most effective approaches to
1069 reducing falls among high-risk older [adults] persons living in
1070 communities and long-term care and assisted living facilities; and (I)
1071 evaluate the effectiveness of community programs designed to prevent
1072 falls among older [adults] persons;

1073 (2) Establish, in consultation with the Commissioner of Public
1074 Health, a professional education program in fall prevention, evaluation
1075 and management for physicians, allied health professionals and other
1076 health care providers who provide services for [the elderly] older
1077 persons in this state. The Commissioner on Aging may contract for the
1078 establishment of such program through (A) a request for proposal
1079 process, (B) a competitive grant program, or (C) cooperative
1080 agreements with qualified organizations, institutions or consortia of
1081 qualified organizations and institutions;

1082 (3) Oversee and support demonstration and research projects to be
1083 carried out by organizations, institutions or consortia of organizations
1084 and institutions deemed qualified by the Commissioner on Aging.
1085 Such demonstration and research projects may be in the following
1086 areas:

1087 (A) Targeted fall risk screening and referral programs;

1088 (B) Programs designed for community-dwelling older [adults]
1089 persons that use fall intervention approaches, including physical
1090 activity, medication assessment and reduction of medication when
1091 possible, vision enhancement and home-modification strategies;

1092 (C) Programs that target new fall victims who are at a high risk for
1093 second falls and that are designed to maximize independence and
1094 quality of life for older [adults] persons, particularly those older
1095 [adults] persons with functional limitations;

1096 (D) Private sector and public-private partnerships to develop

1097 technologies to prevent falls among older [adults] persons and prevent
1098 or reduce injuries when falls occur; and

1099 (4) Award grants to, or enter into contracts or cooperative
1100 agreements with, organizations, institutions or consortia of
1101 organizations and institutions deemed qualified by the Commissioner
1102 on Aging to design, implement and evaluate fall prevention programs
1103 using proven intervention strategies in residential and institutional
1104 settings.

1105 Sec. 50. Section 17a-304 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1106 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1107 The state shall be divided into five elderly planning and service
1108 areas, in accordance with federal law and regulations, each having an
1109 area agency on aging to carry out the mandates of the federal Older
1110 Americans Act of 1965, as amended. The area agencies shall (1)
1111 represent [elderly] older persons within their geographic areas, (2)
1112 develop an area plan for approval by the Department on Aging and
1113 upon such approval administer the plan, (3) coordinate and assist local
1114 public and nonprofit, private agencies in the development of
1115 programs, (4) receive and distribute federal and state funds for such
1116 purposes, in accordance with applicable law, (5) carry out any
1117 additional duties and functions required by federal law and
1118 regulations.

1119 Sec. 51. Section 17a-310 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1120 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1121 The Department on Aging may make a grant to any city, town or
1122 borough or public or private agency, organization or institution for the
1123 following purposes: (a) For community planning and coordination of
1124 programs carrying out the purposes of the Older Americans Act of
1125 1965, as amended; (b) for demonstration programs or activities
1126 particularly valuable in carrying out such purposes; (c) for training of
1127 special personnel needed to carry out such programs and activities; (d)
1128 for establishment of new or expansion of existing programs to carry

1129 out such purposes, including establishment of new or expansion of
1130 existing centers of service for [elderly] older persons, providing
1131 recreational, cultural and other leisure time activities, and
1132 informational, transportation, referral and preretirement and
1133 postretirement counseling services for [elderly] older persons and
1134 assisting such persons in providing volunteer community or civic
1135 services, except that no costs of construction, other than for minor
1136 alterations and repairs, shall be included in such establishment or
1137 expansion; (e) for programs to develop or demonstrate approaches,
1138 methods and techniques for achieving or improving coordination of
1139 community services for [elderly] older or aging persons and such other
1140 programs and services as may be allowed under Title III of the Older
1141 Americans Act of 1965, as amended, or to evaluate these approaches,
1142 techniques and methods, as well as others which may assist [elderly]
1143 older or aging persons to enjoy wholesome and meaningful living and
1144 to continue to contribute to the strength and welfare of the state and
1145 nation.

1146 Sec. 52. Section 17b-612 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1147 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1148 The Department of Rehabilitation Services shall establish a program
1149 to assist [disabled] public school students with disabilities in preparing
1150 for and obtaining competitive employment and to strengthen the
1151 linkage between vocational rehabilitation services and public schools.
1152 Under the program, the Department of Rehabilitation Services shall
1153 provide, within the limits of available appropriations, vocational
1154 evaluations and other appropriate transitional services and shall
1155 provide vocational rehabilitation counselors to school districts
1156 throughout the state. The counselors shall, if requested, assist those
1157 persons planning in-school skill development programs. The
1158 counselors shall, with planning and placement team members, develop
1159 transition plans and individual education and work rehabilitation
1160 plans for [disabled] students with disabilities who will no longer be
1161 eligible for continued public school services. Students whose
1162 termination date for receipt of public school services is most

1163 immediate shall be given priority.

1164 Sec. 53. Section 17b-613 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1165 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1166 As used in this section and sections [17b-613] 17b-614 to 17b-615,
1167 inclusive:

1168 (1) "Center for independent living" means a consumer-controlled,
1169 community-based, nonprofit corporation which provides consumers
1170 or their families with independent living services, as identified by
1171 community residents with disabilities and service providers. A center
1172 shall provide program information to all community residents about
1173 the needs of people with disabilities. Personal care [attendant] assistant
1174 services arranged for or provided by independent living centers shall
1175 not be required to be licensed or certified;

1176 (2) "Independent living services" shall include, but not be limited to,
1177 advocacy, peer counseling, independent living skills assessment,
1178 counseling and training information and referral, and other programs
1179 and services which would promote the independence, productivity
1180 and quality of life for people with disabilities;

1181 (3) "Consumer" means an individual with a [severe] significant
1182 physical or mental impairment whose ability to function
1183 independently in the family or community or whose ability to obtain,
1184 maintain or advance in employment is substantially limited and for
1185 whom the delivery of independent living services will improve the
1186 ability to function, continue functioning, or move toward functioning
1187 independently in the family or community or to continue in
1188 employment, respectively;

1189 (4) "Consumer-controlled" means that at least fifty-one per cent of
1190 the members of the board of directors of a center for independent
1191 living are consumers.

1192 Sec. 54. Section 17b-650a of the general statutes is repealed and the
1193 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1194 (a) There is created a Department of Rehabilitation Services. The
1195 Department of Social Services shall provide administrative support
1196 services to the Department of Rehabilitation Services until the
1197 Department of Rehabilitation Services requests cessation of such
1198 services, or until June 30, 2013, whichever is earlier. The Department of
1199 Rehabilitation Services shall be responsible for providing the
1200 following: (1) Services to [the deaf and hearing impaired] persons who
1201 are deaf or hard of hearing; (2) services for [the blind and] persons
1202 who are blind or visually impaired; and (3) rehabilitation services in
1203 accordance with the provisions of the general statutes concerning the
1204 Department of Rehabilitation Services. The Department of
1205 Rehabilitation Services shall constitute a successor authority to the
1206 Bureau of Rehabilitative Services in accordance with the provisions of
1207 sections 4-38d, 4-38e and 4-39.

1208 (b) The department head shall be the Commissioner of
1209 Rehabilitation Services, who shall be appointed by the Governor in
1210 accordance with the provisions of sections 4-5 to 4-8, inclusive, and
1211 shall have the powers and duties described in said sections. The
1212 Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services shall appoint such persons as
1213 may be necessary to administer the provisions of public act 11-44 and
1214 the Commissioner of Administrative Services shall fix the
1215 compensation of such persons in accordance with the provisions of
1216 section 4-40. The Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services may create
1217 such sections within the Department of Rehabilitation Services as will
1218 facilitate such administration, including a disability determinations
1219 section for which one hundred per cent federal funds may be accepted
1220 for the operation of such section in conformity with applicable state
1221 and federal regulations. The Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services
1222 may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter
1223 54, to implement the purposes of the department as established by
1224 statute.

1225 (c) The Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services shall, annually, in
1226 accordance with section 4-60, submit to the Governor a report in
1227 electronic format on the activities of the Department of Rehabilitation

1228 Services relating to services provided by the department to
1229 [individuals who (1) are blind or visually impaired, (2) are deaf or
1230 hearing impaired, or (3) receive vocational rehabilitation services]
1231 persons with disabilities. The report shall include the data the
1232 department provides to the federal government that relates to the
1233 evaluation standards and performance indicators for the vocational
1234 rehabilitation services program. The commissioner shall submit the
1235 report in electronic format, in accordance with the provisions of section
1236 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having
1237 cognizance of matters relating to human services and appropriations
1238 and the budgets of state agencies.

1239 (d) Effective July 1, 2017, the Department of Rehabilitation Services
1240 shall constitute a successor department, in accordance with the
1241 provisions of sections 4-38d and 4-39, to the Office of Protection and
1242 Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities with respect to investigations
1243 of allegations of abuse or neglect pursuant to sections 46a-11a to 46a-
1244 11f, inclusive.

1245 Sec. 55. Section 17b-650e of the general statutes is repealed and the
1246 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1247 The Department of Rehabilitation Services may provide necessary
1248 services to [deaf and hearing impaired] persons who are deaf or hard
1249 of hearing, including, but not limited to, nonreimbursable interpreter
1250 services and message relay services for persons using
1251 telecommunication devices for [the] persons who are deaf.

1252 Sec. 56. Subsection (b) of section 17b-655 of the general statutes is
1253 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
1254 *October 1, 2017*):

1255 (b) Subject to the approval of all real estate acquisitions by the
1256 Commissioner of Administrative Services and the State Properties
1257 Review Board, in carrying out said sections, the Department of
1258 Rehabilitation Services may (1) establish, operate, foster and promote
1259 the establishment of rehabilitation facilities and make grants to public

1260 and other nonprofit and nonsectarian organizations for such purposes;
1261 (2) assist persons with [severe] significant disabilities to establish and
1262 operate small businesses; and (3) make studies, investigations,
1263 demonstrations and reports, and provide training and instruction,
1264 including the establishment and maintenance of such research
1265 fellowships and traineeships with such stipends and allowances as
1266 may be deemed necessary, in matters relating to vocational
1267 rehabilitation.

1268 Sec. 57. Section 17b-894 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1269 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1270 (a) Representatives of community action agencies shall be
1271 recognized as knowledgeable on issues affecting [low income, elderly
1272 and handicapped citizens] persons of low incomes, persons who are
1273 elderly and persons with disabilities for the purposes of sharing
1274 information with governmental bodies considering such issues.

1275 (b) All community action agencies, other agencies, contractors and
1276 boards thereof included in the provisions of sections 17b-885 to 17b-
1277 895, inclusive, shall comply with federal, state and local civil rights
1278 laws.

1279 Sec. 58. Subsection (a) of section 19a-6 of the general statutes is
1280 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
1281 *October 1, 2017*):

1282 (a) The commissioner shall be responsible for planning state-wide
1283 programs for the control and treatment of lung diseases; the treatment
1284 of persons affected with other chronic illness, and the medical
1285 rehabilitation of persons who are chronically ill [, physically disabled
1286 and handicapped persons] and persons with disabilities. The
1287 commissioner may provide and maintain facilities and personnel for
1288 the diagnosis or detection and treatment of such diseases or enter into
1289 contracts for the provision of diagnostic and treatment programs for
1290 such diseases with persons or organizations capable in the
1291 commissioner's judgment of providing such services.

1292 Sec. 59. Subparagraph (E) of subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of
1293 section 19a-36 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is
1294 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1295 (E) Special purpose public pool, which is a pool used for a
1296 specialized purpose, including, but not limited to, a splash pad or
1297 spray park where the water is recirculated, water flume, pool used for
1298 scuba diving instruction, therapeutic pool, hydrotherapy pool or a
1299 pool used in an aquatics program for [handicapped] persons with
1300 disabilities. Special purpose public pool does not include a flotation
1301 vessel, which shall not be subject to review by the Department of
1302 Public Health. For purposes of this subparagraph, "flotation vessel"
1303 means a tank devoid of light and sound and containing salt water in
1304 which a person floats for purposes including, but not limited to,
1305 meditation, relaxation and alternative medicine.

1306 Sec. 60. Section 19a-54 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1307 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1308 Each institution supported in whole or in part by the state shall
1309 report to the Department of Public Health, on a form prescribed by
1310 said department, the name and address of each child under twenty-
1311 one years of age [who is physically handicapped] with special health
1312 care needs for whom an application is made for admission, whether
1313 such child is admitted or rejected.

1314 Sec. 61. Subdivision (2) of section 19a-175 of the general statutes is
1315 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
1316 *October 1, 2017*):

1317 (2) "Patient" means an injured [, ill or physically handicapped
1318 person] or ill person or a person with a physical disability requiring
1319 assistance and transportation;

1320 Sec. 62. Subsection (a) of section 19a-490 of the general statutes is
1321 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
1322 *October 1, 2017*):

1323 (a) "Institution" means a hospital, short-term hospital special
1324 hospice, hospice inpatient facility, residential care home, [health care
1325 facility for the handicapped,] nursing home facility, home health care
1326 agency, homemaker-home health aide agency, behavioral health
1327 facility, assisted living services agency, substance abuse treatment
1328 facility, outpatient surgical facility, outpatient clinic, an infirmary
1329 operated by an educational institution for the care of students enrolled
1330 in, and faculty and employees of, such institution; a facility engaged in
1331 providing services for the prevention, diagnosis, treatment or care of
1332 human health conditions, including facilities operated and maintained
1333 by any state agency, except facilities for the care or treatment of
1334 mentally ill persons or persons with substance abuse problems; and a
1335 residential facility for persons with intellectual disability licensed
1336 pursuant to section 17a-227 and certified to participate in the Title XIX
1337 Medicaid program as an intermediate care facility for individuals with
1338 intellectual disability;

1339 Sec. 63. Section 19a-701 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1340 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1341 A managed residential community shall meet the requirements of
1342 all applicable federal and state laws and regulations, including, but not
1343 limited to, the Public Health Code, State Building Code and the Fire
1344 Safety Code, and federal and state laws and regulations governing
1345 [handicapped] accessibility for persons with disabilities.

1346 Sec. 64. Section 19a-52 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1347 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1348 Notwithstanding any other provision of the general statutes, the
1349 Department of Public Health or the department's contractor, in
1350 carrying out its powers and duties under section 19a-50, may, within
1351 the limits of appropriations, purchase [wheelchairs and placement
1352 equipment directly and without the issuance of a purchase order,
1353 provided such purchases shall not be in excess of six thousand five
1354 hundred dollars per unit purchased. All such purchases shall be made
1355 in the open market, but shall, when possible, be based on at least three

1356 competitive bids. Such bids shall be solicited by sending notice to
1357 prospective suppliers and by posting notice on a public bulletin board
1358 within said Department of Public Health. Each bid shall be opened
1359 publicly at the time stated in the notice soliciting such bid. Acceptance
1360 of a bid by said Department of Public Health shall be based on
1361 standard specifications as may be adopted by said department]
1362 medically necessary and appropriate durable medical equipment and
1363 other department approved goods and services. Such goods and
1364 services shall be identical to goods and services that are covered under
1365 the Connecticut Medicaid and HUSKY Programs and the payment for
1366 such goods and services shall not exceed the Connecticut Medicaid
1367 payment rate for the same goods and services.

1368 Sec. 65. Subsection (b) of section 19a-59 of the general statutes is
1369 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
1370 *October 1, 2017*):

1371 (b) The Department of Public Health shall establish a plan to
1372 implement and operate a program of early identification of [infant
1373 hearing impairment] infants who are hard of hearing. The purpose of
1374 such plan shall be to: (1) Identify infants at high risk of having hearing
1375 impairments; (2) notify parents of such infants of the risk; (3) inform
1376 parents of resources available to them for further testing and
1377 treatment, including rehabilitation services for such infants; and (4)
1378 inform parents of financial assistance available through the
1379 Department of Public Health, including, but not limited to, parental
1380 eligibility criteria, which may result in reduced cost or no cost to
1381 parents for testing, evaluation or treatment, including rehabilitation of
1382 such infants. The department shall develop such plan in consultation
1383 with persons including, but not limited to, pediatricians,
1384 otolaryngologists, audiologists, educators and parents of [deaf and
1385 hearing impaired] children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

1386 Sec. 66. Section 20-74a of the general statutes is repealed and the
1387 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1388 As used in this chapter:

1389 (1) "Occupational therapy" means the evaluation, planning and
1390 implementation of a program of purposeful activities to develop or
1391 maintain adaptive skills necessary to achieve the maximal physical and
1392 mental functioning of the individual in his or her daily pursuits. The
1393 practice of "occupational therapy" includes, but is not limited to,
1394 evaluation and treatment of individuals whose abilities to cope with
1395 the tasks of living are threatened or impaired by developmental
1396 [deficits] disabilities, the aging process, learning disabilities, poverty
1397 and cultural differences, physical injury or disease, psychological and
1398 social disabilities, or anticipated [disfunction] dysfunction, using (A)
1399 such treatment techniques as task-oriented activities to prevent or
1400 correct physical or emotional [deficits] disabilities or to minimize the
1401 disabling effect of these [deficits] disabilities in the life of the
1402 individual, (B) such evaluation techniques as assessment of sensory
1403 motor abilities, assessment of the development of self-care activities
1404 and capacity for independence, assessment of the physical capacity for
1405 prevocational and work tasks, assessment of play and leisure
1406 performance, and appraisal of living areas for [the handicapped]
1407 persons with disabilities, (C) specific occupational therapy techniques
1408 such as activities of daily living skills, the fabrication and application
1409 of splinting devices, sensory motor activities, the use of specifically
1410 designed manual and creative activities, guidance in the selection and
1411 use of adaptive equipment, specific exercises to enhance functional
1412 performance and treatment techniques for physical capabilities for
1413 work activities. Such techniques are applied in the treatment of
1414 individual patients or clients, in groups or through social systems.
1415 Occupational therapy also includes the establishment and modification
1416 of peer review.

1417 (2) "Occupational therapist" means a person licensed to practice
1418 occupational therapy as defined in this chapter and whose license is in
1419 good standing.

1420 (3) "Occupational therapy assistant" means a person licensed to
1421 assist in the practice of occupational therapy, under the supervision of
1422 or with the consultation of a licensed occupational therapist, and

1423 whose license is in good standing.

1424 (4) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Health or
1425 the commissioner's designee.

1426 (5) "Department" means the Department of Public Health.

1427 (6) "Supervision" means the overseeing of or the participation in the
1428 work of an occupational therapy assistant by a licensed occupational
1429 therapist, including, but not limited to: (A) Continuous availability of
1430 direct communication between the occupational therapy assistant and
1431 a licensed occupational therapist; (B) availability of a licensed
1432 occupational therapist on a regularly scheduled basis to (i) review the
1433 practice of the occupational therapy assistant, and (ii) support the
1434 occupational therapy assistant in the performance of the occupational
1435 therapy assistant's services; and (C) a predetermined plan for
1436 emergency situations, including the designation of an alternate
1437 licensed occupational therapist in the absence of the regular licensed
1438 occupational therapist.

1439 Sec. 67. Subsection (h) of section 25-68d of the general statutes is
1440 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
1441 *October 1, 2017*):

1442 (h) The provisions of subsections (a) to (d), inclusive, and (f) and (g)
1443 of this section shall not apply to the following critical activities above
1444 the one-hundred-year flood elevation that involve state funded
1445 housing reconstruction, rehabilitation or renovation, provided the state
1446 agency that provides funding for such activity certifies that it complies
1447 with the provisions of the National Flood Insurance Program and the
1448 requirements of this subsection: (1) Projects involving the renovation
1449 or rehabilitation of existing housing on the Department of Housing's
1450 most recent affordable housing appeals list; (2) construction of minor
1451 structures to an existing building for the purpose of providing
1452 [handicapped] accessibility to persons with disabilities pursuant to the
1453 State Building Code; (3) construction of open decks attached to
1454 residential structures, properly anchored in accordance with the State

1455 Building Code; (4) the demolition and reconstruction of existing
1456 housing for persons and families of low and moderate income,
1457 provided there is no increase in the number of dwelling units and (A)
1458 such reconstruction is limited to the footprint of the existing
1459 foundation of the building or buildings used for such purpose, or
1460 which could be used for such purpose subsequent to reconstruction, or
1461 (B) such reconstruction is on a parcel of land where the elevation of
1462 such land is above the one-hundred-year flood elevation, provided
1463 there is no placement of fill within an adopted Federal Emergency
1464 Management Agency flood zone.

1465 Sec. 68. Section 26-29 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1466 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1467 No fee shall be charged for any sport fishing license issued under
1468 this chapter to any [blind] person who is blind, and such license shall
1469 be a lifetime license not subject to the expiration provisions of section
1470 26-35. Proof of such blindness shall be furnished, in the case of a
1471 veteran, by the United States Veterans' Administration and, in the case
1472 of any other person, by the Department of Rehabilitation Services. For
1473 the purpose of this section, a person shall be blind only if his or her
1474 central visual acuity does not exceed 20/200 in the better eye with
1475 correcting lenses, or if his or her visual acuity is greater than 20/200
1476 but is accompanied by a limitation in the fields of vision such that the
1477 widest diameter of the visual field subtends an angle no greater than
1478 twenty degrees.

1479 Sec. 69. Section 26-29b of the general statutes is repealed and the
1480 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1481 No fee shall be charged for any hunting, sport fishing or trapping
1482 license issued under this chapter to any [physically disabled] person
1483 with physical disability, and such license shall be a lifetime license not
1484 subject to the expiration provisions of section 26-35. For the purposes
1485 of this section, a ["physically disabled person"] "person with physical
1486 disability" is any person whose disability consists of the loss of one or
1487 more limbs or the permanent loss of the use of one or more limbs. A

1488 [physically disabled] person with physical disability shall submit to
1489 the commissioner a certification, signed by a licensed physician or a
1490 licensed advanced practice registered nurse, of such physical
1491 disability. No fee shall be charged for any hunting or sport fishing
1492 license issued under this chapter to any [physically disabled] person
1493 with physical disability who is not a resident of this state if such
1494 person is a resident of a state in which a [physically disabled] person
1495 with physical disability from Connecticut will not be required to pay a
1496 fee for a hunting or sport fishing license, and such license shall be a
1497 lifetime license not subject to the expiration provisions of section 26-35.

1498 Sec. 70. Section 26-66 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1499 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1500 The commissioner may adopt regulations in accordance with the
1501 provisions of chapter 54 governing the taking of wildlife, provided any
1502 regulations concerning the taking of migratory game birds shall be
1503 consistent with section 26-91. The regulations may: (1) Establish the
1504 open and closed seasons, which may be modified by decreasing or
1505 increasing the number of days for any specific species, (2) establish
1506 hours, days or periods during the open season when hunting shall not
1507 be permitted for specific species, (3) establish legal hours, (4) prescribe
1508 the legal methods, including type, kind, gauge and caliber of weapons
1509 and ammunition, including long bow, (5) prescribe the sex of wildlife
1510 that may be taken on a state-wide or local area basis, (6) establish the
1511 daily bag limit and the season bag limit, (7) establish the maximum
1512 number of persons that may hunt on designated areas during any
1513 twenty-four-hour period, (8) require that a permit be obtained from the
1514 landowner or [his] such landowner's agent, or the commissioner or
1515 [his] such commissioner's agent, to enter upon designated premises or
1516 areas for the purpose of hunting, and further require that such permit
1517 be returned within a specified time to the issuing authority with an
1518 accurate report of all wildlife taken under such permit, the time spent
1519 on the premises or area and any other data required by the
1520 commissioner for management purposes, (9) establish areas that shall
1521 be restricted for designated periods for hunting only with long bow or

1522 other specified weapons, (10) establish areas that shall be restricted for
1523 designated periods for hunting exclusively by [the physically
1524 handicapped] persons with physical disabilities, (11) establish
1525 requirements and procedures for tagging and reporting birds or
1526 animals taken by hunting or trapping; and, in the interest of public
1527 safety and for the purpose of preventing unreasonable conduct and
1528 abuses by hunters, and to provide reasonable control of the actions and
1529 behavior of such persons, said commissioner may issue regulations
1530 and orders to (12) prohibit the carrying of loaded firearms and hunting
1531 within specified distances of buildings, (13) prohibit the discharge of
1532 firearms and other hunting devices within specified distances of
1533 buildings and, when within specified distances, the discharge of such
1534 firearms and devices toward persons, buildings and livestock, (14)
1535 prohibit hunting while on any road adjacent to any state park, state
1536 forest, premises used for the breeding, rearing or holding in captivity
1537 of wildlife or premises used for zoological purposes, (15) establish
1538 minimum distances between fixed positions, floating and drift blinds
1539 for waterfowl hunting, (16) prohibit crossing over lawns and lands
1540 under cultivation, (17) prohibit damage to property, livestock and
1541 agricultural crops, (18) prohibit, during specified periods on
1542 designated areas, the training, exercising and running of dogs under
1543 control or uncontrolled, (19) prohibit the operation and parking of
1544 vehicles on designated portions of public and private roads, parking
1545 areas, lanes, passageways, rights-of-way, fields and lots, (20) prohibit
1546 the discarding of bottles, glass, cans, paper, junk, litter and trash, (21)
1547 control the launching, anchoring, mooring, storage and abandonment
1548 of boats, trailers and related equipment on properties under the
1549 control of the commissioner, (22) specify (A) the persons who shall
1550 wear fluorescent orange clothing, (B) the time periods during which
1551 such clothing shall be worn and (C) the types and amounts of such
1552 clothing which shall be worn, on and after January 1, 1989, when
1553 hunting.

1554 Sec. 71. Section 26-112 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1555 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1556 The commissioner may, after notice and public hearing, issue
1557 regulations governing fishing for all species of fish and the taking of all
1558 bait species in the inland district, which regulations may: (1) Establish
1559 the open and closed seasons, which may be modified by decreasing or
1560 increasing the number of days on any specific species, (2) establish
1561 hours, days or periods during the open season when fishing shall not
1562 be permitted in designated waters for all or limited species, (3)
1563 prescribe the legal methods of taking, (4) establish the legal length, (5)
1564 establish the daily creel limit, the season creel limit and the possession
1565 limit, (6) restrict or prohibit wading in streams or portions thereof,
1566 fishing from boats, canoes, rafts and other floating devices and fishing
1567 from designated land areas, (7) establish the maximum number of
1568 persons, boats, canoes and other floating devices that may use any area
1569 of water for fishing, (8) require that a permit be obtained from the
1570 landowner or his agent, or from the commissioner or an agent of the
1571 department, to enter upon designated premises or areas for the
1572 purpose of fishing, and further require that such permit be returned
1573 within a specified time to the issuing authority with an accurate report
1574 of all fish taken under such permit, time spent on the area and any
1575 other data required by the commissioner for management purposes,
1576 (9) restrict or prohibit the use of any craft other than manually
1577 propelled, (10) designate areas of land and water that shall be
1578 restricted for the exclusive use of children or [the physically
1579 handicapped] persons with physical disabilities. For the purpose of
1580 protecting public and private interests and preventing unreasonable
1581 conduct and abuses by fishermen, and to provide reasonable control of
1582 the actions and behavior of such persons, said commissioner may issue
1583 regulations and orders to (11) provide that entrance to and exit from
1584 streams, lakes and ponds shall be restricted to rights-of-way
1585 designated by posters or that consent shall be obtained from the
1586 landowner or his agent, (12) establish reasonable distances from the
1587 banks of streams, lakes and ponds beyond which fishermen shall not
1588 trespass, (13) prohibit crossing over lawns and lands under cultivation,
1589 (14) prohibit damage to property, livestock and agricultural crops, (15)
1590 prohibit swimming and picnicking in designated areas, (16) prohibit

1591 the operation or parking of vehicles on designated portions of public
1592 and private roads, parking areas, lanes, passageways, rights-of-way,
1593 fields and lots, (17) prohibit the discarding of bottles, glass, cans,
1594 paper, junk, litter and trash, (18) control the launching, anchoring,
1595 mooring, storage and abandonment of boats, trailers and related
1596 equipment on properties under the control of the commissioner.

1597 Sec. 72. Section 31-12 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1598 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1599 (a) [None of the following persons under the conditions hereinafter
1600 described shall be employed in any manufacturing or mechanical
1601 establishment more than nine hours in any day or forty-eight hours in
1602 any calendar week: (1) Persons] No person under the age of eighteen
1603 years who [are] is not enrolled in and [have] has not graduated from a
1604 secondary educational institution [; (2) persons sixty-six years of age or
1605 older, except with their consent; (3) handicapped persons, so
1606 designated by medical or governmental authority, except with their
1607 consent and after certification by a physician or an advanced practice
1608 registered nurse that the extended hours of work will not be injurious
1609 to their health; (4) disabled veterans, as defined under state or federal
1610 law, except with their consent and after certification by a physician or
1611 an advanced practice registered nurse that the extended hours of work
1612 will not be injurious to their health] shall be employed in any
1613 manufacturing or mechanical establishment more than nine hours in
1614 any day or forty-eight hours in any calendar week.

1615 (b) If the Labor Commissioner finds, upon application of an
1616 employer, that an emergency exists or that seasonal or peak demand
1617 places an unusual and temporary burden upon any manufacturing or
1618 mechanical establishment, any such person under the age of eighteen
1619 may be employed in such establishment not more than ten hours in
1620 any day and not more than fifty-five hours in any calendar week, but
1621 the total number of weeks of any such employment in any twelve
1622 consecutive months shall not exceed twelve.

1623 (c) With respect to any group, category or class of employees for

1624 which a work week of less than five days has been established or
1625 agreed upon, the employer shall adhere to the applicable weekly
1626 limitation period prescribed but may extend the number of hours per
1627 day for each day of the shortened work week provided the number of
1628 hours shall be the same for each day of the work week.

1629 (d) In the event of war or other national emergency, the
1630 commissioner after investigation may, with the approval of the
1631 Governor, extend the number of weeks of any such employment if
1632 such extension is necessary to meet scheduled production of war or
1633 critical material.

1634 (e) No person under eighteen years of age who is enrolled in a
1635 secondary education institution shall be employed in any
1636 manufacturing or mechanical establishment more than (1) six hours in
1637 any regularly scheduled school day unless the regularly scheduled
1638 school day immediately precedes a nonschool day or eight hours in
1639 any other day, and (2) thirty-two hours in any calendar week during
1640 which the school in which such person is enrolled is in session, or
1641 forty-eight hours in any calendar week during which the school in
1642 which such person is enrolled is not in session. Notwithstanding any
1643 provision of this section, the number of hours such person participates
1644 in a work experience that is part of an approved educational plan,
1645 cooperative program or school-to-work program shall not be counted
1646 against the daily or weekly limits set forth in this section.

1647 (f) The provisions of this section shall not apply to permanent
1648 salaried employees in executive, administrative or professional
1649 positions as defined by the Labor Commissioner, or to persons under
1650 eighteen years of age who have graduated from a secondary
1651 educational institution.

1652 Sec. 73. Section 31-13 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1653 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1654 (a) [None of the following persons under the conditions hereinafter
1655 described shall be employed in any mercantile establishment more

1656 than eight hours in any one day, or more than six days in any one
1657 calendar week or more than forty-eight hours in any one calendar
1658 week: (1) Persons] No person under the age of eighteen years who
1659 [are] is not enrolled in and [have] has not graduated from a secondary
1660 educational institution [; (2) persons sixty-six years of age or older,
1661 except with their consent; (3) handicapped persons, so designated by
1662 medical or governmental authority, except with their consent and after
1663 certification by a physician or an advanced practice registered nurse
1664 that the extended hours of work will not be injurious to their health; (4)
1665 disabled veterans, as defined under state or federal law, except with
1666 their consent and after certification by a physician or an advanced
1667 practice registered nurse that the extended hours of work will not be
1668 injurious to their health; but any such person may be permitted to
1669 work in any such establishment one day in any calendar week for not
1670 more than ten hours, for the purpose of making one shorter day during
1671 such week, and any employer who, during any year, gives not fewer
1672 than seven holidays with pay shall be exempt from the foregoing
1673 provisions hereof during the period from the eighteenth to the twenty-
1674 fifth day of December of such year] shall be employed in any
1675 mercantile establishment more than eight hours in any one day, or
1676 more than six days in any one calendar week or more than forty-eight
1677 hours in any one calendar week.

1678 (b) If the Labor Commissioner finds, upon application of an
1679 employer, that an emergency exists or that seasonal or peak demand
1680 places an unusual and temporary burden upon any mercantile
1681 establishment, any such person under the age of eighteen years may be
1682 employed in such establishment not more than ten hours in any day
1683 and not more than fifty-two hours in any calendar week, but the total
1684 number of weeks of any such employment in any twelve months shall
1685 not exceed eight.

1686 (c) No person under eighteen years of age who is enrolled in a
1687 secondary education institution shall be employed in any mercantile
1688 establishment more than (1) six hours in any regularly scheduled
1689 school day unless the regularly scheduled school day immediately

1690 precedes a nonschool day or eight hours in any other day, and (2)
1691 thirty-two hours in any calendar week during which the school in
1692 which such person is enrolled is in session, or forty-eight hours in any
1693 other calendar week during which the school in which such person is
1694 enrolled is not is session. Notwithstanding any provision of this
1695 section, the number of hours such person participates in a work
1696 experience that is part of an approved educational plan, cooperative
1697 program or school-to-work program shall not be counted against the
1698 daily or weekly limits set forth in this section.

1699 (d) Each employer in any such establishment shall post in a
1700 conspicuous place in each room where such persons are employed a
1701 notice, the form of which shall be furnished by the Labor
1702 Commissioner, stating specifically the hours of work required of such
1703 persons on each day of the week, and the employment of any such
1704 persons for a longer time than so stated shall be a violation of this
1705 section.

1706 (e) The provisions of this section shall not apply to permanent
1707 salaried employees in executive, managerial or supervisory positions
1708 excepted from the provisions of part I of chapter 558 who receive a
1709 regular salary of not less than the minimum fixed for such
1710 employment in any wage order or administrative regulation issued
1711 under authority of said part, or to persons under eighteen years of age
1712 who have graduated from a secondary educational institution.

1713 Sec. 74. Section 31-18 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1714 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1715 (a) No public restaurant, cafe, dining room, barber shop,
1716 hairdressing or manicuring establishment, amusement or recreational
1717 establishment, bowling alley, shoe-shining establishment, billiard or
1718 pool room or photograph gallery shall employ or permit to work any
1719 person under eighteen years of age (1) between the hours of ten o'clock
1720 in the evening and six o'clock in the morning, [or any of the persons
1721 described below under conditions herein set forth more than nine
1722 hours in any day: (A) Persons sixty-six years of age or older, except

1723 with their consent; (B) handicapped persons, so designated by medical
1724 or governmental authority, except with their consent and after
1725 certification by a physician or an advanced practice registered nurse
1726 that the extended hours of work will not be injurious to their health;
1727 (C) disabled veterans, as defined under state or federal law, except
1728 with their consent and after certification by a physician or an advanced
1729 practice registered nurse that the extended hours of work will not be
1730 injurious to their health; provided any such person may be permitted
1731 to work in any such establishment one day in a week for not more than
1732 ten hours on such day, but not more than six days or forty-eight hours
1733 in any one week, and provided further, persons] provided any person
1734 between sixteen and eighteen years of age may be employed in any
1735 amusement or recreational establishment, restaurant, cafe or dining
1736 room, or employed in any theater until twelve o'clock midnight unless
1737 such [persons are] person is regularly attending school in which case
1738 such [minors] person may be employed until eleven o'clock in the
1739 evening on days which precede a regularly scheduled school day and
1740 until twelve o'clock midnight during any regular school vacation
1741 season and on days which do not precede a regularly scheduled school
1742 day, and (2) more than (A) six hours in any regularly scheduled school
1743 day unless the regularly scheduled school day immediately precedes a
1744 nonschool day or eight hours in any other day, and (B) thirty-two
1745 hours in any calendar week during which the school in which such
1746 person is enrolled is in session or forty-eight hours in any other
1747 calendar week during which the school in which such person is
1748 enrolled is not in session. Notwithstanding any provision of this
1749 section, the number of hours such person participates in a work
1750 experience that is part of an approved educational plan, cooperative
1751 program or school-to-work program shall not be counted against the
1752 daily or weekly limits set forth in this section.

1753 (b) The hours of labor of such persons shall be conspicuously posted
1754 in such establishment in such form and manner as the Labor
1755 Commissioner determines.

1756 (c) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any person

1757 under eighteen years of age who has graduated from a secondary
1758 educational institution.

1759 Sec. 75. Section 31-136 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1760 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1761 The Labor Commissioner shall carry on a continuing program to
1762 promote the employment of [handicapped] persons with disabilities
1763 by creating state-wide interest in the rehabilitation and employment of
1764 [the handicapped] persons with disabilities and by obtaining and
1765 maintaining cooperation from all public and private groups in this
1766 field. [The commissioner shall work in cooperation with the President's
1767 Commission on Employment of the Handicapped in order to more
1768 effectively carry out the purposes of this chapter.]

1769 Sec. 76. Section 31-138 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1770 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1771 The Governor shall [designate the first full week in] proclaim the
1772 month of October of each year [as "National Employ the Handicapped
1773 Week"] to be Disability Employment Awareness Month.

1774 Sec. 77. Subsection (a) of section 31-283a of the general statutes is
1775 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
1776 *October 1, 2017*):

1777 (a) The Department of Rehabilitation Services shall provide
1778 rehabilitation programs for employees [suffering] with compensable
1779 injuries within the provisions of this chapter, which injuries [disabled
1780 them] prevented such employees from performing their customary or
1781 most recent work. The Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services shall
1782 establish rehabilitation programs which shall best suit the needs of
1783 [injured] such employees and shall make the programs available in
1784 convenient locations throughout the state. After consultation with the
1785 Labor Commissioner, the Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services
1786 may establish fees for the programs, so as to provide the most effective
1787 rehabilitation programs at a minimum rate. In order to carry out the

1788 provisions of this section, the Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services
1789 shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter
1790 54, and, subject to the provisions of chapter 67, provide for the
1791 employment of necessary assistants.

1792 Sec. 78. Subdivision (2) of subsection (m) of section 38a-465g of the
1793 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1794 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1795 (2) The owner submits independent evidence to the provider that
1796 one or more of the following conditions have been met within said
1797 two-year period: (A) The owner or insured is terminally ill or
1798 chronically ill; (B) the owner or insured disposes of the owner or
1799 insured's ownership interests in a closely held corporation, pursuant to
1800 the terms of a buyout or other similar agreement in effect at the time
1801 the insurance policy was initially issued; (C) the owner's spouse dies;
1802 (D) the owner divorces his or her spouse; (E) the owner retires from
1803 full-time employment; (F) the owner [becomes physically or mentally
1804 disabled] has a physical or mental disability and a physician or an
1805 advanced practice registered nurse determines that the disability
1806 prevents the owner from maintaining full-time employment; or (G) a
1807 final order, judgment or decree is entered by a court of competent
1808 jurisdiction on the application of a creditor of the owner, adjudicating
1809 the owner bankrupt or insolvent, or approving a petition seeking
1810 reorganization of the owner or appointing a receiver, trustee or
1811 liquidator to all or a substantial part of the owner's assets.

1812 Sec. 79. Subsection (b) of section 38a-493 of the general statutes is
1813 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
1814 *October 1, 2017*):

1815 (b) For the purposes of this section, "hospital" means an institution
1816 that is primarily engaged in providing, by or under the supervision of
1817 physicians, to inpatients (1) diagnostic, surgical and therapeutic
1818 services for medical diagnosis, treatment and care of [injured, disabled
1819 or sick] persons who have an injury, sickness or disability, or (2)
1820 medical rehabilitation services for the rehabilitation of [injured,

1821 disabled or sick] persons who have an injury, sickness or disability,
1822 provided "hospital" shall not include a residential care home, nursing
1823 home, rest home or alcohol or drug treatment facility, as defined in
1824 section 19a-490, as amended by this act. For the purposes of this
1825 section and section 38a-494, "home health care" means the continued
1826 care and treatment of a covered person who is under the care of a
1827 physician or an advanced practice registered nurse but only if (A)
1828 continued hospitalization would otherwise have been required if home
1829 health care was not provided, except in the case of a covered person
1830 diagnosed by a physician or an advanced practice registered nurse as
1831 terminally ill with a prognosis of six months or less to live, and (B) the
1832 plan covering the home health care is established and approved in
1833 writing by such physician or advanced practice registered nurse within
1834 seven days following termination of a hospital confinement as a
1835 resident inpatient for the same or a related condition for which the
1836 covered person was hospitalized, except that in the case of a covered
1837 person diagnosed by a physician or an advanced practice registered
1838 nurse as terminally ill with a prognosis of six months or less to live,
1839 such plan may be so established and approved at any time irrespective
1840 of whether such covered person was so confined or, if such covered
1841 person was so confined, irrespective of such seven-day period, and (C)
1842 such home health care is commenced within seven days following
1843 discharge, except in the case of a covered person diagnosed by a
1844 physician or an advanced practice registered nurse as terminally ill
1845 with a prognosis of six months or less to live.

1846 Sec. 80. Subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 38a-496 of the
1847 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1848 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1849 (3) "Rehabilitative agency" means an agency which provides an
1850 integrated multitreatment program designed to upgrade the function
1851 of [handicapped disabled individuals] persons with physical
1852 disabilities by bringing together, as a team, specialized personnel from
1853 various allied health fields.

1854 Sec. 81. Subsection (b) of section 38a-520 of the general statutes is
1855 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
1856 *October 1, 2017*):

1857 (b) For the purposes of this section, "hospital" means an institution
1858 which is primarily engaged in providing, by or under the supervision
1859 of physicians, to inpatients (1) diagnostic, surgical and therapeutic
1860 services for medical diagnosis, treatment and care of [injured, disabled
1861 or sick] persons who have an injury, sickness or disability, or (2)
1862 medical rehabilitation services for the rehabilitation of [injured,
1863 disabled or sick] persons who have an injury, sickness or disability,
1864 provided "hospital" shall not include a residential care home, nursing
1865 home, rest home or alcohol or drug treatment facility, as defined in
1866 section 19a-490, as amended by this act. For the purposes of this
1867 section and section 38a-494, "home health care" means the continued
1868 care and treatment of a covered person who is under the care of a
1869 physician or an advanced practice registered nurse but only if (A)
1870 continued hospitalization would otherwise have been required if home
1871 health care was not provided, except in the case of a covered person
1872 diagnosed by a physician or an advanced practice registered nurse as
1873 terminally ill with a prognosis of six months or less to live, and (B) the
1874 plan covering the home health care is established and approved in
1875 writing by such physician or advanced practice registered nurse within
1876 seven days following termination of a hospital confinement as a
1877 resident inpatient for the same or a related condition for which the
1878 covered person was hospitalized, except that in the case of a covered
1879 person diagnosed by a physician or an advanced practice registered
1880 nurse as terminally ill with a prognosis of six months or less to live,
1881 such plan may be so established and approved at any time irrespective
1882 of whether such covered person was so confined or, if such covered
1883 person was so confined, irrespective of such seven-day period, and (C)
1884 such home health care is commenced within seven days following
1885 discharge, except in the case of a covered person diagnosed by a
1886 physician or an advanced practice registered nurse as terminally ill
1887 with a prognosis of six months or less to live.

1888 Sec. 82. Subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 38a-523 of the
1889 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1890 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1891 (2) "Comprehensive rehabilitation facility" means a facility that is:
1892 (A) Primarily engaged in providing diagnostic, therapeutic and
1893 restorative services through such licensed health care professionals to
1894 [injured, ill or disabled individuals] persons who have an injury,
1895 sickness or disability solely on an outpatient basis and (B) accredited
1896 for the provision of such services by the Commission on Accreditation
1897 for Rehabilitation Facilities or the Professional Services Board of the
1898 American Speech-Language Hearing Association.

1899 Sec. 83. Subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 38a-524 of the
1900 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1901 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1902 (3) "Rehabilitative agency" means an agency which provides an
1903 integrated multitreatment program designed to upgrade the function
1904 of [handicapped disabled individuals] persons with physical
1905 disabilities by bringing together, as a team, specialized personnel from
1906 various allied health fields.

1907 Sec. 84. Section 46a-8 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1908 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1909 For the purposes of this chapter the term "person with a disability"
1910 means any person who has a physical, mental, emotional or other
1911 disability or [disfunction] dysfunction which constitutes a significant
1912 obstacle to such person's ability to function normally in society and
1913 includes those persons defined as developmentally disabled under
1914 Public Law 94-103 and any subsequent amendments thereto.

1915 Sec. 85. Section 46a-9 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1916 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1917 There is established a Board of Protection and Advocacy for Persons
1918 with Disabilities, otherwise referred to in this section as the advocacy

1919 board. The advocacy board shall advise the executive director of the
1920 Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities on
1921 matters relating to advocacy policy, client service priorities and issues
1922 affecting persons with disabilities. Said advocacy board shall consist of
1923 fifteen members appointed by the Governor and be comprised of ten
1924 persons with disabilities or a parent or guardian of a person with a
1925 disability, at least four of whom shall represent [developmentally
1926 disabled] persons with developmental disabilities, and five persons
1927 who are knowledgeable in the problems of persons with disabilities,
1928 including the state Americans with Disabilities Act coordinator and the
1929 chairperson for the advisory board of the protection and advocacy for
1930 individuals with mental illness program. The Governor or the
1931 Governor's designee shall serve on the board as a nonvoting member.
1932 No officer or employee of a state or private agency providing services
1933 to persons with disabilities other than the chairperson for the advisory
1934 board of the protection and advocacy for individuals with mental
1935 illness program, if applicable, may serve as a member of the advocacy
1936 board. The Governor shall appoint one of the members of said board to
1937 serve as chairperson. All members of the advocacy board shall serve
1938 without compensation but shall be compensated for necessary
1939 expenses, incurred in the performance of their duties as board
1940 members.

1941 Sec. 86. Section 46a-10 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1942 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1943 There is established an Office of Protection and Advocacy for
1944 Persons with Disabilities, hereinafter referred to as the advocacy office,
1945 for the protection and advocacy of the rights of persons with
1946 disabilities and [developmentally disabled] persons with
1947 developmental disabilities. The operations of the advocacy office shall
1948 be administered by a director of advocacy for persons with disabilities.
1949 Said director shall be a person knowledgeable in the problems of
1950 persons with disabilities or advocacy and shall be appointed by the
1951 Governor. The director may employ necessary staff, subject to
1952 available appropriations and the provisions of chapter 67. The director

1953 may adopt regulations in accordance with chapter 54, subject to the
1954 approval of said board, to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

1955 Sec. 87. Section 46a-11 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1956 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

1957 The director may, within available appropriations:

1958 (1) Purchase or contract for necessary services including, but not
1959 limited to, legal services;

1960 (2) Receive and spend, pursuant to the purposes of this chapter,
1961 moneys in the form of gifts, bequests, state appropriations, state or
1962 private grants or federal grants;

1963 (3) Establish a state-wide toll-free telephone information and
1964 referral system for persons with disabilities for referral of such persons
1965 to appropriate public or private agencies or services. Such information
1966 and referral system may be coordinated with the Governor's state-
1967 wide information bureau or any other existing information and referral
1968 services;

1969 (4) Receive and investigate complaints from persons with
1970 disabilities, parents or guardians of such persons or in writing from
1971 any other interested person, act as an advocate for any person with a
1972 disability and initiate or fund legal actions to protect the rights of any
1973 person with a disability;

1974 (5) Request and receive information, including personal data,
1975 concerning a person with a disability from any state or private agency,
1976 with the consent of such person with a disability, or the parent or
1977 guardian of such person, as appropriate. With respect to [a
1978 developmentally disabled adult] an adult with a developmental
1979 disability who has no guardian or whose guardian is an employee of
1980 the Department of Developmental Services, the director may request
1981 and receive such information only if:

1982 (A) A request for advocacy services has been made on such person's

1983 behalf;

1984 (B) Such person does not indicate refusal to give consent to receipt
1985 of the information by the director;

1986 (C) Such person resides in a facility for [developmentally disabled]
1987 persons with developmental disabilities, including any institution, as
1988 defined in subsection (a) of section 19a-490, as amended by this act, or
1989 has been placed in a boarding home, group home or other residential
1990 facility pursuant to section 17a-277;

1991 (D) Such person has received an explanation of the manner in which
1992 any information obtained concerning such person will be used by the
1993 advocacy office;

1994 (E) Such person has received an explanation of such person's right
1995 to refuse to allow the director to request or receive such information;
1996 and

1997 (F) The director has documented the director's conscientious efforts
1998 to provide the required explanations and verified that [the
1999 developmentally disabled] such person has not indicated refusal to
2000 give consent;

2001 (6) Coordinate and cooperate with other private and public agencies
2002 concerned with the implementation, monitoring and enforcement of
2003 the rights of persons with disabilities and enter into cooperative
2004 agreements with public or private agencies for furtherance of the
2005 rights of persons with disabilities;

2006 (7) Represent, appear, intervene in or bring an action on behalf of
2007 any person with a disability or class of persons, with the consent of
2008 such person or the parent or legal guardian of such person, in any
2009 proceeding before any court, agency, board or commission in this state
2010 in which matters related to this chapter are in issue;

2011 (8) Implement, with the approval of the individual using a service
2012 provided by the advocacy office, a case follow-up system;

2013 (9) Research and identify the needs of persons with disabilities and
2014 programs and services available to meet those needs;

2015 (10) Develop and maintain a program of public education and
2016 information, such program to include, but not be limited to, education
2017 of the public concerning the needs and rights of persons with
2018 disabilities, in cooperation with existing state and private agencies, an
2019 outreach effort to discover persons with disabilities in need of
2020 assistance or an advocate and provisions for a class or group advocacy
2021 service;

2022 (11) Develop and maintain an individual advocacy service for
2023 persons with disabilities which shall investigate referred problems or
2024 complaints;

2025 (12) Receive, review and make such recommendations as [he] the
2026 director deems appropriate on applications for waivers from the
2027 requirements of the State Building Code, submitted by the State
2028 Building Inspector pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) of
2029 section 29-269;

2030 (13) Ensure that all aspects of agency operations conform to
2031 federally established protection and advocacy requirements for
2032 program independence and authority, including:

2033 (A) Structural independence from other agencies which provide
2034 services to people with disabilities;

2035 (B) Authority to pursue legal and administrative remedies on behalf
2036 of persons with disabilities;

2037 (C) Authority to investigate allegations of abuse and neglect of
2038 persons with disabilities who receive care, treatment or services;

2039 (D) Authority to access persons who are residents of facilities or
2040 clients of services systems, and with appropriate consent, to access
2041 such residents' records concerning care, treatment or services;

2042 (E) Authority to educate policy makers, consumers and members of
2043 the public about issues affecting persons with disabilities;

2044 (F) Authority to reach out to members of traditionally underserved
2045 populations;

2046 (G) Authority to develop an annual statement of priorities and
2047 objectives and to solicit public comment and input on such process;
2048 and

2049 (H) Compliance with federally established confidentiality
2050 requirements; and

2051 (14) Establish an Accessibility Advisory Board with membership
2052 comprised of design professionals, persons with disabilities, persons
2053 who have family members with disabilities and any other person that
2054 the director believes would provide valuable insight and input on
2055 matters relating to accessibility. The Accessibility Advisory Board shall
2056 meet periodically at such times and places as the director designates,
2057 to advise the director on accessibility matters relating to housing,
2058 transportation, government programs and services, and any other
2059 matters deemed advisable by the director or the board.

2060 Sec. 88. Section 46a-27 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2061 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

2062 The [Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired] Advisory
2063 Board for Persons who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing is hereby created
2064 to advocate, strengthen and advise the Department of Rehabilitation
2065 Services concerning state policies affecting [deaf and hearing impaired
2066 individuals] people who are deaf or hard of hearing and their
2067 relationship to the public, industry, health care and educational
2068 opportunity.

2069 Sec. 89. Section 46a-28 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2070 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

2071 (a) The [Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired] Advisory

2072 Board for Persons who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing shall consist of
2073 twenty-one members, three of whom shall be ex officio. The ex-officio
2074 members shall consist of the following individuals: The consultant
2075 appointed by the State Board of Education in accordance with section
2076 10-316a, the president of the Connecticut Council of Organizations
2077 Serving the Deaf and the superintendent of the American School for
2078 the Deaf. The following members shall be voting members: The
2079 Commissioners of Public Health, Social Services, Mental Health,
2080 Education, Developmental Services, and Children and Families and
2081 the Labor Commissioner or their designees and eleven members
2082 appointed by the Governor. Of the members appointed by the
2083 Governor one shall be a physician licensed to practice medicine in this
2084 state and specializing in otolaryngology; one a parent of a student in a
2085 predominantly oral education program, one a parent of a student at
2086 the American School for the Deaf and one a parent of a student in a
2087 public school [hearing impaired] program for students who are hard of
2088 hearing, and seven [deaf] persons who are deaf, one of whom shall be
2089 a parent.

2090 (b) The [commission] advisory board shall meet at least quarterly or
2091 more often at the call of the chairperson or a majority of the members.
2092 A majority of the voting members in office but not less than seven
2093 voting members shall constitute a quorum.

2094 (c) Any appointed member who fails to attend three consecutive
2095 meetings or who fails to attend fifty per cent of all meetings held
2096 during any calendar year shall be deemed to have resigned. Vacancies
2097 occurring otherwise than by expiration of term in the membership of
2098 the [commission] advisory board shall be filled by the officer
2099 authorized to make the original appointments.

2100 (d) The members of the [commission] advisory board shall be
2101 reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the
2102 performance of their duties.

2103 Sec. 90. Subdivision (5) of subsection (d) of section 2c-2h of the
2104 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu

2105 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

2106 (5) [Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired] Advisory
2107 Board for Persons who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, established under
2108 section 46a-27, as amended by this act;

2109 Sec. 91. Subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 4-61aa of the
2110 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
2111 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

2112 (2) The [Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired] Advisory
2113 Board for Persons who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing;

2114 Sec. 92. Subsection (b) of section 46a-29 of the general statutes is
2115 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
2116 *October 1, 2017*):

2117 (b) The Commissioner of Education shall assign one vocational
2118 rehabilitation consultant to act as a liaison staff member of the
2119 [commission] department.

2120 Sec. 93. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 46a-33a of the
2121 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
2122 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

2123 (1) "Interpreting" means the translating or transliterating of English
2124 concepts to a language concept used by a person who is deaf or hard of
2125 hearing or means the translating of a [deaf or hard of hearing person's]
2126 language concept of a person who is deaf or hard of hearing to English
2127 concepts. Language concepts include, but are not limited to, the use of
2128 American Sign Language, English-based sign language, cued speech,
2129 oral transliterating and information received tactually;

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	4a-25a
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	4b-31(a)
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	8-119t(a)

Sec. 4	October 1, 2017	8-37qqq(a)(2)(B)
Sec. 5	October 1, 2017	8-119f
Sec. 6	October 1, 2017	8-119ll
Sec. 7	October 1, 2017	8-169c(a)(4) and (5)
Sec. 8	October 1, 2017	8-210(d)
Sec. 9	October 1, 2017	8-216b(c)
Sec. 10	October 1, 2017	8-420(a)
Sec. 11	October 1, 2017	9-168d(a)
Sec. 12	October 1, 2017	10-16o(9)
Sec. 13	October 1, 2017	10-29a(a)(44)
Sec. 14	October 1, 2017	10-73a(d)
Sec. 15	October 1, 2017	10-145b(d)
Sec. 16	October 1, 2017	10-220a(a)
Sec. 17	October 1, 2017	10-292(a)
Sec. 18	October 1, 2017	10-293
Sec. 19	October 1, 2017	2c-2h(c)(3)
Sec. 20	October 1, 2017	5-175a(b)
Sec. 21	October 1, 2017	5-177
Sec. 22	October 1, 2017	10-295
Sec. 23	October 1, 2017	10-296
Sec. 24	October 1, 2017	10-297
Sec. 25	October 1, 2017	10-298(a)
Sec. 26	October 1, 2017	10-305
Sec. 27	October 1, 2017	10-306
Sec. 28	October 1, 2017	12-65g
Sec. 29	October 1, 2017	12-81(7)(B)
Sec. 30	October 1, 2017	12-412(19)
Sec. 31	October 1, 2017	12-412(46)
Sec. 32	October 1, 2017	12-455a(c)
Sec. 33	October 1, 2017	12-635
Sec. 34	October 1, 2017	13b-4a
Sec. 35	October 1, 2017	13b-4c
Sec. 36	October 1, 2017	13b-105
Sec. 37	October 1, 2017	14-1(54)
Sec. 38	October 1, 2017	14-36(e)(4)
Sec. 39	October 1, 2017	14-275b
Sec. 40	October 1, 2017	14-300i(a)
Sec. 41	October 1, 2017	14-307(c)
Sec. 42	October 1, 2017	14-314c(a)
Sec. 43	October 1, 2017	14-325b
Sec. 44	October 1, 2017	16a-15a

Sec. 45	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	16a-41(b)
Sec. 46	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	17a-301a
Sec. 47	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	17a-302(a)
Sec. 48	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	17a-302a
Sec. 49	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	17a-303a
Sec. 50	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	17a-304
Sec. 51	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	17a-310
Sec. 52	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	17b-612
Sec. 53	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	17b-613
Sec. 54	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	17b-650a
Sec. 55	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	17b-650e
Sec. 56	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	17b-655(b)
Sec. 57	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	17b-894
Sec. 58	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	19a-6(a)
Sec. 59	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	19a-36(c)(2)(E)
Sec. 60	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	19a-54
Sec. 61	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	19a-175(2)
Sec. 62	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	19a-490(a)
Sec. 63	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	19a-701
Sec. 64	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	19a-52
Sec. 65	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	19a-59(b)
Sec. 66	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	20-74a
Sec. 67	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	25-68d(h)
Sec. 68	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	26-29
Sec. 69	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	26-29b
Sec. 70	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	26-66
Sec. 71	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	26-112
Sec. 72	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	31-12
Sec. 73	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	31-13
Sec. 74	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	31-18
Sec. 75	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	31-136
Sec. 76	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	31-138
Sec. 77	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	31-283a(a)
Sec. 78	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	38a-465g(m)(2)
Sec. 79	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	38a-493(b)
Sec. 80	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	38a-496(a)(3)
Sec. 81	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	38a-520(b)
Sec. 82	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	38a-523(a)(2)
Sec. 83	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	38a-524(a)(3)
Sec. 84	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	46a-8
Sec. 85	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	46a-9

Sec. 86	October 1, 2017	46a-10
Sec. 87	October 1, 2017	46a-11
Sec. 88	October 1, 2017	46a-27
Sec. 89	October 1, 2017	46a-28
Sec. 90	October 1, 2017	2c-2h(d)(5)
Sec. 91	October 1, 2017	4-61aa(a)(2)
Sec. 92	October 1, 2017	46a-29(b)
Sec. 93	October 1, 2017	46a-33a(a)(1)

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 64, "Such services" was changed to "Such goods and services" for accuracy, and in Section 66(6), "occupational therapist assistant" was changed to "occupational therapy assistant" for consistency with the defined term.

PH *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*

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, which updates terminology to reflect “person first” language and makes other statutory changes, does not result in a fiscal impact to the state or municipalities.

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

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 796*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF RESPECTFUL AND PERSON-FIRST LANGUAGE.*****SUMMARY**

This bill generally updates terminology to use “person first” language in various statutes relating to older adults and individuals with disabilities. Among other things, it substitutes the terms “person with disabilities” for “handicapped person,” “deaf and hard of hearing” for “hearing impaired,” and “older person” for “elderly person.” (The bill does not update these terms consistently.)

Additionally, the bill:

1. removes the prohibition on certain older persons, disabled veterans, and individuals with disabilities working extended hours in manufacturing, mechanical, or mercantile establishments, restaurants, and various other settings (§§ 72-74);
2. modifies the conditions under which the Department of Public Health (DPH) may purchase certain medical equipment for children with disabilities without going through the state’s normal purchasing procedures (§ 64);
3. adds a statutory definition for “supervision” pertaining to licensed occupational therapists who oversee the work of occupational therapy assistants (§ 66);
4. designates the month, instead of the first week, of each October as “Disability Employment Awareness Month” (§ 76);
5. renames the “Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired”

the “Advisory Board for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing” (§§ 88-89);

6. renames the “Board of Education and Services for the Blind” the “Advisory Board for Persons with Blindness or Visual Impairment” (§§ 18-21); and
7. removes obsolete provisions (a) requiring the aging and social services departments to report on alternative funding sources for elderly nutrition programs by October 1, 2016 and (b) transferring certain funds and responsibilities between the two departments in 2013 (when the aging department was re-established (§§ 46 & 48)).

The bill also makes several technical and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2017

§§ 72-74 — EXTENDED WORK HOURS FOR OLDER ADULTS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The bill removes the prohibition on employees working extended hours without their consent in manufacturing, mechanical, or mercantile establishments; restaurants; and various other settings if they are:

1. age 66 or older,
2. designated by a medical or government authority as handicapped, or
3. a disabled veteran.

Current law subjects the above individuals to the following work hour limits:

1. for manufacturing or mechanical establishments, no more than nine hours per day or 48 hours per week;
2. for mercantile establishments, no more than eight hours per

day, six days per week, or 48 hours per week; and

3. for restaurants, recreational establishments, and various other settings, no more than 10 hours per day, six days per week, or 48 hours per week.

Under current law, handicapped persons and disabled veterans who consent to working hours that exceed these limits must also provide written certification from a licensed physician or advanced practice registered nurse that doing so will not injure their health.

The bill retains the extended work hour limits for individuals under age 18 who are not enrolled in a secondary education institution (e.g., high school). Existing law, unchanged by the bill, generally applies stricter limits to individuals under age 18 who are enrolled in such an institution.

§ 64 — DPH EQUIPMENT PURCHASES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Current law allows DPH to purchase, within available appropriations, wheelchairs and placement equipment for children with disabilities without going through the Department of Administrative Services' normal purchasing procedures, provided (1) the cost of an individual item does not exceed \$6,500 and (2) purchases are made on the open market and, when possible, through competitive bidding.

The bill instead allows DPH, or the department's contractor, to purchase medically necessary and appropriate durable medical equipment and other DPH-approved goods and services. Services must be identical to those goods and services covered under the state's Medicaid and HUSKY programs and payment cannot exceed the current Medicaid payment rate for these goods and services.

§ 66 — OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANTS

By law, an occupational therapy assistant must be licensed to assist in the practice of occupational therapy under a licensed occupational

therapist’s supervision or consultation. The bill defines “supervision” as a licensed occupational therapist overseeing or participating in an occupational therapy assistant’s work. It includes:

1. continuous availability of direct communication between the occupational therapist and occupational therapy assistant;
2. availability of a licensed occupational therapist on a regularly scheduled basis to review the occupational therapy assistant’s practice and support his or her service; and
3. a predetermined plan for emergency situations, including designating an alternate licensed occupational therapist when the usual one is absent.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 19 Nay 7 (03/22/2017)