

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



**PA 18-88**—sSB 438  
*Human Services Committee*

**AN ACT REQUIRING TIMELY PAYMENT OF FUEL VENDORS IN THE  
CONNECTICUT ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

**SUMMARY:** This act requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) commissioner to require, beginning November 1, 2018, community action agencies (CAAs) that administer certain fuel assistance programs to pay deliverable fuel vendors within 30 days after receiving an authorized fuel slip or invoice from the vendor.

CAAs generally administer fuel assistance programs under the federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), which funds the Connecticut Energy Assistance Program (CEAP). The act expands the requirements for two existing reports on these programs that DSS must submit annually to the Appropriations, Energy and Technology, and Human Services committees. First, the act requires DSS's LIHEAP plan, due August 1, to include a payment plan for fuel deliveries beginning November 1, 2018, that ensures that vendors who complete CAA-authorized fuel deliveries are paid by the CAA within 30 business days after the CAA receives an authorized fuel slip or invoice from the vendor. The requirement applies to CAAs that contract with the DSS commissioner to administer fuel assistance programs. Secondly, the act requires DSS's annual LIHEAP report, due January 30, to include a list of CAAs that failed to make timely payments to deliverable fuel vendors in CEAP and steps taken by the DSS commissioner to ensure future timely payments by such agencies.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Upon passage