



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 103

February Session, 2018

Substitute Senate Bill No. 235

Senate, March 28, 2018

The Committee on Aging reported through SEN. MCCRORY of the 2nd Dist. and SEN. KELLY of the 21st Dist., Chairpersons of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING OMBUDSMAN VOLUNTEERS.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 17a-406 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2018*):

4 (d) Nothing in sections 17a-405 to 17a-417, inclusive, 19a-523,
5 19a-524, 19a-530, 19a-531, 19a-532 and 19a-554 shall be construed to
6 preclude the use of additional trained volunteers when it is deemed
7 necessary to assist the State Ombudsman, regional ombudsmen or the
8 residents' advocates. The State Ombudsman shall devise and
9 implement a plan to increase the number of trained volunteers
10 assisting the State Ombudsman, regional ombudsmen and the
11 residents' advocates. Not later than January 1, 2019, the State
12 Ombudsman shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section
13 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
14 cognizance of matters relating to aging concerning the action the State

15 Ombudsman has taken to ensure progress in recruiting additional
16 trained volunteers.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2018	17a-406(d)

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1(d), the phrase "of the general statutes" was deleted for accuracy.

AGE *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 requires the Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman to implement a plan to increase participation in the volunteer advocate program. There is no fiscal impact as the Office has the expertise to undertake the requirement of the bill.

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

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 235*****AN ACT CONCERNING OMBUDSMAN VOLUNTEERS.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the state's long-term care ombudsman to devise and implement a plan to increase the number of trained volunteers who assist the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program (LTCOP). Under the bill, the ombudsman must report to the Aging Committee by January 1, 2019 on the actions she has taken to ensure progress in recruiting these additional volunteers.

By law, the LTCOP represents the interests of residents and applicants of nursing homes, residential care homes, and assisted living facilities. Among other things, the program recruits, trains, and supervises volunteer resident advocates to assist residents in resolving complaints about these facilities.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2018

COMMITTEE ACTION

Aging Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 12 Nay 0 (03/15/2018)