



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 627

January Session, 2019

Substitute House Bill No. 7359

House of Representatives, April 11, 2019

The Committee on Human Services reported through REP. ABERCROMBIE of the 83rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING A LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL,
TRANSGENDER AND QUEER HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
NETWORK.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a
2 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Health and Human
3 Services Network to make recommendations to the state legislative,
4 executive and judicial branches of government concerning the delivery
5 of health and human services to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender
6 and queer persons in the state.

7 (b) The network shall work to build a safer and healthier
8 environment for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and queer persons
9 by (1) conducting a needs analysis, within available appropriations, (2)
10 collecting additional data on the health and human services needs of
11 such persons as necessary, (3) informing state policy through reports
12 submitted at least biennially, in accordance with the provisions of

13 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of
14 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public
15 health, human services, appropriations and the budgets of state
16 agencies, other legislative committees as necessary, the Governor and
17 the Chief Court Administrator, (4) assisting the Department of Public
18 Health to develop requests for proposals for grants awarded pursuant
19 to section 2 of this act, and (5) building organizational member
20 capacity, leadership and advocacy across the geographic and social
21 spectrum of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer
22 community.

23 (c) The network shall include, but need not be limited to, the
24 following members, or their designees:

25 (1) The president of Connecticut Latinas/os Achieving Rights and
26 Opportunities (CLARO);

27 (2) The executive director of the Safe Harbor Project;

28 (3) The executive director of the New Haven Pride Center;

29 (4) The executive director of True Colors, Inc.;

30 (5) The executive director of the Triangle Community Center in
31 Norwalk;

32 (6) The executive director of AIDS Connecticut;

33 (7) The executive director of the Connecticut chapter of the Gay,
34 Lesbian & Straight Education Network (GLSEN);

35 (8) The executive director of the Rainbow Center at The University
36 of Connecticut;

37 (9) The executive director of the Hartford Gay and Lesbian Health
38 Collective;

39 (10) The executive director of the Connecticut Transadvocacy
40 Coalition;

- 41 (11) The president of OutCT in New London;
- 42 (12) The executive director of the Queer Unity Empowerment
43 Support Team;
- 44 (13) The executive director of the Commission on Women, Children
45 and Seniors;
- 46 (14) The executive director of the Commission on Equity and
47 Opportunity;
- 48 (15) A lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer physician,
49 licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the general statutes, appointed by
50 the speaker of the House of Representatives;
- 51 (16) An LGBT Veteran Care coordinator assigned to a health care
52 facility in the state administered by the United States Department of
53 Veterans Affairs, appointed by the president pro tempore of the
54 Senate; and
- 55 (17) A member of the LGBT Aging Advocacy coalition, appointed
56 by the Governor.
- 57 (d) Members shall serve at the will of the speaker of the House of
58 Representatives and the president pro tempore of the Senate, who may
59 each appoint additional members and set term limits for each member.
60 Appointments to the network shall be made not later than sixty days
61 after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by
62 the speaker of the House of Representatives, acting in consultation
63 with the president pro tempore of the Senate.
- 64 (e) The administrative staff of the Commission on Women, Children
65 and Seniors shall provide administrative support to the network.
- 66 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) The sum of two hundred fifty
67 thousand dollars is appropriated to the Department of Public Health
68 from the General Fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, to (1)
69 assist the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Health and

70 Human Services Network established pursuant to section 1 of this act
 71 to conduct a needs analysis concerning health and human services for
 72 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer persons, and (2) fund
 73 grants awarded by the Department of Public Health to organizations
 74 that assist in the mission of the network. The Department of Public
 75 Health shall award such grants based on requests for proposals
 76 developed in consultation with the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,
 77 Transgender and Queer Health and Human Services Network.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1(c)(4), "True Colors of Hartford" was changed to "True Colors, Inc." for clarity.

HS *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:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 20 \$	FY 21 \$
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Cost	250,000	None

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill establishes a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Health and Human Services Network and appropriates \$250,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Public Health (DPH) in FY 20 for this purpose. It directs this funding to be used to: (1) assist the network in conducting a needs analysis, and (2) fund DPH grants to organizations that further the network's mission.

The Out Years

There is no fiscal impact anticipated in the out years to the State or municipalities as the bill directs that a single appropriation be made to DPH in FY 20.

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 7359*****AN ACT CONCERNING A LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER AND QUEER HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES NETWORK.*****SUMMARY**

This bill establishes a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Health and Human Services Network to make recommendations to state legislative, executive, and judicial branches concerning health and human services delivery to LGBTQ people in the state. It establishes the network's membership and charges it with, among other things, working to build a safer and healthier environment for LGBTQ persons.

The bill appropriates \$250,000 to the Department of Public Health (DPH) from the General Fund for FY 20. It directs the funding to be used to (1) assist the network to conduct a needs analysis and (2) fund DPH grants to organizations that further the network's mission. It requires DPH to award such grants based on requests for proposals (RFPs) developed in consultation with the network.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

LGBTQ HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES NETWORK***Responsibilities***

The bill requires the network to build a safer and healthier environment for LGBTQ persons by:

1. conducting a needs analysis, within available appropriations;
2. collecting additional data on the health and human services needs of such persons, as necessary;

3. submitting reports at least biennially to the Appropriations, Human Services, and Public Health committees (and other committees, as necessary), governor, and chief court administrator;
4. assisting DPH with developing RFPs for grants awarded under the bill; and
5. building organizational member capacity, leadership, and advocacy across the geographic and social spectrum of the LGBTQ community.

Membership

Under the bill, network membership includes the following executive officers (or their designees), serving at the will of the House speaker and Senate president pro tempore, who may also set their term limits:

1. the executive directors of the following organizations: AIDS Connecticut; the commissions on Equity and Opportunity and Women, Children, and Seniors; Connecticut chapter of the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network (GLSEN); Connecticut Transadvocacy Coalition; Hartford Gay and Lesbian Health Collective; New Haven Pride Center; Queer Unity Empowerment Support Team; Rainbow Center at the University of Connecticut; Safe Harbor Project; Triangle Community Center in Norwalk; and True Colors, Inc.; and
2. the presidents of Connecticut Latinas/os Achieving Rights and Opportunities (CLARO) and OutCT in New London.

Its membership also includes the following appointees (or their designees):

1. a House speaker-appointed LGBTQ licensed physician;
2. an LGBT veteran care coordinator assigned to a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs health care facility in the state, appointed by

the Senate president pro tempore; and

3. a Governor-appointed member of the LGBT Aging Advocacy coalition.

The bill requires appointments to be made within 60 days of its effective date. It directs the House speaker, in consultation with the Senate president pro tempore, to fill any vacancies, and allows them to each appoint additional members. Under the bill, the administrative staff of the Commission on Women, Children, and Seniors must provide the network's administrative support.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 18 Nay 1 (03/26/2019)