



# House of Representatives

**File No. 972**

General Assembly

January Session, 2019

**(Reprint of File No. 627)**

Substitute House Bill No. 7359  
As Amended by House Amendment  
Schedules "A" and "C"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner  
May 22, 2019

***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, and (4) building organizational  
18 member capacity, leadership and advocacy across the geographic and  
19 social spectrum of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer  
20 community.

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

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

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

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

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

28 (5) The executive director of the Triangle Community Center in  
29 Norwalk;

30 (6) The executive director of AIDS Connecticut;

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

33 (8) The executive director of the Rainbow Center at The University  
34 of Connecticut;

35 (9) The executive director of the Hartford Gay and Lesbian Health  
36 Collective;

37 (10) The executive director of the Connecticut Transadvocacy  
38 Coalition;

39 (11) The president of OutCT in New London;

40 (12) The executive director of the Queer Unity Empowerment

41 Support Team;

42 (13) The executive director of the Commission on Women, Children  
43 and Seniors;

44 (14) The executive director of the Commission on Equity and  
45 Opportunity;

46 (15) A lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer physician,  
47 licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the general statutes, appointed by  
48 the speaker of the House of Representatives;

49 (16) An LGBT Veteran Care coordinator assigned to a health care  
50 facility in the state administered by the United States Department of  
51 Veterans Affairs, appointed by the president pro tempore of the  
52 Senate;

53 (17) A member of the LGBT Aging Advocacy coalition, appointed  
54 by the Governor; and

55 (18) The president of Connecticut Community Care.

56 (d) Members shall serve at the will of the speaker of the House of  
57 Representatives and the president pro tempore of the Senate, who may  
58 each appoint additional members and set term limits for each member.  
59 Appointments to the network shall be made not later than sixty days  
60 after the effective date of this section. Members shall choose  
61 chairpersons. Any vacancy shall be filled by the speaker of the House  
62 of Representatives, acting in consultation with the president pro  
63 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, within available appropriations, is appropriated to  
68 the Department of Public Health from the General Fund for the fiscal  
69 year ending June 30, 2020, to (1) assist the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,

70 Transgender and Queer Health and Human Services Network  
71 established pursuant to section 1 of this act to conduct a needs analysis  
72 concerning health and human services for lesbian, gay, bisexual,  
73 transgender and queer persons, and (2) fund grants awarded by the  
74 Department of Public Health to organizations that assist in the mission  
75 of the 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

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:**

<b>Agency Affected</b>	<b>Fund-Effect</b>	<b>FY 20 \$</b>	<b>FY 21 \$</b>
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Potential 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 to the Department of Public Health (DPH) in FY 20 for this purpose within available appropriations. As it is within available appropriations, the cost to DPH is a potential one. The bill directs available funding to be used to: (1) assist the network in conducting a needs analysis, and (2) fund grants to organizations that further the network's mission.

House "A," which makes various changes to the underlying bill, is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact to the State or municipalities.

House "C" alters Section 2 of the underlying bill, making the appropriation to DPH within available appropriations. This change makes the cost to DPH identified in the fiscal note on the underlying bill a potential one.

### **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.

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**OLR Bill Analysis****sHB 7359 (as amended by House "A" and "C")\******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.

Within available appropriations, the bill directs \$250,000 to the Department of Public Health (DPH) from the General Fund for FY 20. It requires the 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.

\*House Amendment "A" (1) eliminates provisions in the underlying bill requiring the network to assist DPH in developing requests for proposals (RFPs) for grant funding and DPH to award such grants based on these RFPs and (2) adds an additional network member and specifies that members choose the chairpersons.

\*House Amendment "C" requires that the \$250,000 appropriation to DPH be made within available appropriations.

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; and
4. building organizational member capacity, leadership, and advocacy across the geographic and social spectrum of the LGBTQ community.

***Membership***

Under the bill, the network's 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), OutCT in New London, and Connecticut Community Care.



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 the appointments 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, network members must choose the chairpersons, and 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)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable  
Yea 39 Nay 6 (05/13/2019)