

AN ACT CONCERNING SENIOR CENTERS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 7-127b of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

3 (a) The chief elected official or the chief executive officer if by
4 ordinance of each municipality shall appoint a municipal agent for
5 elderly persons. Such agent shall be a staff member of a senior center, a
6 member of an agency that serves elderly persons in the municipality or
7 a responsible resident of the municipality who has demonstrated an
8 interest in the elderly or has been involved in programs in the field of
9 aging.

10 (b) The duties of the municipal agent may include, but shall not be
11 limited to: [] (1) [disseminating] Disseminating information to elderly
12 persons, assisting such persons in learning about the community
13 resources available to them and publicizing such resources and
14 benefits; (2) assisting elderly persons to apply for federal and other
15 benefits available to such persons; and (3) reporting to the chief elected
16 official or chief executive officer of the municipality and the
17 Department of Rehabilitation Services any needs and problems of the
18 elderly and any recommendations for action to improve services to the
19 elderly.

20 (c) Each municipal agent shall serve for a term of two or four years,
21 at the discretion of the appointing authority of each municipality, and
22 may be reappointed. If more than one agent is necessary to carry out

23 the purposes of this section, the appointing authority, in its discretion,
24 may appoint one or more assistant agents. The town clerk in each
25 municipality shall notify the Department of Rehabilitation Services
26 immediately of the appointment of a new municipal agent. Each
27 municipality may provide to its municipal agent resources sufficient
28 for such agent to perform the duties of the office.

29 (d) The Department of Rehabilitation Services shall adopt and
30 disseminate to municipalities guidelines as to the role and duties of
31 municipal agents and such informational and technical materials as
32 may assist such agents in performance of their duties. The department,
33 in cooperation with the area agencies on aging, may provide training
34 for municipal agents within the available resources of the department
35 and of the area agencies on aging.

36 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2019*) (a) Any one or more
37 municipalities, or any one or more private organizations that serve
38 older persons and are designated to act as agents of one or more
39 municipalities, may establish a multipurpose senior center, as defined
40 in Title I of the Older Americans Act of 1965, as amended from time to
41 time. Such senior center shall facilitate evaluation, planning,
42 coordination and implementation of programs and services, including,
43 but not limited to, those relating to (1) health, including mental and
44 behavioral health; (2) social, nutritional and educational services; and
45 (3) recreational activities for older persons.

46 (b) A multipurpose senior center established pursuant to subsection
47 (a) of this section may provide, but need not be limited to, the
48 following services: (1) Nutrition services; (2) health and wellness
49 programs; (3) employment assistance; (4) intergenerational initiatives;
50 (5) community service and civic engagement opportunities; (6) public
51 benefits counseling; (7) socialization and educational opportunities; (8)
52 transportation; (9) peer counseling; (10) financial and retirement
53 counseling; (11) arts programs; and (12) case management services.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	7-127b
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	New section