OLR Bill Analysis
sHB 6173

AN ACT EXPANDING ELIGIBILITY FOR THE ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE RESPITE CARE PROGRAM.

SUMMARY

Starting July 1, 2019, this bill expands eligibility for individuals with Alzheimer’s disease or related disorders to participate in the state’s Respite Care Program (see BACKGROUND). It does so by increasing the program’s annual (1) income limit from $46,897 to $50,000 and (2) liquid asset limit from $124,679 to $125,000. (Current income and asset limits reflect annual Social Security cost of living adjustments.) Under existing law, unchanged by the bill, participants cannot enroll in the Connecticut Home Care Program for Elders.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2019

BACKGROUND

Statewide Respite Care Program

By law, the Respite Care Program provides respite for caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer’s disease or related disorders. Program participants receive a maximum benefit of $3,500, but may receive up to $7,500, depending on need. The program provides homemaker, personal care assistant, adult day care, short-term medical and facility care, home health care, and companion services. Participants may be required to pay a portion of the cost.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Aging Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 11 Nay 0 (02/26/2019)