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## OLR Bill Analysis

### sSB 955

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO OBSOLETE PROVISIONS OF THE GENERAL STATUTES AFFECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill makes various changes to the laws governing the Department of Social Services (DSS). Specifically, it eliminates:

1. references to the state's Weatherization Assistance Program from the annual Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program reporting requirements (the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection now administers the weatherization program in partnership with community action agencies) (§ 1);
2. the requirement that DSS include a copy of the transcript of the cognizance committees' review proceeding when submitting to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (a) a Medicaid waiver application or renewal or (b) certain proposed amendments to the Medicaid state plan (§ 2);
3. the requirement that DSS develop uniform regulations for the licensing of human services facilities (interpreted by the state auditors as requiring DSS to promulgate uniform regulations for the licensing of these facilities, undefined in statute, regardless of whether they are within its purview) (§ 3);
4. an outdated requirement that DSS, in collaboration with the Council on Medical Assistance Program Oversight, annually prepare a report, within available appropriations, that includes a comparison of the performance of each Medicaid managed care organization and other member service delivery choices (managed care is no longer used by the state Medicaid program) (§ 4);

5. references to freestanding medical clinics from a provision concerning Medicaid rate adjustments based on cost reporting (these clinics are not paid using this method and have always been paid according to a fee schedule) (§ 5);
6. the requirement that DSS adopt regulations to certify federally qualified health centers (this component of Medicaid managed care is no longer used by the state Medicaid plan) (§ 6);
7. three obsolete statutes regarding an inactive Temporary Family Assistance client advisory board (CGS § 17b-184), a formulary for certain generic prescription drug costs that are now reimbursed according to federal regulations (CGS § 17b-274a), and a reporting requirement on employment opportunities and training for persons with disabilities (CGS § 17b-610) (§8).

The bill additionally replaces a reference to the Connecticut Law Journal, instead requiring DSS to post notices of its intent to adopt regulations regarding community health centers on its website and the eRegulations system. It also makes technical and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2021

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 19 Nay 0 (03/31/2021)