

# Aging Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** SB-896

**Title:** AN ACT CONCERNING LONG-TERM CARE SERVICES.

**Vote Date:** 3/11/2021

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable

**PH Date:** 2/23/2021

**File No.:**

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## **SPONSORS OF BILL:**

Aging Committee

## **REASONS FOR BILL:**

Demand for long-term care is expected to increase over the next twenty years. There is a need to identify what the needs will be and the potential future expenditures. The bill directs the Dept. of Social Services to conduct a study of the state's long-term care needs and to report to the committees having cognizance on matters relating to aging and human services no later than July 1, 2022.

## **RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

**Dept. of Social Services:** The Dept. offered testimony on this bill but wished to note to the Committee that there are two major strategic planning tools that already fulfill the aims of this proposal. The Governor's Strategic Plan to Rebalance Long-Term Services and Supports with the latest version of this report released on January 2020 and the Connecticut Long-Term Care Planning Committee which prepares a long-term care plan every three years with the most recent released in January 2019 called "Balancing the System: Working Toward Real Choice for Long-Term Services and Supports in Connecticut.

## **NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

**Mag Morelli, President, LeadingAge Connecticut:** Their testimony did not offer any opposition to this proposal and offered to assist the Committee and the state with the studies, but they point out that they did participate in the process of developing the 2019 State Long-Term Services and Supports Plan. They also mention that there is a recently updated report

on Connecticut's Medicaid Long-Term Care Need Protections as well as the Strategic Rebalancing Plan.

**Anna Doroghazi, AARP Connecticut:** They offered testimony with comments on the bill and suggest that this bill is not necessary at this time. It is also pointed out that HB 6457 and SB 896 are also similar in nature. In July 2019 Mercer released a report that it conducted entitled "State of Connecticut Medicaid Long Term Care Demand Projections" which show that demand for long-term care will grow in the next 20 years but that demand for nursing facilities will decline as demand for home and community-based services continues to increase.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

No testimony was offered in opposition.

**Reported by: Richard Ferrari, Assistant Clerk  
Richard O'Neil, Assistant Clerk  
Joe Perkus, Clerk**

**Date: 3/23/2021**