



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 391**

February Session, 2022

Substitute House Bill No. 5343

*House of Representatives, April 11, 2022*

The Committee on Human Services reported through REP. ABERCROMBIE of the 83rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER AND QUEER HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND OPPORTUNITY NETWORK.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 19a-132 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

3 (a) There is established a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and  
4 Queer Health, [and] Human Services and Opportunity Network to  
5 make recommendations to the state legislative, executive and judicial  
6 branches of government concerning (1) the promotion of equitable  
7 access to opportunities for, (2) the delivery of health and human services  
8 to, and (3) educational awareness about lesbian, gay, bisexual,  
9 transgender and queer persons in the state.

10 (b) The network shall work to build a safer and healthier environment  
11 for [gay, lesbian] lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer persons  
12 by (1) conducting a needs analysis, within available appropriations, (2)

13 collecting additional data on the health and human services needs of  
14 such persons as necessary, (3) informing state policy through reports  
15 submitted at least biennially, in accordance with the provisions of  
16 section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly  
17 having cognizance of matters relating to public health, human services,  
18 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, other legislative  
19 committees as necessary, the Governor and the Chief Court  
20 Administrator, and (4) building organizational member capacity,  
21 leadership and advocacy across the geographic and social spectrum of  
22 the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer community.

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

25 [(1) The president of Connecticut Latinas/os Achieving Rights and  
26 Opportunities (CLARO);

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

28 [(3)] (1) The executive director of the New Haven Pride Center;

29 [(4) The executive director of True Colors, Inc.];]

30 [(5)] (2) The executive director of the Triangle Community Center; [in  
31 Norwalk;]

32 [(6)] (3) The executive director of [AIDS Connecticut] Advancing CT  
33 Together;

34 [(7)] (4) The [executive director] board president of the Connecticut  
35 chapter of the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network (GLSEN);

36 [(8) The executive director of the Rainbow Center at The University  
37 of Connecticut;]

38 (5) The executive director of Kamora's Cultural Corner;

39 [(9)] (6) The executive director of the Hartford Gay [and] & Lesbian  
40 Health Collective;

41 [(10)] (7) The executive director of the Connecticut [Transadvocacy]  
42 TransAdvocacy Coalition;

43 [(11)] (8) The board president of [OutCT in New London] outCT;

44 [(12) The executive director of the Queer Unity Empowerment  
45 Support Team;]

46 [(13)] (9) The executive director of the Commission on Women,  
47 Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity, or the executive director's  
48 designee;

49 [(14) A lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer physician,  
50 licensed pursuant to chapter 370, appointed by the speaker of the House  
51 of Representatives;]

52 (10) The president of Connecticut Community Care;

53 (11) The executive director of Q+;

54 (12) The following members appointed by the Senate chairperson of  
55 the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having  
56 cognizance of matters relating to human services:

57 (A) A lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer physician, licensed  
58 pursuant to chapter 370, who is affiliated with and nominated by a  
59 health care organization that advocates for or promotes services to  
60 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer health care consumers;

61 (B) A lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer mental health  
62 provider, licensed pursuant to chapter 370, who is affiliated with and  
63 nominated by a health care organization that advocates for or promotes  
64 services to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer health care  
65 consumers;

66 (C) A representative of the Latino, Latina, LatinX or Puerto Rican  
67 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer community;

68 (D) A representative of the African American/Black lesbian, gay,

69 bisexual, transgender and queer community;

70 (E) A representative of the LGBTQ+ women community;

71 (F) A lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer person with  
72 disabilities; and

73 (G) A representative of the transgender, nonbinary or intersex  
74 community; and

75 (13) The following members appointed by the House chairperson of  
76 the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having  
77 cognizance of matters relating to human services:

78 (A) A representative of the LGBTQ+ youth services sector;

79 (B) Not more than three rotating representatives of the Pride  
80 Network;

81 (C) Not more than three rotating representatives of the college  
82 LGBTQ+ services and support community;

83 (D) Not more than three rotating representatives of the HIV/AIDS  
84 service sector;

85 (E) A member of the LGBT Aging Advocacy coalition; and

86 [(15)] (F) An LGBT Veteran Care coordinator assigned to a health care  
87 facility in the state administered by the United States Department of  
88 Veterans Affairs. [, appointed by the president pro tempore of the  
89 Senate;

90 (16) A member of the LGBT Aging Advocacy coalition, appointed by  
91 the Governor; and

92 (17) The president of Connecticut Community Care.]

93 (d) [Members shall serve at the will of the speaker of the House of  
94 Representatives and the president pro tempore of the Senate, who may  
95 each appoint additional members and set term limits for each member.]

96 Appointments to the network [shall be made not later than sixty days  
 97 after the effective date of this section] pursuant to subdivisions (12) and  
 98 (13) of subsection (c) of this section shall be made not later than  
 99 September 1, 2022. Members of the network shall choose chairpersons.  
 100 Any vacancy under subdivisions (12) and (13) of subsection (c) of this  
 101 section shall be filled by the [speaker of the House of Representatives,  
 102 acting in consultation with the president pro tempore of the Senate]  
 103 appointing authority. Vacancies under subdivisions (1) to (11),  
 104 inclusive, of subsection (c) of this section shall be filled by a majority  
 105 vote of members of the network.

106 (e) The administrative staff of the Commission on Women, Children,  
 107 Seniors, Equity and Opportunity shall provide administrative support  
 108 to the network. The executive director of the commission shall  
 109 administer network funds through a fiscal agent, with the advice and  
 110 consent of the network. The network may use such funds as may be  
 111 available from federal, state or other sources and may enter into  
 112 contracts to carry out the purposes of the network, including, but not  
 113 limited to, contracts for additional administrative support,  
 114 programmatic initiatives and grantmaking. The network may also  
 115 utilize voluntary and uncompensated services of private individuals,  
 116 state or federal agencies and organizations as may, from time to time, be  
 117 offered and needed.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2022	19a-132

**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**  
 In Subsec. (d), "sixty days after the effective date of this section" was changed to "September 1, 2022" for clarity.

**HS**            *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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*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.*

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

This bill modifies the name of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Health and Human Services Network to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Health, Human Services and Opportunity Network and expands its charge. Under the bill, the executive director of the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity must administer network funds through a fiscal agent, with the network's advice and consent.

These provisions have no fiscal impact on the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity.

**The Out Years**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

**OLR Bill Analysis**

**sHB 5343**

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER AND QUEER HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND OPPORTUNITY NETWORK.**

**SUMMARY**

This bill modifies the name of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Health and Human Services Network to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Health, Human Services and Opportunity Network and expands its charge. Specifically, it requires the network to make recommendations about promoting equitable access to opportunities for, and educational awareness about, LGBTQ people in the state. Under existing law, the network must already make recommendations on the delivery of health and human services to these persons.

The bill also updates network membership, such as requiring the Human Services Committee chairpersons to each appoint several members. It requires the appointing authority to fill any appointed vacancy on the network and a majority vote of the network's members to fill any ex-officio vacancies. Under current law, the House speaker fills any vacancies, in consultation with the Senate president pro tempore.

The bill removes provisions under current law (1) providing that members serve at the will of the House speaker and Senate president pro tempore and (2) allowing them to set member term limits.

Under the bill, the executive director of the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity must administer network funds through a fiscal agent, with the network's advice and consent.

The bill allows the network to use (1) available funds from federal,

state, or other sources and enter into contracts to carry out the network’s purposes including contracts for additional administrative support, programmatic initiatives, and grantmaking, and (2) voluntary and uncompensated services of private individuals, state or federal agencies, and organizations as may be offered and needed.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2022

**NETWORK MEMBERSHIP**

The bill modifies the LGBTQ Health, Human Services and Opportunity Network’s membership, as shown in Table 1.

**Table 1: Network Membership**

<i>Current Law</i>	<i>Under the Bill</i>
<b>Legislative or Gubernatorial Appointments (or their designees)</b>	<b>Appointments by Human Services Committee Senate Chairperson</b>
House speaker-appointed licensed physician who is lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer	LGBTQ licensed physician affiliated with and nominated by a health care organization that advocates for or promotes services to LGBTQ health care consumers
Senate president pro tempore-appointed LGBT veteran care coordinator assigned to a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs health care facility in the state	LGBTQ licensed mental health provider (physician or physician assistant) affiliated with and nominated by a health care organization that advocates for or promotes services to LGBTQ health care consumers
Governor-appointed member of the LGBT Aging Advocacy coalition	Representative of the Latino, Latina, Latinx, or Puerto Rican LGBTQ community
	Representative of the African American/ Black LGBTQ community
	Representative of the LGBTQ+ women community
	A lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer person with disabilities
	Representative of the transgender, nonbinary, or intersex community
	<b>Appointments by Human Services Committee House Chairperson</b>
	Representative of the LGBTQ+ youth services sector
	Up to three rotating representatives from each of the (1) Pride Network, (2) College



<b>Current Law</b>	<b>Under the Bill</b>
	LGBTQ+ services and support community, and (3) HIV/AIDS service sector
	LGBT veteran care coordinator assigned to a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs health care facility in the state
	Member of the LGBT Aging Advocacy coalition
<b>Ex-Officio Members (or their designees)</b>	<b>Ex-Officio Members (or their designees)</b>
<b>Executive Directors of the following organizations:</b>	<b>Executive Directors of the following organizations:</b>
AIDS Connecticut	Advancing CT Together
Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity	Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity
Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) - CT	---
Connecticut Transadvocacy Coalition	Connecticut TransAdvocacy Coalition
Hartford Gay and Lesbian Health Collective	Hartford Gay & Lesbian Health Collective
New Haven Pride Center	New Haven Pride Center
Queer Unity Empowerment Support Team	Q+
Rainbow Center at the University of Connecticut	Kamora's Cultural Corner
Safe Harbor Project	---
Triangle Community Center in Norwalk	Triangle Community Center
True Colors, Inc.	---
<b>Presidents of the following organizations:</b>	<b>Presidents of the following organizations:</b>
Connecticut Latinas/os Achieving Rights and Opportunities (CLARO)	Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) - CT
OutCT in New London	OutCT
Connecticut Community Care	Connecticut Community Care

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 20 Nay 0 (03/24/2022)