

Aging Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-174

Title: AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF LONG-TERM CARE NEEDS.

Vote Date: 3/10/2022

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 3/3/2022

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Aging Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

The reason for this bill is to study long-term care requirements in the state and ensure adequate allocations.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Amy Porter, Commissioner, Department of Aging and Disability Services, stated that she did not believe this bill was necessary, and it would superfluously duplicate existing studies on long-term care needs.

Department of Social Services, offered testimony stating that they did not believe this bill was needed, and that the necessary studies were already being conducted under the Strategic Plan to Rebalance Long-Term Services and Supports.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Marie Allen, President, Southwestern CT Agency on Aging, offered testimony in support of this bill, on the grounds that a study could help to identify gaps and shortcomings in the long-term care system, and may highlight opportunities for expanding a safety net.

Anna Doroghazi, Policy and Outreach Director, AARP, offered testimony in support of this bill, stating that while many of the data points outlined in S.B. 174 are available through various sources, it would be helpful for the Department of Social Services and the Department of Aging and Disability Services to produce a single report.

Sharon Gauthier, President, Patient Advocate for You, supported this bill, and stated she felt that it and H.B. 5197 represented a single concept. She testified to the necessity of a long-term care study in general, and of the process of registering homecare agencies in particular.

Tracy Wodatch, President & CEO The Connecticut Association for Healthcare at Home, and **Coco Sellman, Owner, All Pointe Home Care**, both offered testimony in support of this bill, but stated they felt it was too little to address the serious issues facing the long-term care industry. Both addressed concerns regarding the significant decline in skilled nursing workers in Connecticut, and the decline in service that this has resulted in across the board.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

David Godbout, Constituent, he expressed opposition to all bills put forward by the committee, under the claim of nullification.

Reported by:

Date: 3/16/2022

Cameron Clarke, Committee Clerk
Richard Ferrari, Assistant Clerk