

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



**PA 22-21—SB 198**

*Human Services Committee*

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADVISORY BOARD FOR PERSONS WHO ARE DEAF, HARD OF HEARING OR DEAFBLIND**

**SUMMARY:** This act modifies the Advisory Board for Persons Who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing or Deafblind by eliminating from its membership the governor's liaison to the disability community. In doing so, it reduces the advisory board's (1) membership from 11 to 10 and (2) chairpersons from three to two.

Under prior law, the board's three chairpersons were the aging and disability services commissioner, the governor's liaison to the disability community, and one board member chosen by a majority of the board. The act instead requires the advisory board to elect two chairpersons from among its members.

By law, the advisory board (1) monitors services for people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or deafblind, (2) periodically meets with relevant executive branch agency heads to discuss best practices and gaps in services, (3) refers complaints to Disability Rights Connecticut, and (4) makes recommendations to the governor and the Human Services Committee (CGS § 46a-27).

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2022