
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>
Legislative or Gubernatorial Appointments (or their designees)	Appointments by Human Services Committee Senate Chairperson
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
	Appointments by Human Services Committee House Chairperson
	Representative of the LGBTQ+ youth services sector
	Up to three rotating representatives from each of the (1) Pride Network, (2) College LGBTQ+ services and support community, and (3) HIV/AIDS service sector

Current Law	Under the Bill
	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
Ex-Officio Members (or their designees)	Ex-Officio Members (or their designees)
Executive Directors of the following organizations:	Executive Directors of the following organizations:
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.	---
Presidents of the following organizations:	Presidents of the following organizations:
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)