



House of Representatives

File No. 673

General Assembly

February Session, 2022 **(Reprint of File No. 391)**

Substitute House Bill No. 5343
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedules "A" and "B"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
April 27, 2022

**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 Section 19a-132 of the general statutes is repealed and the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,] consist of
24 the following members, or their designees, provided such members or
25 designees are available and willing to serve:

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

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

29 [(3)] (1) The executive director of the New Haven Pride Center;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

44 [(11)] (8) The board president of [OutCT in New London] outCT;

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

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

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

53 (10) The president of Connecticut Community Care;

54 (11) The executive director of Q+;

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

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

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

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

69 (D) A representative of the African American/Black lesbian, gay,
70 bisexual, transgender or queer community;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

107 (e) The administrative staff of the Commission on Women, Children,
 108 Seniors, Equity and Opportunity shall provide administrative support
 109 to the network. The network, to carry out its purposes, may use any
 110 funds available from federal, state or other sources and may enter into
 111 contracts, provided no network member shall participate in the
 112 approval, whether by affirmative vote or otherwise, of the disbursement
 113 of funds or other benefits to such member or an organization affiliated
 114 with such member. The network may also utilize voluntary and
 115 uncompensated services of private individuals, state or federal agencies
 116 and organizations as may, from time to time, be offered and needed.

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

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.

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. The bill allows the network to use available funds from federal, state, or other sources and enter into contracts to carry out the network's purposes provided no network members participate in the approval of the disbursement of funds. These provisions have no fiscal impact.

House "A" makes several minor changes and modifies how the network must administer available funds. These provisions have no fiscal impact.

House "B" modifies how the network may use available funds and clarifies the role of network members in the disbursement of funds. House "B" has no fiscal impact.

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State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5343 (as amended by House "A" and "B")******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 people.

The bill also updates network membership, such as requiring the Human Services Committee chairpersons to each appoint several members, which they must do by September 1, 2022 (they must also fill these vacancies). Ex-officio vacancies are filled by a majority vote of the network's members. 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.

The bill allows the network to use (1) available funds from federal, state, or other sources, and (2) voluntary and uncompensated services of private individuals, state or federal agencies, and organizations as may be offered and needed. It also allows the network to enter into contracts to carry out its purposes, as long as no member participates in decisions, whether by affirmative vote or otherwise, to disburse funds

or other benefits to themselves or an organization with which they are affiliated.

*House Amendment "A" (1) caps the network’s membership and specifies that members, or their designees, are required to be part of the network to the extent they are available and willing to serve; (2) eliminates the requirement that the executive director of the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity administer the network funds through a fiscal agent; and (3) prohibits members from participating in decisions to disburse funds or benefits to themselves or an affiliated organization.

*House Amendment "B" makes the same changes as Amendment "A", plus two clarifying changes.

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. Under current law, the required membership is a minimum. The bill instead caps the network’s membership at the updated list and specifies that these members, or their designees, are required to be part of the network to the extent they are available and willing to serve.

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

Current Law	Under the Bill
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
	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

<i>Current Law</i>	<i>Under the Bill</i>
Safe Harbor Project	---
Triangle Community Center in Norwalk	Triangle Community Center
True Colors, Inc.	---
<i>Presidents of the following organizations:</i>	<i>Presidents of the following organizations:</i>
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
	* provided these members are willing and able to serve

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 20 Nay 0 (03/24/2022)