



General Assembly

Corrected Copy
Raised Bill No. 5780

January Session, 2023

LCO No. 3108



Referred to Committee on AGING

Introduced by:
(AGE)

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM TO EXPAND ACCESS TO HEARING TESTS AND HEARING AIDS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective October 1, 2023*) (a) The Commissioner of Aging
2 and Disability Services shall, within available appropriations, establish
3 a pilot program to provide access to hearing screening tests and hearing
4 aids for eligible senior citizens. The pilot program shall commence on or
5 before January 1, 2024, and shall terminate not later than January 1, 2025.

6 (b) To be eligible for the pilot program, an individual shall: (1) Be
7 sixty-five years of age or older, (2) earn an annual income not exceeding
8 two hundred forty-five per cent of the federal poverty level, and (3) lack
9 insurance coverage for the full cost of hearing screening tests and
10 hearing aids.

11 (c) Not later than February 1, 2025, the Commissioner of Aging and
12 Disability Services shall report, in accordance with section 11-4a of the
13 general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General
14 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to aging on the pilot

15 program.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2023	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To increase the quality of life and mitigate the risks of developing dementia for certain eligible senior citizens with hearing difficulties by increasing access to hearing screening tests and hearing aids.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]