



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 597

February Session, 2024

Substitute House Bill No. 5053

House of Representatives, April 22, 2024

The Committee on Appropriations reported through REP. WALKER of the 93rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 19a-186a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) Any individual employed on June 30, 2010, as a regional
4 emergency medical services coordinator or as an assistant regional
5 emergency medical services coordinator shall be offered an unclassified
6 durational position within the Department of Public Health for the
7 period from July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2011, inclusive, provided no more
8 than five unclassified durational positions shall be created. Within
9 available appropriations, such unclassified durational positions may be
10 extended beyond June 30, 2011. The Commissioner of Administrative
11 Services shall establish job classifications and salaries for such positions
12 in accordance with the provisions of section 4-40. Any such created
13 positions shall be exempt from collective bargaining requirements and
14 no individual appointed to such position shall have reemployment or

15 any other rights that may have been extended to unclassified employees
16 under a State Employees' Bargaining Agent Coalition agreement.
17 Individuals employed in such unclassified durational positions shall be
18 located at the offices of the Department of Public Health. In no event
19 shall an individual employed in an unclassified durational position
20 pursuant to this section receive credit for any purpose for services
21 performed prior to July 1, 2010.

22 (b) On and after June 30, 2024, the Commissioner of Administrative
23 Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of Public Health, shall
24 transition the regional emergency medical services coordinator and
25 assistant regional emergency medical services coordinator positions
26 and incumbents into the classified service. To the extent such employees
27 are performing jobs which would normally be within a current
28 executive branch bargaining unit, such jobs shall be added to the unit
29 descriptions of such bargaining unit and employees in those jobs shall
30 be deemed part of such unit.

31 Sec. 2. Section 17a-238b of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes
32 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
33 *passage*):

34 (a) The Commissioner of Developmental Services, in consultation
35 with the Commissioner of Social Services and the Secretary of the Office
36 of Policy and Management, shall reduce waiting lists for services in
37 Medicaid waiver programs established under Section 1915(c) of the
38 Social Security Act and administered by the Department of
39 Developmental Services. Not later than January 1, 2024, and annually
40 thereafter, the Commissioner of Developmental Services, in
41 consultation with the Office of Policy and Management staff person
42 employed pursuant to section 4-67bb to help agencies coordinate
43 programs and services for individuals who have an intellectual or
44 developmental disability other than autism spectrum disorder, shall file
45 a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, [and in
46 consultation with the Commissioner of Developmental Services, on]
47 with the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having

48 cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state
49 agencies, human services and public health. The report shall include,
50 but need not be limited to, data on:

51 (1) [the] The number and ages of persons waiting for services in the
52 waiver programs and the number and ages of persons currently being
53 served by the waiver programs;

54 (2) The number and ages of persons waiting for residential care and
55 the number and ages of persons receiving residential care through the
56 waiver programs;

57 (3) The number and ages of underserved persons currently receiving
58 services in the waiver programs but who are waiting for additional
59 services in the waiver programs [, (2) the] and a brief description of the
60 services for which such persons are waiting;

61 (4) The number and ages of persons added to and subtracted from
62 such waiting lists for the previous calendar year; [, and (3) whether]

63 (5) Whether such waiting lists have increased or decreased over the
64 previous calendar year and, if so, by how [may] many persons; [with the
65 joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance
66 of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies,
67 human services and public health.]

68 (6) The number of persons who have an intellectual or developmental
69 disability other than autism spectrum disorder who have unmet
70 employment opportunity and day service needs;

71 (7) Measurable data, including outcome data, for persons who are
72 eligible to receive services pursuant to the Medicaid waiver program for
73 persons with an intellectual or developmental disability other than
74 autism spectrum disorder, including, but not limited to: (A) The number
75 of such persons who are enrolled in postsecondary education, (B) the
76 employment status of such persons, and (C) a description of such
77 persons' living arrangements, including, if applicable, the ages of such
78 persons' guardians with whom they reside; and

79 (8) Recommendations to further reduce the waiting lists and
80 associated costs.

81 (b) The commissioner shall post the report on the department's
82 Internet web site.

83 Sec. 3. Section 17a-215g of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes
84 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
85 *passage*):

86 (a) The Commissioner of Social Services, in consultation with the
87 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and within available
88 appropriations, shall expand the Medicaid waiver program for persons
89 with autism spectrum disorder to reduce the number of persons on a
90 waiting list to receive services under the program.

91 (b) Not later than January 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, the
92 Commissioner of Social Services, in consultation with the Office of
93 Policy and Management's state-wide coordinator of programs and
94 services provided by state agencies for individuals with autism
95 spectrum disorder, appointed pursuant to section 4-67bb, shall file a
96 report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, [and in
97 consultation with the Commissioner of Social Services, on (1) the
98 number of persons waiting for services in the program, (2) the number
99 of underserved persons in the program waiting for additional services,
100 (3) the number of persons added and subtracted from the waiting list in
101 the previous calendar year, (4) whether such waiting list has increased
102 or decreased over the previous calendar year and, if so, by how many
103 persons, and (5) recommendations to further reduce the waiting list and
104 associated costs] with the joint standing committees of the General
105 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and
106 the budgets of state agencies and human services.

107 (c) The report shall include, but need not be limited to:

108 (1) The number and ages of persons waiting for services in the waiver
109 program and the number and ages of persons currently being served by

110 the waiver program;

111 (2) The number and ages of persons waiting for residential care and
112 the number and ages of persons receiving residential care through the
113 waiver program;

114 (3) The number and ages of underserved persons currently receiving
115 services in the waiver program but who are waiting for additional
116 services in the waiver program and a brief description of the services for
117 which such persons are waiting;

118 (4) The number and ages of persons added to and subtracted from
119 the waiting list for the previous calendar year;

120 (5) Whether the waiting list has increased or decreased over the
121 previous calendar year and, if so, by how many persons;

122 (6) Measurable data, including outcome data, for persons who are
123 eligible to receive services pursuant to the Medicaid waiver program for
124 persons with autism spectrum disorder, including, but not limited to:
125 (A) The number of such persons who are enrolled in postsecondary
126 education, (B) the employment status of such persons, and (C) a
127 description of such persons' living arrangements, including, if
128 applicable, the ages of such persons' guardians with whom they reside;
129 and

130 (7) Recommendations to further reduce the waiting list and
131 associated costs.

132 (d) The commissioner shall post the report on the department's
133 Internet web site.

134 Sec. 4. Section 17a-238a of the general statutes is repealed and the
135 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

136 (a) For purposes of this section:

137 (1) "Category" means the department's assessment of the urgency of
138 an individual's need for funding or services from the department.

139 (2) "Department" means the Department of Developmental Services.

140 (3) "Level of need assessment" means the department's method of
141 determining, through the use of a standardized screening tool, an
142 individual's need for funding or services from the department.

143 (4) "Planning and resource allocation team" means the department's
144 staff members who are responsible for (A) establishing an individual's
145 category, (B) approving or denying an individual's request for funding
146 or services, and (C) allocating resources to individuals receiving
147 funding or services from the department.

148 (5) "Residential waiting list" means data maintained by the
149 department that includes the number of individuals with intellectual
150 disability who (A) have requested residential funding or services from
151 the department, (B) have been determined by the department to be in
152 need of such funding or services, and (C) are unable to receive such
153 funding or services because of the department's inability to provide
154 such funding or services within existing appropriations.

155 (b) An individual determined by the department to be eligible for
156 funding or services from the department, or such individual's legal
157 representative, may request and, if requested, shall obtain from the
158 department a copy of (1) such individual's category for residential
159 funding or services, if the individual has an unmet need for residential
160 services, (2) such individual's request for funding or services submitted
161 to the regional planning and resource allocation team, and (3) any
162 decision on the individual's request for funding or services made by the
163 regional planning and resource allocation team. Additionally, any such
164 individual who receives annual funding or services from the
165 department, or such individual's legal representative, may request and,
166 if requested, shall obtain from the department a copy of such
167 individual's (A) individual plan, and (B) level of need assessment.

168 [(c) The Commissioner of Developmental Services shall report, in
169 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, at least annually, to the
170 joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance

171 of matters relating to public health and appropriations and the budgets
172 of state agencies concerning the number of individuals determined by
173 the department to be eligible for funding or services from the
174 department and who (1) have unmet residential care needs, (2) have
175 unmet employment opportunity and day service needs, or (3) are
176 eligible for the department's behavioral services program and are
177 waiting for a funding allocation. The commissioner shall post such
178 report on the department's Internet web site.]

179 [(d)] (c) The [commissioner] Commissioner of Developmental
180 Services shall develop and maintain one state-wide comprehensive
181 residential waiting list. Such waiting list shall (1) be organized by
182 geographic region, (2) identify the type of residential funding or services
183 each individual is requesting, and (3) include the estimated time period
184 that the residential funding or services would be accepted by such
185 individual. The commissioner shall update such list not less than
186 quarterly.

187 [(e)] (d) On or before August [1, 2018, and at least annually thereafter]
188 first annually, the commissioner or his or her designee shall, in
189 consultation with (1) each individual with intellectual disability who is
190 eligible to receive residential funding or services from the department
191 and who has an individual plan, and (2) the individual's legal
192 representative, if applicable, assess the individual's need for future
193 residential funding or services from the department. Such assessment
194 shall include an indication of the time period when each support or
195 service would be accepted by such individual based on information
196 collected at the annual meeting.

197 [(f)] (e) On or before December [1, 2018, and at least annually
198 thereafter] first annually, the commissioner or his or her designee, shall
199 review the residential waiting list with the advisory and planning
200 councils, appointed pursuant to section 17a-273, and the Council on
201 Developmental Services, established pursuant to section 17a-270.

202 Sec. 5. Section 11 of public act 23-137 is repealed and the following is
203 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

204 (a) The Chief Workforce Officer, appointed pursuant to section 4-
205 124w of the general statutes, in consultation with the Labor
206 Commissioner, the Commissioners of Social Services, Developmental
207 Disabilities, Public Health and Aging and Disability Services, the
208 Governor's Workforce Council, the executive director of the Office of
209 Higher Education, the Council on Developmental Disabilities, the
210 Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council and regional workforce
211 development boards, shall establish a Human Services Career Pipeline
212 program to ensure a sufficient number of trained providers are available
213 to serve the needs of persons in the state with an intellectual disability,
214 other developmental disabilities, physical disabilities, cognitive
215 impairment or mental illness and elderly persons. Such [pipeline]
216 program shall include training and certification for cardiopulmonary
217 resuscitation, first aid, medication administration, job placement and
218 incentives for retention in the human services labor sector upon
219 successful completion of the program.

220 (b) The Chief Workforce Officer shall consult with the Labor
221 Commissioner and the Commissioners of Aging and Disability Services,
222 Developmental Services, Mental Health and Addiction Services and
223 Social Services, the Council on Developmental Disabilities and the
224 Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council to determine: (1) The
225 greatest needs for human services providers, and (2) barriers to hiring
226 and retaining qualified providers. The Chief Workforce Officer shall
227 assist local and regional boards of education in enhancing existing
228 partnerships or establishing new partnerships with providers of human
229 services and higher education institutions to provide a pathway to a
230 diploma, credential, certificate or license and a job providing human
231 services.

232 (c) The Chief Workforce Officer, in consultation with the Labor
233 Commissioner, shall develop a plan for the Human Services Career
234 Pipeline program that includes, but is not be limited to: (1) A strategy to
235 increase the number of state residents pursuing careers in human
236 services, (2) recommended salary and working conditions necessary to
237 retain an adequate number of human services providers to serve state

238 residents, and (3) estimated funding needed to support the Human
 239 Services Career Pipeline program. The Chief Workforce Officer shall
 240 submit a report on the plan, in accordance with the provisions of section
 241 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the
 242 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
 243 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, aging, higher
 244 education and employment advancement, human services, labor and
 245 public health not later than January 1, 2025. The report shall include, but
 246 need not be limited to, recommendations for establishing the Human
 247 Services Career Pipeline program and an estimate of funding needed to
 248 implement the plan developed pursuant to this subsection.

249 (d) The Chief Workforce Officer [shall] may, within available
 250 appropriations, establish [such career pipeline not later than July 1,
 251 2024, and] the Human Services Career Pipeline program. If the program
 252 is established, the Chief Workforce Officer shall submit a report, in
 253 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,
 254 not later than January 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, regarding the
 255 development and implementation of the [pipeline] program to the joint
 256 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
 257 matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies,
 258 aging, higher education and employment advancement, human
 259 services, labor and public health. For purposes of this section, "human
 260 services labor sector" means persons trained to provide services to
 261 persons with an intellectual disability; other developmental disabilities,
 262 including, but not limited to, autism spectrum disorder; physical
 263 disabilities; cognitive impairment or mental illness; and elderly persons.

264 Sec. 6. Section 17a-215e of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes
 265 is repealed. (*Effective from passage*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	19a-186a
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	17a-238b
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	17a-215g

Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	17a-238a
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	PA 23-137, Sec. 11
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	Repealer section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

The provisions of Section 5 were redrafted for internal consistency and consistency with standard drafting conventions.

HS *Joint Favorable Subst. C/R* ***APP***

APP *Joint Favorable Subst.-LCO*

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

The bill, which results in no fiscal impact, requires the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to transition certain emergency medical services coordinator positions to classified service, expands reporting requirements for the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and Department of Social Services (DSS) related to wait lists for waiver programs, and requires the Chief Workforce Officer within the Office of Workforce Strategy (OWS) to report on the recommendations for establishing a career pipeline program and associated funding. It is anticipated that OWS, in consultation with other relevant state agencies, will be able to develop the plan within existing resources and report back the necessary level of funding required for the pipeline program.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5053

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.***

SUMMARY

This bill (1) transitions certain emergency medical services (EMS)-related positions into classified service; (2) allows, rather than requires, the Chief Workforce Officer (CWO) to establish a Human Services Career Pipeline Program; and (3) consolidates, aligns, and makes other changes to reporting requirements related to services for people with intellectual or developmental disabilities (IDD) and autism.

The bill requires the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) commissioner to transition the regional EMS coordinator and assistant regional EMS coordinator positions and incumbents into the classified service. To the extent these employees are performing jobs that would normally be within a current executive branch bargaining unit, the bill requires (1) the jobs to be added to the bargaining unit's descriptions and (2) employees in the jobs to be deemed part of the bargaining unit. The DAS commissioner must transition these employees beginning January 30, 2024, and do so in consultation with the Department of Public Health commissioner.

Current law requires the CWO to establish a Human Services Career Pipeline Program by July 1, 2024, and report annually on it to various legislative committees starting January 1, 2026. The bill instead allows the CWO to establish the career pipeline, with no deadline and within available appropriations, and only requires the annual report if the pipeline is established. The bill also adds a reporting requirement on the plan the CWO must develop for the pipeline program.

Lastly, the bill makes technical and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

HUMAN SERVICES CAREER PIPELINE PROGRAM

The bill allows, rather than requires, the CWO to establish a Human Services Career Pipeline Program. By law, the career pipeline must (1) ensure enough trained providers are available to serve elderly people and people with IDD, physical disabilities, cognitive impairment, or mental illness; and (2) include training and certification for cardiopulmonary resuscitation, first aid, medication administration, job placement, and incentives for retentions in the human services labor sector after the program ends. (A separate part of the existing law, unchanged by the bill, maintains the requirement that CWO establish a career pipeline in consultation with various executive branch agencies.)

By law, the CWO must consult with the Department of Labor commissioner to develop a plan for the career pipeline. The bill requires CWO to report on the plan, including recommendations for establishing the career pipeline and estimated funding needed to implement the plan. Under the bill, CWO must submit the report by January 1, 2025, to the Aging, Appropriations, Higher Education and Employment Advancement, Human Services, Labor, and Public Health committees.

Current law requires the CWO to report annually to the same committees described above on the career pipeline's development and implementation beginning by January 1, 2026. The bill only requires this report if the career pipeline is established.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

IDD Reports (§§ 2 & 4)

Current law requires DDS to report annually to the Appropriations and Public Health committees on the number of people eligible for (1) DDS services who have unmet residential care needs or employment opportunity and day services needs or (2) DDS's behavioral services program who are waiting for a funding allocation.

Separately, current law requires OPM's statewide coordinator for IDD services to report annually to the Appropriations, Human Services,

and Public Health committees certain information on waitlists for DDS Medicaid waivers.

The bill generally merges these two reporting requirements by eliminating them and instead requiring that DDS, in consultation with OPM's statewide coordinator for IDD services, report the following information annually by January 1 to the Appropriations, Human Services, and Public Health committees:

1. the number and ages of people (a) waiting for services in DDS's Medicaid waiver programs; (b) currently served by these waivers; (c) waiting for residential care under the waivers; (d) receiving residential care under the waivers; (e) served under these waivers but waiting for additional services, including a brief description of awaited services; and (f) added to and subtracted from waiver waiting lists in the previous calendar year;
2. the number of people with IDD (other than autism) who have unmet employment opportunity and day service needs;
3. whether the waiver waiting lists have increased or decreased over the previous calendar year, and, if so, by how much;
4. recommendations to further reduce the waiver waiting lists and associated costs; and
5. measurable data for people eligible for DDS's Medicaid waivers for people with IDD, including how many of them are enrolled in postsecondary education, their employment status, their living arrangements, and the age of any guardians they live with.

The bill also requires the DDS commissioner to post the report on the department's website.

Autism Reports (§§ 3 & 6)

Current law requires DSS to report annually to the Human Services Committee on its Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services and

the Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council. Under current law, this report must include certain information on people (1) served by the autism Medicaid waiver and (2) waiting for services.

Separately, current law requires OPM's statewide coordinator for autism services, in consultation with DSS, to report certain information on the Medicaid autism waiver to the Appropriations and Human Services committees.

The bill generally merges these two reporting requirements by eliminating them and instead requiring that DSS, in consultation with OPM's statewide coordinator for autism services, report much of the same information current law requires the statewide coordinator to report. Specifically, under the bill, DSS must report the following information annually by January 1 to the Appropriations and Human Services committees:

1. the number and ages of people (a) currently served by the Medicaid autism waiver; (b) receiving services under the waiver; (c) waiting for residential care; (d) receiving residential care through the waiver; (e) served under the waiver but waiting for additional waiver services, including a brief description of awaited services; and (f) added to and taken off the waitlist in the previous calendar year;
2. whether the waitlist for the Medicaid autism waiver has increased or decreased in the previous calendar year and, if so, by how many people;
3. recommendations to further reduce the waiting list and associated costs; and
4. measurable data on people eligible for the Medicaid autism waiver, including how many of them are enrolled in postsecondary education, their employment status, their living arrangements, and the age of any guardians they live with.

The bill also requires the DSS commissioner to post the report on the

department's website.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference - APP
Yea 15 Nay 7 (03/19/2024)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable
Yea 38 Nay 13 (04/04/2024)