



House of Representatives

File No. 634

General Assembly

February Session, 2024 (Reprint of File No. 334)

House Bill No. 5455
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
May 1, 2024

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE EFFICIENCY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL SERVICES IN DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY FOR MEDICAL
ASSISTANCE AND RESPONDING TO REQUESTS FOR
INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE.**

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of Social
2 Services shall study the efficiency of the Department of Social Services
3 in (1) making eligibility determinations for medical assistance pursuant
4 to section 17b-80 of the general statutes, and (2) responding to
5 telephonic requests for information or assistance.

6 (b) Not later than October 1, 2024, the commissioner shall file a report,
7 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,
8 with the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
9 cognizance of matters relating to human services on (1) the percentage
10 of medical assistance eligibility determinations made within the
11 prescribed time periods pursuant to section 17b-80 of the general

12 statutes, (2) the average amount of time a person telephoning the
13 department for information or assistance waits for a response, and (3)
14 recommendations to improve the department's efficiency in making
15 such determinations and responding to such requests for information or
16 assistance. The commissioner shall submit reports, not less than
17 quarterly, until July 1, 2026, to the Council on Medical Assistance
18 Program Oversight, established pursuant to section 17b-28 of the
19 general statutes, on data gathered pursuant to subdivisions (1) to (3),
20 inclusive, of this subsection.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

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 requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) to (1) study the efficiency of making eligibility determinations for medical assistance and responding to telephonic requests for information, and (2) submit related quarterly reports to the Council on Medical Assistance Program Oversight until July 1, 2026, has no fiscal impact to the state because DSS has the expertise to meet the requirements of the bill.

House "A" requires DSS to submit quarterly reports to the Council on Medical Assistance Program Oversight until July 1, 2026, and has no fiscal impact.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

HB 5455 (as amended by House "A")

AN ACT CONCERNING THE EFFICIENCY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES IN DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND RESPONDING TO REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE.

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 21 Nay 0 (03/19/2024)