



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

Raised Bill No. 5458

LCO No. 2650



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:
(HS)

AN ACT CONCERNING HOMELESSNESS.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2024*) (a) As used in this section,
2 "Connecticut Housing Engagement and Support Services" or "CHESS"
3 means a home and community-based services program established
4 pursuant to a Medicaid state plan amendment under Section 1915(i) of
5 the Social Security Act and a Medicaid waiver pursuant to Section
6 1915(b)(4) of the Social Security Act to improve housing stability and
7 health outcomes for persons (1) with complex health conditions, (2) who
8 have experienced homelessness, and (3) who have been determined to
9 be likely to benefit from targeted services to improve health and housing
10 stability.

11 (b) The Commissioner of Social Services, in consultation with the
12 Commissioners of Housing and Mental Health and Addiction Services,
13 shall develop a strategic plan to improve outcomes for participants in
14 the CHESS program and to reduce housing instability state-wide. The
15 plan shall include, but not be limited to: (1) Any amendments to the state
16 plan or waiver programs established pursuant to Sections 1915(i) and

17 1915(b)(4) of the Social Security Act necessary to achieve the goals of the
18 strategic plan, (2) streamlining multiagency administrative procedures
19 to ensure timely benefits to persons who have experienced or are at risk
20 of homelessness, and (3) exploring and applying for additional
21 Medicaid waiver programs or Medicaid state plan amendments to
22 target social determinants of health with support, including, but not
23 limited to, housing, nutritional and health management supports. For
24 purposes of this section, "social determinants of health" means the
25 conditions in which people are born, grow, work and age.

26 (c) Not later than October 1, 2024, the Commissioner of Social
27 Services, in consultation with the Commissioners of Housing and
28 Mental Health and Addiction Services, shall file a report, in accordance
29 with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, with the joint
30 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
31 matters relating to aging, children, human services and public health.
32 The report shall include, but need not be limited to: (1) Metrics related
33 to health, housing and economic stability of participants in the CHES
34 program, (2) plans and progress regarding streamlining multiagency
35 administrative procedures in such program, (3) identification of
36 additional Medicaid waiver programs or state plan amendments to
37 address social determinants of health, and (4) a timeline for applications
38 for such Medicaid waiver programs or state plan amendments.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	New section
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Statement of Purpose:

To maximize efforts to aid homeless persons.

[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.]