



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

Raised Bill No. 317

LCO No. 2087



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:
(HS)

AN ACT EXPANDING THE COVERED CONNECTICUT PROGRAM.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than sixty days
2 after the effective date of this section, the Commissioner of Social
3 Services, in consultation with the executive director of the Office of
4 Health Strategy established under section 19a-754a of the general
5 statutes, shall develop a plan for a second tier of the Covered
6 Connecticut program established pursuant to section 19a-754c of the
7 general statutes. The plan shall provide state-assisted health care
8 coverage for persons otherwise qualified for the program whose income
9 exceeds two hundred per cent of the federal poverty level but does not
10 exceed three hundred per cent of the federal poverty level.

11 (b) The plan developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section may
12 include (1) reduced benefits from the Covered Connecticut program,
13 provided such benefits are in accordance with the requirements of the
14 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, P.L. 111-148, as amended
15 by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act, P.L. 111-152, as
16 both may be amended from time to time, and regulations adopted

17 thereunder, and (2) income-based copayments by enrollees.

18 (c) The Commissioner of Social Services shall submit the plan
19 developed in accordance with this section to the joint standing
20 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
21 relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, human
22 services and insurance. Not later than thirty days after the date of their
23 receipt of such plan, the joint standing committees shall hold a public
24 hearing on the plan. At the conclusion of a public hearing held in
25 accordance with the provisions of this section, the joint standing
26 committees shall advise the commissioner of their approval, denial or
27 modifications, if any, of the commissioner's plan. If the joint standing
28 committees advise the commissioner of their denial of the plan, the
29 commissioner shall not implement the plan. If such committees do not
30 concur, the committee chairpersons shall appoint a committee of
31 conference which shall be composed of three members from each joint
32 standing committee. At least one member appointed from each joint
33 standing committee shall be a member of the minority party. The report
34 of the committee of conference shall be made to each joint standing
35 committee, which shall vote to accept or reject the report. The report of
36 the committee of conference may not be amended. If a joint standing
37 committee rejects the report of the committee of conference, that joint
38 standing committee shall notify the commissioner of the rejection and
39 the commissioner's plan shall be deemed approved. If the joint standing
40 committees accept the report, the committee having cognizance of
41 matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies
42 shall advise the commissioner of their approval, denial or modifications,
43 if any, of the commissioner's plan. If the joint standing committees do
44 not so advise the commissioner during the thirty-day period, the plan
45 shall be deemed denied. Any implementation of the plan developed
46 pursuant to this section shall be in accordance with the approval or
47 modifications, if any, of the joint standing committees of the General
48 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and
49 the budgets of state agencies, human services and insurance.

50 (d) To the extent permissible under federal law, the commissioner

51 may seek approval of a Medicaid waiver in accordance with section 17b-
52 8 of the general statutes to obtain federal financial participation for the
53 plan developed pursuant to this section.

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

Statement of Purpose:

To establish a second tier of the Covered Connecticut program to provide health care benefits at a reduced cost to persons whose income does not exceed three hundred per cent of the federal poverty level.

[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.]