

General Assembly

January Session, 2019

## Substitute Bill No. 5847



## AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM TO IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF HOUSING TO IMPROVE CERTAIN STATE-FUNDED PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECTS.

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

- 1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) For the purposes of this section,
- 2 "elderly tenants" means tenants sixty-two years of age or older and
- 3 "younger tenants with disabilities" means tenants who are not yet
- 4 sixty-two years of age and who have been certified by the Social
- 5 Security Board as being totally disabled under the Social Security Act,
- 6 or certified by any other federal board or agency as being totally
- 7 disabled. The Commissioner of Housing shall establish a pilot program
- 8 to implement the recommendations of the Department of Housing and
- 9 the Connecticut Fair Housing Center, pursuant to special acts 17-19
- 10 and 18-12, to improve certain state-funded housing projects that
- 11 provide services to both elderly tenants and younger tenants with
- 12 disabilities.
- 13 (b) Not later than August 1, 2019, the Commissioner of Housing, in
- 14 consultation with the chairpersons of the joint standing committee of
- 15 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
- 16 housing, shall designate three specific buildings within three state-
- 17 funded housing projects that provide services to elderly tenants and
- 18 younger tenants with disabilities to participate in the pilot program.
- 19 The selection of buildings shall consist of one small building
- 20 containing not more than forty units; one medium-sized building

- containing not less than forty-one units and not more than eighty units; and one large building containing not less than eighty-one and not more than two hundred units.
  - (c) Not later than October 1, 2019, each housing authority participating in the program shall agree to implement the following measures in the building within the authority's housing project that was designated under subsection (b) of this section for a period of one calendar year:
  - (1) A social coordinator shall be on site for at least four hours a day for two days per week. The social coordinator shall develop, organize and implement social activities for both the population of elderly tenants and the population of younger tenants with disabilities, either separately or collectively.
  - (2) A resident service coordinator shall be on site for at least four hours a day for two days per week. In addition to implementing existing programs that benefit the population of younger tenants with disabilities, the resident service coordinator shall develop an assistance component for the elderly tenant population, in order to address the needs of both the elderly tenants and the younger tenants with disabilities.
  - (3) A security officer, if one is not already present, shall be on site for at least eight hours per day to assist residents and monitor security.
  - (d) The costs for implementing the pilot program shall be shared between the Departments of Housing, Mental Health and Addiction Services and Social Services. Not later than January 11, 2021, the Department of Housing shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to housing. Such report shall include, but not be limited to, an evaluation of the results of the pilot program and any findings and recommendations with regard to future implementation of similar

52 programs in comparable housing projects.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	from nassage	New section

## Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1(a) "42 USC 1320d" was removed from accuracy and Section 1(c) was reworded for clarity.

**HSG** Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO