



General Assembly

February Session, 2020

**Raised Bill No. 83**

LCO No. 756



Referred to Committee on AGING

Introduced by:  
(AGE)

**AN ACT REDUCING PARTICIPANT COSTS AND EXPANDING ELIGIBILITY FOR THE CONNECTICUT HOME-CARE PROGRAM FOR THE ELDERLY.**

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (i) of section 17b-342 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
3 *2020*):

4 (i) (1) [On and after July 1, 2015, the] The Commissioner of Social  
5 Services shall, within available appropriations, administer a state-  
6 funded portion of the program for persons (A) who are sixty-five years  
7 of age and older; (B) who are inappropriately institutionalized or at risk  
8 of inappropriate institutionalization; (C) whose income is less than or  
9 equal to the amount allowed under subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of  
10 this section; and (D) whose assets, if single, do not exceed [one hundred  
11 fifty per cent of the federal minimum community spouse protected  
12 amount pursuant to 42 USC 1396r-5(f)(2) or, if married, the couple's  
13 assets do not exceed two hundred per cent of said community spouse  
14 protected amount] forty-two thousand dollars, or, if a married couple,

15 sixty-five thousand dollars. For program applications received by the  
16 Department of Social Services for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016,  
17 and June 30, 2017, only persons who require the level of care provided  
18 in a nursing home shall be eligible for the state-funded portion of the  
19 program, except for persons residing in affordable housing under the  
20 assisted living demonstration project established pursuant to section  
21 17b-347e who are otherwise eligible in accordance with this section.

22 (2) Except for persons residing in affordable housing under the  
23 assisted living demonstration project established pursuant to section  
24 17b-347e, as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, any person  
25 whose income is at or below two hundred per cent of the federal poverty  
26 level and who is ineligible for Medicaid shall contribute [nine] seven per  
27 cent of the cost of his or her care. Any person whose income exceeds two  
28 hundred per cent of the federal poverty level shall contribute [nine]  
29 seven per cent of the cost of his or her care in addition to the amount of  
30 applied income determined in accordance with the methodology  
31 established by the Department of Social Services for recipients of  
32 medical assistance. Any person who does not contribute to the cost of  
33 care in accordance with this subdivision shall be ineligible to receive  
34 services under this subsection. Notwithstanding any provision of  
35 sections 17b-60 and 17b-61, the department shall not be required to  
36 provide an administrative hearing to a person found ineligible for  
37 services under this [subsection] subdivision because of a failure to  
38 contribute to the cost of care.

39 (3) Any person who resides in affordable housing under the assisted  
40 living demonstration project established pursuant to section 17b-347e  
41 and whose income is at or below two hundred per cent of the federal  
42 poverty level, shall not be required to contribute to the cost of care. Any  
43 person who resides in affordable housing under the assisted living  
44 demonstration project established pursuant to section 17b-347e and  
45 whose income exceeds two hundred per cent of the federal poverty  
46 level, shall contribute to the applied income amount determined in  
47 accordance with the methodology established by the Department of

48 Social Services for recipients of medical assistance. Any person whose  
49 income exceeds two hundred per cent of the federal poverty level and  
50 who does not contribute to the cost of care in accordance with this  
51 subdivision shall be ineligible to receive services under this subsection.  
52 Notwithstanding any provision of sections 17b-60 and 17b-61, the  
53 department shall not be required to provide an administrative hearing  
54 to a person found ineligible for services under this [subsection]  
55 subdivision because of a failure to contribute to the cost of care.

56 (4) The annualized cost of services provided to an individual under  
57 the state-funded portion of the program shall not exceed fifty per cent  
58 of the weighted average cost of care in nursing homes in the state, except  
59 an individual who received services costing in excess of such amount  
60 under the Department of Social Services in the fiscal year ending June  
61 30, 1992, may continue to receive such services, provided the annualized  
62 cost of such services does not exceed eighty per cent of the weighted  
63 average cost of such nursing home care. The commissioner may allow  
64 the cost of services provided to an individual to exceed the maximum  
65 cost established pursuant to this subdivision in a case of extreme  
66 hardship, as determined by the commissioner, provided in no case shall  
67 such cost exceed that of the weighted cost of such nursing home care.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2020	17b-342(i)

**AGE**

*Joint Favorable C/R*

APP