



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 5231**

February Session, 2022



**AN ACT CONCERNING DATA COLLECTION TO PREVENT  
MALNUTRITION AMONG SENIOR CITIZENS.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 17a-304 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

3 The state shall be divided into five elderly planning and service areas,  
4 in accordance with federal law and regulations, each having an area  
5 agency on aging to carry out the mandates of the federal Older  
6 Americans Act of 1965, as amended. The area agencies shall (1)  
7 represent older persons within their geographic areas, (2) develop an  
8 area plan for approval by the Department of Aging and Disability  
9 Services and upon such approval administer the plan, (3) coordinate  
10 and assist local public and nonprofit, private agencies in the  
11 development of programs, (4) receive and distribute federal and state  
12 funds for such purposes, in accordance with applicable law, (5)  
13 distribute nutritional risk assessment surveys to older persons, collect  
14 the surveys and report individual and average nutritional risk  
15 assessment scores for each elderly planning and service area to the  
16 Department of Aging and Disability Services, and [(5)] (6) carry out any  
17 additional duties and functions required by federal law and regulations.

18 Sec. 2. Subsection (c) of section 17a-305 of the general statutes is

19 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
20 *2022*):

21 (c) The Department of Aging and Disability Services, in consultation  
22 with the five area agencies on aging, shall review the method of  
23 allocation set forth in [subsection (a) of this section and shall report any  
24 findings or recommendations, as well as data on service levels and costs,  
25 to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having  
26 cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state  
27 agencies and human services] subsections (a) and (b) of this section and  
28 evaluate the method used to allocate funding for elderly nutrition  
29 services based on factors including, but not limited to, for each of the  
30 five elderly planning and service areas as described in section 17a-304,  
31 as amended by this act, (1) elderly population data from the most recent  
32 United States census, and (2) average and individual nutritional risk  
33 assessment scores on nutritional risk assessment surveys. The  
34 department shall solicit information and recommendations from elderly  
35 nutrition program providers for consideration in the department's  
36 evaluation. Not later than July 1, 2023, the department shall report, in  
37 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing  
38 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
39 relating to aging, appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and  
40 human services on (A) the data collected pursuant to this subsection, (B)  
41 the rates of reimbursement for each meals on wheels provider in the  
42 department's elderly nutrition program compared to the cost to provide  
43 meals on wheels for each such provider, (C) the administrative expenses  
44 of each such meals on wheels provider, (D) the number of such meals  
45 on wheels providers that have reduced or eliminated deliveries based  
46 on inadequate state reimbursement, and (E) any recommended changes  
47 in the method of allocation of funds. Providers of meals [under] in the  
48 department's elderly nutrition program shall annually provide the  
49 department with data on service levels and costs.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	17a-304
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	17a-305(c)

**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

In Section 1(5) and Section 2(c)(2), "scores" was changed to "nutritional risk assessment scores" for clarity.

**HS**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*