

General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 5338

February Session, 2022

LCO No. 2440



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by: (HS)

## AN ACT CONCERNING INCREASING THE RATE OF MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT FOR HOME CARE SERVICES.

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

- 1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 17b-242 of the 2022 supplement to
- 2 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
- 3 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):
- 4 (a) The Department of Social Services shall determine the rates to be
- 5 paid to home health care agencies and home health aide agencies by the
- 6 state or any town in the state for persons aided or cared for by the state
- 7 or any such town. The Commissioner of Social Services shall establish a
- 8 fee schedule for home health services to be effective on and after July 1,
- 9 1994. The commissioner may annually modify such fee schedule if such
- 10 modification is needed to ensure that the conversion to an
- 11 administrative services organization is cost neutral to home health care
- agencies and home health aide agencies in the aggregate and ensures
- 13 patient access. Utilization may be a factor in determining cost neutrality.
- 14 The commissioner, within available appropriations, shall increase the
- 15 fee schedule for home health services provided under the Connecticut

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home-care program for the elderly established under section 17b-342, effective July 1, [2000] 2022, by [two per cent over the fee schedule for home health services for the previous year] an amount equal to the most recent increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers as published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. The commissioner may increase any fee payable to a home health care agency or home health aide agency upon the application of such an agency evidencing extraordinary costs related to (1) serving persons with AIDS; (2) high-risk maternal and child health care; (3) escort services; or (4) extended hour services. In no case shall any rate or fee exceed the charge to the general public for similar services. A home health care agency or home health aide agency which, due to any material change in circumstances, is aggrieved by a rate determined pursuant to this subsection may, within ten days of receipt of written notice of such rate from the Commissioner of Social Services, request in writing a hearing on all items of aggrievement. The commissioner shall, upon the receipt of all documentation necessary to evaluate the request, determine whether there has been such a change in circumstances and shall conduct a hearing if appropriate. The Commissioner of Social Services shall adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this subsection. The commissioner may implement policies and procedures to carry out the provisions of this subsection while in the process of adopting regulations, provided notice of intent to adopt the regulations is [published in the Connecticut Law Journal] posted on the eRegulations System not later than twenty days after the date of implementing the policies and procedures. Such policies and procedures shall be valid for not longer than nine months.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following		
sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2022	17b-242(a)

## Statement of Purpose:

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To increase the rate of Medicaid reimbursement for home care services.

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[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.]

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