

General Assembly

February Session, 2022

## Raised Bill No. 5346

LCO No. **2220** 

Referred to Committee on HOUSING

Introduced by: (HSG)

## AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM TO FUND SOCIAL WORKERS IN EMERGENCY SHELTERS.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than June 15, 2022, the 2 Commissioner of Housing, within available appropriations and in 3 consultation with the Commissioners of Social Services, Mental Health 4 and Addiction Services and public or private agencies or nonprofit 5 organizations that operate programs for emergency shelter services, 6 shall establish a pilot program to fund social workers in emergency 7 shelters. Such pilot program shall assess the unmet needs for on-site 8 social worker services in emergency shelters in the state and provide 9 assistance to enable such shelters to recruit and retain social workers to 10 meet their needs for such on-site services for a two-year period 11 beginning on October 1, 2022.

(b) Not later than December 1, 2024, the Commissioner 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 concerning

16 the pilot program established pursuant to this section. The report shall 17 include, but need not be limited to, (1) a summary of program 18 implementation, including efforts to inform and educate eligible 19 organizations about the program and to assist such organizations in the 20 recruitment and retention of social workers, (2) an assessment of 21 program utilization rates, (3) an assessment of program performance 22 during the pilot period based on data, including, but not limited to, data 23 concerning both the implementation of the program by the Department 24 of Housing and the use of the program, and (4) any recommendations 25 the commissioner may have regarding future implementation or an 26 extension of the pilot program.

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

## Statement of Purpose:

To establish a pilot program to provide funding for social worker services in emergency shelters.

[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.]