



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 6519**

January Session, 2021



**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 Section 17a-304 of the general statutes is repealed and the  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, 2021*):

3 As used in this section and section 17a-305, as amended by this act,  
4 "NAPIS nutritional risk assessment" means a survey developed by the  
5 National Aging Program Information System, or NAPIS, that provides  
6 a person who takes the survey with a score correlating with risk of  
7 malnutrition. The state shall be divided into five elderly planning and  
8 service areas, in accordance with federal law and regulations, each  
9 having an area agency on aging to carry out the mandates of the federal  
10 Older Americans Act of 1965, as amended. The area agencies shall (1)  
11 represent older persons within their geographic areas, (2) develop an  
12 area plan for approval by the Department of Aging and Disability  
13 Services and upon such approval administer the plan, (3) coordinate  
14 and assist local public and nonprofit, private agencies in the  
15 development of programs, (4) receive and distribute federal and state  
16 funds for such purposes, in accordance with applicable law, (5)  
17 distribute the NAPIS nutritional risk assessment to older persons,  
18 collect the assessments and report individual and average scores for

19 each elderly planning and service area to the Department of Aging and  
20 Disability Services, and [(5)] (6) carry out any additional duties and  
21 functions required by federal law and regulations.

22 Sec. 2. Subsection (c) of section 17a-305 of the general statutes is  
23 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
24 *2021*):

25 (c) The Department of Aging and Disability Services, in consultation  
26 with the five area agencies on aging, shall review the method of  
27 allocation set forth in [subsection (a) of this section and shall report any  
28 findings or recommendations, as well as data on service levels and costs,  
29 to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having  
30 cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state  
31 agencies and human services] subsections (a) and (b) of this section and  
32 evaluate the method used to allocate funding for elderly nutrition  
33 programs based on factors including, but not limited to: (1) For each of  
34 the five elderly planning and service areas as described in section 17a-  
35 304, as amended by this act, (A) elderly population data from the most  
36 recent United States census, and (B) average and individual scores on  
37 the NAPIS nutritional risk assessment and (2) any increased costs for  
38 providers that deliver meals on wheels for the department's elderly  
39 nutrition program in sparsely populated rural regions. The department  
40 shall solicit information and recommendations from elderly nutrition  
41 providers for consideration in its evaluation of the allocation method of  
42 the funding of such programs. Not later than July 1, 2022, the  
43 department shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-  
44 4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having  
45 cognizance of matters relating to aging, appropriations and the budgets  
46 of state agencies and human services on (A) elderly population data and  
47 average and individual scores on the NAPIS nutritional risk assessment  
48 for each of the five elderly planning and service areas as described in  
49 section 17a-304, as amended by this act, (B) the rates of reimbursement  
50 for each meals on wheels provider in the department's elderly nutrition  
51 program compared to the costs to provide meals on wheels for each such

52 provider, (C) the administrative expenses of each such meals on wheels  
53 provider, (D) the number of such meals on wheels providers that have  
54 reduced or eliminated deliveries based on inadequate state  
55 reimbursement, and (E) any recommended changes in the method of  
56 allocation of funds. Providers of meals [under] for the department's  
57 elderly nutrition program shall annually provide the department with  
58 data on service levels and costs.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: |                     |            |
| Section 1   | <i>July 1, 2021</i> | 17a-304    |
| Sec. 2  | <i>July 1, 2021</i> | 17a-305(c) |

**HS**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*