



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

Raised Bill No. 7168

LCO No. 4607



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:
(HS)

AN ACT CONCERNING AUTISM.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2019*) For purposes of this section
2 and section 17b-283 of the general statutes, as amended by this act,
3 "autism spectrum disorder" has the same meaning as set forth in the
4 most recent edition of the American Psychiatric Association's
5 "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders".
6 Notwithstanding sections 17a-215 and 17a-215c of the general statutes,
7 the Commissioner of Developmental Services, in consultation with the
8 Commissioner of Social Services, shall implement a coordinated,
9 interagency effort to ensure that persons with autism spectrum
10 disorder with developmental disabilities receive a full range of
11 available services from the Department of Developmental Services.

12 Sec. 2. Section 17b-283 of the general statutes is repealed and the
13 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

14 (a) The Commissioner of Social Services shall, within available
15 appropriations, administer a Medicaid waiver program pursuant to

16 Section 1915(c) of the Social Security Act to provide home and
 17 community-based services for persons who (1) are institutionalized or
 18 at risk of institutionalization; [and who (1)] (2) are twenty-one years of
 19 age or younger; [(2)] (3) have a physical disability and may also have a
 20 co-occurring developmental disability; and [(3)] (4) meet the financial
 21 eligibility criteria established in the waiver.

22 (b) Not later than September 1, 2019, the Commissioner of Social
 23 Services shall amend the waiver program to provide additional home
 24 and community-based services to persons who (1) are institutionalized
 25 or at risk of institutionalization; (2) are twenty-one years of age or
 26 younger; (3) have autism spectrum disorder; and (4) meet the financial
 27 eligibility criteria established in the waiver. The commissioner shall
 28 amend the Medicaid state plan, if necessary, to provide coverage for
 29 services that are medically necessary, as defined in section 17b-259b,
 30 for persons with autism spectrum disorder.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	17b-283

Statement of Purpose:

To ensure that persons with autism spectrum disorder receive services from the Department of Developmental Services and are eligible for Medicaid coverage despite family earnings.

[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.]