



General Assembly

February Session, 2020

Raised Bill No. 82

LCO No. 727



Referred to Committee on AGING

Introduced by:
(AGE)

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO REVIEW VOLUNTARISM
NEEDS OF THE STATE OMBUDSMAN.***

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force
2 to study ways to ensure that the Office of the Long-term Care
3 Ombudsman has enough volunteers to (1) reach out to nursing home
4 residents and address complaints about their care, and (2) establish
5 outreach to residents receiving services from community-based
6 programs and direct them to resources to address complaints about
7 their care.

8 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

9 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
10 both of whom shall be residents' advocates appointed pursuant to
11 section 17a-406 of the general statutes;

12 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, both
13 of whom shall be representatives of senior centers;

14 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
15 Representatives;

16 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

17 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
18 Representatives;

19 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

20 (7) The State Ombudsman, or the State Ombudsman's designee;

21 (8) The Commissioner of Aging and Disability Services, or the
22 commissioner's designee;

23 (9) The Commissioner of Social Services, or the commissioner's
24 designee; and

25 (10) The executive director of the Commission on Women, Children,
26 Seniors, Equity and Opportunity, or the executive director's designee.

27 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (3),
28 (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the
29 General Assembly.

30 (d) All appointments to the task force shall be made not later than
31 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be
32 filled by the appointing authority.

33 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro
34 tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force from
35 among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule
36 the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty
37 days after the effective date of this section.

38 (f) The administrative staff of the Commission on Women, Children,
39 Seniors, Equity and Opportunity shall serve as administrative staff of
40 the task force.

41 (g) Not later than January 1, 2021, the task force shall submit a report
42 on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committees
43 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to aging
44 and human services, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a
45 of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it
46 submits such report or January 1, 2021, whichever is later.

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

Statement of Purpose:

To study ways to increase the number of volunteers to assist the State Ombudsman's Office and expand services to community-based residents.

[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.]