



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 577

February Session, 2026

Senate Bill No. 474

Senate, April 9, 2026

The Committee on Judiciary reported through SEN. WINFIELD of the 10th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROVISION OF ANNUAL TRAINING TO A PERSON APPOINTED AS A CONSERVATOR IN A PROBATE COURT PROCEEDING.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) (a) Any person who, on or
2 after October 1, 2026, is appointed as a conservator of the estate or a
3 conservator of the person in a Probate Court proceeding conducted
4 pursuant to chapter 802h of the general statutes shall complete an
5 annual training program established by the Probate Court
6 Administrator pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

7 (b) The Probate Court Administrator shall, within available
8 appropriations, establish, supervise and fund a program of training for
9 newly appointed conservators of the estate and conservators of the
10 person. The training program shall include, but not be limited to, a
11 review of: (1) Statutory provisions, the Probate Court rules of procedure
12 and regulations adopted by the Probate Court Administrator that are
13 applicable to the responsibilities and duties of a conservator; (2) ethical

14 considerations arising when carrying out the responsibilities and duties
 15 of a conservator; (3) the operation of the Probate Court system; (4) the
 16 Probate Court User Guide for Conservators; and (5) the resources that
 17 are available to a conservator seeking assistance, guidance or advice in
 18 carrying out the duties and responsibilities owed to the conserved
 19 person.

20 (c) Any person appointed as a conservator of the estate or a
 21 conservator of the person in a Probate Court proceeding, on or after
 22 October 1, 2026, who without good cause shown, fails to complete the
 23 annual training requirements prescribed in this section shall be subject
 24 to removal as a conservator in accordance with the provisions of section
 25 45a-660 of the general statutes.

26 (d) Any person appointed as a conservator of the estate or a
 27 conservator of the person in a Probate Court proceeding, prior to
 28 October 1, 2026, may participate in the annual training provided
 29 pursuant to this section. The Probate Court Administrator may charge
 30 a reasonable fee not to exceed thirty-five dollars for the provision of such
 31 training to persons appointed as a conservator of the estate or a
 32 conservator of the person prior to October 1, 2026.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2026	New section

JUD *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Probate Court	PCAF - Cost	476,930	476,930
Probate Court	PCAF - Potential Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal

Note: PCAF=Probate Court Administration Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires the Probate Court Administration (PCA) to establish an annual training program for newly appointed conservators,¹ resulting in a cost of \$476,930 and a minimal potential revenue gain to the Probate Court Administration Fund in FY 27 and FY 28.

To implement the training program, the PCA will need to hire two trainers with total annual salary and fringe benefits costs of \$170,000 and \$106,930, respectively. Annual costs for training materials, equipment, and software licensing are not expected to exceed \$200,000.²

The bill also allows current conservators³ to participate in the annual training for a fee to the PCAF of up to \$35. The revenue gain from this provision is expected to be minimal because training is not required of current conservators.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would

¹ In FY 25, there were approximately 4,141 new conservatorship cases.

² The required annual training is estimated to take five to six hours.

³ There are approximately 17,700 individuals currently serving as conservators.

continue into the future subject to annual wage increases, inflation, and the number of training fees charged.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 474*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROVISION OF ANNUAL TRAINING TO A PERSON APPOINTED AS A CONSERVATOR IN A PROBATE COURT PROCEEDING.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the probate court administrator, within available appropriations, to establish, supervise, and fund an annual training program for newly appointed conservators of the estate and conservators of the person (see BACKGROUND).

Relatedly, beginning October 1, 2026, the bill requires anyone appointed as a conservator in a Probate Court proceeding to protect someone or their property, to complete the training. It subjects anyone who fails to do this without good cause to removal as a conservator under the law's existing removal procedure.

The bill also allows (1) conservators appointed before October 1, 2026, to take the annual training and (2) the probate court administrator to charge them a reasonable fee of up to \$35 for the training.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

CONSERVATOR TRAINING PROGRAM

Under the bill, the training program must at least review:

1. statutes, probate court rules, and regulations on conservators' responsibilities and duties;
2. ethical considerations that arise when carrying out conservator responsibilities and duties;
3. the probate court system's operation and the Probate Court User

Guide for Conservators; and

4. resources for conservators seeking assistance, guidance, or advice when carrying out their duties and responsibilities to the conserved person.

BACKGROUND

Conservator Appointment

By law, the court may appoint a conservator if it considers specific factors (such as a person's abilities and capacity) and finds by clear and convincing evidence that the person is incapable of:

1. managing his or her affairs, the affairs cannot be managed adequately without appointing a conservator, and doing so is the least restrictive way to help the person in his or her affairs ("conservator of the estate") or
2. caring for himself or herself, the person cannot be cared for adequately without appointing a conservator, and doing so is the least restrictive way to help the person care for himself or herself ("conservator of the person") (CGS § 45a-650(f)).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 41 Nay 0 (03/23/2026)