



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 484

February Session, 2026

Substitute Senate Bill No. 495

Senate, April 7, 2026

The Committee on Human Services reported through SEN. LESSER of the 9th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT EXPANDING THE MEMBERSHIP AND STUDY FOCUS OF THE LONG-TERM CARE PLANNING COMMITTEE.

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

1 Section 1. Section 17b-337 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

3 (a) There shall be established a Long-Term Care Planning Committee
4 for the purpose of exchanging information on long-term care issues,
5 coordinating policy development and establishing a long-term care plan
6 for all persons in need of long-term care. Such policy and plan shall
7 provide that individuals with long-term care needs have the option to
8 choose and receive long-term care and support in the least restrictive,
9 appropriate setting. Such plan shall integrate the three components of a
10 long-term care system including home and community-based services,
11 supportive housing arrangements and nursing facilities. Such plan shall
12 include: (1) A vision and mission statement for a long-term care system;
13 (2) the current number of persons receiving services; (3) the current
14 number of persons receiving long-term care supports and services in the

15 community and the number receiving such supports and services in
16 institutions; (4) demographic data concerning such persons by service
17 type; (5) the current aggregate cost of such system of services; (6)
18 forecasts of future demand for services; (7) the type of services available
19 and the amount of funds necessary to meet the demand; (8) projected
20 costs for programs associated with such system; (9) strategies to
21 promote the partnership for long-term care program; (10) resources
22 necessary to accomplish goals for the future; (11) funding sources
23 available; and (12) the number and types of providers needed to deliver
24 services. The plan shall address how changes in one component of such
25 long-term care system impact other components of such system.

26 (b) The Long-Term Care Planning Committee shall, within available
27 appropriations, study issues relative to long-term care including, but
28 not limited to: [, the] (1) State models for financing of long-term care,
29 including, but not limited to, payroll deductions for long-term care, (2)
30 best practices for workforce retention, workforce wages and workforce
31 standards, (3) projected federal support for long-term care and solutions
32 for insufficient federal funding, (4) the case-mix system of Medicaid
33 reimbursement, (5) community-based service options, (6) access to long-
34 term care and geriatric psychiatric services, [. The committee shall
35 evaluate issues relative to] (7) long-term care in light of the United States
36 Supreme Court decision, Olmstead v. L.C., 119 S. Ct. 2176 (1999),
37 requiring states to place persons with disabilities in community settings
38 rather than in institutions when such placement is appropriate, the
39 transfer to a less restrictive setting is not opposed by such persons and
40 such placement can be reasonably accommodated, [. The committee,
41 within available appropriations, shall evaluate] and (8) available data
42 on the average net actual Medicaid expenditures for nursing homes, in
43 comparison to average net actual Medicaid expenditures for home and
44 community-based services waiver participants who require a nursing
45 home level of care, [, including the number of individuals served, to
46 assist in short-term and long-term Medicaid expenditure forecasting.]

47 (c) The Long-Term Care Planning Committee shall consist of: (1) The
48 chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing committees of

49 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human
50 services, public health [, elderly services and long-term care] and aging;
51 (2) the Commissioner of Social Services, or the commissioner's designee;
52 (3) [one member of the Office of Policy and Management appointed by]
53 the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's
54 designee, who shall serve as a chairperson; (4) [one member from the
55 Department of Public Health appointed by] the Commissioner of Public
56 Health, or the commissioner's designee; (5) [one member from the
57 Department of Housing appointed by] the Commissioner of Housing,
58 or the commissioner's designee; (6) [one member from the Department
59 of Developmental Services appointed by] the Commissioner of
60 Developmental Services, or the commissioner's designee; (7) [one
61 member from the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
62 appointed by] the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction
63 Services, or the commissioner's designee; (8) [one member from the
64 Department of Transportation appointed by] the Commissioner of
65 Transportation, or the commissioner's designee; (9) [one member from
66 the Department of Children and Families appointed by] the
67 Commissioner of Children and Families, or the commissioner's
68 designee; (10) [one member from] a representative of the Health
69 Systems Planning Unit of the Office of Health Strategy appointed by the
70 Commissioner of Health Strategy; [and] (11) [one member from the
71 Department of Aging and Disability Services appointed by] the
72 Commissioner of Aging and Disability Services, [. The committee shall
73 convene no later than ninety days after June 4, 1998] or the
74 commissioner's designee; (12) the Long-Term Care Ombudsman, or the
75 ombudsman's designee; (13) a representative of an employee
76 organization representing long-term care workers, appointed by the
77 committee chairpersons; and (14) a representative of an organization
78 representing retirees, appointed by the committee chairpersons. Any
79 vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority. [The chairperson
80 shall be elected from among the members of the committee.] Members
81 shall elect a Senate chairperson and a House chairperson from among
82 the members appointed pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection,
83 who shall serve as chairpersons of the committee along with the

84 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's
85 designee. The committee shall seek the advice and participation of any
86 person, organization or state or federal agency it deems necessary to
87 carry out the provisions of this section.

88 (d) Not later than January [1, 2018, and annually thereafter] first
89 annually, the Long-Term Care Planning Committee shall submit a
90 report and recommendations to the joint standing committees of the
91 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to aging and
92 human services on the [number of persons receiving (1)] issues the
93 committee studies pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. The report
94 shall include a listing of long-term care supports and services in the
95 community [;] and [(2)] long-term care supports and services in
96 institutions.

97 (e) Not later than January 1, 1999, and every three years thereafter,
98 the Long-Term Care Planning Committee shall submit a long-term care
99 plan pursuant to subsection (a) of this section to the joint standing
100 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
101 relating to human services, public health [, elderly services and long-
102 term care] and aging, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a,
103 and such plan shall serve as a guide for the actions of state agencies in
104 developing and modifying programs that serve persons in need of long-
105 term care.

106 (f) Any state agency, when developing or modifying any program
107 that, in whole or in part, provides assistance or support to persons with
108 long-term care needs, shall, to the maximum extent feasible, include
109 provisions that support care-giving provided by family members and
110 other informal caregivers and promote consumer-directed care.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2026	17b-337

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

The title was changed; in Subsec. (b), "issues relative to" was bracketed for consistency; in Subsec. (c), "cochairperson" and "cochairpersons" were changed to "chairperson" and "chairpersons" and the sentence concerning the House and Senate chairpersons was redrafted for consistency.

HS *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*

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 \$
Policy & Mgmt., Off.	GF - Potential Cost	Potential	Potential

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill changes the requirements of the Long-Term Care Planning Committee (LTCPC) within the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) to (1) include a study of certain financing models, best practices, and projected federal support, and (2) remove a requirement to include certain information in studies related to other long-term care related topics. This results in a potential cost to OPM beginning in FY 27 to the extent an additional position is required to complete these studies. The cost is dependent on the level of analysis conducted.

The bill also makes changes to the membership of the LTCPC which does not result in a fiscal impact.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 495*****AN ACT EXPANDING THE MEMBERSHIP AND STUDY FOCUS OF THE LONG-TERM CARE PLANNING COMMITTEE.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Long-Term Care Planning Committee (LTCPC), within available appropriations, to study (1) state long-term care financing models, including payroll deductions for long-term care; (2) best practices for workforce retention, wages, and standards; and (3) projected federal support for long-term care and solutions for insufficient federal funding.

Current law requires the LTCPC to study various other long-term care related topics, such as available data on average net actual Medicaid nursing home expenditures compared to those for home- and community-based Medicaid waiver recipients who require a nursing home level of care. The bill eliminates the requirement that this study include the number of people served to help in short- and long-term Medicaid expenditure forecasting.

The bill also requires the LTCPC, when annually reporting to the Aging and Human Services committees each January 1, to report on (1) the issues the committee studied as required by the bill and existing law; (2) a list of long-term care supports and services in the community and institutions (for example, nursing homes); and (3) any related recommendations. Current law requires the committee to report on the number of people receiving long-term care supports and services in community and institutional settings.

Current law sets the LTCPC membership, which includes several state agency representatives and the chairpersons and ranking members of the Aging, Human Services, and Public Health committees. The bill

makes minor changes for state agency members by specifying that agency heads or their designees must serve as committee members.

Current law also allows the members to elect any member as a chairperson. The bill instead designates the Office of Policy and Management secretary, or their designee, as a chairperson. It also requires the members to elect a Senate chairperson and a House chairperson from among the committee’s legislative members.

Lastly, the bill adds the following three members to the committee’s membership: (1) the long-term care ombudsman or her designee and (2) one representative each of a labor organization representing long-term care workers and an organization representing retirees, both appointed by the committee chairpersons.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 23 Nay 0 (03/19/2026)