

Aging Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No: SB-123 / [Bill Status](#) / [Public Hearing Testimony](#)

AN ACT REQUIRING PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR CERTAIN RATE INCREASES

Title: AT ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES.

Vote Date: 3/5/2026

Vote Action: Joint Favorable Substitute

PH Date: 2/19/2026

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Aging Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

The legislation requires each assisted living services agency to hold public hearings when there is an increase in fees that is more than 10% of the existing fee.

SUBSTITUTE LANGUAGE (IF APPLICABLE):

JFS Language LCO 2730 – The language deletes “members of the press and any other member of the public” from those who must be notified of the fee increases.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Ms. Andrea Barton Reeves, Commissioner, Dept. of Social Services: They **support** this legislation. A public hearing helps to protect the most vulnerable populations and limits the ability to increase fees without a transparent process.

Ms. Mairead Painter, State Long-Term Care Ombudsman, Dept. of Aging and Disability Services: They **support** this proposal because residents who live in assisted living settings often live on fixed incomes. When fee increases occur, they can destabilize their financial security and create anxiety about whether they will be able to remain in their homes. This bill would provide transparency and accountability measures that support informed decisions and resident stability.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Ms. Tonya Maurer, Care-partner to her mom: She provided testimony on a number of bills. She knows that they are being charged “rent” and they know that there were requirements around how much rent could be increased. She believes that rent controls need to be applied to assisted living and long-term care communities.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

Ms. Mag Morelli, President, LeadingAge Connecticut and Rhode Island: Given recently enacted consumer protections they do not believe there is a demonstrated need for additional legislation requiring public hearing and respectfully ask the Committee not to move this bill forward.

Mr. Chris Carter, President, Connecticut Assisted Living Association: They are **opposed** to this bill on the basis that public informational hearings are not required for other like business entities. There were additional protections and notice requirements surrounding fee increases at assisted living communities that were developed by a workgroup led by the Long-Term Care Ombudsman and passed into law in October 2024. We do not believe additional requirements should be implemented without allowing time to determine if they are effective.

Ms. Sarah Dzialo: She offered her testimony in **opposition** to this bill. While transparency is valuable, this bill imposes a bureaucratic layer on private businesses. If an operator is unjustified the market offers consequences. Government-mandated hearings substitute political theater for real accountability.

Reported by: Richard Ferrari, Assist. Clerk

Date: 3/9/26