

Human Services Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No: SB-482 / [Bill Status](#) / [Public Hearing Testimony](#)

AN ACT CONCERNING LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT OF MEDICAID WAIVERS,
MEDICAID STATE PLAN AMENDMENTS AND OTHER FEDERALLY FUNDED
Title: PROGRAMS.

Vote Date: 3/19/2026

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 3/17/2026

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Human Services Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill requires the Commissioner of Social Services to submit Medicaid waiver applications, state plan amendments, and other federally funded program proposals to the General Assembly for review prior to federal submission, including public notice and comment procedures. It also expands legislative authority to hold hearings and approve, deny, or modify such proposals. The bill aims to increase transparency, accountability, and legislative oversight of federally funded programs that impact state budgets and human services delivery.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Department of Social Services, Andrea Barton Reeves, Commissioner: opposes and expressed concern that the bill would create overly broad and burdensome legislative oversight requirements, potentially requiring hearings and approvals for routine Medicaid state plan amendments and federal funding applications. DSS warned this could delay submissions, reduce access to federal funding, strain administrative resources, and negatively impact provider reimbursements and services. The Department noted that existing statutes already provide significant legislative oversight and transparency through existing reporting, hearings, and committee engagement. DSS also cautioned that additional approval requirements could cause the state to miss competitive, time sensitive federal grant opportunities and limit the ability of agency experts to efficiently manage program operations.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Connecticut Hospital Association: supports expansion of legislative oversight to include federal funding applications and enhanced transparency measures. CHA emphasized that increased review and public input would help ensure that significant Medicaid and healthcare funding decisions are transparent and appropriately evaluated before submission to the federal government.

Connecticut General Assembly, Senate Democrats, Senator Martin M. Looney, 11th Dist.: Testimony expressed support for SB 482 as a safeguard to ensure legislative approval before any major structural changes to the Medicaid program, such as a return to managed care. The testimony emphasized that prior managed care models resulted in lower quality care and reduced transparency, and that legislative oversight would help preserve the effectiveness and accountability of the current system.

MBraces, Pradipta Mazumder, Orthodontist: expressed support for the bill and emphasized the need for increased Medicaid reimbursement rates, noting financial strain on providers due to rising costs and inflation.

CT Citizen Action Group, Tom Swan, Executive Director: Supports. The testimony supported the bills provision restoring legislative authority over major Medicaid changes, emphasizing the importance of oversight in protecting access to care. The testimony highlighted concerns about potential federal policy impacts on Medicaid and stressed the need for state level safeguards to ensure accountability and maintain healthcare coverage.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None Expressed.

Reported by: Jolie Rodriguez

Date: April 2, 2026