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## **OLR Bill Analysis**

### **sHB 5356**

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING NONEMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill allows certain drivers who apply to the motor vehicles commissioner for a public passenger endorsement to operate taxicab or livery service vehicles (an F endorsement) to provide nonemergency medical transportation (NEMT) under a Department of Social Services (DSS) contract or subcontract (see BACKGROUND) for up to 90 days while the application is pending.

Existing law allows taxicab or livery services providers to employ drivers who have applied for an F endorsement for up to 90 days before their endorsement is approved so long as the employer, after conducting a criminal background check and driving history review, determines the applicant meets requirements to operate these vehicles. The bill deems these drivers as also meeting requirements to provide NEMT.

The bill also requires the DSS commissioner to review Medicaid rates for NEMT at least annually to ensure that they are (1) adequate to give Medicaid recipients access to transportation from a pool of NEMT drivers and (2) in each contract.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

#### **BACKGROUND**

##### ***Nonemergency Medical Transportation***

DSS's NEMT program provides transportation to qualifying medical appointments for Medicaid members and Covered CT enrollees who have no other means of transportation. DSS currently contracts with Medical Transportation Management (MTM) to provide NEMT

services.

***Related Bill***

sHB 5041, favorably reported by the Human Services Committee, allows, rather than requires, Covered CT to provide NEMT coverage.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 21    Nay 2    (03/19/2026)