
OLR Bill Analysis

HB 5484

AN ACT EXPANDING TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS FOR HOME CARE CLIENTS.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) commissioner, starting July 1, 2026, to reimburse home care providers who transport Medicaid recipients to or from medical appointments (nonemergency medical transport (NEMT)) so long as the provider has a Connecticut driver's license and liability insurance in an amount the commissioner sets. She must do this regardless of existing law on competitive bidding for Medicaid NEMT.

Correspondingly, it requires the commissioner, starting July 1, 2026, to increase the fees that the department pays for home care providers who provide NEMT to Medicaid recipients.

Existing law, unchanged by the bill, allows DSS to annually increase these fees for home care services, which are set by schedule, based on increases in service costs. The state's rate for these services cannot exceed that charged to the public.

Under the bill, home care providers are those who:

1. either (a) offer home care or long-term services and supports and are not licensed by the Department of Public Health or (b) are employed by an entity that provides these services, such as a home health care, home health aide, hospice, or homemaker companion agency, and
2. are not personal care attendants or family caregivers (those who provide adult family living services under DSS or Department of Developmental Services Medicaid waiver programs).

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 23 Nay 0 (03/19/2026)