



**Substitute House Bill No. 5313**

**Public Act No. 22-57**

**AN ACT CONCERNING TEMPORARY NURSING SERVICES AGENCIES, REPORTING OF INVOLUNTARY TRANSFERS AND DISCHARGES FROM NURSING HOMES AND RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES, ELDER ABUSE TRAINING, LEGAL RIGHTS OF LONG-TERM CARE APPLICANTS AND A STUDY OF MANAGED RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY ISSUES.**

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

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2022*) (a) As used in this section and sections 2 and 3 of this act, (1) "health care facility" means a hospital, nursing home facility or residential care home as those terms are defined in section 19a-490 of the general statutes; (2) "nursing personnel" means an advanced practice registered nurse, a licensed practical nurse or a registered nurse licensed or issued a temporary permit to practice pursuant to chapter 378 of the general statutes, or a nurse's aide registered pursuant to chapter 378a of the general statutes; (3) "temporary nursing services" means services provided to a health care facility on a per diem or other temporary basis; and (4) "temporary nursing services agency" means any person, firm, corporation, limited liability company, partnership or association that is engaged for hire in the business of providing temporary nursing services to a health care facility but does not include an individual who offers only his or her own temporary nursing services.

***Substitute House Bill No. 5313***

(b) Not later than October 1, 2022, the Commissioner of Public Health shall develop a system for a temporary nursing services agency that provides services in the state to register annually with the Department of Public Health. The commissioner may assess an annual registration fee of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars.

(c) Not later than January 1, 2023, no temporary nursing services agency shall provide temporary nursing services in the state unless it is registered pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

(d) The Commissioner of Public Health shall establish requirements for a temporary nursing services agency, including, but not limited to, minimum qualifications for nursing personnel provided by such agency.

(e) Beginning not later than July 1, 2023, each temporary nursing services agency shall submit, in a form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health, in consultation with the Commissioner of Social Services, an annual cost report for the previous calendar year. Such report shall be filed with the Commissioner of Public Health and may include, but shall not be limited to, (1) itemized revenues and costs for each such agency; (2) average number of nursing personnel employed by such agency; (3) average fees charged by such agency by type of nursing personnel and type of health care facility; (4) the states of the permanent residences of nursing personnel supplied by the agency to health care facilities in the state, aggregated by type of nursing personnel; and (5) any other information prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health. Each such agency shall make available records, books, reports and other data relating to its operation at the request of the Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's designee. Records provided by a temporary nursing services agency pursuant to this subsection shall not be considered public records subject to disclosure pursuant to section 1-210 of the general statutes.

**Substitute House Bill No. 5313**

(f) The Commissioner of Public Health may adopt regulations in accordance with chapter 54 of the general statutes to implement the provisions of this section. The commissioner may adopt policies and procedures to implement the provisions of this section in advance of adopting regulations, provided notice of intent to adopt such regulations is posted on the eRegulations System not later than twenty days after adoption of such policies and procedures.

Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2022*) (a) A temporary nursing services agency shall enter into a written agreement with each health care facility to which the agency assigns its nursing personnel. Any such agreement entered into, amended or renewed on and after July 1, 2022, shall contain an assurance that assigned nursing personnel have appropriate credentials. Such agreement shall be on file at such temporary nursing services agency and such health care facility not later than fourteen days from the date of assignment of nursing personnel by such agency to the health care facility.

(b) Any health care facility that fails to have the written agreement described in subsection (a) of this section on file may be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the provisions of chapter 368v of the general statutes and any applicable licensing regulations.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this section, no health care facility or subsidiary thereof that supplies temporary nursing services only to its own facility and does not charge a fee to such facility shall be subject to the provisions of this section.

Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2022*) (a) Any person aggrieved by any action of a temporary nursing services agency may petition the superior court for the judicial district in which the agency's temporary nursing services were rendered for relief, including temporary and permanent injunctions, or may bring a civil action for damages.

***Substitute House Bill No. 5313***

(b) Any temporary nursing services agency that violates any provision of section 1 or 2 of this act may be assessed a civil penalty by the court not to exceed three hundred dollars for each offense. Each violation shall be a separate and distinct offense and, in the case of a continuing violation, each day of continuance thereof shall be deemed to be a separate and distinct offense. The Commissioner of Public Health may request the Attorney General to bring a civil action in the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford for injunctive relief to restrain any further violation of section 1 or 2 of this act. The Superior Court may grant such relief upon notice and hearing.

Sec. 4. (*Effective July 1, 2022*) (a) As used in this section, (1) "nursing home facility" has the same meaning as provided in section 19a-490 of the general statutes, and (2) "nursing personnel", "temporary nursing services" and "temporary nursing services agency" have the same meanings as provided in section 1 of this act. The Commissioner of Social Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of Public Health, shall evaluate the rates charged by a temporary nursing services agency to a nursing home facility for temporary nursing services to determine whether and what changes may be needed in the regulation of such rates to ensure that a nursing home facility has adequate nursing personnel.

(b) Not later than October 1, 2023, the Commissioner of Social Services shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to aging, human services and public health with recommendations based on the cost reports submitted by temporary nursing services agencies pursuant to section 1 of this act. The commissioner's report may include, but need not be limited to (1) what, if any, changes are needed in the regulation of rates charged by such agencies, and (2) how best to ensure, within available appropriations, that a nursing home facility is able to maintain

**Substitute House Bill No. 5313**

adequate nursing personnel during a public health emergency declared pursuant to section 19a-131a of the general statutes.

Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 17b-340 of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

(a) For purposes of this subsection, (1) a "related party" includes, but is not limited to, any company related to a chronic and convalescent nursing home through family association, common ownership, control or business association with any of the owners, operators or officials of such nursing home; (2) "company" means any person, partnership, association, holding company, limited liability company or corporation; (3) "family association" means a relationship by birth, marriage or domestic partnership; and (4) "profit and loss statement" means the most recent annual statement on profits and losses finalized by a related party before the annual report mandated under this subsection. The rates to be paid by or for persons aided or cared for by the state or any town in this state to licensed chronic and convalescent nursing homes, to chronic disease hospitals associated with chronic and convalescent nursing homes, to rest homes with nursing supervision, to licensed residential care homes, as defined by section 19a-490, and to residential facilities for persons with intellectual disability that are licensed pursuant to section 17a-227 and certified to participate in the Title XIX Medicaid program as intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities, for room, board and services specified in licensing regulations issued by the licensing agency shall be determined annually, except as otherwise provided in this subsection by the Commissioner of Social Services, to be effective July first of each year except as otherwise provided in this subsection. Such rates shall be determined on a basis of a reasonable payment for such necessary services, which basis shall take into account as a factor the costs of such services. Cost of such services shall include reasonable costs mandated

***Substitute House Bill No. 5313***

by collective bargaining agreements with certified collective bargaining agents or other agreements between the employer and employees, provided "employees" shall not include persons employed as managers or chief administrators or required to be licensed as nursing home administrators, and compensation for services rendered by proprietors at prevailing wage rates, as determined by application of principles of accounting as prescribed by said commissioner. Cost of such services shall not include amounts paid by the facilities to employees as salary, or to attorneys or consultants as fees, where the responsibility of the employees, attorneys, or consultants is to persuade or seek to persuade the other employees of the facility to support or oppose unionization. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit inclusion of amounts paid for legal counsel related to the negotiation of collective bargaining agreements, the settlement of grievances or normal administration of labor relations. The commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion, allow the inclusion of extraordinary and unanticipated costs of providing services that were incurred to avoid an immediate negative impact on the health and safety of patients. The commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion, based upon review of a facility's costs, direct care staff to patient ratio and any other related information, revise a facility's rate for any increases or decreases to total licensed capacity of more than ten beds or changes to its number of licensed rest home with nursing supervision beds and chronic and convalescent nursing home beds. The commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion, revise the rate of a facility that is closing. An interim rate issued for the period during which a facility is closing shall be based on a review of facility costs, the expected duration of the close-down period, the anticipated impact on Medicaid costs, available appropriations and the relationship of the rate requested by the facility to the average Medicaid rate for a close-down period. The commissioner may so revise a facility's rate established for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, and thereafter for any bed increases, decreases or changes in licensure effective after October 1, 1989. Effective July 1, 1991, in facilities that have both a

**Substitute House Bill No. 5313**

chronic and convalescent nursing home and a rest home with nursing supervision, the rate for the rest home with nursing supervision shall not exceed such facility's rate for its chronic and convalescent nursing home. All such facilities for which rates are determined under this subsection shall report on a fiscal year basis ending on September thirtieth. Such report shall be submitted to the commissioner by February fifteenth. Each for-profit chronic and convalescent nursing home that receives state funding pursuant to this section shall include in such annual report a profit and loss statement from each related party that receives from such chronic and convalescent nursing home fifty thousand dollars or more per year for goods, fees and services. No cause of action or liability shall arise against the state, the Department of Social Services, any state official or agent for failure to take action based on the information required to be reported under this subsection. The commissioner may reduce the rate in effect for a facility that fails to submit a complete and accurate report on or before February fifteenth by an amount not to exceed ten per cent of such rate. If a licensed residential care home fails to submit a complete and accurate report, the department shall notify such home of the failure and the home shall have thirty days from the date the notice was issued to submit a complete and accurate report. If a licensed residential care home fails to submit a complete and accurate report not later than thirty days after the date of notice, such home may not receive a retroactive rate increase, in the commissioner's discretion. The commissioner shall, annually, on or before April first, report the data contained in the reports of such facilities on the department's Internet web site. For the cost reporting year commencing October 1, 1985, and for subsequent cost reporting years, facilities shall report the cost of using the services of any [nursing pool employee] nursing personnel supplied by a temporary nursing services agency by separating said cost into two categories, the portion of the cost equal to the salary of the employee for whom the [nursing pool employee] nursing personnel supplied by a temporary nursing services agency is substituting shall be considered a nursing cost and

**Substitute House Bill No. 5313**

any cost in excess of such salary shall be further divided so that seventy-five per cent of the excess cost shall be considered an administrative or general cost and twenty-five per cent of the excess cost shall be considered a nursing cost, provided if the total [nursing pool] costs of a facility for nursing personnel supplied by a temporary nursing services agency in any cost year are equal to or exceed fifteen per cent of the total nursing expenditures of the facility for such cost year, no portion of [nursing pool] such costs in excess of fifteen per cent shall be classified as administrative or general costs. The commissioner, in determining such rates, shall also take into account the classification of patients or boarders according to special care requirements or classification of the facility according to such factors as facilities and services and such other factors as the commissioner deems reasonable, including anticipated fluctuations in the cost of providing such services. The commissioner may establish a separate rate for a facility or a portion of a facility for traumatic brain injury patients who require extensive care but not acute general hospital care. Such separate rate shall reflect the special care requirements of such patients. If changes in federal or state laws, regulations or standards adopted subsequent to June 30, 1985, result in increased costs or expenditures in an amount exceeding one-half of one per cent of allowable costs for the most recent cost reporting year, the commissioner shall adjust rates and provide payment for any such increased reasonable costs or expenditures within a reasonable period of time retroactive to the date of enforcement. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the Department of Social Services to adjust rates and provide payment for any increases in costs resulting from an inspection of a facility by the Department of Public Health. Such assistance as the commissioner requires from other state agencies or departments in determining rates shall be made available to the commissioner at the commissioner's request. Payment of the rates established pursuant to this section shall be conditioned on the establishment by such facilities of admissions procedures that conform with this section, section 19a-533 and all other applicable provisions of



***Substitute House Bill No. 5313***

the law and the provision of equality of treatment to all persons in such facilities. The established rates shall be the maximum amount chargeable by such facilities for care of such beneficiaries, and the acceptance by or on behalf of any such facility of any additional compensation for care of any such beneficiary from any other person or source shall constitute the offense of aiding a beneficiary to obtain aid to which the beneficiary is not entitled and shall be punishable in the same manner as is provided in subsection (b) of section 17b-97. Notwithstanding any provision of this section, the Commissioner of Social Services may, within available appropriations, provide an interim rate increase for a licensed chronic and convalescent nursing home or a rest home with nursing supervision for rate periods no earlier than April 1, 2004, only if the commissioner determines that the increase is necessary to avoid the filing of a petition for relief under Title 11 of the United States Code; imposition of receivership pursuant to sections 19a-542 and 19a-543; or substantial deterioration of the facility's financial condition that may be expected to adversely affect resident care and the continued operation of the facility, and the commissioner determines that the continued operation of the facility is in the best interest of the state. The commissioner shall consider any requests for interim rate increases on file with the department from March 30, 2004, and those submitted subsequently for rate periods no earlier than April 1, 2004. When reviewing an interim rate increase request the commissioner shall, at a minimum, consider: (A) Existing chronic and convalescent nursing home or rest home with nursing supervision utilization in the area and projected bed need; (B) physical plant long-term viability and the ability of the owner or purchaser to implement any necessary property improvements; (C) licensure and certification compliance history; (D) reasonableness of actual and projected expenses; and (E) the ability of the facility to meet wage and benefit costs. No interim rate shall be increased pursuant to this subsection in excess of one hundred fifteen per cent of the median rate for the facility's peer grouping, established pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (f) of this section,

***Substitute House Bill No. 5313***

unless recommended by the commissioner and approved by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management after consultation with the commissioner. Such median rates shall be published by the Department of Social Services not later than April first of each year. In the event that a facility granted an interim rate increase pursuant to this section is sold or otherwise conveyed for value to an unrelated entity less than five years after the effective date of such rate increase, the rate increase shall be deemed rescinded and the department shall recover an amount equal to the difference between payments made for all affected rate periods and payments that would have been made if the interim rate increase was not granted. The commissioner may seek recovery of such payments from any facility with common ownership. With the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the commissioner may waive recovery and rescission of the interim rate for good cause shown that is not inconsistent with this section, including, but not limited to, transfers to family members that were made for no value. The commissioner shall provide written quarterly reports to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to aging, human services and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, that identify each facility requesting an interim rate increase, the amount of the requested rate increase for each facility, the action taken by the commissioner and the secretary pursuant to this subsection, and estimates of the additional cost to the state for each approved interim rate increase. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the commissioner from increasing the rate of a licensed chronic and convalescent nursing home or a rest home with nursing supervision for allowable costs associated with facility capital improvements or increasing the rate in case of a sale of a licensed chronic and convalescent nursing home or a rest home with nursing supervision if receivership has been imposed on such home. For purposes of this section, "temporary nursing services agency" and "nursing personnel" have the same meaning as provided in section 1 of this act.

**Substitute House Bill No. 5313**

Sec. 6. Subdivision (1) of subsection (f) of section 17b-340 of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

(1) Allowable costs shall be divided into the following five cost components: (A) Direct costs, which shall include salaries for nursing personnel, related fringe benefits and [nursing pool] costs for nursing personnel supplied by a temporary nursing services agency; (B) indirect costs, which shall include professional fees, dietary expenses, housekeeping expenses, laundry expenses, supplies related to patient care, salaries for indirect care personnel and related fringe benefits; (C) fair rent, which shall be defined in accordance with subsection (f) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies; (D) capital-related costs, which shall include property taxes, insurance expenses, equipment leases and equipment depreciation; and (E) administrative and general costs, which shall include (i) maintenance and operation of plant expenses, (ii) salaries for administrative and maintenance personnel, and (iii) related fringe benefits. The commissioner may provide a rate adjustment for nonemergency transportation services required by nursing facility residents. Such adjustment shall be a fixed amount determined annually by the commissioner based upon a review of costs and other associated information. Allowable costs shall not include costs for ancillary services payable under Part B of the Medicare program.

Sec. 7. Subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 17b-340d of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

(4) Allowable costs shall be divided into the following five cost components: (A) Direct costs, which shall include salaries for nursing personnel, related fringe benefits and [nursing pool] costs for nursing personnel supplied by a temporary nursing services agency; (B) indirect costs, which shall include professional fees, dietary expenses,

**Substitute House Bill No. 5313**

housekeeping expenses, laundry expenses, supplies related to patient care, salaries for indirect care personnel and related fringe benefits; (C) fair rent, which shall be defined in regulations adopted in accordance with subsection (b) of this section; (D) capital-related costs, which shall include property taxes, insurance expenses, equipment leases and equipment depreciation; and (E) administrative and general costs, which shall include maintenance and operation of plant expenses, salaries for administrative and maintenance personnel and related fringe benefits. For (i) direct costs, the maximum cost shall be equal to one hundred thirty-five per cent of the median allowable cost of that peer grouping; (ii) indirect costs, the maximum cost shall be equal to one hundred fifteen per cent of the state-wide median allowable cost; (iii) fair rent, the amount shall be calculated utilizing the amount approved pursuant to section 17b-353; (iv) capital-related costs, there shall be no maximum; and (v) administrative and general costs, the maximum shall be equal to the state-wide median allowable cost. For purposes of this subdivision, "temporary nursing services agency" and "nursing personnel" have the same meaning as provided in section 1 of this act.

Sec. 8. Subsection (a) of section 51-344a of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

(a) Whenever the term "judicial district of Hartford-New Britain" or "judicial district of Hartford-New Britain at Hartford" is used or referred to in the following sections of the general statutes, it shall be deemed to mean or refer to the judicial district of Hartford on and after September 1, 1998: Sections 1-205, 1-206, 2-48, 3-21a, 3-62d, 3-70a, 3-71a, 4-61, 4-160, 4-164, 4-177b, 4-180, 4-183, 4-197, 5-202, 5-276a, 8-30g, 9-7a, 9-7b, 9-369b, 10-153e, 12-208, 12-237, 12-268l, 12-312, 12-330m, 12-405k, 12-422, 12-448, 12-454, 12-456, 12-463, 12-489, 12-522, 12-554, 12-565, 12-572, 12-586f, 12-597, 12-730, 13b-34, 13b-235, 13b-315, 13b-375, 14-57, 14-66, 14-67u, 14-110, 14-195, 14-311, 14-311c, 14-324, 14-331, 15-125, 15-126, 16-41, 16a-5,

**Substitute House Bill No. 5313**

17b-60, 17b-100, 17b-238, 17b-531, 19a-85, 19a-86, [19a-123d,] 19a-425, 19a-498, 19a-517, 19a-526, 19a-633, 20-12f, 20-13e, 20-29, 20-40, 20-45, 20-59, 20-73a, 20-86f, 20-99, 20-114, 20-133, 20-154, 20-156, 20-162p, 20-192, 20-195p, 20-202, 20-206c, 20-227, 20-238, 20-247, 20-263, 20-271, 20-307, 20-341f, 20-363, 20-373, 20-404, 20-414, 21a-55, 21a-190i, 22-7, 22-228, 22-248, 22-254, 22-320d, 22-326a, 22-344b, 22-386, 22a-6b, 22a-7, 22a-16, 22a-30, 22a-34, 22a-53, 22a-60, 22a-62, 22a-63, 22a-66h, 22a-106a, 22a-119, 22a-180, 22a-182a, 22a-184, 22a-220a, 22a-220d, 22a-225, 22a-226, 22a-226c, 22a-227, 22a-250, 22a-255l, 22a-276, 22a-310, 22a-342a, 22a-344, 22a-361a, 22a-374, 22a-376, 22a-408, 22a-430, 22a-432, 22a-438, 22a-449f, 22a-449g, 22a-459, 23-5e, 23-65m, 25-32e, 25-36, 28-5, 29-143j, 29-158, 29-161z, 29-323, 30-8, 31-109, 31-249b, 31-266, 31-266a, 31-270, 31-273, 31-284, 31-285, 31-339, 31-355a, 31-379, 35-3c, 35-42, 36a-186, 36a-187, 36a-471a, 36a-494, 36a-587, 36a-647, 36a-684, 36a-718, 36a-807, 36b-26, 36b-27, 36b-30, 36b-50, 36b-71, 36b-72, 36b-74, 36b-76, 38a-41, 38a-52, 38a-134, 38a-139, 38a-140, 38a-147, 38a-150, 38a-185, 38a-209, 38a-225, 38a-226b, 38a-241, 38a-337, 38a-470, 38a-620, 38a-657, 38a-687, 38a-774, 38a-776, 38a-817, 38a-843, 38a-868, 38a-906, 38a-994, 42-103c, 42-110d, 42-110k, 42-110p, 42-182, 46a-56, 46a-100, 47a-21, 49-73, 51-44a, 51-81b, 51-194, 52-146j, 53-392d and 54-211a.

Sec. 9. Section 19a-535 of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (k) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

(NEW) (k) A facility shall electronically report each involuntary transfer or discharge to the State Ombudsman, appointed pursuant to section 17a-405, (1) in a manner prescribed by the State Ombudsman, and (2) on an Internet web site portal maintained by the State Ombudsman in accordance with patient privacy provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, P.L. 104-191, as amended from time to time.

Sec. 10. Section 19a-535a of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (e) as follows (*Effective from passage*):

**Substitute House Bill No. 5313**

(NEW) (e) Not later than six months after the effective date of this section, a facility shall electronically report each involuntary transfer or discharge (1) in a manner prescribed by the State Ombudsman, appointed pursuant to section 17a-405, and (2) on an Internet web site portal maintained by the State Ombudsman in accordance with patient privacy provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, P.L. 104-191, as amended from time to time.

Sec. 11. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The State Ombudsman, appointed pursuant to section 17a-405 of the general statutes, shall appoint and convene a working group of not more than eight members to study the following issues involving a managed residential community, as defined in section 19a-693 of the general statutes, that is not affiliated with a facility providing services under a continuing-care contract, as defined in section 17b-520 of the general statutes: (1) What notice should be provided to residents of managed residential communities of rental and other fee increases that exceed certain percentages, and (2) resident health transitions and determinations of care levels.

(b) The working group shall include, but not be limited to, the State Ombudsman, or the State Ombudsman's designee, and the following members, provided such members are willing and available to serve: Representatives of the (1) Connecticut Assisted Living Association, (2) Connecticut Association of Health Care Facilities/Connecticut Center for Assisted Living, and (3) LeadingAge Connecticut.

(c) Chairpersons of the working group shall be the State Ombudsman, or the State Ombudsman's designee, and another member of the working group chosen by members of the group. The State Ombudsman shall schedule the first meeting of the working group not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section. The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to aging shall serve as administrative staff of the working group.

**Substitute House Bill No. 5313**

(d) Not later than December 31, 2022, the working group shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to aging in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The working group shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or December 31, 2022, whichever is later.

Sec. 12. Subsection (g) of section 17b-451 of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(g) The Commissioner of Social Services shall develop an educational training program to promote and encourage the accurate and prompt identification and reporting of abuse, neglect, exploitation and abandonment of elderly persons. Such training program shall be made available on the Internet web site of the Department of Social Services to mandatory reporters and other interested persons. The commissioner shall also make such training available in person or otherwise at various times and locations throughout the state as determined by the commissioner. Except for a mandatory reporter who has received training from an institution, organization, agency or facility required to provide such training pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, a mandatory reporter shall complete the educational training program developed by the commissioner, or an alternate program approved by the commissioner, not later than December 31, 2022, or not later than ninety days after becoming a mandatory reporter.

Sec. 13. Section 17a-412 of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (i) as follows (*Effective from passage*):

(NEW) (i) Any person required to report suspected abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall complete the educational training program provided by the Commissioner of Social Services pursuant to subsection (g) of section

**Substitute House Bill No. 5313**

17b-451, as amended by this act, or an alternate program approved by the commissioner, not later than December 31, 2022, or not later than ninety days after beginning employment as a person required to report suspected abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. 14. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Department of Social Services shall develop an advisory for medical assistance applicants for long-term medical care and home care concerning their right to seek legal assistance. The advisory shall state, at a minimum, that while applicants are not required to utilize an attorney, obtaining legal advice prior to completing such application for long-term medical care and home care may help protect their finances and rights.

(b) The department shall post the advisory developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section not later than July 1, 2022, on its Internet web site and shall include the advisory in such applications for long-term medical care and home care not later than September 1, 2023.

Sec. 15. Sections 19a-123, 19a-123b and 19a-123d of the general statutes are repealed. (*Effective July 1, 2022*)

Approved May 23, 2022