



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 131

February Session, 2022

Substitute House Bill No. 5311

House of Representatives, March 28, 2022

The Committee on Aging reported through REP. GARIBAY of the 60th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT ENCOURAGING SOCIALIZATION FOR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS BY PROVIDING TRANSPORTATION FOR VISITS WITH FAMILY.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2022*) (a) Any nursing home facility,
2 as defined in section 19a-490 of the general statutes, with available
3 vehicles equipped to transport nonambulatory residents, may provide
4 nonemergency transportation of such residents to the homes of such
5 residents' family members, provided: (1) Such family members live
6 within fifteen miles of the nursing home facility, and (2) such
7 transportation is approved not less than five business days in advance
8 by a physician or physician's assistant, licensed pursuant to chapter 370
9 of the general statutes, or an advanced practice registered nurse licensed
10 pursuant to chapter 378 of the general statutes.

11 (b) The Commissioner of Social Services, within available
12 appropriations, shall establish a grant program to fund such
13 nonemergency transportation. The commissioner shall prescribe forms

14 and procedures for a nursing home facility to apply for a grant through
15 the program.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	New section

AGE *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 23 \$	FY 24 \$
Social Services, Dept.	GF - Cost	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a cost to the Department of Social Services (DSS) associated with establishing a grant program for nursing homes to provide for the nonemergency transportation of residents to the homes of nearby family members. The extent of the cost is dependent on the parameters of the grant program, established by the bill and within available appropriations.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5311*****AN ACT ENCOURAGING SOCIALIZATION FOR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS BY PROVIDING TRANSPORTATION FOR VISITS WITH FAMILY.*****SUMMARY**

This bill allows nursing homes to provide nonemergency transportation to nonambulatory residents to their family members' homes if:

1. a licensed physician, physician's assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse approves it at least five business days in advance;
2. the nursing home has available vehicles equipped to transport the residents; and
3. the family members live within 15 miles from the nursing home.

It also requires the social services commissioner, within available appropriations, to establish a grant program to fund this transportation. The commissioner must also establish forms and procedures to apply for a grant.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2022

COMMITTEE ACTION

Aging Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 15 Nay 0 (03/10/2022)