

# Aging Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** HB-6679  
AN ACT CONCERNING AGING AND PERSONS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND  
**Title:** DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.  
**Vote Date:** 2/28/2023  
**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable  
**PH Date:** 2/21/2023  
**File No.:**

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## SPONSORS OF BILL:

Aging Committee

## REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill directs the Commissioner of Aging and Disability Services to conduct a study of the higher prevalence of Alzheimer's disease, dementia and other such disorders in persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities and determine if state programs adequately address a higher prevalence and report to the legislature no later than 2/1/2024.

## RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

**Dept. of Aging and Disability Services, Ms. Amy Porter, Commissioner:** They are unable to **support** this legislation. The issue of dementia among people with intellectual and developmental disabilities is an important one. They do not have the necessary data, nor do they have the necessary staff to undertake this study.

**Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity & Opportunity, Ms. Kiley Pratt, Masters Student at the Yale School of Public Health:** They submitted testimony in **support** of this bill stating that this study will serve as a needs assessment to evaluate current programs to better meet the needs of constituents.

## NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

**The Arc of Connecticut, Inc., Ms. Carol Scully, Director of Advocacy:** Their testimony was in **support** of this proposal. They point out that research indicates that persons with intellectual disabilities are at higher risk of developing dementia. Down's Syndrome in particular carries a higher risk of dementia, specifically for Alzheimer's disease. Elderly

services provide services for persons elderly with dementia and have more experience and training in dementia. Person with intellectual disabilities should receive the appropriate and necessary services regardless of age.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

None

**Reported by: Richard Ferrari, Assist. Clerk**

**Date: 3/6/23**