



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 6587**

January Session, 2023



**AN ACT CONCERNING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY MEDICAID  
COVERAGE OF DIAPERS AND OTHER HEALTH-RELATED SOCIAL  
NEEDS.**

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) There is established a task force  
2 to study Medicaid coverage of health-related social needs to the  
3 maximum extent permissible under federal law. The task force shall  
4 develop a plan that: (1) Includes options to use Medicaid funding to  
5 support the development of public and private sector administrative  
6 infrastructure necessary to enable coverage and payment for services  
7 to ameliorate health-related social needs, (2) specifies the process to  
8 seek federal approval for services that address health-related social  
9 needs including, but not limited to, any necessary state plan  
10 amendments or federal waivers from the federal Centers for Medicare  
11 and Medicaid Services, and (3) describes how the proposed coverage  
12 will impact performance on prevention and clinical outcome measures  
13 recommended by the Advisory Board for Transparency on Medicaid  
14 Cost and Quality established pursuant to Executive Order No. 6 of  
15 Governor Ned Lamont. For purposes of this subsection, "health-related  
16 social needs" means health needs deriving from adverse social  
17 conditions that contribute to poor health and health disparities,  
18 including, but not limited to, diaper insecurity, food insecurity,  
19 housing instability or lack of reliable transportation.

20 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

21 (1) Three appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,  
22 who shall be one representative each from an organization that  
23 provides diapers to needy individuals in the state, a state organization  
24 representing hospitals and a hospital participating in a state-wide  
25 diaper distribution model program that includes distribution of  
26 diapers in hospital settings;

27 (2) Three appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate,  
28 who shall be one representative each from an organization addressing  
29 homelessness and housing instability state-wide, a community action  
30 agency and an organization providing nonemergency medical  
31 transportation services;

32 (3) Two appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
33 Representatives, one of whom shall be a representative with  
34 experience in nutrition counseling and education and one of whom  
35 shall be a representative with experience in delivering medically  
36 tailored meals, fruit and vegetable prescriptions or protein-rich food  
37 products to individuals with certain chronic health conditions;

38 (4) Two appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, one of  
39 whom shall be a representative from an organization that provides  
40 rental assistance or temporary housing and one of whom shall be a  
41 representative from an organization assisting tenants and prospective  
42 tenants;

43 (5) Two appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
44 Representatives, one of whom shall be a representative from an  
45 organization providing housing transition navigation services and one  
46 of whom shall be a representative from a local housing agency or  
47 public housing authority;

48 (6) Two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, one of  
49 whom shall be a representative from the United Way 2-1-1 Infoline  
50 system and one of whom shall be a representative from an

51 organization focused on health equity;

52 (7) The director of the Medicaid program for the Department of  
53 Social Services;

54 (8) The Commissioner of Housing, or the commissioner's designee;

55 (9) The Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's  
56 designee; and

57 (10) The Labor Commissioner, or the commissioner's designee.

58 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivisions (1)  
59 to (6), inclusive, of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of  
60 the General Assembly.

61 (d) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later  
62 than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy  
63 shall be filled by the appointing authority.

64 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president  
65 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force  
66 from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall  
67 schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not  
68 later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

69 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the  
70 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human  
71 services shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

72 (g) Not later than January 15, 2024, the task force shall submit a  
73 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing  
74 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
75 relating to human services and public health, in accordance with the  
76 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force shall  
77 terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 15, 2024,  
78 whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	New section
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**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

The effective date was changed to July 1, 2023, for accuracy.

**HS**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*