



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

Raised Bill No. 5332

LCO No. 1874



Referred to Committee on HOUSING

Introduced by:
(HSG)

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established an
2 interagency council on homelessness to advise and assist the
3 Commissioner of Housing in improving homelessness prevention and
4 response efforts in the state.

5 (b) The council shall consist of the following regular members or their
6 designees: (1) the Commissioner of Housing; (2) the Commissioner of
7 Aging and Disability Services; (3) the Commissioner of Children and
8 Families; (4) the Commissioner of Correction; (5) the Labor
9 Commissioner; (6) the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction
10 Services; (7) the Commissioner of Social Services; (8) the Commissioner
11 of Veterans Affairs; (9) the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
12 Management; (10) the executive director of the Court Support Services
13 Division of the Judicial Department; and (11) the chief executive officer
14 of the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority.

15 (c) In addition to the regular members set forth in subsection (b) of

16 this section, the council may consist of the following ad hoc members,
17 as determined by the chairperson: (1) The Commissioner of
18 Developmental Services, or the commissioner's designee; (2) the
19 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, or the
20 commissioner's designee; (3) the Commissioner of Emergency Services
21 and Public Protection, or the commissioner's designee; (4) the
22 Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's designee; (5) the
23 Commissioner of Early Childhood, or the commissioner's designee; (6)
24 the Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee; (7) the
25 Commissioner of Transportation, or the commissioner's designee; and
26 (8) the executive director of the Office of Higher Education, or the
27 executive director's designee.

28 (d) The chairperson of the council shall be the Commissioner of
29 Housing.

30 (e) The council shall convene on or before October 1, 2024, and shall
31 meet quarterly thereafter, and more often upon the call of the
32 chairperson or a majority of the regular members, to (1) consider
33 methods to strengthen existing programs designed to prevent
34 homelessness by coordinating policies across state agencies, including,
35 but not limited to, policies that improve health and human services for
36 persons experiencing homelessness, increase housing stability for
37 individuals and create more affordable housing in the state; (2) improve
38 the effectiveness of state programs that constitute the homelessness
39 response system, including immediate assistance for persons
40 experiencing homelessness and support for emergency shelters and
41 investments in housing stability for individuals; and (3) meet housing
42 demands in the state by maximizing the use of funding for housing
43 assistance, increasing the supply of permanent supportive housing,
44 improving the effectiveness of rapid rehousing programs and
45 evaluating and finding solutions for expanded access to safe and
46 affordable housing with an interagency approach designed to support
47 the needs of individuals in the state.

48 (f) On or before July 1, 2025, and annually thereafter, the council shall

49 submit, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
50 statutes, a report to the Governor and the joint standing committees of
51 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
52 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, housing and human
53 services on the recommendations of the council.

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

Statement of Purpose:

To establish the interagency council on homelessness.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]