



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

Raised Bill No. 5484

LCO No. 1736



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:
(HS)

AN ACT EXPANDING TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS FOR HOME CARE CLIENTS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 17b-343 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

3 The Commissioner of Social Services shall establish annually the
4 maximum allowable rate to be paid by agencies for homemaker
5 services, chore person services, companion services, respite care, meals
6 on wheels, adult day care services, case management and assessment
7 services, transportation, mental health counseling and elderly foster
8 care. The Commissioner of Social Services shall prescribe uniform forms
9 on which agencies providing such services shall report their costs for
10 such services. Such rates shall be determined on the basis of a reasonable
11 payment for necessary services rendered. The maximum allowable rates
12 established by the Commissioner of Social Services for the Connecticut
13 home-care program for the elderly established under section 17b-342
14 shall constitute the rates required under this section until revised in
15 accordance with this section. The Commissioner of Social Services shall

16 establish a fee schedule, to be effective on and after July 1, 1994, for
17 homemaker services, chore person services, companion services, respite
18 care, meals on wheels, adult day care services, case management and
19 assessment services, transportation, mental health counseling and
20 elderly foster care. The commissioner may annually increase the fee
21 schedule based on an increase in the cost of services. On and after July
22 1, 2026, the commissioner shall increase the fee schedule for a home care
23 provider, as defined in section 17b-374, who provides transportation to
24 or from medical appointments for home care clients who are Medicaid
25 beneficiaries, provided such provider has a state-issued driver's license
26 and sufficient liability insurance as prescribed by the commissioner. The
27 commissioner shall increase the fee schedule effective July 1, 2000, by
28 not less than five per cent, for adult day care services. The commissioner
29 shall increase the fee schedule effective July 1, 2011, by four dollars per
30 person, per day for adult day care services. The commissioner shall
31 increase the fee schedule effective July 1, 2019, for meals on wheels by
32 ten per cent over the fee schedule for meals on wheels for the previous
33 fiscal year. Effective July 1, 2020, and annually thereafter, the
34 commissioner may increase the fee schedule for meals on wheels
35 providers serving participants in the Connecticut home-care program
36 for the elderly by, at a minimum, the cost-of-living adjustment as
37 measured by the consumer price index. The commissioner may increase
38 any fee payable to a meals on wheels provider upon the application of
39 such provider evidencing extraordinary costs related to delivery of
40 meals on wheels in sparsely populated rural regions of the state.
41 Nothing contained in this section shall authorize a payment by the state
42 to any agency for such services in excess of the amount charged by such
43 agency for such services to the general public.

44 Sec. 2. Section 17b-276 of the general statutes is amended by adding
45 subsection (c) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

46 (NEW) (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, on and
47 after July 1, 2026, the commissioner shall reimburse a home care
48 provider, as defined in section 17b-374, who provides a home care client
49 who is a Medicaid beneficiary transportation to or from a medical

50 appointment, provided such home care provider has a state-issued
51 driver's license and sufficient liability insurance as prescribed by the
52 commissioner.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	17b-343
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	17b-276(c)

HS *Joint Favorable*