

2018 Legislative Update

Governor's Cabinet on Nonprofit Health and Human Services

Governor's Proposed Budget - Selected Provisions

- Provides \$5 million in funding in FY 2019 for the Department of Development Services (DDS) to support placements for the most critical needs that arise during the year including emergency placements for both residential and day services, and youth in emergency departments
- Provides \$1.1 million in new funding to the Employment Services and Day Services DDS line item to support the Money Follows the Person (MFP) caseload
- Converts ten state-operated residential community living arrangements (CLAs) to privately-operated CLAs during FY 2019, resulting in net savings of \$1.1 million
- Converts various state-operated Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) services from public to private operation, resulting in net savings of \$2.1 million in FY 2019. Full year savings is estimated at \$4.2 million.
- Restores \$6.7 million to the Juvenile Justice Outreach Services under the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to allow the department to provide ongoing support for clinical interventions, in recognition of DCF's role as the lead state agency for children's behavioral health, and fund other services that are primarily utilized by non-delinquent youth. These funds were appropriated to the Judicial Department in the adopted biennial budget.

Lean Licensure Workgroup Legislative Package

AAC the Department of Developmental Services' Recommendation Regarding Waiver Licensing Fees for Private Providers - HB 5155 (Passed Public Health Committee, House Calendar 68)

- Allows the DDS Commissioner to waive a \$50 licensing fee that is currently required of private providers who operate DDS licensed Community Living Arrangements
- Eliminates a regulatory provision that provider applications be notarized

AAC the Department of Developmental Services' Recommendations Regarding Group Home Licensing Visits - SB 168 (Passed Public Health Committee, Senate Calendar 73)

- Clarifies the requirement regarding unannounced visits by DDS Quality and Systems Improvement staff related to licensure of DDS Community Living Arrangements or "group homes"
- Mandates that the Commissioner determines a minimum number of unannounced licensure-related visits

AAC Minor Revisions to the Statutes of the Department of Children and Families and Establishing a Pilot Program to Permit Electronic Reporting by Mandated Reporters - SB 315, Section 10 (Passed Committee on Children, House Calendar 97)

- Exempts DDS's Continuous Residential Support (CRS) homes from DCF licensing, as these homes are overseen by DDS Quality and Systems Improvement Division, which has a review process that is equivalent or higher than the DCF licensing standard DCF currently licenses three CRS homes that serve youth under age 18 (*provision originally included in Section 8 of Raised Bill 5332*)

2018 Legislative Update

Governor's Cabinet on Nonprofit Health and Human Services

AAC the Department of Public Health's Recommendations Regarding Various Revisions to the Public Health Statutes - HB 5163, Section 40 (Passed Public Health Committee, Referred to OLR and OFA)

- Eliminates the requirement that healthcare institutions must notarize their licensure applications

Health and Human Services

AAC Minimum Employee Wages for Providers of State-Contracted Human Services - HB 5460 (Passed Human Services Committee, House Calendar 159, Referred to Appropriations)

- Requires the Commissioners of Social Services, Children and Families, Developmental Services, Rehabilitation Services, and Mental Health and Addiction Services to adjust the rate methodology in contract with private human services providers to provide a proportional increase in salaries and wages of hourly employees to \$15 per hour by July 1, 2018
- Subjects human services providers that receive the adjustment but do not provide corresponding increases in employee wages by July 31, 2018 to a potential rate decrease

AA Promoting Public-Private Partnerships for the Cost-Efficient Delivery of Human Services - SB 436 (Passed Human Services Committee, Senate Calendar 211)

- Establishes a public-private partnership advisory council for the delivery of human services that terminates January 1, 2019
- Requires the advisory council, by November 1, 2018, to report to the Appropriations, Children, Human Services and Public Health Committees on recommendations concerning state-administered human services that may be directly provided by a public-private partnership on a more cost-efficient basis
- Allows state agencies to contract for the delivery of human services through a public-private partnership recommended by the council, and exempts such contracts for the contracting requirements that generally apply when a state agency privatizes a state service

AAC the Development of Families and Resources Plan for Persons with Intellectual Disability - SB 463 (Passed Public Health Committee, Senate Calendar 172)

- Establishes a task force to study short-term and long-term needs of adults with intellectual disability, including such individuals with significant behavioral health issues or significant issues related to aging, including Alzheimer's disease, dementia, and related disorders, and ways in which services and supports needed can be provided
- Requires the task force to submit its findings and recommendations to the Public Health Committee by January 1, 2019

2018 Legislative Update

Governor's Cabinet on Nonprofit Health and Human Services

AAC the Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council – HB 5255 (*Passed Human Services Committee, House Calendar 140*)

- Makes the Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council permanent; current law terminates the council on June 30, 2018

AAC Reports of Abuse or Neglect of Persons with Intellectual Disability or Autism Spectrum Disorder - HB 5257 (*Passed Human Services Committee, House Calendar 141, Passed House*)

- Reduces, from 72 to 48 hours, the amount of time a mandated reporter has to report suspected abuse or neglect of a person with intellectual disability or a person served by the Department of Social Services' Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services
- Exempts mandated reporters from penalty if an unsuccessful attempt to report occurs on a weekend or after normal business hours, as long as the mandated reporter engages in reasonable attempts to report

AA Establishing a Pilot Program to Serve People Seeking Residential Services from the Department of Developmental Services – SB 296 (*Passed Public Health Committee, Senate Calendar 188*)

- Requires the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), within available appropriations, to establish a pilot program to serve eligible individuals on the agency's waiting list
- Requires DDS to report to the Public Health committee twice annually on a number of provisions relating to the pilot program, including funds expended and outcomes

AA Requiring the Department of Social Services to Collect and Maintain Data Concerning the Transportation Needs of Medicaid Recipients – HB 5256 (*Passed Human Services Committee, House Calendar 206*)

- Requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) to collect and maintain certain data regarding the transportation needs of Medicaid recipients for non-emergency medical appointments, and requires any contractor providing such services to provide the data to DSS
- Requires DSS to provide the data to the Council on Medical Assistance Program Oversight or the Human Services Committee upon request of the chairpersons

AAC Access to Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder in Correctional Facilities – SB 172 (*Passed Public Health Committee*)

- Requires the Department of Correction (DOC), by January 1, 2019, to establish a medication-assisted treatment program in correction facilities for inmates with opioid use disorder, and gradually increases access to the program until the fourth year, in which all inmates would have access
- Requires DOC to report annually from November 1, 2019 to November 1, 2023 to the Governor and the Public Health and Judiciary Committees on certain aspects of the program

2018 Legislative Update

Governor's Cabinet on Nonprofit Health and Human Services

Other Bills of Interest

AAC Attorney's Fees in Wrongful Property Tax Assessment Actions – HB 5288 (*Passed Planning and Development Committee, House Calendar 232*)

- Permits an applicant who prevails in an action for wrongful property tax assessment to recover reasonable attorney's fees and costs.

AAC Earned Family and Medical Leave – SB 1 (*Passed Labor and Public Employees Committee Senate Calendar 154, Senate Calendar 119*)

AAC Paid Family Medical Leave – HB 5387 (*Passed Labor and Public Employees Committee, House Calendar 156*)

- Creates a Family and Medical Leave Insurance (FMLI) program to provide wage replacement benefits to certain employees taking leave under the state's Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) or family violence leave law
- Beginning July 1, 2021, provides up to twelve weeks of benefits over a twelve month period in an amount equal to 100% of the employee's weekly earnings, up to a maximum of \$1,000 per week
- Provides two additional weeks of benefits for a serious health condition during pregnancy that results in incapacitation
- Makes several changes to the state's FMLA law beginning July 1, 2021, including expanding its provisions to cover more private sector employers, lowering the work threshold to qualify for leave, and extending family members for whom an employee can take FMLA leave

AAC Mental Health Parity, Data Reported by Managed Care Organizations, and the All-Payer Claims Database – SB 384 (*Passed Insurance Committee, Senate Calendar 210*)

- Requires certain health insurance policies to cover screenings for mental health and nervous conditions at annual physicals
- Expands reporting requirements for the insurance commissioner, managed care organizations, health carriers, health insurers and the all-payer claims database
- Changes the data that must be included in the Consumer Report Card on Health Insurance Carriers in Connecticut
- Specifies that health carriers must comply the federal Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act and that federal act prevails in any conflict with state law or regulation

AA Establishing a Child Care Facility Neighbor Relations Task Force – SB 316 (*Passed Committee on Children, Senate Calendar 98*)

- Establishes a task force to study strategies to improve the relationship between residents of child care facilities and the municipalities in which the facilities are located
- Requires the task force to submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the Children Committee by October 1, 2019