



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 5332**

February Session, 2024



**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; (11) the executive director of the  
14 Office of Health Strategy; and (12) the chief executive officer of the  
15 Connecticut Housing Finance Authority.

16 (c) In addition to the regular members set forth in subsection (b) of  
17 this section, the council may consist of the following ad hoc members,  
18 as determined by the chairperson, or such ad hoc members' designees:

19 (1) The Commissioner of Developmental Services; (2) the Commissioner  
20 of Economic and Community Development; (3) the Commissioner of  
21 Emergency Services and Public Protection; (4) the Commissioner of  
22 Public Health; (5) the Commissioner of Early Childhood; (6) the  
23 Commissioner of Education; (7) the Commissioner of Transportation;  
24 and (8) the executive director of the Office of Higher Education.

25 (d) The chairperson of the council shall be the Commissioner of  
26 Housing.

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

45 (f) On or before July 1, 2025, and annually thereafter, the council shall  
46 submit, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general  
47 statutes, a report to the Governor and the joint standing committees of  
48 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
49 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, housing and human  
50 services concerning 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 Legislative Commissioners:**

In Subsec. (c), provisions concerning designees were rewritten for clarity.

**HSG**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*