



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6830

January Session, 2023



AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PRESCRIPTION DRUG AFFORDABILITY ADVISORY COUNCIL.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) (a) (1) There is
2 established within the Health Care Cabinet of the Office of Health
3 Strategy, established under section 19a-754a of the general statutes, a
4 Prescription Drug Affordability Advisory Council, which shall: (A)
5 Provide recommendations on any policy initiatives of the Health Care
6 Cabinet; and (B) review and advise the Health Care Cabinet with
7 respect to health care cost initiatives in this state, including, but not
8 limited to, cost trends in hospitals, pharmaceutical costs and pricing,
9 pharmacy benefits managers' costs to the health care system and costs
10 associated with health care provider billing.

11 (2) For the purposes of this section, "chain pharmacy" means any
12 community pharmacy that is publicly traded or has not less than six
13 stores located in this state.

14 (b) The advisory council shall consist of the following members:

15 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
16 one of whom shall be a representative of the American Association of
17 Retired Persons, and one of whom shall be a representative of the
18 health insurance industry;

19 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one
20 of whom shall be a representative of a labor union in this state, and
21 one of whom shall be a member of any state-wide health care advocacy
22 coalition;

23 (3) Two appointed by the majority leader of the House of
24 Representatives, one of whom shall be a representative of a large
25 business and employer community in this state, and one of whom shall
26 be a pharmacist licensed under chapter 400j of the general statutes and
27 employed by any chain pharmacy;

28 (4) Two appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, one of
29 whom shall be a representative of a pharmaceutical manufacturer, and
30 one of whom shall be a representative of the provider community;

31 (5) Two appointed by the minority leader of the House of
32 Representatives, one of whom shall be a member of the biotechnology
33 industry, and one of whom shall be a member of the small business
34 community in this state;

35 (6) Two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, one of
36 whom shall be a representative of the medical device industry, and
37 one of whom shall be a member of a chamber of commerce in this
38 state;

39 (7) Two appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of
40 both houses of the General Assembly, one of whom shall be a
41 representative of any state-wide health care advocacy coalition, and
42 one of whom shall be a representative of the employer community in
43 this state; and

44 (8) The executive director of the Office of Health Strategy, or the
45 executive director's designee.

46 (c) No member of the advisory council appointed pursuant to
47 subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the General
48 Assembly.

49 (d) All initial appointments to the advisory council shall be made
50 not later than January 1, 2024. Advisory council members shall serve
51 for a term of four years. No advisory council member shall be
52 appointed for more than two terms. Any vacancy shall be filled by the
53 appointing authority. Any vacancy occurring other than by expiration
54 of term shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term.

55 (e) The Governor shall select the chairperson of the advisory council
56 from among the members of the advisory council. Such chairperson
57 shall schedule the first meeting of the advisory council, which shall be
58 held not later than March 1, 2024. The advisory council shall meet not
59 less than quarterly and at such other times as such chairperson deems
60 necessary or upon the request of a majority of such members.

61 (f) A majority of the advisory council shall constitute a quorum for
62 the transaction of any business.

63 (g) The members of the advisory council shall serve without
64 compensation, but shall, within the limits of available funds, be
65 reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of
66 their duties.

67 (h) Not later than January 1, 2025, and annually thereafter, the
68 advisory council shall submit a report to the Office of Health Strategy
69 and, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
70 statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
71 having cognizance of matters relating to insurance.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2023	New section

INS *Joint Favorable Subst.*