



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Raised Bill No. 1421

LCO No. 5498



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:
(HS)

AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAID COVERAGE FOR OBESITY TREATMENT.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than thirty days
2 after the effective date of this section, the Commissioner of Social
3 Services shall petition the Secretary of the Department of Health and
4 Human Services pursuant to 28 USC 1498, as amended from time to
5 time, to authorize generic, lower cost forms of glucagon-like peptide
6 (GLP-1) prescription drugs approved by the federal Food and Drug
7 Administration to treat obesity or diabetes.

8 (b) Upon approval of such petition, the commissioner shall enter into
9 a contract with any manufacturer of generic forms of such drugs
10 approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration to supply such
11 drugs to the state for use by HUSKY Health program members. The
12 commissioner may enter into a consortium with officials in other states
13 in contracting with such manufacturer for such drugs.

14 (c) The commissioner shall develop a strategic plan to maximize
15 access to and minimize the cost of such drugs and, not later than

16 December 31, 2025, submit a report, in accordance with the provisions
17 of section 11-4a of the general statutes, on the plan to the joint standing
18 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
19 relating to human services and to the advisory committee established
20 pursuant to section 2 of this act.

21 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established an advisory
22 committee to (1) study ways to maximize access to cost-effective
23 prescription drugs approved by the federal Food and Drug
24 Administration for the treatment of obesity, and (2) make
25 recommendations to the Commissioner of Social Services.

26 (b) The committee shall consist of the following members:

27 (1) Two patient advocates appointed by the chairperson of the
28 Council on Medical Assistance Program Oversight, established
29 pursuant to section 17b-28 of the general statutes;

30 (2) Two pharmacists enrolled as Medicaid providers, appointed by
31 the Commissioner of Social Services; and

32 (3) Two medical professionals, including at least one doctor certified
33 by the American Board of Obesity Medicine, appointed by the Senate
34 and House chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General
35 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services.

36 (c) The committee shall convene not later than thirty days after the
37 effective date of this section and choose a chairperson. The committee
38 shall meet at least bimonthly.

39 (d) The committee shall review the strategic plan developed by the
40 Commissioner of Social Services pursuant to section 1 of this act and
41 shall make recommendations to the commissioner on implementation
42 of the plan and the results of its study not later than January 31, 2026.
43 The committee shall terminate upon submission of its recommendations
44 to the commissioner or January 31, 2026, whichever is later.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | <i>from passage</i> | New section |
| Sec. 2 | <i>from passage</i> | New section |

Statement of Purpose:

To allow the state to pursue cost-effective alternatives to brand name drugs prescribed to HUSKY Health program members for obesity treatment.

[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.]