

Connecticut
Legislative Summary
2021 Session



AN ACT CONCERNING ESSENTIAL SUPPORT PERSONS AND A STATE-WIDE VISITATION POLICY FOR RESIDENTS OF LONGTERM CARE FACILITIES.

Public Act No. 21-71 | Previously H.B. 6634

- Effective Date: Effective from passage
- This bill allows long-term care facility residents, or their representatives, to designate an essential support person and a secondary essential support person who may visit the resident despite general visitation restrictions imposed on other visitors subject to DPH guidance.
- The bill applies to residents in nursing homes and managed residential communities that provide assisted living services. Ombudsman statutes expanded to specifically include resident support for socialization, visitation, and essential support person access.



<https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/ACT/PA/PDF/2021PA-00071-R00HB-06634-PA.PDF>

Direct Link to Bill

AN ACT CONCERNING NURSING HOMES AND DEMENTIA SPECIAL CARE UNITS.

Public Act No. 21-185 | Previously S.B. 1030

Effective dates vary but most October 1, 2021

Required to employ a full-time infection and prevention control specialist

Requires nursing homes to maintain at least a two-month supply of personal protective equipment for their staff;

Requires a nursing home's administrative head to ensure there is at least one staff member or contracted professional available on-call during each shift who is licensed or certified to start an intravenous line;

Requires Nursing Homes to provide at least 3 hours of direct care per resident per day (the current requirement is 1.9 hours per resident per day).

Requires each nursing home's and dementia special care unit's administrative head, by January 1, 2022, to encourage and assist in the establishment of a family council to encourage and support open communication between the facility and residents' families and friends



<https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/act/pa/pdf/2021PA-00185-R00SB-01030-PA.pdf>

Direct Link to Bill



**AN ACT STRENGTHENING
THE BILLS OF RIGHTS FOR
LONGTERM CARE
RESIDENTS AND
AUTHORIZING THE USE OF
RESIDENT TECHNOLOGY
FOR VIRTUAL VISITATION
AND VIRTUAL
MONITORING.**

Public Act No. 21-55 |
Previously S.B. 975

[https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/ACT/PA/
PDF/2021PA-00055-R00SB-00975-
PA.PDF](https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/ACT/PA/PDF/2021PA-00055-R00SB-00975-PA.PDF)

Direct Link to the Bill

- Effective Date: October 1, 2021
- The bill specifies access rights and limitations to resident audio or video virtual recordings and outlines ombudsman right to ask residents/responsible parties about recordings that may corroborate abuse or neglect allegations.
- Residents Pay For the Technology and It's Installation, and the nursing homes are responsible for the internet access and power to run the devices.

Appropriations Budget Bill

House Bill No. 6689 | Special Act No. 21-15

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- Effective Date: July 1st 2021
 - Increase of the Personal Needs Allowance for LTC Residents on Medicaid from \$60/month to \$75/month.





AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE VOICE OF RESIDENTS AND FAMILY COUNCILS.


Public Act No. 21-194 | Previously S.B. 973



- Effective From Passage
- Applies to Nursing Facilities and Managed Residential Care Facilities / Assisted Living Facilities
- This legislation will require input from resident and family councils at long-term care facilities on any state-wide policies affecting living conditions for residents of such facilities.
- Agency or Legislative Committees will be required to hold a public hearing upon the request of fifteen or more persons not later than fourteen days after the date such notice of intent is posted on the eRegulations System.
- Testimony shall be accepted in a manner and format that provides for the greatest input from members of resident's councils and family councils including remote testimony.

<https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/ACT/PA/PDF/2021PA-00194-R00SB-00973-PA.PDF>
Direct Link to the Bill





Federal Advocacy and H.R. 3733

- H.R. 3733: The Essential Caregivers Act, led by U.S. Representatives Claudia Tenney and John B. Larson
- Allows essential caregivers access to long-term facilities to provide care and support to a facility resident during any public health emergency.

https://theconsumervoice.org/uploads/files/issues/EC_bill_HR3733_Issue_Brief.pdf
Questions and Answers For H.R. 3733

Take Action - Speak Up!

- [Find Your Representatives](#)
- [My Representatives Contact Sheet](#)
- [How to Write an Effective Letter - Template Format](#)



Quick Links to Some Key Bills passed from CT 2021 Session

Also Accessible on <https://portal.ct.gov/LTCOP/AdvocacyCenter>

- **AN ACT CONCERNING ESSENTIAL SUPPORT PERSONS AND A STATE-WIDE VISITATION POLICY FOR RESIDENTS OF LONGTERM CARE FACILITIES.** <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/ACT/PA/PDF/2021PA-00071-R00HB-06634-PA.PDF> - Public Act No. 21-71 | Previously H.B. 6634
- **AN ACT CONCERNING NURSING HOMES AND DEMENTIA SPECIAL CARE UNITS.** <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/act/pa/pdf/2021PA-00185-R00SB-01030-PA.pdf> - Public Act No. 21-185 | Previously S.B. 1030
- **AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE BILLS OF RIGHTS FOR LONGTERM CARE RESIDENTS AND AUTHORIZING THE USE OF RESIDENT TECHNOLOGY FOR VIRTUAL VISITATION AND VIRTUAL MONITORING.** <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/ACT/PA/PDF/2021PA-00055-R00SB-00975-PA.PDF> - Public Act No. 21-55 | Previously S.B. 975
- **AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE VOICE OF RESIDENTS AND FAMILY COUNCILS.** <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/ACT/PA/PDF/2021PA-00194-R00SB-00973-PA.PDF> - Public Act No. 21-194 | Previously S.B. 973
- **AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE THIRTIETH, 2023, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND MAKING DEFICIENCY AND ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE THIRTIETH, 2021.** <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/ACT/SA/PDF/2021SA-00015-R00HB-06689-SA.PDF> - Special Act No. 21-15 | Previously House Bill No. 6689
- **AN ACT CONCERNING PROVISIONS RELATED TO REVENUE AND OTHER ITEMS TO IMPLEMENT THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2023.** - (Personal Needs Allowance Addressed In Section 353 and 354) <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/TOB/S/PDF/2021SB-01202-R00-SB.PDF> | Previously S.B. 1202

Quick Links to Some Key Bills passed from CT 2021 Session

Also Accessible on <https://portal.ct.gov/LTCOP/AdvocacyCenter>

- **AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTES.** <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/ACT/PA/PDF/2021PA-00121-R00HB-06666-PA.PDF> - Public Act No. 21-121 | Previously House Bill 6666
- **AN ACT REQUIRING DRIVERS OF PARATRANSIT VEHICLES TO REPORT SUSPECTED ABUSE, NEGLECT, EXPLOITATION OR ABANDONMENT OF ELDERLY PERSONS.** <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/act/pa/pdf/2021PA-00122-R00SB-00763-PA.pdf> - Public Act 21-122 | Previously S.B. 763
- **AN ACT CONCERNING SENIOR CENTERS AND SENIOR CRIME PREVENTION EDUCATION.** <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/act/Pa/pdf/2021PA-00007-R00SB-00817-PA.PDF> - Public Act 21-7 | Previously S.B. 817
- **AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTES.** <https://cga.ct.gov/2021/act/pa/pdf/2021PA-00026-R00SB-01083-PA.pdf> - Public Act 21-26 | Previously S.B. 1083
- **AN ACT EQUALIZING COMPREHENSIVE ACCESS TO MENTAL, BEHAVIORAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH CARE IN RESPONSE TO THE PANDEMIC.** <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/act/Pa/pdf/2021PA-00035-R00SB-00001-PA.PDF> - Public Act No. 21-35 | Previously S.B. 1
- **AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMMISSION ON THE DISPARATE IMPACT OF COVID-19.** <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/act/Sa/pdf/2021SA-00037-R00HB-05614-SA.PDF> - Special Act 21-37 | Previously H.B. 5614
- **AN ACT CONCERNING DECLARATIONS OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND CIVIL PREPAREDNESS EMERGENCIES AND THE CREATION OF A BIPARTISAN COMMISSION TO STUDY STATUTES GOVERNING THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH DECLARATIONS.** <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/act/Sa/pdf/2021SA-00005-R00HB-05653-SA.PDF> - Special Act 21-5 | Previously H.B. 5653