

SB 288 - AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

03/27/2025 1326s

2025 SESSION

25-1078

05/09

SENATE BILL **288**

AN ACT establishing an advisory council on the system of care for healthy aging in New Hampshire.

SPONSORS: Sen. Ward, Dist 8; Sen. Rosenwald, Dist 13; Sen. Innis, Dist 7; Sen. McGough, Dist 11; Sen. Fenton, Dist 10; Sen. Lang, Dist 2; Sen. Murphy, Dist 16; Sen. Long, Dist 20; Sen. Watters, Dist 4; Sen. Altschiller, Dist 24; Sen. Gannon, Dist 23; Sen. Perkins Kwoka, Dist 21; Sen. Pearl, Dist 17; Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19

COMMITTEE: Health and Human Services

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill directs the commission on aging to establish an advisory council on the system of care for healthy aging in New Hampshire.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Five

AN ACT establishing an advisory council on the system of care for healthy aging in New Hampshire.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 New Section; State Commission on Aging; Advisory Council on the System of Care for Healthy
2 Aging in New Hampshire. Amend RSA 19-P by inserting after section 2 the following new section:

3 19-P:2-a Advisory Council on the System of Care for Health Aging in New Hampshire.

4 I. The commission shall establish an advisory council on the system of care for healthy aging
5 in New Hampshire. The purpose of the advisory council shall be to:

6 (a) Improve the well-being of older adults and caregivers;

7 (b) Identify cost-savings and opportunities to increase collaboration, efficiency, and the
8 effectiveness of the service array and service delivery system; and

9 (c) Assist and advise the commissioner of the department of health and human services
10 on the system of care principles and values and implementation of RSA 151-E:22 through 151-E:27.

11 II.(a) The director of the division of long-term supports and services, or the director's
12 designee, and one member of the state commission on aging shall serve as the permanent co-
13 chairpersons of the advisory council.

14 (b) Additional members of the advisory council representing diverse perspectives shall
15 be appointed by the commission on aging and shall include older adults and family caregivers with
16 relevant experience, members of agencies serving older adults including public, private, consumer
17 advocacy, and non-profit organizations, and individuals with relevant policy expertise.

18 III. The advisory council shall meet at least quarterly and may meet more often at the call of
19 the commission.

20 IV. The duties of the council shall include reviewing and making recommendations
21 regarding all aspects of the implementation of the system of care for healthy aging established under
22 RSA 151-E:22 through 151-E:27. Such duties shall also include addressing the availability of long
23 term supports and services for individuals across the continuum of care, including but not be limited
24 to:

25 (a) Reviewing and making recommendations that improve and shorten the timeline for
26 accessing Medicaid long-term care benefits.

27 (b) Reviewing and making recommendations to remove barriers to hospital discharge for
28 non-acute patients who require post hospital long-term supports and services.

29 (c) Gathering additional data to review the implementation of the system of care for
30 healthy aging, including but not limited to:

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1 (1) Licensed long-term care beds in service versus licensed long-term care beds not
2 in service, and recommendations for optimal utilization of limited long-term care bed licenses to
3 increase access to long-term care.

4 (2) Reviewing the availability of long-term services and supports for individuals
5 requiring post hospital or nursing facility care service.

6 (3) Access to Medicaid Choices for Independence waiver services post hospital
7 discharge and recommendations for optimal program utilization.

8 (4) Availability of long-term supports and services for non-Medicaid individuals.

9 (d) Working collaboratively with public and private stakeholders to strengthen the direct
10 care workforce to meet the growing demand for long-term supports and services in New Hampshire.

11 (e) Advising the governor, the senate president, the speaker of the house, the oversight
12 committee on health and human services, as established in RSA 126-A:13, and the commissioner of
13 health and human services on any issue related to long-term services and supports within the
14 system of care for healthy aging.

15 V. A summary of the advisory council's activities, findings, and recommendations shall be
16 included in the commission's annual report submitted under RSA 19-P:3.

17 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.