

H.611

An act relating to the Older Vermonters Act

The Senate proposes to the House to amend the bill as follows:

First: In Sec. 3, Vermont Action Plan for Aging Well; development process; report, by striking out subsection (b) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (b) to read as follows:

(b) The Vermont Action Plan for Aging Well shall provide strategies and cultivate partnerships for implementation across sectors to promote aging with health, choice, and dignity in order to establish and maintain an age-friendly State for all Vermonters and shall include a review of the Medicaid reimbursement rates paid to home- and community-based service providers. The Action Plan shall also address the additional needs and concerns of older Vermonters and their families in the event of a public health crisis, natural disaster, or other widespread emergency situation in this State.

Second: By striking out Sec. 6, home- and community-based service provider rate study; inflation factor; report, and its reader assistance heading in their entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 6. [Deleted.]

Third: By adding a reader assistance heading and a new section to be Sec. 7a to read as follows:

\* \* \* Home Health Agency Service Planning \* \* \*

Sec. 7a. 33 V.S.A. § 6303(b) is amended to read:

(b) ~~Upon initial designation or redesignation under this subchapter, each designated home health agency shall prepare for the Commissioner's approval a local community services plan, describing the need for home health services within the agency's geographic service area and the methods by which the agency will provide those services. The plan shall include a schedule for the anticipated provision of new or additional services for the next four years and shall specify the resources which are needed by and available to the agency to implement the plan. The plan shall reflect public input from the residents of the agency's geographic service area.~~ Designated home health agencies shall engage in planning and needs assessment processes as directed by State and federal law, which may include participating in the development of the Health Resource Allocation Plan published pursuant to 18 V.S.A. § 9405 and the community health needs assessment conducted in accordance with 26 U.S.C. § 501(r)(3).