

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 698 Session of 2018

INTRODUCED BY BROWNE, JUNE 22, 2018

REFERRED TO AGING AND YOUTH, JUNE 22, 2018

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of November 6, 1987 (P.L.381, No.79), entitled
 2 "An act relating to the protection of the abused, neglected,
 3 exploited or abandoned elderly; establishing a uniform
 4 Statewide reporting and investigative system for suspected
 5 abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment of the elderly;
 6 providing protective services; providing for funding; and
 7 making repeals," in administration, further providing for
 8 duties of department and area agencies on aging.

9 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

10 hereby enacts as follows:

11 Section 1. Section 301(a) of the act of November 6, 1987
 12 (P.L.381, No.79), known as the Older Adults Protective Services
 13 Act, is amended and the section is amended by adding subsections
 14 to read:

15 Section 301. Duties of department and area agencies on aging.

16 (a) Public information and interdepartmental consultation.--

17 The department shall conduct an ongoing campaign designed to
 18 inform and educate older adults, professionals and the general
 19 public about the need for an availability of protective services
 20 under this chapter[.], including an individuals rights,
 21 responsibilities and choice of managed care organizations to

1 cover long-term care services and supports. The department shall
2 consult with other departments of the Commonwealth on the design
3 and implementation of the ongoing public awareness campaign. The
4 department shall also consider the concerns of area agencies on
5 aging and the entities identified by them under subsection (c).

6 Educational materials shall include:

7 (1) A description of the LIFE program.

8 (2) A statement that an eligible individual has the
9 option to enroll in the LIFE program or a managed care
10 organization under the Community Health Choices Program.

11 (3) Contact information for LIFE providers.

12 (a.1) Department training.--The department shall continue to
13 provide training to the Independent Enrollment Broker on the
14 LIFE program through the Independent Enrollment Broker LIFE
15 module to better educate the Independent Enrollment Broker.

16 (a.2) Report.--At the end of each quarter, the department
17 shall issue a report that tracks by county, the enrollment of
18 eligible individuals in long-term care service programs,
19 including a managed care organization or a LIFE program. This
20 report shall be published on the department's publicly
21 accessible Internet website.

22 * * *

23 (d) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following
24 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
25 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

26 "Eligible individual." An individual, 55 years of age or
27 older, who is a resident of this Commonwealth and who requires
28 or is likely to require long-term services or supports in order
29 to remain living in the community and not in a nursing facility.

30 "Independent Enrollment Broker." A contracted Statewide

1 entity to facilitate the eligibility and enrollment process for
2 applicants seeking home and community-based services. The broker
3 shall work with service coordination providers to respond to
4 participants' needs.

5 "LIFE program." A program that is a managed care program
6 that provides all-inclusive care for elderly individuals in this
7 Commonwealth as established in accordance with 42 CFR Pt. 460
8 (relating to programs of all-inclusive care for the elderly
9 (PACE)).

10 "LIFE provider." An entity that has entered into a contract
11 with the department to operate a LIFE program in a specific
12 county or set of counties.

13 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.