

What's New in the 2026 Edition

- New material on implications of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act for taxes, Medicare, and Medicaid [*See* §§ 2:3, 2:26, 7:4, 7:9, 8:6, 8:11, 8:12, 8:18, 8:23, 8:43, 8:45, 9:5, 9:40, 11:3]
- Updates on Connecticut treatment of ABLE accounts [*See* § 2:12]
- New and updated material on benefits for veterans:
 - Connecticut exemptions for federal VA benefits [*See* §§ 5:11, 5:12]
 - Connecticut veterans' tax relief [*See* §§ 5:12, 5:20]
- Updates and new material on various Medicare topics:
 - New material on sources of assistance for beneficiaries [*See* § 7:7]
 - New special enrollment period (SEP) for formerly incarcerated people [*See* § 7:9]
 - Updates on the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan option [*See* § 7:11]
 - Updates on matters related to Medicare Advantage plans:
 - HUD treatment of MA flex cards [*See* § 7:14]
 - MA Special Supplemental Benefits for Chronically Ill Individuals [*See* § 7:14]
 - Updates on preventative services [*See* § 7:19]
 - Updates on caps on prescription drug coverage:
 - Cost sharing for insulin [*See* § 7:23]
 - Drugs subject to price negotiation [*See* § 7:23]
 - Updates on dental coverage [*See* § 7:28]
 - Updates on the expedited review process [*See* § 7:34]
- New material on various Medicaid topics:
 - Recent federal caselaw with implications for Medicaid [*See* § 8:6]
 - Coverage of cell and gene therapy and obesity treatment [*See* § 8:10]
 - New section on Medicaid cost sharing [*See* § 8:12]
 - Revised eligibility standards:
 - Narrowed categories of citizenship status and change in match for emergency Medicaid [*See* § 8:18]
 - Exemptions for VA benefits [*See* § 8:22]
 - Upcoming change in home equity cap [*See* § 8:23]

- Upcoming changes in retroactive eligibility [*See § 8:43*]
 - Upcoming changes in frequency of redeterminations for expansion adults [*See § 8:45*]
- Updates and new material on home and community-based services (HCBS):
 - Update on the legal challenge to the Affordable Care Act preventive services requirements [*See § 9:6*]
 - New Connecticut insurance mandates regarding limits on facility fees and coverage of in-home hospice care [*See § 9:7*]
 - Updates on around intake and service standards for as well as worker safety standards for home health care and hospice [*See § 9:12*]
 - Updates on federal rulemaking around treatment of domestic workers [*See § 9:13*]
 - Upcoming new citizenship eligibility standards [*See § 8:40*]
 - Changes in age eligibility as well as new DSS requirements around waitlist for the Katie Beckett waiver [*See § 9:51*]
 - Connecticut legislation requiring study of the hospital discharge process [*See § 8:60*]
- New material on:
 - Standards for review of deaths of people with intellectual disabilities under DDS oversight *See § 10:12*
 - Connecticut legislation that establishes new requirements for managed residential communities around automated external defibrillators (AEDs) and resident protections against discrimination [*See § 10:15*]
- New material on nursing home matters including:
 - Connecticut legislation that provides new protections for nursing home residents around discrimination and personal privacy with physical exams [*See § 11:9*]
 - o New standards for homes, including caps on the number of beds per room and requirements around AEDs [*See § 11:11*]
 - o New DSS option to establish a quality metrics program [*See § 11:21*]
- Updated and new material on consumer rights:
 - Revisions to the scope of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program [*See § 12:5*]
 - A new section on sources of Connecticut assistance with hospital bills [*See § 12:15*]
 - Revisions to financial protections for victims of domestic violence [*See § 12:17*]
 - Expansion of DDS obligations around its registry and reporting of abuse and neglect [*See § 12:19*]

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- New material around the role of the Corrections Ombuds and absentee ballots for people in justice settings who remain eligible to vote [See § 12:21]
- Connecticut legislation revising standards and consumer protections for agreements and bills [See § 12:22]
- Connecticut legislation establishing standards for when funeral service contracts become abandoned property [See § 12:25]
- New federal interpretation of the public charge rule [See § 12:25]
- New Connecticut protections for renters including standard rental terms, disclosure of fees/charges/costs, and protections against late charges [See §§ 12:28, 12:33]
- New Connecticut protections against discrimination by health care providers [See § 12:42]
- New material on Connecticut driver training for people with disabilities [See § 12:51]
- New Connecticut protections around curbside voting [See § 12:52]
- New material on issues related to relative caregivers, including:
 - Further revised standards for foster care placements with relative/fictive kin caregivers and new requirements for DCF around a foster parent bill of rights [See § 13:9]
 - Connecticut legislation requiring the Department of Children and Families to report on foster care payments [See § 13:29]
- New requirements related to people with diminished capacity, including:
 - Connecticut legislation requiring the Probate Court Administration and DSS to evaluate the feasibility of establishing an expedited conservatorship process for incapable people who are being treated in the emergency room [See § 14:12]
 - Revised requirements for notice of conservatorship petitions [See § 14:14]
 - Connecticut legislation requiring the PCA and identified other stakeholders to study issues around compensation for conservators [See § 14:23]
 - Connecticut legislation requiring a study of best practice in habeas corpus proceedings [See § 14:26]
 - Connecticut legislation expanding the permissible set of financial guardians for people with intellectual disabilities [See § 14:32]
- Connecticut legislation requiring DPH to establish a new short-form death certificate from which cause of death is excluded [See § 15:6]

- Updates on eligibility criteria for the major programs and services that provide support to older adults and individuals with disabilities. [See § 16:3]

Thank you very much for subscribing to *Connecticut Elder Law*. This practice area is both highly state-specific and evolving, and clients have complex needs that often require a nuanced, incremental approach. I hope that this book will serve as a resource for you in identifying issues and framing responses that are consistent with the values and preferences of those whom you serve.

Kate McEvoy