



State of Connecticut
GENERAL ASSEMBLY



Commission on Children

Big Hopes, Big Challenges: Connecticut Children and the 2012 Legislative Session

Tuesday, November 15, 2011, 10 a.m. to Noon
Room 2-D, Legislative Office Building, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford

When the General Assembly convenes on February 8, it will face no shortage of issues impacting children. The recession is driving up child poverty and youth unemployment. The competition for jobs is making success in education more important than ever. Connecticut's persistent literacy gap is drawing renewed attention and ideas. Obesity is putting children at risk for serious diseases and driving up health care costs. And coordinated early care and home visitation are taking center stage in efforts to integrate the delivery of services. With all this in mind, the Commission has invited key lawmakers, agency commissioners, and other policy leaders to discuss their vision and priorities for the coming year.

I. Welcome:

Dr. M. Alex Geertsma, Chair, Commission on Children

II. Big Hopes, Big Challenges: Connecticut Children and the 2012 Legislative Session

Health & Safety

Dr. Jewell Mullen, Commissioner, Department of Public Health (DPH)
Jeanne Milstein, Child Advocate

Education & Jobs

Representative Gary Holder-Winfield of New Haven, Chair, Black and Puerto Rican
Caucus
Senator Beth Bye of West Hartford, Co-Chair, Higher Education & Employment
Advancement Committee

Child Poverty & The Recession

Representative Diana Urban of North Stonington, Co-Chair, Select Committee on Children
Anne Foley, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of Policy and Management (OPM)

Systems Reform

Roderick L. Bremby, Commissioner, Department of Social Services (DSS), or designee*
Janice Gruendel, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Children and Families (DCF)
Senator Bye

*Invited

III. Commission Business

Approval of minutes from the September 12 meeting