



General Assembly

February Session, 2000

**Amendment**

LCO No. 3641

Offered by:

REP. GERRATANA, 23<sup>rd</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5525

File No. 536

Cal. No. 413

***"An Act Establishing A Children's Behavioral Health  
Advisory Committee To The State Advisory Council On  
Children And Families."***

1 Strike out sections 1 and 2 in their entirety and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 17a-4 of the general statutes is  
4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

5 (a) There shall be a State Advisory Council on Children and  
6 Families which shall consist of fifteen members appointed by the  
7 Governor, including at least five persons who are child care  
8 professionals, one child psychiatrist licensed to practice medicine in  
9 this state [ ] and at least one attorney. [and at least three members  
10 between fifteen and twenty-two years of age at the date of their  
11 appointment.] The balance of the advisory council shall be  
12 representative of young persons, parents and others interested in the  
13 delivery of services to children and youth. Members of the council  
14 shall serve without compensation, except for necessary expenses  
15 incurred in the performance of their duties. No person shall serve for

16 more than two consecutive terms. The commissioner shall be an ex-  
17 officio member of the council without vote and shall attend its  
18 meetings. Any member who fails to attend three consecutive meetings  
19 or fifty per cent of all meetings during any calendar year shall be  
20 deemed to have resigned. The council shall elect a [chairman]  
21 chairperson and [vice-chairman] vice-chairperson to act in the  
22 [chairman's] chairperson's absence.

23 Sec. 2. (NEW) (a) There is established a Children's Behavioral Health  
24 Advisory Committee to the State Advisory Council on Children and  
25 Families which shall promote and enhance the provision of behavioral  
26 health services for all children in this state.

27 (b) The Children's Behavioral Health Advisory Committee shall be  
28 composed of the following members: (1) The Commissioner of  
29 Children and Families or the commissioner's designee; (2) the  
30 Commissioner of Social Services or the commissioner's designee; (3)  
31 the Executive Director of the Children's Health Council or said  
32 director's designee; (4) the Chief Court Administrator or said  
33 administrator's designee; (5) the Commissioner of Education or the  
34 commissioner's designee; (6) the Commissioner of Mental Health and  
35 Addiction Services or the commissioner's designee; (7) the  
36 Commissioner of Mental Retardation or the commissioner's designee;  
37 (8) two members appointed by the Governor, one member who shall  
38 be a parent of a child who receives behavioral health services and the  
39 other a provider of behavioral health services; (9) one member each  
40 shall be appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, the  
41 speaker of the House of Representatives, the majority leader of the  
42 Senate, the majority leader of the House of Representatives, the  
43 minority leader of the Senate and the minority leader of the House of  
44 Representatives, all of whom shall be knowledgeable on issues relative  
45 to children in need of behavioral health services and family supports;  
46 and (10) sixteen members appointed by the chairperson of the State  
47 Advisory Council on Children and Families. The membership of the  
48 advisory committee shall fairly and adequately represent parents of  
49 children who have a serious emotional disturbance. At least fifty per

50 cent of the members of the advisory committee shall be persons who  
51 are parents or relatives of a child who has or had a serious emotional  
52 disturbance or persons who had a serious emotional disturbance as a  
53 child.

54 (c) All appointments to the advisory committee shall be made no  
55 later than sixty days after the effective date of this section. Any  
56 vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority. Members shall  
57 serve two-year terms.

58 (d) The advisory committee shall elect two cochairpersons from  
59 among its members, one of whom shall be the parent of a child with a  
60 serious emotional disturbance. The advisory committee shall meet at  
61 least bimonthly. Members of the advisory committee shall serve  
62 without compensation.

63 (e) Not later than October first of each year, the advisory committee  
64 shall submit a status report on local systems of care and practice  
65 standards for state-funded behavioral health programs to the State  
66 Advisory Council on Children and Families.

67 (f) Not later than October first of each odd-numbered year, the  
68 advisory committee shall submit recommendations concerning the  
69 provision of behavioral health services for all children in the state to  
70 the State Advisory Council on Children and Families. The  
71 recommendations shall address, but shall not be limited to, the  
72 following: (1) The target population for children with behavioral  
73 health needs, and assessment and benefit options for children with  
74 such needs; (2) the appropriateness and quality of care for children  
75 with behavioral health needs; (3) the coordination of behavioral health  
76 services provided under the HUSKY Plan with services provided by  
77 other publicly-funded programs; (4) performance standards for  
78 preventive services, family supports and emergency service training  
79 programs; (5) assessments of community-based and residential care  
80 programs; (6) outcome measurements by reviewing provider practice;  
81 and (7) a medication protocol and standards for the monitoring of

82 medication and after-care programs."