



General Assembly

February Session, 2000

Raised Bill No. 538

LCO No. 2235

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:
(PH)

An Act Concerning The Providing Of Services To Persons With Learning Disabilities By The Department Of Mental Retardation.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. The Commissioner of Mental Retardation shall conduct a
2 study concerning the expansion of the jurisdiction of the Department
3 of Mental Retardation to include the provision of services to persons
4 with severe learning disabilities. Not later than December 31, 2000, the
5 commissioner shall submit a report of the commissioner's findings and
6 recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General
7 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health, in
8 accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes. Such report shall
9 include an interim assessment of the pilot program established under
10 section 2 of this act.

11 Sec. 2. (NEW) The Commissioner of Mental Retardation shall
12 establish a pilot program of services for adults diagnosed with
13 learning disabilities. The pilot program shall provide (1) support
14 services to assist such individuals in obtaining and retaining
15 employment, and (2) outreach activities designed to encourage
16 employers to hire adults diagnosed with learning disabilities. The

17 Labor Department and the Bureau of Rehabilitative Services shall
18 cooperate with the commissioner in providing services under the pilot
19 program. Not later than February 15, 2002, the commissioner shall
20 submit a report containing an evaluation of the operation and
21 effectiveness of the pilot program established under this section to the
22 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance
23 of matters relating to public health, in accordance with the provisions
24 of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

25 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Statement of Purpose:

To provide assistance to persons with learning disabilities and to promote and support employment and job retention for such persons.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]