



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

**Committee Bill No. 6241**

LCO No. 4712

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:  
(JUD)

***AN ACT CONCERNING TESTIMONY OF YOUTH AT CERTAIN HEARINGS.***

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

1 Subsection (b) of section 17a-110 of the general statutes is repealed  
2 and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (b) At a hearing held in accordance with subsection (k) of section  
4 46b-129 and section 17a-111b, the court shall determine the  
5 appropriateness of continuing efforts to reunify a child with the child's  
6 family, provided if the child is eleven years of age or older, such child  
7 shall have the right to testify at any such hearing affecting the family  
8 and future of such child. If the court finds that such efforts are not  
9 appropriate, the Department of Children and Families shall within  
10 sixty days of such finding either (1) file a petition for the termination of  
11 parental rights, (2) file a motion to revoke the commitment and vest  
12 the custody and guardianship of the child on a permanent or  
13 long-term basis in an appropriate individual or couple, or (3) file a  
14 written permanency plan with the court for permanent or long-term  
15 foster care, which plan shall include an explanation of the reason that  
16 neither termination of parental rights nor custody and guardianship is

17 appropriate for the child. The court shall promptly convene a hearing  
18 for the purpose of reviewing such written plan. If the permanency plan  
19 calls for placing the child for adoption or in some other permanent  
20 home, good faith efforts shall be made to place the child for adoption  
21 or in some other alternative home.

**Statement of Purpose:**

To give a child who is eleven years of age or older who is committed to the Department of Children and Families the right to testify at any hearing affecting the family and future of such child.

*[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.]*

Co-Sponsors: REP. HAMM, 34th Dist.