



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

**Proposed Bill No. 470**

LCO No. 1903

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:

SEN. FONFARA, 1<sup>st</sup> Dist.

**AN ACT CONCERNING RESEARCH AND EVALUATION PROJECTS  
RELATED TO THE WELL-BEING OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN  
CONNECTICUT.**

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

1 That part I of chapter 50 of the general statutes be amended to: (1)  
2 Require the Office of Policy and Management to establish a formal  
3 relationship with local institutions of higher education by August 1,  
4 2001, to carry out research and evaluation projects related to the well-  
5 being of children and families in Connecticut including, but not  
6 limited to: (A) Detailed data collection and analysis to determine client  
7 populations served, reasons services are provided, services received  
8 and services available and not used, and case management and service  
9 outcomes; (B) identification of the indicators of risk for child abuse,  
10 neglect, and abandonment, juvenile delinquency, educational failure,  
11 mental illness, emotional disturbance and substance abuse in children,  
12 and the prevention and intervention policies and programs required to  
13 address those risks at the earliest point possible including ways to  
14 maximize points of contact with and referral to service systems; (C) a  
15 detailed assessment of current service needs and forecast projected

16 needs based to the extent possible on client population analyses, well-  
17 being indicators, surveys, and clinical studies; and (D) develop and  
18 monitor indicators to measure the progress toward goals of current  
19 state policies and programs for children and their families, including,  
20 but not limited to, healthy, thriving children, strong, nurturing  
21 families, positive youth development, and educational progress and  
22 success; (2) provide that the higher education institution shall apply  
23 for and be successful in obtaining funding from public and private  
24 sources to support this work in addition to state appropriations it may  
25 receive; (3) provide that for the purposes of conducting such research  
26 and analysis, the institution responsible shall be granted complete  
27 access to all records of all state agencies and state-funded programs  
28 providing services to children and their families, while at all times  
29 protecting the right of privacy of all individuals involved, as provided  
30 in section 17a-28 of the general statutes; and (4) require the Office of  
31 Policy and Management to submit the results of such research and  
32 analysis to the governor and the General Assembly beginning January  
33 1, 2002, and each year thereafter.

***Statement of Purpose:***

To require the Office of Policy and Management to establish a formal relationship with local institutions of higher education to carry out research and evaluation projects related to the well-being of children and families in Connecticut.