



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

**Committee Bill No. 560**

LCO No. 5035

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:  
(HS)

**AN ACT REQUIRING AN EVALUATION OF OUTREACH EFFORTS  
FOR THE HUSKY PLAN.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 17b-297 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) The commissioner, in consultation with the Children's Health  
4 Council, the Medicaid Managed Care Council and Infoline of  
5 Connecticut, shall develop mechanisms for outreach for the HUSKY  
6 Plan, Part A and Part B, including, but not limited to, development of  
7 mail-in applications and appropriate outreach materials through the  
8 Department of Revenue Services, the Labor Department, the  
9 Department of Social Services, the Department of Public Health, the  
10 Department of Children and Families and the Office of Protection and  
11 Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities.

12 (b) The commissioner shall include in such outreach efforts  
13 information on the Medicaid program for the purpose of maximizing  
14 enrollment of eligible children and the use of federal funds.

15 (c) The commissioner shall, within available appropriations,  
16 contract with qualified entities authorized to grant presumptive  
17 eligibility, severe need schools and community-based organizations for  
18 purposes of public education, outreach and recruitment of eligible  
19 children, including the distribution of applications and information  
20 regarding enrollment in the HUSKY Plan, Part A and Part B. In  
21 awarding such contracts, the commissioner shall consider the  
22 marketing, outreach and recruitment efforts of organizations. For the  
23 purposes of this subsection, (1) "community-based organizations" shall  
24 include, but not be limited to, day care centers, schools, school-based  
25 health clinics, community-based diagnostic and treatment centers and  
26 hospitals, and (2) "severe need school" means a school in which forty  
27 per cent or more of the lunches served are served to students who are  
28 eligible for free or reduced price lunches.

29 (d) All outreach materials shall be approved by the commissioner  
30 pursuant to Subtitle J of Public Law 105-33.

31 (e) The commissioner shall retain an independent consultant to  
32 conduct a comprehensive evaluation of all outreach efforts for the  
33 HUSKY Plan, Part A and Part B, that shall focus on enrollment in such  
34 plan rather than retention of current enrollees. Such independent  
35 consultant shall have no financial interest in such plan. The  
36 commissioner shall encourage all entities that conduct such outreach  
37 efforts to participate in such evaluation.

38 [(e)] (f) Not later than January 1, 1999, and annually thereafter, the  
39 commissioner shall submit a report to the Governor and the General  
40 Assembly on the implementation of and the results of the community-  
41 based outreach program specified in subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of  
42 this section.

43 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from its passage.

**HS**      *Joint Favorable*

**PH**      *Joint Favorable*