



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

**Committee Bill No. 708**

LCO No. 5179

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:  
(PH)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SUPPORTIVE DAY CARE PROGRAM.***

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

1 Section 17a-217 of the general statutes is repealed and the following  
2 is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) The Department of Mental Retardation shall develop [day-care]  
4 day care programs, [day-camp] day camp programs and recreational  
5 programs for [mentally retarded] children and adults with mental  
6 retardation, including, but not limited to, a program to provide  
7 supportive day care for students with mental retardation up to the age  
8 of twenty-one that shall be made available at public schools and other  
9 locations. Any nonprofit organization which establishes or maintains  
10 [day-care] day care programs, [day-camp] day camp programs or  
11 recreational programs for [mentally retarded] children or adults with  
12 mental retardation may apply to the Department of Mental  
13 Retardation for funds to be used to assist in establishing, maintaining  
14 or expanding such programs. For the purposes of this section: (1) A  
15 [day-care] day care program (A) may provide for the care and training  
16 of preschool age children to enable them to achieve their maximum

17 social, physical and emotional potential; (B) may provide [mentally  
18 retarded] adolescents and adults with mental retardation with an  
19 activity program which includes training in one or more of the  
20 following areas: (i) Self-care, (ii) activities of daily living, (iii) personal  
21 and social adjustment, (iv) work habits, and (v) skills, speech and  
22 language development; (2) a [day-camp] day camp program may  
23 provide [mentally retarded] children or adults with mental retardation  
24 with a supervised program of out-of-doors activities which may be  
25 conducted during all or part of the months of June, July, August and  
26 September; [,] and (3) a recreational program may provide planned  
27 and supervised recreational activities for [mentally retarded] children  
28 or adults with mental retardation, which activities may be of a social,  
29 athletic or purely diversionary nature and which programs shall be  
30 considered separate and apart from the [day-camp] day camp program  
31 described in subdivision (2) of this subsection.

32 (b) No grant made under this section to assist in establishing,  
33 maintaining or expanding any [of the above programs under the  
34 provisions] program set forth in subsection (a) of this section shall  
35 exceed the ordinary and recurring annual operating expenses of such  
36 program, nor shall any grant be made to pay for all or any part of  
37 capital expenditures. The Department of Mental Retardation shall: (1)  
38 Define minimum requirements to be met by each program in order to  
39 be eligible to receive funds as provided for by this section in regard to  
40 qualification and number of staff members and program operation,  
41 including, but not limited to, physical plant and record keeping; (2)  
42 establish procedures to be used in making application for such funds;  
43 and [provide] (3) adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54,  
44 governing the granting of funds to assist in the establishment of [day-  
45 care] day care programs, [day-camp] day camp programs and  
46 recreational programs for [the mentally retarded] persons with mental  
47 retardation. Upon receipt of proper application, the Department of  
48 Mental Retardation, within available appropriations, may grant such  
49 funds, provided the plans for financing and the standards of operation  
50 of such programs shall be approved by [said] the department in

51 accordance with the provisions of this section. For the purpose of  
52 developing such programs [said] the department may accept grants  
53 from the federal government, a municipality or any other source.

**PH**            *Joint Favorable*

**APP**          *Joint Favorable*