



General Assembly

February Session, 2004

Raised Bill No. 427

LCO No. 1845

01845_____HS_

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:
(HS)

**AN ACT CONCERNING JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS
ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND
FAMILIES.**

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Department of Children and
2 Families and the Judicial Department shall develop a plan to reform
3 the juvenile justice system. Such plan shall include, but not be limited
4 to: (1) Revising the definition of "child" in section 46b-120 of the
5 general statutes to include any person under eighteen years of age, (2)
6 the development of a comprehensive initial assessment that shall be
7 administered to any child or youth involved in a "juvenile matter", as
8 defined in section 46b-121 of the general statutes, (3) the development
9 of screening and assessment protocols for a child with behavioral
10 health needs, referred to the court as a member of a "family with
11 service needs" or as a "youth in crisis", as said terms are defined in
12 section 46b-120 of the general statutes, so that such child may be
13 diverted from the juvenile justice system to appropriate behavioral
14 health services, (4) the development of gender specific programming,
15 and (5) the development of appropriate programs and services for
16 children and youth placed at facilities operated by the Department

17 Children and Families or the Department of Correction.

18 (b) Not later than July 1, 2005, the Commissioner of Children and
19 Families and the Chief Court Administrator shall submit, in
20 accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, the plan for
21 reform of the juvenile justice system to the joint standing committees
22 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
23 judiciary and human services and to the select committee of the
24 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children.

25 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2004*) On or before July 1, 2005, and
26 annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Children and Families shall
27 submit, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, a
28 report to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
29 cognizance of matters relating to human services, on all programs
30 administered or operated by the Department of Children and Families
31 in accordance with section 17a-3 of the general statutes. Said report
32 shall, include, but not be limited to, a detailed accounting of the
33 financial expenditure for each program administered or operated by
34 the department for the prior fiscal year.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2004</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To require: (1) The Department of Children and Families and the Judicial Department to develop a plan of reform for the juvenile justice system with emphasis on the development of appropriate behavioral health assessments, services and programs, and (2) require the Commissioner of Children and Families to report annually to the human services committee on programs administered and operated by said department.

[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.]