



House of Representatives

File No. 842

General Assembly

January Session, 2005

(Reprint of File No. 591)

Substitute House Bill No. 6982
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedules "A" and "B"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
June 4, 2005

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE FUTURE OF THE CONNECTICUT
JUVENILE TRAINING SCHOOL.**

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a critical
2 response team to make recommendations concerning the
3 reorganization and operation of the Connecticut Juvenile Training
4 School. The critical response team shall consist of twenty-five members
5 as follows: (1) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management,
6 or the secretary's designee; (2) the Commissioner of Children and
7 Families, or the commissioner's designee, the director of the Juvenile
8 Services Bureau of the Department of Children and Families, or the
9 director's designee, and one additional representative of the
10 Department of Children and Families designated by said
11 commissioner who shall be knowledgeable regarding the treatment
12 and rehabilitation of children and youths; (3) the Chief State's
13 Attorney, or the Chief State's Attorney's designee; (4) the Chief Public
14 Defender, or the Chief Public Defender's designee; (5) the mayor of the
15 city of Middletown, or the mayor's designee; (6) four members

16 appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be a representative of
17 the Department of Education, one of whom shall be a representative of
18 the Office of the Child Advocate, one of whom shall be a member of
19 the Connecticut Juvenile Training School advisory group, and one of
20 whom shall be a representative of the labor organization representing
21 the employees of the Connecticut Juvenile Training School who are
22 health care workers; (7) seven members appointed by the speaker of
23 the House of Representatives as follows: (A) Two members, one of
24 whom shall be a representative of a community-based nonprofit
25 organization that is a residential treatment facility and one of whom
26 shall be a representative of a community-based nonprofit organization
27 that is not a residential treatment facility; (B) two members, each of
28 whom shall be the parent of a child diagnosed with mental health
29 needs and having a juvenile record of adjudication; (C) two members,
30 each of whom shall be a member of the General Assembly and at least
31 one of whom represents the residents of the area immediately
32 surrounding the Connecticut Juvenile Training School; and (D) one
33 member who shall be a representative of the Commission on Children;
34 and (8) seven members appointed by the president pro tempore of the
35 Senate as follows: (A) One member who shall be a representative of
36 The University of Connecticut School of Law; (B) one member who
37 shall be a member of the General Assembly; (C) one member who shall
38 be a judge of the Superior Court having expertise in juvenile matters;
39 (D) one member who shall be a child psychiatrist specializing in
40 trauma-based treatment; and (E) three members who shall be
41 representatives of the labor organizations representing the employees
42 of the Connecticut Juvenile Training School. All appointments to the
43 critical response team shall be made not later than thirty days after the
44 effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by the
45 appointing authority. The Secretary of the Office of Policy and
46 Management, or the secretary's designee, shall convene the first
47 meeting of the critical response team not later than sixty days after the
48 effective date of this section. The critical response team shall select
49 cochairpersons from among its members, provided one cochairperson
50 shall be a member of the General Assembly or an appointee of either

51 the speaker of the House of Representatives or the president pro
52 tempore of the Senate and one cochairperson shall be a representative
53 of the executive branch or an appointee of the Governor.

54 (b) The critical response team shall have as its primary purpose the
55 possible reorganization of the Connecticut Juvenile Training School for
56 educational or health care use and excluding its use as an adult
57 correctional facility. If such reorganization is determined by the critical
58 response team to be in the best interest of juveniles, the critical
59 response team shall have as its secondary purpose the development of
60 recommendations for relocating the children currently placed in the
61 Connecticut Juvenile Training School to more appropriate regional
62 facilities.

63 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than January 1, 2006, the
64 critical response team established under section 1 of this act shall
65 submit a report of its recommendations to the joint standing
66 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
67 relating to the judiciary and human services, and the select committee
68 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
69 children, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
70 general statutes. Such report shall include: (1) A proposed design and
71 demonstration for the restructured and reorganized Connecticut
72 Juvenile Training School, as appropriate; (2) a timetable for relocating
73 children placed in the Connecticut Juvenile Training School to more
74 appropriate regional facilities; (3) recommendations for the utilization
75 or redeployment of the employees of the Connecticut Juvenile Training
76 School; and (4) a summary of the policy recommendations of the
77 critical response team and a list of such policy recommendations
78 prioritized by order of importance.

79 Sec. 3. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than August 1, 2005, the
80 Commissioner of Children and Families shall submit copies of the
81 feasibility plan prepared for the Governor concerning the future of the
82 Connecticut Juvenile Training School, including its closing and the
83 transfer of its students to community-based, residential or other types

84 of treatment programs, to the chairpersons and ranking members of
85 the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having
86 cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary and appropriations and
87 the budgets of state agencies and the select committee of the General
88 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 06 \$
Legislative Mgmt.	GF - Cost	Minimal
Various	GF - None	None

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 06 \$
Middletown	None	None

Explanation

It is expected that representatives of the Departments of Children and Families and Education; the Offices of the Child Advocate, Policy and Management, Chief State's Attorney and Chief Public Defender; the Commission on Children, the University of Connecticut School of Law, the Judicial Department, and the Mayor of Middletown can participate in the activities of the critical response team and contribute to the production of the required report by January 1, 2006, within each agency's anticipated budgetary resources.

Appointing three members of the General Assembly to serve on the critical response team will result in a minimal cost to Legislative Management for legislator mileage reimbursement of 40.5 cents per mile.

The DCF will be able to submit a copy of the CJTS feasibility plan that it prepares for the Governor to the chairpersons and ranking members of the Judiciary and Appropriations Committee, and the Select Committee on Children by August 1, 2005, within its anticipated budgetary resources.

House "A" removes representatives of the Departments of Correction and Mental Health and Addiction Services from the critical response team, which results in a workload reduction for each agency. The amendment instead adds representatives of the Chief State's Attorney, the Chief Public Defender and the Mayor of Middletown to the critical response team. Each agency will be able to participate in the activities of the team within their anticipated budgetary resources. The amendment also makes various other policy changes that do not result in a fiscal impact.

House "B" requires the Department of Children and Families to submit a copy of the CJTS feasibility plan it prepares for the Governor to the chairpersons and ranking members of the Judiciary and Appropriations Committee, and the Select Committee on Children by August 1, 2005. The agency will be able to do so within its anticipated budgetary resources.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6982 (As Amended by House "A" and "B")

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SUMMARY:

The office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 40 Nay 0

Joint Committee on Legislative Management

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 17 Nay 0

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 18 Nay 0

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 11 Nay 3