



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

Committee Bill No. 5179

LCO No. 4239

04239HB05179KID

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Children

Introduced by:
(KID)

**AN ACT CONCERNING MENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENTS AND
TREATMENT PLANS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN THE CARE OR
CUSTODY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 17a-6 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2005*):

3 The commissioner or the commissioner's designee shall:

4 (a) Establish or contract for the use of a variety of facilities and
5 services for identification, evaluation, discipline, rehabilitation,
6 aftercare, treatment and care of children and youth in need of the
7 department's services;

8 (b) Administer in a coordinated and integrated manner all
9 institutions and facilities which are or may come under the jurisdiction
10 of the department and may appoint advisory groups for any such
11 institution or facility;

12 (c) Encourage the development of programs and the establishment
13 of facilities for children and youth by public or private agencies and

14 groups;

15 (d) Enter into cooperative arrangements with public or private
16 agencies outside the state;

17 (e) Insure that all children under the commissioner's supervision or
18 custody have adequate (1) food, clothing [,] and shelter, [and
19 adequate] (2) medical, dental, psychiatric [,] and psychological [,]
20 services, including uniform, comprehensive, multidisciplinary mental
21 health assessments at the time they become under the commissioner's
22 supervision or custody and clinically appropriate treatment based on
23 plans developed from such assessments, and (3) social, religious and
24 other services;

25 (f) Provide, in the commissioner's discretion, needed service to any
26 municipality, agency, or person, whether or not such person is
27 committed to the commissioner;

28 (g) Adopt and enforce regulations and establish rules for the
29 internal operation and administration of the department in accordance
30 with chapter 54;

31 (h) Undertake, contract for or otherwise stimulate research
32 concerning children and youth;

33 (i) Subject to the provisions of chapter 67, appoint such professional,
34 technical and other personnel as may be necessary for the efficient
35 operation of the department;

36 (j) Coordinate the activities of the department with those of other
37 state departments, municipalities and private agencies concerned with
38 providing services for children and youth and their families;

39 (k) Act as administrator of the Interstate Compact on Juveniles
40 established by section 46b-151a, when so designated by the Governor
41 in accordance with section 46b-151c;

42 (l) Provide or arrange for the provision of suitable education for
43 every child under the commissioner's supervision, either in public
44 schools, special educational programs, private schools, educational
45 programs within the institutions or facilities under the commissioner's
46 jurisdiction, or work and training programs otherwise provided by
47 law. The suitability of educational programs provided by the
48 commissioner shall be subject to review by the Department of
49 Education;

50 (m) Submit to the state advisory council for its comment proposals
51 for new policies or programs and the proposed budget for the
52 department;

53 (n) Have any and all other powers and duties as are necessary to
54 administer the department and implement the purposes of sections
55 17a-1 to 17a-26, inclusive, and 17a-28 to 17a-49, inclusive;

56 (o) Conduct and render a final decision in administrative hearings;
57 and

58 (p) Provide programs for juvenile offenders that are gender specific
59 in that they comprehensively address the unique needs of a targeted
60 gender group.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2005	17a-6

Statement of Purpose:

To require that all children in the care or custody of the Department of Children and Families receive mental health assessments and clinically appropriate treatment.

[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.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. WALKER, 93rd Dist.; REP. KIRKLEY-BEY, 5th Dist.
REP. CANDELARIA, 95th Dist.; REP. THOMPSON, 13th Dist.
REP. MANTILLA, 4th Dist.

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