



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 215**

February Session, 2006

Substitute House Bill No. 5532

*House of Representatives, March 29, 2006*

The Committee on Human Services reported through REP. VILLANO of the 91st Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT CONCERNING YOUTH POLICY.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 4-65a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):

3 (a) There shall be an Office of Policy and Management which shall  
4 be responsible for all aspects of state staff planning and analysis in the  
5 areas of budgeting, management, planning, energy policy  
6 determination and evaluation, intergovernmental policy, youth policy,  
7 criminal and juvenile justice planning and program evaluation. The  
8 department head shall be the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
9 Management, who shall be appointed by the Governor in accordance  
10 with the provisions of sections 4-5, 4-6, 4-7, as amended, and 4-8, with  
11 all the powers and duties therein prescribed. The Secretary of the  
12 Office of Policy and Management shall be the employer representative  
13 (1) in collective bargaining negotiations concerning changes to the state  
14 employees retirement system and health and welfare benefits, and (2)  
15 in all other matters involving collective bargaining, including

16 negotiation and administration of all collective bargaining agreements  
17 and supplemental understandings between the state and the state  
18 employee unions concerning all executive branch employees except  
19 (A) employees of the Division of Criminal Justice, and (B) faculty and  
20 professional employees of boards of trustees of constituent units of the  
21 state system of higher education. The secretary may designate a  
22 member of the secretary's staff to act as the employer representative in  
23 the secretary's place.

24 (b) There shall be such undersecretaries as may be necessary for the  
25 efficient conduct of the business of the office. Each such undersecretary  
26 shall be appointed by the secretary and shall be qualified and  
27 experienced in the functions to be performed by him. The positions of  
28 each such undersecretary shall be exempt from the classified service.

29 (c) The secretary may delegate to the deputy secretary all or part of  
30 the authority, powers and duties of the secretary.

31 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2006*) (a) The Office of Policy and  
32 Management shall be the lead agency for coordinating the state's youth  
33 policy. Such policy shall focus on achieving positive development  
34 outcomes for all youth in the state. The youth policy of the state shall  
35 focus on ensuring that all youth have access to: Ongoing relationships  
36 with caring adults, safe residences and schools that provide structured  
37 activities, services that improve and promote mental and physical  
38 health and well-being, and opportunities for community service and  
39 civic participation.

40 (b) The Office of Policy and Management, in consultation with the  
41 Departments of Education, Children and Families, Public Health and  
42 Social Services shall: (1) Develop guidelines for the delivery of services  
43 that incorporate best practices based on defined, developmentally  
44 appropriate, positive outcomes for youth relating to health, safety and  
45 education; (2) coordinate youth program and service delivery systems  
46 to improve communication among agencies that administer programs  
47 serving youth, especially those programs serving disadvantaged  
48 youth; (3) assess existing funding resources, networks and returns on

49 investments to maximize the development of community level services  
 50 that assist in achieving state goals and objectives with respect to youth  
 51 policy; and (4) collaborate with public and private partnerships in  
 52 order to facilitate the positive outcomes for youth described in this  
 53 subsection. For purposes of subdivision (1) of this subsection, such  
 54 positive outcomes, include, but are not limited to, improved school  
 55 attendance, improved academic and technical proficiencies,  
 56 improvement in the percentage of youth obtaining a high school  
 57 diploma or its equivalent, increases in the percentage of youth who  
 58 enroll in and complete postsecondary school educational and training  
 59 programs, employment programs that build skills, full employment  
 60 for youth not enrolled in educational programs, opportunities to  
 61 engage in public service, stable and safe housing, access to quality  
 62 mental and physical health providers, and opportunities to develop  
 63 leadership and mentoring skills.

64 (c) On or before January 1, 2008, and annually thereafter, the  
 65 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall report, in  
 66 accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the General  
 67 Assembly on (1) the progress made in achieving the positive outcomes  
 68 for youth set forth in this section, and the total state expenditures  
 69 dedicated to achieving such positive outcomes, and (2) state agency  
 70 programs that are serving youth not participating in educational  
 71 activities. Such report shall also include a delineation on the progress  
 72 made by each city or town in achieving the positive outcomes for  
 73 youth set forth in this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2006	4-65a
Sec. 2	October 1, 2006	New section

**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

In subsection (b) of section 2, the sentence describing what is included in positive outcomes was moved to the end of the subsection for clarity.

**HS**      *Joint Favorable Subst.-LCO*

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:**

<b>Agency Affected</b>	<b>Fund-Effect</b>	<b>FY 07 \$</b>	<b>FY 08 \$</b>
Policy & Mgmt., Off.	GF - Cost	351,964	353,972
Children & Families, Dept.; Education, Dept.; Public Health, Dept.; Social Services, Dept.	GF - None	None	None
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits	GF - Cost	15,803	40,210

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill makes the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) the lead agency for coordinating the state’s youth policy, in consultation with the departments of Education, Social Services, Children and Families, and Public Health. The bill requires OPM to consult with these agencies, to develop guidelines for delivering services to youths; to coordinate youth program service delivery; assess existing resources in delivering such services; and collaborate with public and private partnerships. Further, OPM must report on the state’s progress toward achieving the outcomes and the amount of state expenditures dedicated to such effort. Finally, OPM must provide delineation on the progress made by each municipality in achieving the outcomes.

It is anticipated that OPM will require one Lead Planning Analyst with an FY 07 starting salary of \$66,964<sup>1</sup> to coordinate the state’s youth

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<sup>1</sup> The fringe benefit costs for state employees are budgeted centrally in the Miscellaneous Accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated first year fringe benefit rate as a percentage of payroll is 23.6%, effective July 1, 2005. The first year fringe benefit costs for new positions do not include pension costs. The state’s pension contribution is based upon the prior year’s certification by the actuary for the State Employees Retirement System (SERS). The SERS 2005-06 fringe benefit rate is

policy, and associated Other Expenses of \$10,000 for supplies, postage, and meeting facilities. OPM will need \$150,000 annually for expert consultants to assist in developing youth services outcomes, training and technical assistance. Finally, OPM will need \$125,000 annually to purchase, administer and evaluate surveys of municipal youth service programs to delineate the progress made by each municipality in achieving the outcomes. It is anticipated that municipalities can provide any necessary information within their normal budgetary resources.

The departments of Education, Social Services, Children and Families, and Public Health, can consult with OPM within each agency's normal budgetary resources, because it is anticipated that OPM will utilize an expert consultant to develop outcomes, and provide other technical assistance. If OPM does not provide such support, it is anticipated that each of the consulting agencies will incur costs.

### ***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

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34.7%, which when combined with the non pension fringe benefit rate would total 58.3%.

**OLR Bill Analysis**  
**sHB 5532**

***AN ACT CONCERNING YOUTH POLICY.***

**SUMMARY:**

This bill makes the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) (1) the state's lead agency for coordinating the state's youth policy and (2) responsible for planning and analyzing the policy.

The bill directs OPM, in consultation with the departments of Education, Children and Families, Public Health, and Social Services to (1) develop guidelines for delivering services to youth that incorporate best practices based on positive outcomes that the bill enumerates; (2) coordinate youth program and service delivery systems to improve communication among service agencies; (3) assess existing resources, networks, and returns on investments to maximize development of community-level services that assist in the achievement of the state's youth policy goals; and (4) collaborate with public and private partnerships to facilitate the outcomes.

The bill requires the state's youth policy to focus on achieving positive development outcomes for all of the state's youth. It must also focus on ensuring that all youth have access to (1) ongoing relationships with caring adults, (2) safe residences and schools that provide structured activities, (3) services that improve and promote mental and physical health and well-being, and (4) community service and civic participation opportunities.

By January 1, 2008, OPM must report on progress made in achieving the outcomes, including state spending on them, and state programs that serve youth not participating in educational activities. The report must delineate each town's progress in achieving the outcomes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2006

**YOUTH POLICY**

***Guidelines and Outcomes***

The bill requires OPM, in consultation with the other state agencies, to develop guidelines for service delivery that incorporate best practices based on defined, developmentally appropriate, positive outcomes for youth relating to health, safety, and education.

The outcomes must include, at a minimum:

1. improved school attendance, academic and technical proficiencies, and high school diploma and equivalency completion rates;
2. increases in the percentage of youth enrolling in and completing postsecondary education and training programs;
3. skill-building employment programs;
4. full employment for youth not enrolled in educational programs;
5. stable and safe housing;
6. access to quality mental and physical health providers; and
7. opportunities to develop leadership and mentoring skills.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 14 Nay 2 (03/14/2006)