



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

***Raised Bill No. 5251***

LCO No. 1463

\*01463\_\_\_\_\_KID\*

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Children

Introduced by:  
(KID)

***AN ACT CONCERNING RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CHILD  
POVERTY COUNCIL RELATED TO JOB TRAINING AND CHILD  
WELLNESS.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) Within available  
2 appropriations, the Board of Trustees for Community-Technical  
3 Colleges shall establish a pilot program to provide any eligible  
4 individual with a minor dependent access to training in order to obtain  
5 skills and credentials necessary to obtain and maintain employment.  
6 Such skills and credentials may include, but need not be limited to (1)  
7 a high school diploma or its equivalent; (2) an alternative degree; (3)  
8 English as a second language training; and (4) vocational training. For  
9 purposes of this section, an eligible individual is an individual who  
10 would qualify for benefits under the temporary assistance for needy  
11 families program pursuant to Title IV-A of the Social Security Act.

12 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) The Commissioners of Public  
13 Health, Social Services and Mental Health and Addiction Services shall  
14 jointly establish a program to inform applicants to the Healthy Start  
15 program about the availability of, and eligibility for, services provided

16 by the Nurturing Families Network established pursuant to section  
17 17a-56 of the 2006 supplement to the general statutes.

18 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 17b-261 of the 2006 supplement to  
19 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
20 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2006*):

21 (a) Medical assistance shall be provided for any otherwise eligible  
22 person whose income, including any available support from legally  
23 liable relatives and the income of the person's spouse or dependent  
24 child, is not more than one hundred forty-three per cent, pending  
25 approval of a federal waiver applied for pursuant to subsection (d) of  
26 this section, of the benefit amount paid to a person with no income  
27 under the temporary family assistance program in the appropriate  
28 region of residence and if such person is an institutionalized  
29 individual as defined in Section 1917(c) of the Social Security Act, 42  
30 USC 1396p(c), and has not made an assignment or transfer or other  
31 disposition of property for less than fair market value for the purpose  
32 of establishing eligibility for benefits or assistance under this section.  
33 Any such disposition shall be treated in accordance with Section  
34 1917(c) of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1396p(c). Any disposition of  
35 property made on behalf of an applicant or recipient or the spouse of  
36 an applicant or recipient by a guardian, conservator, person  
37 authorized to make such disposition pursuant to a power of attorney  
38 or other person so authorized by law shall be attributed to such  
39 applicant, recipient or spouse. A disposition of property ordered by a  
40 court shall be evaluated in accordance with the standards applied to  
41 any other such disposition for the purpose of determining eligibility.  
42 The commissioner shall establish the standards for eligibility for  
43 medical assistance at one hundred forty-three per cent of the benefit  
44 amount paid to a family unit of equal size with no income under the  
45 temporary family assistance program in the appropriate region of  
46 residence, pending federal approval, except that the medical assistance  
47 program shall provide coverage to persons under the age of nineteen  
48 up to one hundred eighty-five per cent of the federal poverty level

49 without an asset limit. Said medical assistance program shall also  
50 provide coverage to persons under the age of nineteen and their  
51 parents and needy caretaker relatives who qualify for coverage under  
52 Section 1931 of the Social Security Act with family income up to one  
53 hundred fifty per cent of the federal poverty level without an asset  
54 limit, upon the request of such a person or upon a redetermination of  
55 eligibility. Such levels shall be based on the regional differences in  
56 such benefit amount, if applicable, unless such levels based on regional  
57 differences are not in conformance with federal law. Any income in  
58 excess of the applicable amounts shall be applied as may be required  
59 by said federal law, and assistance shall be granted for the balance of  
60 the cost of authorized medical assistance. All contracts entered into on  
61 and after July 1, 1997, pursuant to this section shall include provisions  
62 for collaboration of managed care organizations with the [Healthy  
63 Families Connecticut Program] Nurturing Families Network  
64 established pursuant to section 17a-56, as amended. The Commissioner  
65 of Social Services shall provide applicants for assistance under this  
66 section, at the time of application, with a written statement advising  
67 them of (1) the effect of an assignment or transfer or other disposition  
68 of property on eligibility for benefits or assistance, and (2) the  
69 availability of, and eligibility for, services provided by the Nurturing  
70 Families Network established pursuant to section 17a-56, as amended.

71 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 19a-62a of the general statutes is  
72 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
73 *1, 2006*):

74 (a) (1) Within available appropriations, the Commissioner of Public  
75 Health, in consultation with the Commissioner of Social Services, shall  
76 establish a pilot program for the early identification and treatment of  
77 pediatric asthma. The Commissioner of Public Health shall make  
78 grants-in-aid under the pilot program for projects to be established in  
79 two municipalities to identify, screen and refer children with asthma  
80 for treatment. Such projects shall work cooperatively with providers of  
81 maternal and child health, including, but not limited to, local health

82 departments, community health centers, Healthy Start and [Healthy  
83 Families] the Nurturing Families Network established pursuant to  
84 section 17a-56, as amended, to target children who were born  
85 prematurely, premature infants or pregnant women at risk of  
86 premature delivery for early identification of asthma. Such projects  
87 may utilize private resources through public-private partnerships to  
88 establish a public awareness program and innovative outreach  
89 initiatives targeting urban areas to encourage early screening of  
90 children at risk of asthma.

91 (2) The Commissioner of Public Health shall evaluate the pilot  
92 program established under this subsection and shall submit a report of  
93 the commissioner's findings and recommendations to the joint  
94 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
95 matters relating to public health, human services and appropriations  
96 and the budgets of state agencies, not later than October 1, 2001, in  
97 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a.

98 Sec. 5. (*Effective July 1, 2006*) The sum of \_\_\_ dollars is appropriated  
99 to the Board of Trustees for Community-Technical Colleges, from the  
100 General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, for the purpose  
101 of funding the pilot program established pursuant to section 1 of this  
102 act.

103 Sec. 6. (*Effective July 1, 2006*) The sum of one million two hundred  
104 thousand dollars is appropriated to the Board of Trustees for  
105 Community-Technical Colleges, from the General Fund, for the fiscal  
106 year ending June 30, 2007, for the purpose of funding the pilot  
107 program established pursuant to section 10a-72f of the 2006  
108 supplement to the general statutes to provide financial assistance for  
109 living expenses for students with dependents.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section

Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	17b-261(a)
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	19a-62a(a)
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To implement certain recommendations of the Child Poverty Council in order to foster job training and refer individuals to programs established by the Nurturing Families Network.

*[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.]*