



General Assembly

**Raised Bill No. 5505**

February Session, 2006

\* \_\_\_\_\_HB05505KIDHS\_030906\_\_\_\_\_\*

**AN ACT CONCERNING INDIVIDUALS EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE  
AND OLDER IN THE CARE AND SUPERVISION OF THE  
COMMISSIONER OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.**

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (g) of section 17a-11 of the 2006 supplement to  
2 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
3 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

4 (g) Notwithstanding any provision of sections 17a-1 to 17a-26,  
5 inclusive, and 17a-28 to 17a-49, inclusive, as amended, [to the  
6 contrary,] any person already under the care and supervision of the  
7 Commissioner of Children and Families who has passed such person's  
8 eighteenth birthday but has not yet reached such person's twenty-first  
9 birthday [.] may be permitted to remain voluntarily under the  
10 supervision of the commissioner, provided [said] the commissioner, in  
11 [said] the commissioner's discretion, determines that such person  
12 would benefit from further care and support from the Department of  
13 Children and Families. Any person remaining voluntarily under the  
14 supervision of the commissioner pursuant to this subsection shall be  
15 entitled to a written plan for care and treatment, and review of such  
16 plan, in accordance with section 17a-15.

17 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 17a-3 of the 2006 supplement to the  
18 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu

19 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

20 (a) The department shall plan, create, develop, operate or arrange  
21 for, administer and evaluate a comprehensive and integrated  
22 state-wide program of services, including preventive services, for  
23 children and youth whose behavior does not conform to the law or to  
24 acceptable community standards, or who are mentally ill, including  
25 deaf and hearing impaired children and youth who are mentally ill,  
26 emotionally disturbed, substance abusers, delinquent, abused,  
27 neglected or uncared for, including all children and youth who are or  
28 may be committed to it by any court, and all children and youth  
29 voluntarily admitted to, or remaining voluntarily under the  
30 supervision of, the [department] commissioner for services of any  
31 kind. Services shall not be denied to any such child or youth solely  
32 because of other complicating or multiple disabilities. The department  
33 shall work in cooperation with other child-serving agencies and  
34 organizations to provide or arrange for preventive programs,  
35 including but not limited to teenage pregnancy and youth suicide  
36 prevention, for children and youth and their families. The program  
37 shall provide services and placements that are clinically indicated and  
38 appropriate to the needs of the child or youth. In furtherance of this  
39 purpose, the department shall: (1) Maintain the Connecticut Juvenile  
40 Training School and other appropriate facilities exclusively for  
41 delinquents; (2) develop a comprehensive program for prevention of  
42 problems of children and youth and provide a flexible, innovative and  
43 effective program for the placement, care and treatment of children  
44 and youth committed by any court to the department, transferred to  
45 the department by other departments, or voluntarily admitted to the  
46 department; (3) provide appropriate services to families of children  
47 and youth as needed to achieve the purposes of sections 17a-1 to  
48 17a-26, inclusive, 17a-28 to 17a-49, inclusive, as amended, and 17a-51;  
49 (4) establish incentive paid work programs for children and youth  
50 under the care of the department and the rates to be paid such children  
51 and youth for work done in such programs and may provide  
52 allowances to children and youth in the custody of the department; (5)

53 be responsible to collect, interpret and publish statistics relating to  
54 children and youth within the department; (6) conduct studies of any  
55 program, service or facility developed, operated, contracted for or  
56 supported by the department in order to evaluate its effectiveness; (7)  
57 establish staff development and other training and educational  
58 programs designed to improve the quality of departmental services  
59 and programs, provided no social worker trainee shall be assigned a  
60 case load prior to completing training, and may establish educational  
61 or training programs for children, youth, parents or other interested  
62 persons on any matter related to the promotion of the well-being of  
63 children, or the prevention of mental illness, emotional disturbance,  
64 delinquency and other disabilities in children and youth; (8) develop  
65 and implement aftercare and follow-up services appropriate to the  
66 needs of any child or youth under the care of the department; (9)  
67 establish a case audit unit to monitor each area office's compliance  
68 with regulations and procedures; (10) develop and maintain a database  
69 listing available community service programs funded by the  
70 department; (11) provide outreach and assistance to persons caring for  
71 children whose parents are unable to do so by informing such persons  
72 of programs and benefits for which they may be eligible; and (12)  
73 collect data sufficient to identify the housing needs of children served  
74 by the department and share such data with the Department of  
75 Economic and Community Development.

**KID**

*Joint Favorable C/R*

**HS**