



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 5532**

February Session, 2006

\*            HB05532GAE            042706            \*

**AN ACT CONCERNING YOUTH POLICY.**

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

1       Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than July 1, 2006, the  
2       director of the Office of Workforce Competitiveness, in consultation  
3       with the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission, shall  
4       convene a youth futures committee. The youth futures committee shall  
5       consist of six members of the General Assembly one each appointed by  
6       the speaker of the House of Representatives, the president pro tempore  
7       of the Senate, the majority leader of the House of Representatives, the  
8       majority leader of the Senate, the minority leader of the House of  
9       Representatives, and the minority leader of the Senate; the  
10      Commissioners of Education, Children and Families, Public Health,  
11      Social Services and Mental Health and Addiction Services or said  
12      commissioners' designees; the Labor Commissioner or the  
13      commissioner's designee; the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
14      Management or the secretary's designee; the director of the Office of  
15      Workforce Competitiveness or the director's designee; the executive  
16      director of the Commission on Children or the executive director's  
17      designee; the executive director of the Court Support Services Division  
18      of the judicial branch or the executive director's designee; and a  
19      representative from the Connecticut Youth Services Association  
20      designated by the president of the association.

21 (b) The youth futures committee shall: (1) Develop guidelines for  
22 the delivery of services that incorporate best practices based on  
23 defined, developmentally appropriate, positive outcomes for youth  
24 relating to health, safety and education; (2) improve communication  
25 among agencies that administer programs serving youth; (3) assess  
26 existing funding resources, networks and returns on investments to  
27 maximize the development of community level services that assist in  
28 achieving state goals and objectives with respect to youth policy; and  
29 (4) collaborate with public and private partnerships in order to  
30 facilitate positive outcomes for youth. For purposes of this subsection,  
31 positive outcomes include, but need not be limited to, improved school  
32 attendance, improved academic and technical proficiencies,  
33 improvement in the percentage of youth obtaining a high school  
34 diploma or its equivalent, increases in the percentage of youth who  
35 enroll in and complete postsecondary school educational and training  
36 programs, employment programs that build skills, full employment  
37 for youth not enrolled in educational programs, opportunities to be  
38 engaged in public service, stable and safe housing, access to quality  
39 mental and physical health providers, and opportunities to develop  
40 leadership and mentoring skills.

41 (c) On or before January 1, 2008, the director of the Office of  
42 Workforce Competitiveness shall report, in accordance with section 11-  
43 4a of the general statutes, to the General Assembly on (1) the progress  
44 made in achieving the positive outcomes for youth pursuant to  
45 subsection (b) of this section, and the total state expenditures dedicated  
46 to achieving such positive outcomes, and (2) state agency programs  
47 that are serving youth not participating in educational activities. Such  
48 report shall also include a delineation on the progress made by each  
49 city or town in achieving such positive outcomes for youth.

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

**APP**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

**LM**        *Joint Favorable*

**GAE**      *Joint Favorable*