



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 371**

February Session, 2006

\* \_\_\_\_\_SB00371HS\_GAE031706\_\_\_\_\_\*

**AN ACT CONCERNING RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES OPERATED BY  
THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Notwithstanding any  
2 provision of the general statutes, on and before January 1, 2009, no  
3 state agency, including, but not limited to, the Department of Children  
4 and Families, may implement a plan to close a residential facility  
5 operated by the Department of Children and Families without  
6 obtaining prior legislative approval of the plan in accordance with this  
7 section. In developing such plan, if any, the relevant state agency shall  
8 consult with the chairpersons and ranking members of the joint  
9 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
10 matters relating to appropriations, human services and the judiciary,  
11 and the select committee of the General Assembly having cognizance  
12 of matters relating to children.

13 (b) To obtain such legislative approval, the state agency shall file the  
14 plan with the clerks of the House of Representatives and the Senate.  
15 The plan shall include details about (1) any proposed closure or new  
16 facility; (2) the number of residents and staff affected by any proposed  
17 closure or the number of potential residents of a new facility; (3) the  
18 associated costs of any proposed closure or new facility; and (4) a  
19 summary of statutory changes necessary to implement the closure or

20 construction of a new facility.

21 (c) Not later than five days after receiving the plan, the clerks of the  
22 House of Representatives and the Senate shall refer the plan to the  
23 select committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
24 matters relating to children. The committee shall hold a public hearing  
25 on the plan not later than thirty days after receiving the plan. The  
26 committee may seek input from other committees or members of the  
27 General Assembly. Not later than five days after the hearing, the  
28 committee shall (1) hold a roll-call vote to approve or reject the plan,  
29 and (2) forward the plan and a record of the committee's vote to the  
30 General Assembly.

31 (d) The General Assembly may approve or reject the plan, in whole,  
32 by a majority vote of each house. If the plan is submitted when the  
33 General Assembly is not in session, the plan shall be deemed rejected if  
34 the General Assembly fails to convene to consider the plan not later  
35 than thirty days after it receives the plan from the committee.

36 (e) If the plan is approved pursuant to subsection (d) of this section,  
37 the state agency may implement the plan, provided any required  
38 amendments to the general statutes are enacted prior to  
39 implementation. If the plan is rejected the state agency may submit an  
40 amended plan for approval in accordance with subsection (b) of this  
41 section.

42 Sec. 2. (*Effective October 1, 2006*) Not later than December 1, 2006, the  
43 Commissioner of Children and Families shall submit a report to the  
44 select committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
45 matters relating to children, in accordance with section 11-4a of the  
46 general statutes, concerning the status of the Connecticut Juvenile  
47 Training School. The report shall indicate the number of residents at  
48 the school, whether the number of residents has increased or decreased  
49 in the past calendar year, and whether plans are being considered to  
50 close the school or otherwise transfer residents to another facility. The  
51 report shall include details about such plan, if any.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	New section

**KID**      *Joint Favorable Subst. C/R*      HS

**HS**      *Joint Favorable C/R*      GAE