



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 113

January Session, 2007

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1326

Senate, March 22, 2007

The Committee on Human Services reported through SEN. HARRIS of the 5th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING OVERSIGHT OF RIVERVIEW HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of
2 Children and Families shall establish, pursuant to subsection (b) of
3 section 17a-6 of the general statutes, an advisory board for the
4 Riverview Hospital for Children and Youth. The advisory board shall
5 include the chairpersons and ranking members of the select committee
6 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
7 children and additional members selected by the commissioner
8 consisting of parents, mental health professionals, mental health
9 advocates and representatives of education, business, faith-based
10 organizations and the Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership and
11 other members the commissioner determines have relevant expertise.

12 (b) The advisory board shall (1) provide an on-going review of
13 Riverview Hospital for Children and Youth; (2) monitor the
14 implementation of the recommendations of the Department of

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 chamber thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill makes the chairpersons and ranking members of the Select Committee on Children members of the Riverview Hospital advisory board. The Office of Legislative Management may incur minimal costs for legislator mileage reimbursement; however such costs are budgeted for, and can be handled within the agency's normal budgetary resources.

Administrative duties related to the activities of the advisory board are anticipated to be accommodated within the Department of Children and Families' normal budgetary resources.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 1326*****AN ACT CONCERNING OVERSIGHT OF RIVERVIEW HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill directs the Department of Children and Families commissioner to establish an advisory group for Riverview Hospital, the state psychiatric hospital for children ages five through 17. It specifies the group membership and responsibilities.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

MEMBERS

The bill makes the chairpersons and ranking members of the Children's Committee advisory group members. The DCF commissioner appoints the others members, including:

1. parents;
2. mental health professionals and advocates; and
3. representatives from the Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership (a program to improve mental health services for children enrolled in HUSKY) and education, business, and faith-based organizations.

The commissioner may appoint additional members with relevant expertise.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The bill charges the advisory committee with monitoring DCF's implementation of recommendations contained in the December 1, 2006 program review report jointly issued by the department, the

Office of the Child Advocate, and the hospital’s Court Monitor. Among other things, the report recommends changes to improve patient treatment, staff competency and professional development, safety, and the hospital’s relationships with (1) the community and (2) patients and their parents.

It must:

1. review the hospital’s operations on an on-going basis,
2. monitor its progress implementing changes recommended in 2006, and
3. participate in coordinating and implementing any planned reorganization of hospital programs, management, or facility infrastructure.

The committee may also make recommendations to the commissioner and hospital supervisory staff for carrying out planned program, management, or facility infrastructure reorganizations. Beginning January 1, 2001, it must report its activities every six months to the Human Services and Children’s committees.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Select Committee on Children

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference
Yea 10 Nay 0 (03/06/2007)

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable
Yea 18 Nay 0 (03/13/2007)