



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Raised Bill No. 1269

LCO No. 4504

04504_____JUD

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:
(JUD)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE QUALITY OF LEGAL REPRESENTATION
OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN JUVENILE MATTERS.***

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Chief Child Protection
2 Attorney appointed under section 46b-123c of the general statutes shall
3 establish a pilot program to provide legal services to children and
4 indigent legal parties in juvenile matters using a multidisciplinary
5 agency model of legal representation. The Chief Child Protection
6 Attorney shall conduct the program in an urban district of the superior
7 court for juvenile matters and a nonurban district of the superior court
8 for juvenile matters.

9 (b) The Chief Child Protection Attorney shall establish a pilot
10 program for the forgiveness of law school loans for attorneys who
11 commit to the full-time practice of law in the field of child protection.

12 (c) The Chief Child Protection Attorney shall contract with an
13 independent evaluator to assess the effectiveness of the pilot programs
14 established pursuant to this section in improving the quality of legal
15 representation and the well-being of children referred to the

16 Department of Children and Families for abuse or neglect. On or
17 before January 1, 2009, the Chief Child Protection Attorney shall
18 submit a report concerning the implementation and effectiveness of
19 such pilot programs to the joint standing committee of the General
20 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary and
21 the select committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
22 matters relating to children, in accordance with the provisions of
23 section 11-4a of the general statutes. Such pilot programs shall
24 terminate not later than June 30, 2009.

25 Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) The sum of four hundred eighty-one
26 thousand dollars is appropriated to the Commission on Child
27 Protection, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30,
28 2008, for personal services.

29 (b) The sum of four hundred eighty-one thousand dollars is
30 appropriated to the Commission on Child Protection, from the General
31 Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, for personal services.

32 Sec. 3. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) The sum of thirteen million nine
33 hundred forty-four dollars is appropriated to the Commission on
34 Child Protection, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending
35 June 30, 2008, for contracted attorneys, family matters attorneys and
36 associated administration expenses.

37 (b) The sum of thirteen million nine hundred forty-four dollars is
38 appropriated to the Commission on Child Protection, from the General
39 Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, for contracted attorneys,
40 family matters attorneys and associated administration expenses.

41 Sec. 4. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) The sum of one million six hundred
42 thousand dollars is appropriated to the Commission on Child
43 Protection, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30,
44 2008, for the pilot program to provide legal services using a
45 multidisciplinary agency model of legal representation established
46 pursuant to subsection (a) of section 1 of this act.

47 (b) The sum of one million six hundred thousand dollars is
48 appropriated to the Commission on Child Protection, from the General
49 Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, for the pilot program to
50 provide legal services using a multidisciplinary agency model of legal
51 representation established pursuant to subsection (a) of section 1 of
52 this act.

53 Sec. 5. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) The sum of five hundred thousand
54 dollars is appropriated to the Commission on Child Protection, from
55 the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, for the pilot
56 program for the forgiveness of law school loans established pursuant
57 to subsection (b) of section 1 of this act.

58 (b) The sum of five hundred thousand dollars is appropriated to the
59 Commission on Child Protection, from the General Fund, for the fiscal
60 year ending June 30, 2009, for the pilot program for the forgiveness of
61 law school loans established pursuant to subsection (b) of section 1 of
62 this act.

63 Sec. 6. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) The sum of fifty thousand dollars is
64 appropriated to the Commission on Child Protection, from the General
65 Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, for initial and in-service
66 training for attorneys providing legal services pursuant to section 46b-
67 123d of the general statutes.

68 (b) The sum of fifty thousand dollars is appropriated to the
69 Commission on Child Protection, from the General Fund, for the fiscal
70 year ending June 30, 2009, for initial and in-service training for
71 attorneys providing legal services pursuant to section 46b-123d of the
72 general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section

Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To improve the quality of legal representation in child protection matters.

[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.]