



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

Raised Bill No. 5495

LCO No. 1800

01800_____KID

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Children

Introduced by:
(KID)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSITION OF YOUTH FROM THE CARE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) On or before July 1, 2009,
2 and annually thereafter, the Commissioners of Children and Families
3 and Mental Health and Addiction Services shall jointly report, in
4 accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the
5 Community Mental Health Strategy Board, established pursuant to
6 section 17a-485b of the general statutes, and to the joint standing
7 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
8 relating to human services, and appropriations and the budgets of
9 state agencies and the select committee of the General Assembly
10 having cognizance of matters relating to children on the transition
11 process for the young adults from the Department of Children and
12 Families to the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

13 (b) The report shall include:

14 (1) A detailed description of such process;

15 (2) (A) The number of children in the care of the Department of
16 Children and Families who are fourteen years of age or older and who
17 may require services from the Department of Mental Health and
18 Addiction Services upon reaching age eighteen, (B) the diagnostic and
19 behavioral issues related to the reason for potential referral to the
20 Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, (C) the
21 anticipated service needs of such children through age twenty-one, (D)
22 the identified permanency plans, and (E) the anticipated budget
23 implications for each department for two years following the date of
24 the report;

25 (3) (A) The number of children in the care of the Department of
26 Children and Families aged sixteen years of age or older who may
27 require services from the Department of Mental Health and Addiction
28 Services upon reaching age eighteen, (B) the diagnostic and behavioral
29 issues related to the reason for potential referral to the Department of
30 Mental Health and Addiction Services, (C) the anticipated service
31 needs of such children through age twenty-one, (D) the identified
32 permanency plans, and (E) the anticipated budget implications for
33 each department for two years following the date of the report;

34 (4) For children described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of
35 this section, (A) the average length of time between the child's
36 sixteenth birthday and the date of referral to the Department of Mental
37 Health and Addiction Services, (B) the average length of time between
38 the date of referral and the date of acceptance for services by the
39 Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, (C) the average
40 length of time between referral and completion of a written transition
41 plan that describes the strengths and service needs necessary for
42 transition to the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services,
43 (D) the number of such children in residential treatment or in
44 psychiatric hospitals who are in discharge delay status, (E) the
45 placement settings of such children, (F) the identified permanency
46 plans, (G) the number of such children (i) who have been adjudicated
47 delinquent, (ii) who have been arrested as adults, and (iii) incarcerated

48 in a facility operated by the Department of Correction, and the average
49 length of incarceration;

50 (5) The number of children referred by the Department of Children
51 and Families who were denied services by the Department of Mental
52 Health and Addiction Services, and the reasons for such denials; and

53 (6) For children referred by the Department of Children and
54 Families who were accepted for services by the Department of Mental
55 Health and Addiction Services, (A) the average length of time between
56 the child's eighteenth birthday and placement in a clinically
57 appropriate level of care, (B) the number receiving services through
58 young adult services division of the Department of Mental Health and
59 Addiction Services and the services provided, (C) the number
60 receiving services through other divisions of the department and the
61 services provided, (D) the number who refuse, withdraw or are
62 discharged, and the average length of time between acceptance and
63 refusal, withdrawal or discharge, and (E) the number arrested or
64 incarcerated prior to their twenty-first birthday.

65 (c) In addition to the information required pursuant to subsection
66 (b) of this section, the commissioners shall jointly review and include
67 in the report: Any barriers to (1) referring no later than thirty days
68 after their sixteenth birthday all children who are in the care of the
69 Department of Children and Families, and who may require services
70 from the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services; (2)
71 completing an eligibility determination no later than thirty days after
72 the date of referral for all such children; (3) developing appropriate
73 transition plans no later than thirty days after a determination that a
74 child will be accepted for services from the Department of Mental
75 Health and Addiction Services; (4) providing clinically appropriate
76 services to children in the care of the Department of Children and
77 Families who may later be referred to the Department of Mental
78 Health and Addiction Services; and (5) providing clinically
79 appropriate services to young adults upon transition to the

80 Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2008	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To ensure that youth with mental illness in the care of the Department of Children and Families are adequately transitioned to the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

[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.]