



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

**Raised Bill No. 5699**

LCO No. 2367

\* \_\_\_\_\_HB05699JUD\_\_\_032408\_\_\_\_\_\*

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:  
(JUD)

**AN ACT IMPROVING OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN UNDER THE  
CUSTODY, CARE OR SUPERVISION OF THE COMMISSIONER OF  
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) With respect to any child  
2 or youth who is under the custody, care or supervision of the  
3 Commissioner of Children and Families due to abuse, neglect or  
4 having been found dependent or uncared for, the commissioner shall  
5 arrange for such child's or youth's case to be reviewed by the court  
6 having jurisdiction over the custody, care or supervision at least once  
7 every ninety days in accordance with subsection (c) of this section.

8 (b) With respect to any child or youth who is under the custody,  
9 care or supervision of the Commissioner of Children and Families due  
10 to abuse, neglect or having been found dependent or uncared for, the  
11 commissioner shall arrange for the child's or youth's case to be  
12 reviewed by the court having jurisdiction over the custody, care or  
13 supervision, in accordance with subsection (c) of this section, after the  
14 occurrence of any of the following events concerning the child or  
15 youth:

16 (1) Transfer of the child or youth from more than two  
17 nonemergency placements within a six-month period;

18 (2) Overstay of an emergency or temporary placement of the child  
19 or youth by more than thirty days, including a placement in a safe  
20 home, shelter or short-term assessment resource center or other short-  
21 term assessment and respite service program;

22 (3) Transfer of the child or youth to an out-of-state placement;

23 (4) Any change of placement of the child or youth that results in a  
24 change of schools;

25 (5) Any expulsion hearing regarding the child or youth;

26 (6) Any arrest or placement of the child or youth in the Connecticut  
27 Juvenile Training School, Manson Youth Institution, York Correctional  
28 Institution or other secure facility;

29 (7) The failure of the commissioner to place the child or youth for  
30 adoption not later than six months after termination of parental rights;

31 (8) The failure of the commissioner to place the child or youth in a  
32 permanent family residence not later than eighteen months after the  
33 child is placed under the custody, care or supervision of the  
34 commissioner; or

35 (9) The child's attaining the age of sixteen.

36 (c) (1) Hearings required under subsections (a) and (b) of this  
37 section shall be in addition to any other regularly scheduled judicial  
38 hearings or reviews regarding the child or youth.

39 (2) The Commissioner of Children and Families shall file an  
40 application with the court having jurisdiction over the custody, care or  
41 supervision not later than seven calendar days prior to the date a  
42 review is required under subsection (a) of this section, and not more  
43 than three calendar days after learning of the existence of one of the

44 events specified in subsection (b) of this section, except that the  
45 representative of the child or youth may file an application with such  
46 court for a hearing required under subsection (a) or (b) of this section if  
47 the commissioner does not file such application by the deadline  
48 established in this subsection. The court shall schedule a hearing on  
49 any such application not later than seven calendar days after such  
50 application is filed unless the hearing is continued for good cause.

51 (d) Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, at least five  
52 calendar days before any hearing required under subsection (a) or (b)  
53 of this section, the Department of Children and Families shall prepare  
54 and file with the court and the representative of the child or youth a  
55 report detailing the history and current status of the child or youth.  
56 The report shall include the following information with respect to the  
57 child or youth:

58 (1) Current and prior placements for the child or youth;

59 (2) Educational progress of the child or youth, including (A) the  
60 number of school transfers for the child or youth, and the department's  
61 determination of whether the child's or youth's remaining in a prior  
62 school after a change in placement is in the child's or youth's best  
63 interest, (B) the child's or youth's attendance records, (C) the child's or  
64 youth's grades, (D) the child's or youth's disciplinary records, (E) the  
65 child's or youth's progress towards fulfilling course requirements for  
66 advancement to the grade level associated with the child's or youth's  
67 age, (F) the department's determination of need, if any, for special  
68 education services for the child or youth, (G) implementation of any  
69 existing individualized education plan for the child or youth, (H) for  
70 children and youths fourteen years of age or older, progress toward  
71 fulfilling course requirements for graduation from high school and  
72 admission to an institution of higher education, (I) for youths sixteen  
73 years of age or older, the plan for paying for and taking examinations  
74 for college admission, (J) for youths sixteen years of age or older, a  
75 statement of whether the youth has been advised individually, in  
76 person and in writing, of the funding available from the Department of

77 Children and Families for the payment of higher education expenses,  
78 including tuition and application fees, (K) for youths sixteen years of  
79 age or older, a statement of whether the youth's guidance counselor or  
80 other official at the youth's school has been informed of the  
81 Department of Children and Families' policy regarding payment of  
82 higher education expenses, including tuition and application fees, and  
83 (L) extracurricular activities of the child or youth;

84 (3) Physical well-being, including the child's or youth's most recent  
85 medical, psychological and dental examinations;

86 (4) The child's or youth's visitation plan with siblings and relatives,  
87 including biological parents;

88 (5) The specific permanency plan for the child or youth, the status of  
89 the factors on which the plan depends, an estimate of the plan's  
90 likelihood for success, and the contingency plan in the event the plan is  
91 not successful, including the timeline for determining when the  
92 contingency plan should go into effect;

93 (6) The child's or youth's juvenile delinquency record, if any; and

94 (7) For all youth sixteen years of age or older, a detailed plan for  
95 preparing such youth to develop skills as the child matures so that the  
96 services of the commissioner are no longer required, including (A) an  
97 evaluation of the appropriateness of the youth's remaining under the  
98 custody, care or supervision of the commissioner until age twenty-one,  
99 and (B) a plan for assisting the youth with: (i) Establishing and  
100 supporting life-long family connections with adults who are significant  
101 to such youth, (ii) housing, (iii) health care, (iv) credit and financial  
102 services, (v) employment, (vi) education, including higher education,  
103 and (vii) emotional and social supports.

104 (e) If a plan for transferring the child or youth out of the custody,  
105 care or supervision of the commissioner has been submitted to the  
106 court pursuant to a review under this section, the Department of  
107 Children and Families shall only be required to file an update on the

108 implementation of the plan at any subsequent hearing required under  
109 this section.

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

**JUD**      *Joint Favorable*