



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

***Raised Bill No. 344***

LCO No. 1908

\*01908\_\_\_\_\_KID\*

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Children

Introduced by:  
(KID)

***AN ACT CONCERNING FAMILY PROSPERITY AND THE  
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CHILD POVERTY AND PREVENTION  
COUNCIL.***

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) The Secretary of the Office of  
2 Policy and Management, in conjunction with the Child Poverty and  
3 Prevention Council, shall establish and administer, within available  
4 appropriations, a competitive grant program for up to five  
5 municipalities whose school districts are priority school districts  
6 pursuant to section 10-266p of the 2008 supplement to the general  
7 statutes. The grants shall be used to establish local pilot programs to  
8 implement proven research-based strategies to reverse child poverty  
9 and to help reach the state goal of reducing child poverty by fifty per  
10 cent by the year 2014. Eligible municipalities may apply for grants at  
11 such time and manner as the secretary prescribes.

12 (b) Each municipality awarded a grant for a local pilot program  
13 shall convene a local child poverty committee. The chief elected official  
14 of the municipality and the superintendent of schools for the school  
15 district shall jointly appoint and convene such committee. The

16 committee shall include: The chief elected official of the municipality,  
17 or the official's designee; the superintendent of schools of the school  
18 district, or the superintendent's designee; the executive director of a  
19 nonprofit social service agency that serves families and children in  
20 poverty, or the executive director's designee; the president of the  
21 regional community-technical college serving the municipality's  
22 region; the executive director of the local or regional workforce  
23 development board; representatives from business, health and  
24 philanthropy; parent representatives; representatives of neighborhood  
25 associations; a representative of the local school readiness council; the  
26 chief of police or the chief's designee; and a representative of a faith-  
27 based organization.

28 (c) The local child poverty committee shall work with community  
29 representatives and regional partners to develop and implement a  
30 comprehensive plan to reduce child poverty by identifying the target  
31 population of the local pilot program pursuant to this section and  
32 developing research-based and intergenerational strategies that assist  
33 children and parents. The plan shall: (1) Focus on research-based  
34 strategies that include (A) homeless diversion programs, (B) quality  
35 child care, and (C) workforce development including literacy, adult  
36 education, post secondary education and vocational training and job  
37 placement; (2) focus on one or more of the following populations (A)  
38 teenage parents, (B) older teenagers and young adults, (C) poor  
39 working families, and (D) early childhood; (3) identify existing  
40 programs and resources that serve the target population; (4) identify  
41 state, federal and local resources and benefits available to such  
42 population, including, but not limited to, the federal earned income tax  
43 credit and federal social service programs; (5) identify areas where  
44 resources can be aligned; (6) identify strategies to better coordinate and  
45 leverage resources; (7) include interventions that focus on (A) family  
46 income and earning potential, (B) literacy, education and vocational  
47 training, (C) income safety net services, and (D) family structure and  
48 support including programs to reduce teenage pregnancy and improve  
49 the income earning potential of fathers; (8) identify community

50 partners; (9) identify methods of tracking progress on the number of  
51 families who have reached economic self sufficiency; (10) develop a  
52 budget for implementation; and (11) a plan for evaluation.

53 (d) The plan developed pursuant to subsection (c) of this section  
54 shall be submitted to the Department of Social Services, in  
55 collaboration with the members of the Child Poverty and Prevention  
56 Council, for approval and implementation. The Child Poverty and  
57 Prevention Council shall convene an interagency committee cochaired  
58 by the members of the Department of Social Services and the  
59 Commission on Children who serve on the Child Poverty and  
60 Prevention Council to work with the local pilot programs and deploy  
61 resources through results-based accountability.

62 (e) Annually from January 1, 2009, to January 1, 2014, inclusive, the  
63 Child Poverty and Prevention Council shall report, in accordance with  
64 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of  
65 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human  
66 services, appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, and  
67 education on progress made by the pilot programs in reducing poverty  
68 in the target population by fifty per cent.

69 Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) The sum of \_\_\_\_ dollars is  
70 appropriated to the Office of Policy and Management, from the  
71 General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, for the grant  
72 program established pursuant to section 1 of this act.

73 (b) The sum of \_\_\_\_ dollars is appropriated to the Office of Policy  
74 and Management, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending  
75 June 30, 2010, for the grant program established pursuant to section 1  
76 of this act.

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

Sec. 2	July 1, 2008	New section
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**Statement of Purpose:**

To establish and administer a grant program to reduce child poverty in the state.

*[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.]*