



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

**Raised Bill No. 413**

LCO No. 2128

\*02128 \_\_\_\_\_ HS\_\*

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:  
(HS)

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY PROVIDER RESCUE FUND  
ACCOUNT AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES COMMISSION.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) There is established an  
2 account to be known as the "community provider rescue fund" which  
3 shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The  
4 State Treasurer shall administer the account. The Secretary of the  
5 Office of Policy and Management shall make funds available in the  
6 account to other state agencies, including the Department of  
7 Developmental Services, the Department of Children and Families, the  
8 Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, the Judicial  
9 Department, the Department of Social Services, the Department of  
10 Correction, the Department of Public Health and the Children's Trust  
11 Fund, for grants to community providers. Such grants may be used to:  
12 (1) Provide an immediate remedy to budget shortfalls for community  
13 providers; (2) establish a stable funding system for community services  
14 and supports for children and adults with disabilities, persons with  
15 substance use disorders and persons with mental illness across the  
16 state; and (3) establish a consistent cost-of-service adjustment to avoid  
17 budget shortfalls in the future. The secretary may receive private

18 donations to said account and any such receipts shall be deposited in  
19 the account.

20 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) There is established a  
21 commission on community-based services. The commission shall  
22 consist of (1) the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management or  
23 the secretary's designee; the Commissioners of Developmental  
24 Services, Mental Health and Addiction Services, Children and  
25 Families, Social Services, Higher Education, Labor, Economic and  
26 Community Development or the commissioners' designees; (2) the  
27 cochairpersons of each of the joint standing committees of the General  
28 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations,  
29 finance, human services, public health, government administration  
30 and elections, and labor or the cochairpersons' designees; two  
31 members appointed by the Governor, one of whom is a provider of  
32 social services for children or adults with disabilities, and one of whom  
33 is a parent of a child or adult with disabilities; one member appointed  
34 by the speaker of the House of Representatives who has knowledge in  
35 the area of social services for individuals with disabilities; one member  
36 appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate who has  
37 knowledge of the labor market; one member appointed by the majority  
38 leader of the House of Representatives who has knowledge of  
39 economics; one member appointed by the majority leader of the Senate  
40 who has knowledge of Medicaid policy; one member appointed by the  
41 minority leader of the House of Representatives who has knowledge of  
42 bonding; one member appointed by the minority leader of the Senate  
43 who has knowledge of purchase of service agreements or education;  
44 two members appointed by the chief executive officer of the  
45 Connecticut Community Providers Association; two members  
46 appointed by the executive director of the Connecticut Association of  
47 Nonprofits; and two members appointed by the executive director of  
48 The Arc of Connecticut.

49 (b) All appointments to the commission shall be made no later than  
50 August 1, 2008. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing

51 authority. The speaker of the House of Representatives and the  
52 president pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the  
53 commission from among the members of the commission. Such  
54 chairpersons shall schedule the first meeting of the commission, which  
55 shall be held no later than September 1, 2008. The commission may,  
56 within available appropriations, contract consultants with expertise in  
57 the areas of economics, the labor market, higher education or  
58 accounting to assist in carrying out its duties. The commission may  
59 receive funds from any public or private sources to carry out its  
60 activities.

61 (c) (1) The purpose of the commission shall be to study and make  
62 recommendations pursuant to subsection (d) of this section concerning  
63 a long-term funding solution for the provision of services for children  
64 and adults with disabilities, persons with substance use disorders and  
65 persons with mental illness. The commission shall make  
66 recommendations concerning: (A) The development of a state-wide  
67 strategic plan for the provision of services for such persons that  
68 includes (i) consistent funding for the provision of such services; (ii)  
69 cost-of-living and other fiscal adjustments in payments to providers of  
70 such services using an indexing option such as the consumer price  
71 index, the medical consumer price index, the home health market  
72 basket administered by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid  
73 Services, or any other indexing option used in this state or other states;  
74 (B) a budget to implement the indexing option pursuant to  
75 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision; and (C) a budget and plan for  
76 stabilizing the service delivery system until indexed payments are  
77 allocated.

78 (2) The commission shall conduct studies, research and analyses and  
79 make reports and recommendations pursuant to subsection (d) of this  
80 section to address the problem of the delivery and funding of such  
81 services for children and adults with disabilities, persons with  
82 substance use disorders and persons with mental illness. Such research  
83 shall include (A) an analysis of the comparative cost of providing such

84 services in the private and public sectors, including an analysis of the  
85 wages and benefits of private sector, public sector and private sector  
86 unionized employees in the human services field; (B) the impact of  
87 standard wage legislation in the state; (C) a comparison of the  
88 compounded Medical Consumer Price Index to the cost-of-living  
89 allocations made to providers of services over a twenty-year period;  
90 (D) an analysis of the percentage increase in the cost of health  
91 insurance, workers' compensation insurance, property casualty  
92 insurance and energy costs since 2000, and a projection of the  
93 percentage increase of such costs to 2013; (E) projected labor market  
94 trends to 2013; and (F) any other study, research and analysis the  
95 commission deems necessary to accomplish the purposes of the  
96 commission.

97 (d) Not later than October 1, 2008, the commission shall submit a  
98 report on proposed budget recommendations and policy changes to  
99 the Governor and to the General Assembly, in accordance with the  
100 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

101 Sec. 3. (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) For the purposes described in  
102 subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission shall have  
103 the power, from time to time, to authorize the issuance of bonds of the  
104 state in one or more series and in principal amounts not exceeding in  
105 the aggregate sixty five million dollars. All provisions of section 3-20 of  
106 the general statutes, or the exercise of any right or power granted  
107 thereby, which are not inconsistent with the provisions of this section  
108 are hereby adopted and shall apply to all bonds authorized by the  
109 State Bond Commission pursuant to this section, and temporary notes  
110 in anticipation of the money to be derived from the sale of any such  
111 bonds so authorized may be issued in accordance with said section 3-  
112 20 and from time to time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such  
113 time or times not exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as  
114 may be provided in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the  
115 State Bond Commission authorizing such bonds. None of said bonds  
116 shall be authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond

117 Commission that there has been filed with it a request for such  
118 authorization which is signed by or on behalf of the Secretary of the  
119 Office of Policy and Management and states such terms and conditions  
120 as said commission, in its discretion, may require. Said bonds issued  
121 pursuant to this section shall be general obligations of the state and the  
122 full faith and credit of the state of Connecticut are pledged for the  
123 payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds as the same  
124 become due, and accordingly and as part of the contract of the state  
125 with the holders of said bonds, appropriation of all amounts necessary  
126 for punctual payment of such principal and interest is hereby made,  
127 and the State Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the  
128 same become due.

129 (b) The proceeds of the sale of said bonds, to the extent hereinafter  
130 stated, shall be used, subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of this  
131 section, for capital improvement projects for the benefit of children and  
132 adults with disabilities, persons with substance use disorders and  
133 persons with mental illness across the state as hereinafter stated: (1)  
134 For the Department of Developmental Services for grants-in-aid, not  
135 exceeding twenty-nine million two hundred fifteen thousand eight  
136 hundred twenty-nine dollars; (2) for the Department of Children and  
137 Families for grants-in-aid, not exceeding thirteen million nine hundred  
138 twelve thousand nine hundred thirty-eight dollars; (3) for the  
139 Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services for grants-in-aid,  
140 not exceeding nine million five hundred fifty-three thousand three  
141 hundred five dollars; (4) for the Judicial Department for grants-in-aid,  
142 not exceeding four million fifty-eight thousand five hundred ninety-  
143 two dollars; (5) for the Department of Social Services for grants-in-aid,  
144 not exceeding four million four hundred fifteen thousand seven  
145 hundred ninety-four dollars; (6) for the Department of Correction for  
146 grants-in-aid, not exceeding one million six hundred eighty thousand  
147 eight hundred eighty-six dollars; (7) for the Department of Public  
148 Health for grants-in-aid, not exceeding one million four hundred  
149 eighty-five thousand nine hundred ninety-five dollars; and (8) for the  
150 Children's Trust Fund, not exceeding six hundred seventy-six

151 thousand six hundred sixty dollars.

152 (c) Grants-in-aid authorized under subsection (b) shall be made  
153 available to community providers for improvements or expansion of  
154 treatment and service facilities, administrative office locations, fire and  
155 code compliance and upgrades, physical plant maintenance and  
156 upgrades, energy and conservation upgrades, replacement of heating  
157 and cooling systems, generators, communication systems, billing  
158 software, accounting software, quality assurance software, medical  
159 records, HIPAA compliance, hardware systems and other technology  
160 improvements. Any grant-in-aid shall be in an amount not in excess of  
161 the cost of the project for which the grant is made.

162 Sec. 4. (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) The sum of one hundred thirty-five  
163 million dollars is appropriated to the Office of Policy and  
164 Management, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June  
165 30, 2009, for deposit in the Community Provider Rescue Fund account  
166 established pursuant to section 1 of this act.

167 (b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009: (1) Sixty million six  
168 hundred seventy-nine thousand thirty dollars of the sum appropriated  
169 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be allocated to the  
170 Department of Developmental Services; (2) twenty-eight million eight  
171 hundred ninety-six thousand one hundred three dollars of the sum  
172 appropriated pursuant to said subsection (a) shall be allocated to the  
173 Department of Children and Families; (3) nineteen million eight  
174 hundred forty-one thousand four hundred eighty dollars of the sum  
175 appropriated pursuant to subsection (a) shall be allocated to the  
176 Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services; (4) eight million  
177 four hundred twenty-nine thousand three hundred eighty-four dollars  
178 of the sum appropriated pursuant to subsection (a) shall be allocated to  
179 the Judicial Department; (5) nine million one hundred seventy-one  
180 thousand two hundred sixty-five dollars of the sum appropriated  
181 pursuant to said subsection (a) shall be allocated to the Department of  
182 Social Services; (6) three million four hundred ninety-one thousand

183 seventy-one dollars of the sum appropriated pursuant to said  
 184 subsection (a) shall be allocated to the Department of Correction; (7)  
 185 three million eighty-six thousand two hundred ninety-seven dollars of  
 186 the sum appropriated pursuant to said subsection (a) shall be allocated  
 187 to the Department of Public Health; and one million four hundred five  
 188 thousand three hundred seventy dollars of the sum appropriated  
 189 pursuant to said subsection (a) shall be allocated to the Children's  
 190 Trust Fund.

191 (c) Amounts allocated to agencies pursuant to subsection (b) of this  
 192 section shall be used for the purposes of section 1 of this act.

193 Sec. 5. (*Effective July 1, 2008*) The sum of two hundred thousand  
 194 dollars is appropriated to the Department of Developmental Services,  
 195 from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, for the  
 196 purpose of providing funds for the activities of the community-based  
 197 services commission.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To establish a community provider rescue fund, community-based services commission and capital improvement fund to stabilize the funding of necessary services for children and adults with disabilities, persons with substance use disorders and persons with mental illness.

*[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.]*