



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2008

LCO No. 6010

HB0549506010HDO

Offered by:

REP. JARMOC, 59th Dist.

REP. WALKER, 93rd Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5495

File No. 395

Cal. No. 226

"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."

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. (*Effective July 1, 2008*) The Child Welfare League of
4 America, pursuant to its contract with the Department of Children and
5 Families, shall conduct an independent investigation into the quality of
6 the department's efforts to engage extended families in the care of
7 children who are in the custody of the commissioner. Such
8 independent investigation shall include: (1) A qualitative case review
9 of children under the age of twelve who were removed from the home
10 of their parents or guardians between June 1, 2006, and June 30, 2007;
11 (2) an assessment of the timeliness and quality of the department's
12 efforts to identify and contact relatives who might be available as
13 placement or visitation resources; (3) an assessment of the quality of

14 the department's efforts to engage and offer support to relatives who
15 express initial unwillingness or inability to serve as placement or
16 visitation resources; (4) an assessment of the frequency with which
17 children are placed in the homes of relatives and whether the
18 department has increased placement in relative homes since January
19 2004; and (5) recommendations for implementing best practices for
20 engaging families and increasing the number of children placed in the
21 care of relatives. On or before January 1, 2009, the department shall
22 provide, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, a
23 copy of the independent investigation report to the joint standing
24 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
25 relating to human services, appropriations and the budgets of state
26 agencies, and the select committee of the General Assembly having
27 cognizance of matters relating to children."