



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

**Proposed Bill No. 5730**

LCO No. 1910

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:

REP. HETHERINGTON, 125th Dist.

**AN ACT CONCERNING PSYCHIATRIC AND PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING OF SCHOOL CHILDREN AND PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS FOR PARENTS.**

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

1 That section 10-76d of the general statutes be amended to require  
2 the Department of Education to include the following in their  
3 publication "Steps to Protect a Child's Right to Special Education:  
4 Procedural Safeguards" and that all parents who are requested by  
5 school Planning Placement Teams (PPT) to have their child evaluated  
6 for any psychiatric or psychological disorder be provided the  
7 following by the PPT prior to the parent signing any consent form for  
8 psychiatric or psychological testing or evaluation of their child: (1) A  
9 statement that neither the state nor federal departments of education  
10 endorses or recommends any checklist, particular form of assessment  
11 or evaluation for psychiatric disorders; (2) a copy of 20 CFR 1232h  
12 "Protection of Pupil Rights"; and (3) a copy of the Hatch Amendment  
13 to the General Education Act as published in the Federal Register on  
14 September 6, 1984, and which became effective November 12, 1984.

***Statement of Purpose:***

To expand the current procedural safeguards regarding a parent's right to informed consent and right to refuse psychiatric or psychological testing and evaluation of their child.