



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

Raised Bill No. 6475

LCO No. 3577

* _____HB06475PRIHS_030909_____*

Referred to Committee on Program Review and Investigations

Introduced by:
(PRI)

**AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE
CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 17a-3 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

3 (a) The department shall plan, create, develop, operate or arrange
4 for, administer and evaluate a comprehensive and integrated
5 state-wide program of services, including preventive services, for
6 children and youths whose behavior does not conform to the law or to
7 acceptable community standards, or who are mentally ill, including
8 deaf and hearing impaired children and youths who are mentally ill,
9 emotionally disturbed, substance abusers, delinquent, abused,
10 neglected or uncared for, including all children and youths who are or
11 may be committed to it by any court, and all children and youths
12 voluntarily admitted to, or remaining voluntarily under the
13 supervision of, the commissioner for services of any kind. Services
14 shall not be denied to any such child or youth solely because of other
15 complicating or multiple disabilities. The department shall work in

16 cooperation with other child-serving agencies and organizations to
17 provide or arrange for preventive programs, including, but not limited
18 to, teenage pregnancy and youth suicide prevention, for children and
19 youths and their families. The program shall provide services and
20 placements that are clinically indicated and appropriate to the needs of
21 the child or youth. In furtherance of this purpose, the department
22 shall: (1) Maintain the Connecticut Juvenile Training School and other
23 appropriate facilities exclusively for delinquents; (2) develop a
24 comprehensive program for prevention of problems of children and
25 youths and provide a flexible, innovative and effective program for the
26 placement, care and treatment of children and youths committed by
27 any court to the department, transferred to the department by other
28 departments, or voluntarily admitted to the department; (3) provide
29 appropriate services to families of children and youths as needed to
30 achieve the purposes of sections 17a-1 to 17a-26, inclusive, as amended
31 by this act, 17a-28 to 17a-49, inclusive, as amended by this act, and
32 17a-51; (4) establish incentive paid work programs for children and
33 youths under the care of the department and the rates to be paid such
34 children and youths for work done in such programs and may provide
35 allowances to children and youths in the custody of the department;
36 (5) be responsible to collect, interpret and publish statistics relating to
37 children and youths within the department; (6) conduct studies of any
38 program, service or facility developed, operated, contracted for or
39 supported by the department in order to evaluate its effectiveness; (7)
40 establish staff development and other training and educational
41 programs designed to improve the quality of departmental services
42 and programs, provided no social worker trainee shall be assigned a
43 case load prior to completing training, and may establish educational
44 or training programs for children, youths, parents or other interested
45 persons on any matter related to the promotion of the well-being of
46 children, or the prevention of mental illness, emotional disturbance,
47 delinquency and other disabilities in children and youths; (8) develop
48 and implement aftercare and follow-up services appropriate to the
49 needs of any child or youth under the care of the department; (9)
50 establish a case audit unit to monitor each area office's compliance

51 with regulations and procedures; (10) develop and maintain a database
52 listing available community service programs funded by the
53 department; (11) provide outreach and assistance to persons caring for
54 children whose parents are unable to do so by informing such persons
55 of programs and benefits for which they may be eligible; and (12)
56 collect data sufficient to identify the housing needs of children served
57 by the department and share such data with the Department of
58 Economic and Community Development.

59 [(b) The department shall prepare and submit biennially to the
60 General Assembly a five-year master plan. The master plan shall
61 include, but not be limited to: (1) The long-range goals and the current
62 level of attainment of such goals of the department; (2) a detailed
63 description of the types and amounts of services presently provided to
64 the department's clients; (3) a detailed forecast of the service needs of
65 current and projected target populations; (4) detailed cost projections
66 for alternate means of meeting projected needs; (5) funding priorities
67 for each of the five years included in the plan and specific plans
68 indicating how the funds are to be used; (6) a written plan for the
69 prevention of child abuse and neglect; (7) a comprehensive mental
70 health plan for children and adolescents, including children with
71 complicating or multiple disabilities; (8) a comprehensive plan for
72 children and youths who are substance abusers, developed in
73 conjunction with the Department of Mental Health and Addiction
74 Services pursuant to the provisions of sections 19a-2a and 19a-7; and
75 (9) an overall assessment of the adequacy of children's services in
76 Connecticut. The plan shall be prepared within existing funds
77 appropriated to the department.]

78 (b) (1) The department, with the assistance of the State Advisory
79 Council on Children and Families, and in consultation with
80 representative of the children and families served by the department,
81 providers of services to children and families, advocates, and others
82 interested in the well-being of children and families in this state, shall
83 develop and regularly update a single, comprehensive strategic plan

84 for meeting the needs of children and families served by the
85 department. In developing and updating the strategic plan, the
86 department shall identify and define agency goals and indicators of
87 progress, including benchmarks, in achieving such goals. The strategic
88 plan shall include, but not be limited to: (A) The department's mission
89 statement; (B) the expected results for the department and each of its
90 mandated areas of responsibility; (C) a schedule of action steps and a
91 time frame for achieving such results and fulfilling the department's
92 mission that includes strategies for working with other state agencies
93 to leverage resources and coordinate service delivery; (D) priorities for
94 services and estimates of the funding and other resources necessary to
95 carry them out; (E) standards for programs and services that are based
96 on research-based best practices, when available; and (F) relevant
97 measures of performance.

98 (2) The department shall begin the strategic planning process on
99 July 1, 2009. The department shall hold regional meetings on the plan
100 to ensure public input and shall post the plan and the plan's updates
101 and progress reports on the department's web site. The department
102 shall submit the strategic plan to the State Advisory Council on
103 Children and Families for review and comment prior to its final
104 submission to the General Assembly and the Governor. On or before
105 July 1, 2010, the department shall submit the strategic plan, in
106 accordance with section 11-4a, to the General Assembly and the
107 Governor.

108 (3) The commissioner shall track and report on progress in
109 achieving the strategic plan's goals not later than October 1, 2010, and
110 quarterly thereafter, to said State Advisory Council. The commissioner
111 shall submit a status report on progress in achieving the results in the
112 strategic plan, in accordance with section 11-4a, not later than July 1,
113 2011, and annually thereafter to the General Assembly and the
114 Governor.

115 (c) The department shall prepare a plan to keep children who are
116 convicted as delinquent and will be committed to the Department of

117 Children and Families and placed in the Connecticut Juvenile Training
118 School in such facility for at least one year after their referral to the
119 department, which plan shall include provisions for development of a
120 comprehensive approach to juvenile rehabilitation.

121 Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 17a-6 of the general statutes is
122 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
123 *1, 2009*):

124 (b) Administer in a coordinated and integrated manner all
125 institutions and facilities which are or may come under the jurisdiction
126 of the department and [may] shall appoint advisory groups for any
127 such institution or facility.

128 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2009*) (a) The facilities that come
129 under the jurisdiction of the Department of Children and Families, as
130 enumerated in section 17a-32 of the general statutes, shall submit an
131 annual report to the State Advisory Council on Children and Families
132 and to their respective advisory groups, established pursuant to
133 subsection (b) of section 17a-6 of the general statutes, as amended by
134 this act. The report shall include, but not be limited to: (1) Aggregate
135 profiles of the residents; (2) a description of and update on major
136 initiatives; (3) key outcome indicators and results; (4) costs associated
137 with operating the facility; and (5) a description of educational,
138 vocational and literacy programs, and behavioral, treatment and other
139 services available to the residents and their outcomes. Each report
140 submitted pursuant to this subsection shall be posted on the
141 department's web site.

142 (b) Such advisory groups shall respond to their facility's annual
143 report, as required by subsection (a) of this section, and provide any
144 recommendations for improvement or enhancement that they deem
145 necessary.

146 (c) The Department of Children and Families shall serve as
147 administrative staff of such advisory groups.

148 Sec. 4. Section 17a-27f of the general statutes is repealed and the
149 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

150 [(a) The Department of Children and Families shall establish a
151 public safety committee in the municipality in which the Connecticut
152 Juvenile Training School is located. The committee shall be composed
153 of the superintendent of said school and representatives appointed by
154 the chief elected official of the municipality. The committee shall meet
155 not less than quarterly to review safety and security issues which affect
156 the host municipality.]

157 [(b)] At the time the Connecticut Juvenile Training School becomes
158 operational, the Department of Children and Families shall ensure that
159 a community security and alert system shall be functional.

160 Sec. 5. Section 46a-13l of the general statutes is repealed and the
161 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

162 (a) The Child Advocate shall:

163 (1) Evaluate the delivery of services to children by state agencies
164 and those entities that provide services to children through funds
165 provided by the state;

166 (2) Review periodically the procedures established by any state
167 agency providing services to children to carry out the provisions of
168 sections 46a-13k to 46a-13q, inclusive, as amended by this act, with a
169 view toward the rights of the children and recommend revisions to
170 such procedures;

171 (3) Review complaints of persons concerning the actions of any state
172 or municipal agency providing services to children and of any entity
173 that provides services to children through funds provided by the state,
174 make appropriate referrals and investigate those where the Child
175 Advocate determines that a child or family may be in need of
176 assistance from the Child Advocate or that a systemic issue in the
177 state's provision of services to children is raised by the complaint;

178 (4) Pursuant to an investigation, provide assistance to a child or
179 family who the Child Advocate determines is in need of such
180 assistance including, but not limited to, advocating with an agency,
181 provider or others on behalf of the best interests of the child;

182 (5) Periodically review the facilities and procedures of any and all
183 institutions or residences, public or private, where a juvenile has been
184 placed by any agency or department;

185 (6) Recommend changes in state policies concerning children
186 including changes in the system of providing juvenile justice, child
187 care, foster care and treatment;

188 (7) Take all possible action including, but not limited to, conducting
189 programs of public education, undertaking legislative advocacy and
190 making proposals for systemic reform and formal legal action, in order
191 to secure and ensure the legal, civil and special rights of children who
192 reside in this state;

193 (8) Provide training and technical assistance to attorneys
194 representing children and guardians ad litem appointed by the
195 Superior Court;

196 (9) Periodically review the number of special needs children in any
197 foster care or permanent care facility and recommend changes in the
198 policies and procedures for the placement of such children;

199 (10) Serve or designate a person to serve as a member of the child
200 fatality review panel established in subsection (b) of this section; and

201 (11) Take appropriate steps to advise the public of the services of the
202 Office of the Child Advocate, the purpose of the office and procedures
203 to contact the office.

204 (b) There is established a child fatality review panel composed of
205 thirteen permanent members as follows: The Child Advocate, or a
206 designee; the Commissioners of Children and Families, Public Health

207 and Public Safety, or their designees; the Chief Medical Examiner, or a
208 designee; the Chief State's Attorney, or a designee; a pediatrician,
209 appointed by the Governor; a representative of law enforcement,
210 appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate; an attorney,
211 appointed by the majority leader of the Senate; a social work
212 professional, appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; a
213 representative of a community service group appointed by the speaker
214 of the House of Representatives; a psychologist, appointed by the
215 majority leader of the House of Representatives; and an injury
216 prevention representative, appointed by the minority leader of the
217 House of Representatives. A majority of the panel may select not more
218 than three additional temporary members with particular expertise or
219 interest to serve on the panel. Such temporary members shall have the
220 same duties and powers as the permanent members of the panel. The
221 chairperson shall be elected from among the panel's permanent
222 members. The panel shall, to the greatest extent possible, reflect the
223 ethnic, cultural and geographic diversity of the state.

224 (c) The panel shall review the circumstances of the death of a child
225 placed in out-of-home care or whose death was due to unexpected or
226 unexplained causes to facilitate development of prevention strategies
227 to address identified trends and patterns of risk and to improve
228 coordination of services for children and families in the state. Members
229 of the panel shall not be compensated for their services, but may be
230 reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of
231 their duties.

232 (d) On or before January 1, 2000, and annually thereafter, the panel
233 shall issue an annual report which shall include its findings and
234 recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on its
235 review of child fatalities for the preceding year.

236 (e) Upon request of two-thirds of the members of the panel and
237 within available appropriations, the Governor, the General Assembly
238 or at the Child Advocate's discretion, the Child Advocate shall conduct
239 an in-depth investigation and review and issue a report with

240 recommendations on the death or critical incident of a child. The
241 report shall be submitted to the Governor, the General Assembly and
242 the commissioner of any state agency cited in the report and shall be
243 made available to the general public.

244 (f) Any state agency cited in a report issued by the Office of the
245 Child Advocate, pursuant to the Child Advocate's responsibilities
246 under this section, shall submit a written response to the report and
247 recommendations made in the report to the Office of the Child
248 Advocate and, in the case of a report pursuant to subsection (e) of this
249 section, to the child fatality review panel, not later than sixty days after
250 receipt of such report and recommendations. The agency shall also
251 submit a copy of such response to the Governor and the General
252 Assembly. The response shall include, but not be limited to: (1)
253 Proposed corrective actions to address identified problems; and (2) a
254 time frame for implementation of improvements.

255 ~~[(f)]~~ (g) The Chief Medical Examiner shall provide timely notice to
256 the Child Advocate and to the chairperson of the child fatality review
257 panel of the death of any child that is to be investigated pursuant to
258 section 19a-406.

259 ~~[(g)]~~ (h) Any agency having responsibility for the custody or care of
260 children shall provide timely notice to the Child Advocate and the
261 chairperson of the child fatality review panel of the death of a child or
262 a critical incident involving a child in its custody or care.

263 Sec. 6. Section 17a-4 of the general statutes is repealed and the
264 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

265 (a) There shall be a State Advisory Council on Children and
266 Families which shall consist of seventeen members appointed by the
267 Governor, including at least five persons who are child care
268 professionals, two persons aged eighteen to twenty-five, inclusive,
269 served by the Department of Children and Families, one child
270 psychiatrist licensed to practice medicine in this state and at least one

271 attorney who has expertise in legal issues related to children and
272 youth. The balance of the advisory council shall be representative of
273 young persons, parents and others interested in the delivery of services
274 to children and youths, including child protection, behavioral health,
275 juvenile justice and prevention services. No less than fifty per cent of
276 the council's members shall be parents or family members of children
277 who have received, or are receiving, behavioral health services, child
278 welfare services or juvenile services and no more than half the
279 members of the council shall be persons who receive income from a
280 private practice or any public or private agency that delivers mental
281 health, substance abuse, child abuse prevention and treatment, child
282 welfare services or juvenile services. Members of the council shall
283 serve without compensation, except for necessary expenses incurred in
284 the performance of their duties. The Department of Children and
285 Families shall provide the council with funding to facilitate the
286 participation of those members representing families and youth, as
287 well as for other administrative support services. Members shall serve
288 on the council for terms of two years each and no member shall serve
289 for more than two consecutive terms. The commissioner shall be an ex-
290 officio member of the council without vote and shall attend its
291 meetings. Any member who fails to attend three consecutive meetings
292 or fifty per cent of all meetings during any calendar year shall be
293 deemed to have resigned. The council shall elect a chairperson and
294 vice-chairperson to act in the chairperson's absence.

295 (b) The council shall meet quarterly, and more often upon the call of
296 the chair or a majority of the members. The council's meetings shall be
297 held at locations that facilitate participation by members of the public,
298 and its agenda and minutes shall be posted on the department's web
299 site. A majority of the members in office, but not less than six
300 members, shall constitute a quorum. The council shall have complete
301 access to all records of the institutions and facilities of the department
302 in furtherance of its duties, while at all times protecting the right of
303 privacy of all individuals involved, as provided in section 17a-28.

304 (c) The duties of the council shall be to: (1) Recommend to the
 305 commissioner programs, legislation or other matters which will
 306 improve services for children and youths, including behavioral health
 307 services; (2) annually review and advise the commissioner regarding
 308 the proposed budget; (3) interpret to the community at large the
 309 policies, duties and programs of the department; [and] (4) issue any
 310 reports it deems necessary to the Governor and the Commissioner of
 311 Children and Families; (5) establish a committee, in accordance with
 312 this subdivision, to fulfill the state's mental health planning and
 313 advisory council responsibilities under Public Laws 99-660, 101-639
 314 and 102-321. The committee shall be appointed by the chairperson of
 315 the council and shall consist of individuals who are knowledgeable
 316 about issues relative to children and youth in need of behavioral health
 317 services and family supports, including, but not limited to, parents and
 318 guardians of children and youth with behavioral health needs; (6)
 319 assist in the development of and review and comment on the strategic
 320 plan developed by the department pursuant to subsection (b) of
 321 section 17a-3, as amended by this act; (7) receive on a quarterly basis
 322 from the commissioner a status report on the department's progress in
 323 carrying out the strategic plan; (8) independently monitor the
 324 department's progress in achieving its goals as expressed in the
 325 strategic plan; and (9) offer assistance and provide an outside
 326 perspective to the department so that it may be able to achieve the
 327 goals expressed in the strategic plan.

328 Sec. 7. Section 17a-1 of the general statutes is repealed and the
 329 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

330 As used in sections 17a-1 to 17a-26, inclusive, as amended by this
 331 act, 17a-28 to 17a-49, inclusive, as amended by this act, 17a-127 and
 332 46b-120, unless otherwise provided in said sections:

333 (1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Children and
 334 Families;

335 (2) "Council" means the State Advisory Council on Children and

336 Families;

337 [(3) "Advisory committee" means the Children's Behavioral Health
338 Advisory Committee to the council;]

339 [(4)] (3) "Department" means the Department of Children and
340 Families;

341 [(5)] (4) "Child" means any person under sixteen years of age;

342 [(6)] (5) "Youth" means any person at least sixteen years of age and
343 under nineteen years of age;

344 [(7)] (6) "Delinquent child" shall have the meaning ascribed thereto
345 in section 46b-120;

346 [(8)] (7) "Child or youth with behavioral health needs" means a child
347 or youth who is suffering from one or more mental disorders as
348 defined in the most recent edition of the American Psychiatric
349 Association's "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders";

350 [(9)] (8) "Individual service plan" means a written plan to access
351 specialized, coordinated and integrated care for a child or youth with
352 complex behavioral health service needs that is designed to meet the
353 needs of the child or youth and his or her family and may include,
354 when appropriate (A) an assessment of the individual needs of the
355 child or youth, (B) an identification of service needs, (C) an
356 identification of services that are currently being provided, (D) an
357 identification of opportunities for full participation by parents or
358 emancipated minors, (E) a reintegration plan when an out-of-home
359 placement is made or recommended, (F) an identification of criteria for
360 evaluating the effectiveness and appropriateness of such plan, and (G)
361 coordination of the individual service plan with any educational
362 services provided to the child or youth. The plan shall be subject to
363 review at least every six months or upon reasonable request by the
364 parent based on a changed circumstance, and be approved, in writing,
365 by the parents, guardian of a child or youth and emancipated minors;

366 [(10)] (9) "Family" means a child or youth with behavioral health
367 needs and (A) one or more biological or adoptive parents, except for a
368 parent whose parental rights have been terminated, (B) one or more
369 persons to whom legal custody or guardianship has been given, or (C)
370 one or more adults who have a primary responsibility for providing
371 continuous care to such child or youth;

372 [(11)] (10) "Parent" means a biological or adoptive parent, except a
373 parent whose parental rights have been terminated;

374 [(12)] (11) "Guardian" means a person who has a judicially created
375 relationship between a child or youth and such person that is intended
376 to be permanent and self-sustaining as evidenced by the transfer to
377 such person of the following parental rights with respect to the child or
378 youth: (A) The obligation of care and control; (B) the authority to make
379 major decisions affecting the child's or youth's welfare, including, but
380 not limited to, consent determinations regarding marriage, enlistment
381 in the armed forces and major medical, psychiatric or surgical
382 treatment; (C) the obligation of protection of the child or youth; (D) the
383 obligation to provide access to education; and (E) custody of the child
384 or youth;

385 [(13)] (12) "Serious emotional disturbance" and "seriously
386 emotionally disturbed" means, with regard to a child or youth, that the
387 child or youth (A) has a range of diagnosable mental, behavioral or
388 emotional disorders of sufficient duration to meet diagnostic criteria
389 specified in the most recent edition of the American Psychiatric
390 Association's "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders",
391 and (B) exhibits behaviors that substantially interfere with or limit the
392 child's or youth's ability to function in the family, school or community
393 and are not a temporary response to a stressful situation;

394 [(14)] (13) "Child or youth with complex behavioral health service
395 needs" means a child or youth with behavioral health needs who needs
396 specialized, coordinated behavioral health services;

397 [(15)] (14) "Transition services" means services in the areas of
398 education, employment, housing and community living designed to
399 assist a youth with a serious emotional disturbance who is
400 transitioning into adulthood; and

401 [(16)] (15) "Community collaborative" means a local consortium of
402 public and private health care providers, parents and guardians of
403 children with behavioral health needs and service and education
404 agencies that have organized to develop coordinated comprehensive
405 community resources for children or youths with complex behavioral
406 health service needs and their families in accordance with principles
407 and goals of Connecticut Community KidCare.

408 Sec. 8. Subsection (a) of section 17a-22b of the general statutes is
409 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
410 *1, 2009*):

411 (a) Each community collaborative shall, within available
412 appropriations, (1) complete a local needs assessment which shall
413 include objectives and performance measures, (2) specify the number
414 of children and youths requiring behavioral health services, and (3)
415 specify the number of children and youths actually receiving
416 community-based and residential services and the type and frequency
417 of such services. [, and (4) complete an annual self-evaluation process
418 and a review of discharge summaries.] Each community collaborative
419 shall submit its local needs assessment to the Commissioner of
420 Children and Families and the Commissioner of Social Services.

421 Sec. 9. Section 17a-145 of the general statutes is repealed and the
422 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

423 No person or entity shall care for or board a child without a license
424 obtained from the Commissioner of Children and Families, except: (1)
425 When a child has been placed by a person or entity holding a license
426 from the commissioner; (2) any residential educational institution
427 exempted by the state Board of Education under the provisions of

428 section 17a-152; (3) residential facilities licensed by the Department of
429 Developmental Services pursuant to section 17a-227; (4) facilities
430 providing child day care services, as defined in section 19a-77; or (5)
431 any home that houses students participating in a program described in
432 subparagraph (B) of subdivision (8) of section 10a-29. The person or
433 entity seeking a child-care facility license shall file with the
434 commissioner an application for a license, in such form as the
435 commissioner furnishes, stating the location where it is proposed to
436 care for such child, the number of children to be cared for, in the case
437 of a corporation, the purpose of the corporation and the names of its
438 chief officers and of the actual person responsible for the child. The
439 Commissioner of Children and Families is authorized to fix the
440 maximum number of children to be boarded and cared for in any such
441 home or institution or by any person or entity licensed by the
442 commissioner. [Each person or entity holding a license under the
443 provisions of this section shall file annually, with the commissioner, a
444 report stating the number of children received and removed during
445 the year, the number of deaths and the causes of death, the average
446 cost of support per capita and such other data as the commissioner
447 may prescribe.] If the population served at any facility, institution or
448 home operated by any person or entity licensed under this section
449 changes after such license is issued, such person or entity shall file a
450 new license application with the commissioner, and the commissioner
451 shall notify the chief executive officer of the municipality in which the
452 facility is located of such new license application, except that no
453 confidential client information may be disclosed.

454 Sec. 10. Section 17a-37 of the general statutes is repealed and the
455 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

456 (a) The Commissioner of Children and Families shall establish a
457 school district within the Department of Children and Families, for the
458 education or assistance of any child or youth who resides in or receives
459 day treatment at any state-operated institution or facility within that
460 department and whose needs require that his education be provided

461 within the institution in which he resides or at which he receives day
462 treatment. The school district shall be known as State of Connecticut-
463 Unified School District #2. The Commissioner of Children and
464 Families shall administer, coordinate and control the operations of the
465 school district and shall be responsible for the overall supervision and
466 direction of all courses and activities of the school district and shall
467 establish such vocational and academic education, research and
468 statistics, training and development services and programs as he
469 considers necessary or advisable in the best interests of the persons
470 benefiting therefrom. The commissioner or his designee shall be the
471 superintendent of said district and shall act in accordance with the
472 applicable provisions of section 10-157.

473 (b) The superintendent of the school district shall have the power to
474 (1) establish and maintain within the Department of Children and
475 Families such schools of different grades as he may from time to time
476 require and deem necessary; (2) establish and maintain within the
477 department such school libraries as may from time to time be required
478 in connection with the educational courses, services and programs
479 authorized by this section; (3) purchase, receive, hold and convey
480 personal property for school purposes and equip and supply such
481 schools with necessary furniture and other appendages; (4) make
482 agreements and regulations for the establishing and conducting of the
483 district's schools and employ and dismiss, in accordance with the
484 applicable provisions of section 10-151, such teachers as are necessary
485 to carry out the intent of this section and to pay their salaries; (5)
486 receive any federal funds or aid made available to the state for such
487 programs and shall be eligible for and may receive any other funds or
488 aid whether private, state or otherwise, to be used for the purposes of
489 this section.

490 (c) The superintendent of the school district may cooperate with the
491 federal government in carrying out the purposes of any federal law
492 pertaining to the education of students within his school district, and
493 may adopt such methods of administration as are found by the federal

494 government to be necessary, and may comply with such conditions as
495 may be necessary to secure the full benefit of all such federal funds
496 available.

497 [(d) The Commissioner of Children and Families shall annually
498 evaluate the progress and accomplishments of the school district
499 established in accordance with subsection (a) of this section. Said
500 commissioner shall submit annual evaluation reports to the
501 Commissioner of Education in order to apprise the State Board of
502 Education of the true condition, progress and needs of said school
503 district. Said commissioner shall follow procedures adopted by the
504 Commissioner of Education in preparation of annual evaluation
505 reports.]

506 Sec. 11. Section 17a-22c of the general statutes is repealed and the
507 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

508 (a) The Commissioner of Children and Families and the
509 Commissioner of Social Services shall establish performance measures
510 in the areas of finance, administration, utilization, client satisfaction,
511 quality and access for Connecticut Community KidCare.

512 (b) The Commissioner of Children and Families shall develop and
513 implement, within available appropriations, culturally appropriate
514 and competency-based curricula including best practices for the care of
515 children and youths with, or at risk of, behavioral health needs and
516 offer training to all willing persons involved in Connecticut
517 Community KidCare, including, but not limited to, employees in
518 education and child care and appropriate employees within the
519 judicial system.

520 [(c) The Commissioners of Children and Families and Social
521 Services shall, within available appropriations, design and conduct a
522 five-year independent longitudinal evaluation with evaluation goals
523 and methods utilizing an independent evaluator. The evaluation shall
524 assess changes in outcomes for individual children, youths and

525 families, evaluate the effectiveness of the overall initiative in the early
 526 phases to guide future expansion of Connecticut Community KidCare
 527 and examine benefits, costs and cost avoidance achieved by it. Such
 528 evaluation may include, but is not limited to, the following: (1)
 529 Utilization of out-of-home placements; (2) adherence to system of care
 530 principles; (3) school attendance; (4) delinquency recidivism rates; (5)
 531 satisfaction of families and children and youths with Connecticut
 532 Community KidCare as assessed through client satisfaction surveys;
 533 (6) coordination of Connecticut Community KidCare with the juvenile
 534 justice, child protection, adult behavioral health and education
 535 systems; and (7) the quality of transition services.]

536 Sec. 12. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) (a) The Commissioner of
 537 Children and Families and the Chief Court Administrator shall
 538 establish, within available appropriations, a pilot program to integrate
 539 the initial written plan for care, treatment and permanent placement of
 540 children and youth required under section 17a-15 of the general
 541 statutes, with the specific steps for family reunification ordered by the
 542 court pursuant to subsection (j) of section 46b-129 of the general
 543 statutes. The Commissioner of Children and Families, in consultation
 544 with said Chief Court Administrator, shall designate one Department
 545 of Children and Families area office to participate in the pilot program.
 546 The pilot program shall terminate not later than October 1, 2011.

547 (b) A court services officer of the court participating in the pilot
 548 program shall be responsible for convening a meeting to promptly
 549 develop the initial treatment plan and proposed specific steps for the
 550 child and family, and shall invite the parents or guardians, the child or
 551 youth, when appropriate, and their respective attorneys, department
 552 staff responsible for developing and implementing treatment plans,
 553 and individuals involved in assessing needs and providing services for
 554 the child and family. Whenever possible, such meetings shall be
 555 convened at times and held in places that maximize the likelihood that
 556 children, youth and their parents or guardians will be able to attend.

557 (c) Following the meeting, the court shall order specific steps that

558 the parent must take to facilitate the return of the child or youth to the
559 custody of such parent. In addition to satisfying the requirements set
560 forth in subsection (a) of section 17a-15 of the general statutes for the
561 Department of Children and Families' written plan for the care,
562 treatment and permanent placement of every child under the
563 commissioner's supervision, the plan shall also include, but not be
564 limited to: (1) Assessment of the health and welfare of the child or
565 youth; (2) an evaluation of the problems and strengths of each child or
566 youth; (3) the proposed plan of treatment services and temporary
567 placement, and a goal for permanent placement of the child or youth;
568 and (4) specific planning goals and clear, comprehensive, time-
569 sensitive action steps for educational and behavioral health needs.

570 (d) The Commissioner of Children and Families and the Chief Court
571 Administrator shall report, in accordance with section 11-4a of the
572 general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General
573 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services and
574 judiciary and the select committee of the General Assembly having
575 cognizance of matters relating to children not later than February 1,
576 2012, concerning the results of such pilot program. The report shall
577 also include a recommendation on whether the program should be
578 expanded state-wide.

579 Sec. 13. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2009*) The Department of Children
580 and Families shall collect and analyze data to determine the per cent of
581 the department's cases of child abuse and neglect that involve a parent
582 or guardian with a substance abuse problem and utilize such data to
583 develop strategies to reduce the number of such cases in the future.

584 Sec. 14. Subsection (b) of section 17a-450a of the general statutes is
585 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
586 *1, 2009*):

587 (b) The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services shall
588 constitute a successor department to the addiction services component
589 of the Department of Public Health and Addiction Services. Whenever

590 the words "Commissioner of Public Health and Addiction Services" are
 591 used or referred to in the following general statutes, the words
 592 "Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services" shall be
 593 substituted in lieu thereof and whenever the words "Department of
 594 Public Health and Addiction Services" are used or referred to in the
 595 following general statutes, the words "Department of Mental Health
 596 and Addiction Services" shall be substituted in lieu thereof: 4a-12, [17a-
 597 3,] 17a-465a, 17a-670 to 17a-676, inclusive, 17a-678 to 17a-682, inclusive,
 598 17a-684 to 17a-687, inclusive, 17a-691, 17a-694, 17a-710, 17a-712, 17a-
 599 713 19a-89c, 20-74o, 20-74p, 20-74q, 21a-274a, 54-36i and 54-56g.

600 Sec. 15. Subsection (b) of section 17a-210c of the general statutes is
 601 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
 602 *1, 2009*):

603 (b) Whenever the term "Commissioner of Mental Retardation" is
 604 used or referred to in the following sections of the general statutes, the
 605 term "Commissioner of Developmental Services" shall be substituted
 606 in lieu thereof: 4-5, 4b-3, 4b-23, 8-3e, 10-76i, [17a-4a,] 17a-22a, 17a-210,
 607 17a-212, 17a-212a, 17a-214, 17a-215a, 17a-215b, 17a-217a, 17a-218, 17a-
 608 218a, 17a-225, 17a-226, 17a-227a, 17a-228, 17a-229, 17a-230, 17a-232,
 609 17a-238, 17a-240, 17a-241, 17a-242, 17a-244, 17a-246, 17a-247a, 17a-248,
 610 17a-270, 17a-272, 17a-273, 17a-274, 17a-276, 17a-277, 17a-281, 17a-282,
 611 17a-582, 17a-584, 17a-586, 17a-587, 17a-588, 17a-592, 17a-593, 17a-594,
 612 17a-596, 17a-599, 17b-28a, 17b-244, 17b-244a, 17b-337, 17b-340, 17b-
 613 492b, 19a-24, 19a-411, 19a-580d, 20-14j, 20-571, 45a-670, 45a-674, 45a-
 614 676, 45a-677, 45a-681, 45a-682, 45a-692, 46a-11a, 46a-11c, 46a-11f, 54-
 615 56d, 54-102g and 54-102h.

616 Sec. 16. Sections 17a-4a, 17a-6b, 17a-6c, 17a-21, 17a-91a, 17a-116b
 617 and 46b-121m of the general statutes are repealed. (*Effective July 1,*
 618 *2009*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	17a-3
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	17a-6(b)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	17a-27f
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	46a-13l
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	17a-4
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	17a-1
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	17a-22b(a)
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	17a-145
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	17a-37
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	17a-22c
Sec. 12	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 13	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 14	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	17a-450a(b)
Sec. 15	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	17a-210c(b)
Sec. 16	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	Repealer section

PRI

Joint Favorable C/R

HS