



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 878

January Session, 2009

* SB00878KIDHS_030409 *

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE PREVENTION ROLE OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) The functions, powers,
2 duties and personnel of the Bureau of Prevention and External Affairs
3 of the Department of Children and Families, or any subsequent bureau
4 or portion of a bureau or division of the department with similar
5 functions, powers, personnel and duties to said bureau as constituted
6 on January 1, 2009, shall be transferred to the Children's Trust Fund
7 Council established under section 17a-50 of the general statutes, as
8 amended by this act, pursuant to sections 4-38d, 4-38e and 4-39 of the
9 general statutes.

10 Sec. 2. Section 17a-50 of the general statutes is repealed and the
11 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

12 (a) There is established a Children's Trust Fund, the resources of
13 which shall be used by the council established pursuant to subsection
14 (b) of this section to fund programs aimed at preventing child abuse
15 and neglect and family resource programs. Said fund is intended to be
16 in addition to those resources that would otherwise be appropriated
17 by the state for programs aimed at preventing child abuse and neglect
18 and family resource programs. The Children's Trust Fund Council may
19 apply for and accept any federal funds which are available for a

20 Children's Trust Fund and shall administer such funds in the manner
21 required by federal law. The fund shall receive money from grants and
22 gifts made pursuant to section 17a-18. The Children's Trust Fund
23 Council shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of
24 chapter 54, to administer the fund and to set eligibility requirements
25 for programs seeking funding. Youth service bureaus may receive
26 funds from the Children's Trust Fund. The Parent Trust Fund,
27 established pursuant to subsection [(c)] (d) of this section, may receive
28 funds directed to it through the Children's Trust Fund.

29 (b) There shall be established, within existing resources, a Children's
30 Trust Fund Council which shall be within the Department of Children
31 and Families for administrative purposes only. The council shall be
32 composed of sixteen members as follows: (1) The Commissioners of
33 Social Services, Education, Children and Families and Public Health, or
34 their designees; (2) a representative of the business community with
35 experience in fund-raising, appointed by the president pro tempore of
36 the Senate; (3) a representative of the business community with
37 experience in fund-raising, appointed by the speaker of the House of
38 Representatives; (4) a representative of the business community with
39 experience in fund-raising, appointed by the minority leader of the
40 House of Representatives; (5) a representative of the business
41 community with experience in fund-raising, appointed by the minority
42 leader of the Senate; (6) a parent, appointed by the majority leader of
43 the House of Representatives; (7) a parent, appointed by the majority
44 leader of the Senate; (8) a parent, appointed by the president pro
45 tempore of the Senate; (9) a person with expertise in child abuse
46 prevention, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;
47 (10) a person with expertise in child abuse prevention, appointed by
48 the minority leader of the House of Representatives; (11) a staff
49 member of a child abuse prevention program, appointed by the
50 minority leader of the Senate; (12) a staff member of a child abuse
51 prevention program, appointed by the majority leader of the House of
52 Representatives; and (13) a pediatrician, appointed by the majority
53 leader of the Senate. The council shall solicit and accept funds, on

54 behalf of the Children's Trust Fund, to be used for the prevention of
55 child abuse and neglect and family resource programs, or on behalf of
56 the Parent Trust Fund, to be used for parent community involvement
57 to improve the health, safety and education of children, and shall make
58 grants to programs pursuant to subsections (a) and ~~[(c)]~~ (d) of this
59 section. The council may, subject to the provisions of chapter 67,
60 employ an executive director and any necessary staff within available
61 appropriations.

62 (c) On and after October 1, 2009, the council shall constitute a
63 successor agency to the Department of Children and Families, in
64 accordance with sections 4-38d, 4-38e and 4-39, with respect to the
65 functions, powers, duties and personnel of the Bureau of Prevention
66 and External Affairs as of January 1, 2009. Any order or regulation of
67 the Department of Children and Families which is in force on October
68 1, 2009, shall continue in force and effect as an order or regulation of
69 the council until amended, repealed or superseded pursuant to law.

70 ~~[(c)]~~ (d) There is established a Parent Trust Fund which shall be
71 used to fund programs aimed at improving the health, safety and
72 education of children by training parents in civic leadership skills and
73 supporting increased, sustained, quality parental engagement in
74 community affairs. The fund shall receive federal or private money
75 from grants and gifts made pursuant to section 17a-18.

76 ~~[(d)]~~ (e) On or before July 1, 1997, and annually thereafter, the
77 Children's Trust Fund Council shall report to the joint standing
78 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
79 relating to human services, public health and education concerning the
80 source and amount of funds received by the Children's Trust Fund and
81 the Parent Trust Fund, and the manner in which such funds were
82 administered and disbursed.

83 Sec. 3. (NEW) *(Effective from passage)* On or before July 1, 2010, the
84 Department of Children and Families shall establish a differential
85 response pilot program in two of the department's regional offices, one

86 in an urban area and one in a rural area. For purposes of the pilot
87 program, the department shall develop and use an assessment
88 standard to determine which investigation and which reports of abuse
89 and neglect pursuant to section 17a-101g of the general statutes,
90 require a full investigation and which reports may be referred to
91 community-based agencies for services. The standard shall take into
92 account the nature of the report and the level of risk to the child. On or
93 before January 1, 2011, the Commissioner of Children and Families
94 shall report, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, on
95 the pilot program to the select committee of the General Assembly
96 having cognizance of matters relating to children.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	17a-50
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section

KID

Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

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