



General Assembly

February Session, 2010

**Raised Bill No. 5067**

LCO No. 611

\*00611\_\_\_\_\_HS\_\*

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:

(HS)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSITION OF CARE AND TREATMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2010*) (a) On or before July 1, 2011,  
2 and annually thereafter, the Commissioners of Children and Families  
3 and Mental Health and Addiction Services shall, within existing  
4 budgetary resources, jointly report, in accordance with section 11-4a of  
5 the general statutes, to the Community Mental Health Strategy Board,  
6 established pursuant to section 17a-485b of the general statutes, and to  
7 the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having  
8 cognizance of matters relating to human services, public health and  
9 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and the select  
10 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
11 relating to children on the transition process for any child or youth  
12 transitioning from the Department of Children and Families to the  
13 Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. For purposes of  
14 this section: (1) "Child" means any person under sixteen years of age;  
15 and (2) "youth" means any person at least sixteen years of age and

16 under nineteen years of age.

17 (b) The report shall include:

18 (1) A detailed description of such process;

19 (2) (A) The number of children and youth in the care of the  
20 Department of Children and Families who are fourteen years of age or  
21 older and who may require services from the Department of Mental  
22 Health and Addiction Services upon reaching age eighteen, (B) the  
23 diagnostic and behavioral issues related to the reason for potential  
24 referral to the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services,  
25 (C) the anticipated service needs of such children and youth through  
26 age twenty-one, (D) the identified permanency plans, and (E) the  
27 anticipated budget implications for each department for two years  
28 following the date of the report;

29 (3) For youth described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of  
30 this subsection, (A) the average length of time between the youth's  
31 sixteenth birthday and the date of referral to the Department of Mental  
32 Health and Addiction Services, (B) the average length of time between  
33 the date of referral and the date of acceptance for services by the  
34 Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, (C) the average  
35 length of time between referral and completion of a written transition  
36 plan that describes the strengths and service needs necessary for  
37 transition to the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services,  
38 (D) the number of such youth in residential treatment or in psychiatric  
39 hospitals who are in discharge delay status, (E) the placement settings  
40 of such youth, (F) the identified permanency plans, and (G) the  
41 number of such youth who have been (i) adjudicated delinquent, (ii)  
42 arrested as adults, or (iii) incarcerated in a facility operated by the  
43 Department of Correction, and the average length of incarceration;

44 (5) The number of youth referred by the Department of Children  
45 and Families who were denied services by the Department of Mental  
46 Health and Addiction Services, and the reasons for such denials; and

47 (6) For youth referred by the Department of Children and Families  
48 who were accepted for services by the Department of Mental Health  
49 and Addiction Services, (A) the average length of time between the  
50 youth's eighteenth birthday and placement in a clinically appropriate  
51 level of care, (B) the number receiving services through young adult  
52 services division of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction  
53 Services and the services provided, (C) the number receiving services  
54 through other divisions of the department and the services provided,  
55 (D) the number who refuse, withdraw or are discharged, and the  
56 average length of time between acceptance and refusal, withdrawal or  
57 discharge, and (E) the number arrested or incarcerated prior to their  
58 twenty-first birthday.

59 (c) In addition to the information required pursuant to subsection  
60 (b) of this section, the commissioners shall jointly review and include  
61 in the report any barriers to: (1) Referring no later than thirty days after  
62 their sixteenth birthday all youth who are in the care of the  
63 Department of Children and Families, and who may require services  
64 from the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services; (2)  
65 completing an eligibility determination no later than thirty days after  
66 the date of referral for all such youth; (3) developing appropriate  
67 transition plans no later than thirty days after a determination that a  
68 youth will be accepted for services from the Department of Mental  
69 Health and Addiction Services; (4) providing clinically appropriate  
70 services to youth in the care of the Department of Children and  
71 Families who may later be referred to the Department of Mental  
72 Health and Addiction Services; and (5) providing clinically  
73 appropriate services to young adults upon transition to the  
74 Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: |                     |             |
| Section 1   | <i>July 1, 2010</i> | New section |

***Statement of Purpose:***

To require the Commissioners of Children and Families and Mental Health and Addiction Services to consider and report on a transition of care and treatment of children and youth from the Department of Children and Families to the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

*[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.]*