



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5160

February Session, 2010

* _____HB05160KIDHS_031010_____*

AN ACT CONCERNING THE WELL-BEING OF ALL CONNECTICUT CHILDREN AND REQUIRING AN ANNUAL REPORT CARD EVALUATING STATE POLICIES AND PROGRAMS IMPACTING CHILDREN.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2010*) (a) The select committee
2 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
3 children, in consultation with the Office of Fiscal Analysis, the Office
4 of Legislative Research and the Commission on Children, shall
5 maintain and review an annual report card that evaluates the progress
6 of state policies and programs in promoting the result that all
7 Connecticut children grow up safe, healthy and ready to lead
8 successful lives. The first report card shall be prepared on or before
9 January 15, 2011, and annually thereafter. Progress shall be measured
10 by primary indicators of progress, including, but not limited to,
11 indicators established in the final report of the Legislative Program
12 Review and Investigations Committee prepared pursuant to the
13 provisions of section 1 of public act 09-166, of state-wide rates of child
14 abuse, child poverty, low birth weight, third grade reading
15 proficiency, and the annual social health index developed under
16 section 46a-131a of the general statutes. On or before January 15, 2011,
17 and annually thereafter, the report card shall be made available to the
18 public on the Internet and located on the web site of the General

19 Assembly and shall be transmitted electronically to (1) members of the
20 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance
21 of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies
22 and to human services, (2) the Commissioners of Children and
23 Families, Education and Public Health, (3) the Child Advocate, (4) the
24 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, (5) the Chief Court
25 Administrator, and (6) the chairperson of the Early Childhood
26 Education Cabinet.

27 (b) On or before January 15, 2011, the select committee of the
28 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children, in
29 consultation with a working group of representatives of state agencies
30 and departments, community organizations, private provider agencies
31 operating programs that impact the well-being of children and
32 families, parents and other caretakers of children, child advocacy
33 organizations, health care professionals that serve children and
34 families, schools, and child care providers, shall (1) identify or develop
35 (A) an indicator for measuring whether children are living with their
36 families and have stability in their living environments, (B) secondary
37 indicators for measuring progress within each area of children's well-
38 being related to measuring progress in their health, safety, stability,
39 education and future success, including food security, and (C) key
40 measures of performance of the state child welfare system, including,
41 but not limited to, (i) rates of repeat maltreatment among victims of
42 child abuse and neglect; (ii) placement in out-of-home care among
43 children at risk of abuse and neglect; (iii) child fatalities involving child
44 abuse or neglect; (iv) rates of reunification and permanency for
45 children removed from their homes; and (v) the developmental and
46 health status and educational progress of children served by the child
47 welfare system and other appropriate measures of well-being and
48 preparation for success in life. At least annually, the committee, with
49 the assistance of the working group, shall review the adequacy of
50 primary and secondary indicators, system-level performance
51 measures, and related data resources for such indicators and measures,
52 and determine whether there are more appropriate alternatives to

53 monitoring progress in achieving the result that children grow up safe,
54 healthy and ready to lead successful lives, and (2) in consultation with
55 the results-based accountability subcommittee of the joint standing
56 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
57 relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, identify
58 programs within the child welfare system that make a significant
59 contribution to the result that all Connecticut children grow up safe,
60 healthy and ready to lead successful lives and require such programs
61 to prepare annual report cards employing the results-based format
62 developed by said joint standing committee.

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

KID

Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

HS