



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5302

February Session, 2010

* _____HB05302PRIHS_031210_____*

AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING AN ACTION PLAN TO IMPROVE FAMILY PRESERVATION AND SUPPORT PROGRAMS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As part of the
2 comprehensive strategic planning process established under
3 subsection (b) of section 17a-3 of the general statutes, the
4 Commissioner of Children and Families shall develop a plan to
5 achieve improved outcomes for clients of the Department of Children
6 and Families' child welfare bureau who receive family preservation
7 and support services. In developing the plan, the department shall: (1)
8 Conduct an assessment of the service needs of the department's child
9 welfare client population, including, at a minimum, an analysis of
10 current service system capacity and demand, as indicated by program
11 wait list information; and (2) examine relevant research to identify the
12 most effective service models for meeting such needs, including, but
13 not limited to, evidence-based models. Not later than September 1,
14 2011, the department shall submit a draft plan to the office of the court
15 monitor at the Department of Children and Families, the Child
16 Advocate and the State Advisory Council on Children and Families for
17 review and comment.

18 (b) Not later than July 15, 2012, the Commissioner of Children and

19 Families shall submit the final plan, in accordance with the provisions
20 of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees
21 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
22 human services and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies,
23 and the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee.
24 The final plan shall include, but not be limited to: (1) Summaries of the
25 client needs assessment and relevant research on program
26 effectiveness; (2) a description of (A) the services provided under each
27 child welfare family preservation and support program as it currently
28 operates, (B) all services provided under the child welfare family
29 preservation and support programs the department plans to operate as
30 a result of its needs assessment and completed research on program
31 effectiveness at current funding levels, and (C) anticipated services
32 provided under each program in the event of a ten per cent increase or
33 ten per cent decrease from the current funding levels; (3) a detailed
34 description of the procedures and resources needed to maintain
35 adequate quality assurance and quality improvement functions for the
36 department's child welfare family preservation and support programs;
37 (4) the comments, if any, received from the court monitor at the
38 Department of Children and Families, the Child Advocate, and the
39 State Advisory Council on Children and Families; and (5) a timetable
40 setting forth steps for plan implementation over a five-year time
41 period through July 15, 2017. The final plan shall also include a
42 strategy for ensuring the department only provides family
43 preservation and support programs and services that are based on
44 research demonstrating their effectiveness, or when such research is
45 not available, evidence the programs and services are meeting
46 identified client needs. In addition, the final plan shall include a
47 process for collecting and analyzing the data needed to evaluate the
48 effectiveness of such programs and services.

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

PRI

Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

HS