



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 5302**

February Session, 2010

\* \_\_\_\_\_HB05302APP\_\_\_042010\_\_\_\_\_\*

**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 and within  
4 existing budgetary resources, the Commissioner of Children and  
5 Families shall develop a plan to achieve improved outcomes for clients  
6 of the Department of Children and Families' child welfare bureau who  
7 receive family preservation and support services. In developing the  
8 plan, the department shall: (1) Conduct an assessment of the service  
9 needs of the department's child welfare client population, including, at  
10 a minimum, an analysis of current service system capacity and  
11 demand, as indicated by program wait list information; and (2)  
12 examine relevant research to identify the most effective service models,  
13 including, but not limited to, evidence-based models, for meeting such  
14 needs. Not later than September 1, 2011, the department shall submit a  
15 draft plan to the office of the court monitor at the Department of  
16 Children and Families, the Child Advocate and the State Advisory  
17 Council on Children and Families for 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 under the child welfare family preservation  
 29 and support programs that the department intends to provide as a  
 30 result of its needs assessment and completed research on program  
 31 effectiveness at current funding levels, and (C) anticipated services  
 32 that would be provided under each program in the event of a ten per  
 33 cent increase or ten per cent decrease from the current funding levels;  
 34 (3) a detailed description of the procedures and resources needed to  
 35 maintain adequate quality assurance and quality improvement  
 36 functions for the department's child welfare family preservation and  
 37 support programs; (4) comments on the plan, if any, received from the  
 38 court monitor at the Department of Children and Families, the Child  
 39 Advocate, and the State Advisory Council on Children and Families;  
 40 and (5) a timetable setting forth steps for plan implementation over a  
 41 five-year time period through July 15, 2017. The final plan shall also  
 42 include a strategy for ensuring the department only provides child  
 43 welfare family preservation and support programs and services that  
 44 are based on research demonstrating their effectiveness, or when such  
 45 research is not available, evidence the programs and services are  
 46 meeting identified client needs. In addition, the final plan shall include  
 47 a 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

**APP**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*