



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5431

February Session, 2010

* _____HB05431HS_____032310_____*

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF PROGRAMS INVOLVING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than October 1, 2010, the
2 Commissioner of Social Services, in consultation with the
3 Commissioner of Public Health, shall submit a plan, in accordance
4 with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint
5 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
6 matters relating to human services and public health concerning the
7 health of each infant born prematurely to a person who is a Medicaid
8 recipient. Such plan shall include recommendations to: (1) Improve
9 hospital discharge plans for such infant, (2) monitor the health of such
10 infant for a period of six months after discharge from the hospital, and
11 (3) ensure that the infant receives adequate health care services after
12 the infant's discharge in order to reduce incidents of rehospitalization.

13 Sec. 2. Subsection (u) of section 46b-231 of the general statutes is
14 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
15 *1, 2010*):

16 (u) (1) The Department of Social Services may in IV-D cases (A)
17 bring petitions for support orders pursuant to section 46b-215, (B)
18 obtain acknowledgments of paternity, (C) bring applications for show
19 cause orders pursuant to section 46b-172, (D) file agreements for

20 support with the assistant clerk of the Family Support Magistrate
21 Division, (E) issue withholding orders entered by the Superior Court
22 or a family support magistrate in accordance with subsection (b) of
23 section 52-362, and (F) upon notice to the obligor and obligee, redirect
24 payments for the support of any child receiving child support
25 enforcement services either to the state of Connecticut or to the present
26 custodial party, as their interests may appear, for distribution in
27 accordance with Title IV-D of the Social Security Act, provided neither
28 the obligor nor the obligee objects in writing within ten business days
29 from the mailing date of such notice, and provided further that any
30 such notice shall be sent by first class mail to the most recent address
31 of such obligor and obligee, as recorded in the state case registry
32 pursuant to section 46b-218, and a copy of such notice shall be filed
33 with the court or family support magistrate if both the obligor and
34 obligee fail to object to the redirected payments within ten business
35 days from the mailing date of such notice.

36 (2) The Department of Social Services shall provide notice not less
37 than once every three years to the parents subject to a support order in
38 a IV-D case informing the parents of their right to request a review
39 under subdivision (4) of subsection (s) of this section. Such notice shall
40 specifically inform such parents that loss of income may be grounds to
41 modify a support order, including, but not limited to, loss of income
42 resulting from (A) a parent's incarceration, or (B) a substantial change
43 in a parent's employment status resulting in job loss, reduction of
44 hours or a lower rate of pay.

45 Sec. 3. Section 17b-749c of the general statutes is repealed and the
46 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2010*):

47 (a) The Commissioner of Social Services, in consultation with the
48 Commissioner of Education, shall establish a program, within
49 available appropriations, to provide, on a competitive basis,
50 supplemental quality enhancement grants to providers of child day
51 care services or providers of school readiness programs pursuant to
52 section 10-16p and section 10-16u. Child day care providers and school

53 readiness programs may apply for a supplemental quality
54 enhancement grant at such time and on such form as the
55 Commissioner of Social Services prescribes.

56 (b) Priority for such grants shall be given to programs that are: (1)
57 Included in a local school readiness plan; (2) full-day, year-round
58 programs; and (3) accredited, as defined in subdivision (4) of
59 subsection (a) of section 10-16p.

60 (c) The grants shall be used to:

61 (1) Help providers who are not accredited by the National
62 Association for the Education of Young Children to obtain such
63 accreditation;

64 (2) Help directors and administrators to obtain training;

65 (3) Provide comprehensive services, such as enhanced access to
66 health care, a health consultant, a mental health consultant, nutrition,
67 family support services, parent education, literacy and parental
68 involvement, and community and home outreach programs; and
69 provide information concerning access when needed to a speech and
70 language therapist;

71 (4) Purchase educational equipment;

72 (5) Provide scholarships for training to obtain a credential in early
73 childhood education or child development;

74 (6) Provide training for persons who are mentor teachers, as defined
75 in federal regulations for the Head Start program, and provide a
76 family service coordinator or a family service worker as such positions
77 are defined in such federal regulations;

78 (7) Repair fire, health and safety problems in existing facilities and
79 conduct minor remodeling to comply with the Americans with
80 Disabilities Act; train child care providers on injury and illness
81 prevention; and achieve compliance with national safety standards;

82 (8) Create a supportive network with family day care homes and
83 other providers of care for children;

84 (9) Provide for educational consultation and staff development;

85 (10) Provide for program quality assurance personnel;

86 (11) Provide technical assistance services to enable providers to
87 develop child care facilities pursuant to sections 17b-749g, 17b-749h
88 and 17b-749i;

89 (12) Establish a single point of entry system;

90 (13) Provide services that enhance the quality of programs to
91 maximize the health, safety and learning of children from birth to three
92 years of age, inclusive, including, but not limited to, those children
93 served by informal child care arrangements. Such grants may be used
94 for the improvement of staff to child ratios and interaction, initiatives
95 to promote staff retention, preliteracy development, parent
96 involvement, curriculum content and lesson plans.

97 (d) The Commissioner of Social Services shall ensure that
98 supplemental quality enhancement grant funds are made available not
99 later than August first, annually, to child day care providers and
100 school readiness programs that are awarded such grants.

101 Sec. 4. Section 17b-791 of the 2010 supplement to the general statutes
102 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
103 *1, 2010*):

104 The Department of Social Services shall establish a supplemental
105 nutrition commodities assistance program to provide funds for the
106 purchase of high protein or other nutritionally beneficial supplemental
107 foods, or both, for soup kitchens, food pantries and emergency
108 shelters. Such foods shall be purchased in bulk by the Connecticut
109 Food Bank through in-state wholesalers or brokers, or both, and
110 allotted to existing soup kitchens, food pantries and emergency
111 shelters in accordance with the established policies of the Connecticut

112 Food Bank. Such soup kitchens, food pantries and emergency shelters
113 shall pay a handling charge [of five cents per pound] that is not more
114 than the handling charge established by the Feeding America network
115 of food banks in order to cover the costs incurred by the Connecticut
116 Food Bank. The food shall be distributed free of charge by the soup
117 kitchens, food pantries and emergency shelters.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	46b-231(u)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	17b-749c
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	17b-791

HS *Joint Favorable Subst.*