



General Assembly

February Session, 2010

Raised Bill No. 53

LCO No. 308

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Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Children

Introduced by:
(KID)

AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO NOTIFY NONCUSTODIAL PARENTS OF CERTAIN ABUSE AND NEGLECT INVESTIGATIONS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 17a-103b of the general statutes is repealed and
2 the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2010*):

3 (a) Upon a substantiated complaint of abuse of a child having a
4 single custodial parent or a guardian, the Department of Children and
5 Families shall give, when deemed, except as provided in this
6 subsection, to be in the best interests of the child, to the noncustodial
7 parent, custodial parent, guardian of the child, and parents if the
8 Department of Children and Families has custody of a child, notice of
9 (1) the circumstances of the complaint, including the name of the
10 person who caused the abuse, (2) the availability of services from the
11 department, including, but not limited to, child care subsidies and
12 emergency shelter, and (3) the programs of the Office of Victim
13 Services and information on obtaining a restraining order. The notice
14 shall also inform the recipient that such child may be removed from
15 the custody of the custodial parent by the department if such removal

16 is authorized under the general statutes. If the substantiated complaint
17 involved abuse of the child by the custodial parent, the department
18 shall provide such notice to the noncustodial parent regardless of the
19 department's determination of the best interests of the child. The
20 department shall employ all reasonable efforts to provide the notice
21 [within] by the date ten days [of] after substantiation of a complaint.

22 (b) The notice required under subsection (a) of this section shall be
23 in English or the principal language of the recipient, if known, and be
24 delivered (1) by certified mail, return receipt requested, directed to the
25 last-known address of each recipient, or (2) by an agent of the
26 department. In the case of personal delivery by an agent, written
27 acknowledgment of such delivery shall be made by the recipient.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2010	17a-103b

Statement of Purpose:

To require the Department of Children and Families to provide notification to a noncustodial parent of abuse or neglect investigations involving the custodial parent.

[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.]