



Meriden  
Children First

March 4, 2010

To: Sen. Anthony J. Musto, Co-Chair, Select Committee on Children  
Rep. Diana S. Urban, Co-Chair, Select Committee on Children  
Sen. Edward Meyer, Vice Chair, Select Committee on Children  
Rep. Karen Jarmoc, Vice Chair, Select Committee on Children

Sen. Paul R. Doyle, Chair, Human Services Committee  
Rep. Toni E. Walker, Chair, Human Services Committee  
Sen. Eric D. Coleman, Vice Chair, Human Services Committee  
Rep. Catherine F. Abercrombie, Vice Chair, Human Services Committee

From: David Radcliffe, Director

**RE: RB 5360 Children and the Recession, An Urgent Response to the Family**

Connecticut is the first state to address the impact of the recession on children. During these difficult times, 35,000 children will fall into poverty in our state. If we do nothing, this will cost 800 million dollars to our taxpayers. RB 5360, landmark proposed legislation, seeks to reduce the impact of the recession on children, in both fiscal and personal cost, through strategies that reduce the number of children who fall into poverty and that mediate the traumatic effects of sudden poverty on the family.

Benefits of RB 5360 include:

- Maximizes federal funding and coordination
- Improves service delivery, systems and processes
- Addresses job shortages and unemployment
- Helps parents work and children thrive
- Maintains educational opportunities for youth and young adults
- Maximizes interagency and private sector partnerships
- Ensures public accountability

Thank you and all of the participants of the Speaker's Recession Taskforce for your leadership on this critically important issue.

Cc: Speaker of the House Chris Donovan  
President Pro Tempore, Senator Don Williams

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