



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5363

February Session, 2012

* _____HB05363JUD___032712_____*

**AN ACT CONCERNING INTERVIEWS OF CHILDREN BY THE
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES DURING
INVESTIGATIONS OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 17a-101h of the 2012 supplement to the general
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3 (*Effective October 1, 2012*):

4 Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, any person
5 authorized to conduct an investigation of abuse or neglect shall
6 coordinate investigatory activities in order to minimize the number of
7 interviews of any child and share information with other persons
8 authorized to conduct an investigation of child abuse or neglect, as
9 appropriate. A person reporting child abuse or neglect shall provide
10 any person authorized to conduct an investigation of child abuse or
11 neglect with all information related to the investigation that is in the
12 possession or control of the person reporting child abuse or neglect,
13 except as expressly prohibited by state or federal law. The
14 [commissioner] Department of Children and Families shall obtain the
15 consent of parents or guardians or other persons responsible for the
16 care of the child to any interview with a child, except that such consent
17 shall not be required when the department has a documented
18 compelling reason to believe [such parent or guardian or other person
19 responsible for the care of the child or member of the child's household

20 is the perpetrator of the alleged abuse] that seeking such consent will
21 place the child at imminent risk of physical harm. If consent is not
22 required to conduct the interview, such interview shall be conducted
23 in the presence of a disinterested adult unless immediate access to the
24 child is necessary to protect the child from imminent risk of physical
25 harm and a disinterested adult is not available after reasonable search.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2012</i>	17a-101h

JUD *Joint Favorable Subst.*