



General Assembly

February Session, 2012

Raised Bill No. 294

LCO No. 1518

01518_____KID

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Children

Introduced by:
(KID)

AN ACT CONCERNING CHILDREN AND THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.

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

1 Section 1. Section 17a-98 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):

3 The Commissioner of Children and Families, or any agent
4 appointed by [him] said commissioner, shall exercise careful
5 supervision of each child under [his] said commissioner's
6 guardianship or care and shall maintain such contact with the child
7 and [his] the child's foster family as is necessary to promote the child's
8 safety and [his] physical, educational, moral and emotional
9 development, including, but not limited to, visiting each foster home at
10 least once every sixty days. The commissioner shall maintain such
11 records and accounts as may be necessary for the proper supervision
12 of all children under [his] said commissioner's guardianship or care.

13 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2012*) Not later than sixty days
14 after a child or youth with behavioral health needs, as defined in
15 section 17a-1 of the general statutes, is placed in the care and custody

16 of the Commissioner of Children and Families, said commissioner
17 shall visit the family home or homes of such child or youth. The
18 commissioner shall conduct such visit for the purpose of assessing
19 potential causes of such child's behavioral health needs, including, but
20 not limited to, genetic and familial factors, and determining the
21 resources needed to best treat such child.

22 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2012*) (a) The Department of
23 Children and Families shall respond to foster families' written special
24 requests including, but not limited to, requests to allow a foster child
25 to travel overnight and out-of-state with such child's foster family. The
26 department shall respond to any such requests in a timely manner.

27 (b) The Commissioner of Children and Families shall adopt
28 regulations, in accordance with chapter 54 of the general statutes, to
29 implement the provisions of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2012</i>	17a-98
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2012</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2012</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To require employees of the Department of Children and Families to visit foster homes and the homes of children or youth every sixty days and to require the department to respond to foster families' written special requests in a timely manner.

[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.]