



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 523**

January Session, 2013

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1136

*Senate, April 16, 2013*

The Committee on Public Health reported through SEN. GERRATANA of the 6th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## ***AN ACT CONCERNING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioners of  
2 Mental Health and Addiction Services, Children and Families and  
3 Social Services, in consultation with the Behavioral Health Partnership  
4 Oversight Council, established pursuant to section 17a-22j of the  
5 general statutes, shall establish and implement a regional behavioral  
6 health consultation and care coordination program for primary care  
7 providers who serve children. Such program shall provide to such  
8 primary care providers: (1) Timely access to a consultation team that  
9 includes a child psychiatrist, social worker and a care coordinator; (2)  
10 patient care coordination and transitional services for behavioral  
11 health care; and (3) training and education concerning patient access to  
12 behavioral health services. Said commissioners may enter into a  
13 contract for services to administer such program.

14 (b) Not later than October 1, 2013, said commissioners shall jointly  
15 submit a plan, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the

16 general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General  
 17 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health,  
 18 children, human services and appropriations concerning the program  
 19 to be established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section. Such plan  
 20 shall include, but not be limited to, a timeline for implementing such  
 21 program.

22 (c) The Commissioner of Children and Families may adopt  
 23 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the  
 24 general statutes, to implement the provisions of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**PH**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

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**OFA Fiscal Note****State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

The bill is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact as the provisions conform to current law as amended by PA 13-3, An Act Concerning Gun Violence Prevention and Children's Safety. PA 13-3 requires the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to implement a regional behavioral health consultation and care coordination program, at an estimated annual cost of \$1.8 million. This bill requires DCF and the Departments of Social Services and Mental Health and Addiction Services to contract for the same program. DCF is the only agency that can adopt regulations under both this bill and PA 13-3.

**The Out Years****State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

**OLR Bill Analysis****sSB 1136*****AN ACT CONCERNING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the commissioners of the mental health and addiction services, children and families (DCF), and social services departments, in consultation with the Behavioral Health Partnership Oversight Council, to establish and implement a regional behavioral health consultation and care coordination program for primary care providers who serve children.

Under the bill, the program must give these primary care providers (1) timely access to a consultation team that includes a child psychiatrist, social worker, and care coordinator; (2) patient care coordination and transitional services for behavioral health care; and (3) training and education concerning patient access to behavioral health services. The commissioners may enter into a contract for services to administer the program.

The bill requires the commissioners to jointly submit a plan to the Public Health, Children, Human Services, and Appropriations Committees. The plan must be submitted by October 1, 2013 and include an implementation timeline for the program.

The DCF commissioner may adopt regulations to implement the program.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 28 Nay 0 (04/01/2013)