



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6359

January Session, 2013



AN ACT CONCERNING AN EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEM.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) (a) There shall be an Office
2 of Early Childhood. The office shall be under the direction of the
3 executive director of the Office of Early Childhood, whose
4 appointment shall be made by the Governor. Such appointment shall
5 be in accordance with the provisions of sections 4-5 to 4-8, inclusive, of
6 the general statutes, as amended by this act. The executive director
7 shall be responsible for implementing the policies and directives of the
8 office. Said office shall be within the Department of Education for
9 administrative purposes only pursuant to section 4-38f of the general
10 statutes.

11 (b) The office shall be responsible for: (1) The delivery of services to
12 children; (2) administering the coordinated system of early care and
13 education and child development, pursuant to section 10-16bb of the
14 general statutes, as amended by this act; (3) developing and
15 implementing an early childhood information system with the
16 capability of tracking (A) the health, safety and school readiness of all
17 children receiving early care and education from any local or regional
18 board of education or any program receiving public funding, in a
19 manner similar to the system described in section 10-10a of the general
20 statutes, (B) the characteristics of the existing and potential workforce

21 serving such children in any local or regional school district or in a
22 program receiving any public funding, and (C) the characteristics of
23 the programs in which such children are served; (4) developing and
24 reporting on an early childhood accountability plan, in consultation
25 with the Early Childhood Education Cabinet; (5) implementing a
26 communications strategy for outreach to families, service providers
27 and policymakers; (6) not later than January 1, 2015, beginning a state-
28 wide longitudinal evaluation of the school readiness program
29 examining the educational progress of children from prekindergarten
30 programs to grade four, inclusive, including a study of the reliability
31 and validity of the kindergarten assessment tool developed pursuant
32 to subsection (h) of section 10-14n of the general statutes; (7)
33 developing, coordinating and supporting public and private
34 partnerships to aid early childhood initiatives; and (8) developing a
35 plan for (A) changing the requirement for when a child five years of
36 age may enroll in kindergarten pursuant to section 10-15c of the
37 general statutes from January first of the school year to October first of
38 the school year, and (B) the creation of spaces in school readiness
39 programs for those children who reach five years of age after October
40 first of any school year and are no longer eligible to enroll in
41 kindergarten for such school year.

42 (c) Any local or regional board of education, school readiness
43 program, as defined in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 10-
44 16p of the general statutes, receiving any public funding, or any child
45 day care center described in subdivision (1) of section 19a-77 of the
46 general statutes, as amended by this act, and licensed by the
47 Department of Public Health or the Office of Early Childhood, shall
48 ensure that all children and all staff in such center or program are
49 entered into the early childhood information system.

50 (d) The Office of Early Childhood shall constitute a successor
51 department, in accordance with the provisions of sections 4-38d, 4-38e
52 and 4-39 of the general statutes, to (1) the Department of Education
53 with respect to sections 8-210, 10-4o, 10-16n, 10-16p to 10-16r, inclusive,

54 10-16u, 10-16w, 10-16aa, 10-16dd, 17b-749a, 17b-749c and 17b-749g to
55 17b-749i, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended by this act; (2)
56 the Department of Social Services with respect to section 15 of this act
57 and sections 17b-705a, 17b-12, 17b-730, 17b-733 to 17b-739, inclusive,
58 17b-749, 17b-749d to 17b-749f, inclusive, 17b-749j, 17b-749k, 17b-750 to
59 17b-751a, inclusive, 17b-751d and 17b-751e of the general statutes, as
60 amended by this act; (3) the Department of Developmental Services
61 with respect to sections 17a-248, 17a-248b to 17a-248d, inclusive, and
62 17a-248g of the general statutes, as amended by this act; and (4) the
63 Department of Public Health with respect to sections 10a-194c, 12-634,
64 17a-28, 17a-101, 17b-90, 19a-77, 19a-79, 19a-80, 19a-80f, 19a-82 and 19a-
65 86 to 19a-87e, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

66 Sec. 2. Section 4-5 of the general statutes is repealed and the
67 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

68 As used in sections 4-6, 4-7 and 4-8, the term "department head"
69 means Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management,
70 Commissioner of Administrative Services, Commissioner of Revenue
71 Services, Banking Commissioner, Commissioner of Children and
72 Families, Commissioner of Construction Services, Commissioner of
73 Consumer Protection, Commissioner of Correction, Commissioner of
74 Economic and Community Development, State Board of Education,
75 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection,
76 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection,
77 Commissioner of Agriculture, Commissioner of Public Health,
78 Insurance Commissioner, Labor Commissioner, Liquor Control
79 Commission, Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services,
80 Commissioner of Social Services, Commissioner of Developmental
81 Services, Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, Commissioner of
82 Transportation, Commissioner of Veterans' Affairs, Commissioner of
83 Housing, Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services, the executive
84 director of the Office of Early Childhood and the executive director of
85 the Office of Military Affairs. As used in sections 4-6 and 4-7,
86 "department head" also means the Commissioner of Education and the

87 president of the Board of Regents for Higher Education.

88 Sec. 3. Section 10-16bb of the general statutes is repealed and the
89 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

90 (a) On and after July 1, 2013, [there shall be] the Office of Early
91 Childhood shall administer a coordinated system of early care and
92 education and child development. The coordinated system of early
93 care and education and child development shall consist of
94 comprehensive and aligned policies, responsibilities, practices and
95 services for young children and their families, including prenatal care
96 and care for children from birth to eight years of age, inclusive, to
97 ensure optimal health, safety and learning for each child, and that are
98 in accordance with the plan developed by the planning director
99 pursuant to section 10-16cc.

100 (b) The Office of Early Childhood, in administering the coordinated
101 system of early care and education and child development, shall (1)
102 create a unified set of reporting requirements for the programs
103 described in subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 10-16cc, as
104 amended by this act, for the purpose of collecting the data elements
105 necessary to perform quality assessments and longitudinal analysis; (2)
106 compare and analyze the data collected pursuant to reporting
107 requirements created under subdivision (1) of this subsection with the
108 data collected in the state-wide public school information system,
109 pursuant to section 10-10a, for population-level analysis of children
110 and families; (3) develop and update appropriate early learning
111 standards and assessment tools for children from birth to five years of
112 age, inclusive, that are age and developmentally appropriate and that
113 are aligned with existing learning standards as of July 1, 2013, and
114 assessment tools for students in grades kindergarten to twelve,
115 inclusive; (4) continually monitor and evaluate all early childhood
116 education and child care programs and services, focusing on program
117 outcomes in satisfying the health, safety, developmental and
118 educational needs of all children; (5) develop indicators that assess
119 strategies designed to strengthen the family through parental

120 involvement in a child's development and education, including
121 children with special needs; (6) increase the availability of early
122 childhood education and child care programs and services and
123 encourage the providers of such programs and services to work
124 together to create multiple options that allow families to participate in
125 programs that serve the particular needs of each family; (7) provide
126 information and technical assistance to persons seeking early
127 childhood education and child care programs and services; (8) assist
128 state agencies and municipalities in obtaining available federal
129 funding for early childhood education and child care programs and
130 services; (9) provide technical assistance and consultation to licensed
131 providers of early childhood education and child care programs and
132 services and assist any potential provider of such programs and
133 services in obtaining the necessary licensure and certification; (10)
134 incorporate the quality rating and improvement system developed by
135 the [Department of Education] office that covers home-based, center-
136 based and school-based early child care and learning; (11) maintain a
137 system of accreditation facilitation to assist early childhood education
138 and child care programs and services in achieving national standards
139 and program improvement; (12) create partnerships between state
140 agencies and philanthropic organizations to assist in the
141 implementation of the coordinated system of early care and education
142 and child development; (13) align the system's policy and program
143 goals with those of the Early Childhood Education Cabinet, pursuant
144 to section 10-16z, as amended by this act, and the Head Start advisory
145 committee, pursuant to section 10-16n, as amended by this act; (14)
146 ensure a coordinated and comprehensive state-wide system of
147 professional development for providers of early childhood education
148 and child care programs and services; (15) develop family-centered
149 services that assist families in their communities; (16) provide families
150 with opportunities for choice in services including quality child care;
151 (17) integrate early childhood education and special education
152 services; (18) emphasize targeted research-based interventions; (19)
153 organize services into a coherent system; (20) coordinate a
154 comprehensive and accessible delivery system for early childhood

155 education and child care services; (21) focus on performance measures
156 to ensure that services are accountable, effective and accessible to the
157 consumer; (22) promote universal access to early childhood care and
158 education; (23) ensure nonduplication of monitoring and evaluation;
159 (24) encourage, promote and coordinate funding for the establishment
160 and administration of local and regional early childhood councils that
161 implement local and regional birth-to-eight systems; and (25) perform
162 any other activities that will assist in the provision of early childhood
163 education and child care programs and services.

164 (c) The Office of Early Childhood, in administering the coordinated
165 system of early care and education and child development, shall
166 collaborate with local and regional early childhood councils to
167 implement the coordinated system of early care and education and
168 child development at the local level. Such early childhood councils
169 shall: (1) Develop and implement a comprehensive plan for an early
170 childhood system for the community served by such early childhood
171 council, (2) develop policy and program planning, (3) encourage
172 community participation by emphasizing substantial parental
173 involvement, (4) collect, analyze and evaluate data with a focus on
174 program and service outcomes, (5) allocate resources, and (6) perform
175 any other functions that will assist in the provision of early childhood
176 programs and services. Such early childhood councils may enter into
177 memoranda of agreement with the local or regional school readiness
178 council, described in section 10-16r, as amended by this act, of the
179 town or region served by such early childhood council to perform the
180 duties and functions of a school readiness council, in accordance with
181 the provisions of said section 10-16r, or if no such local or regional
182 school readiness council exists for the town or region of such early
183 childhood council, perform the duties and functions of a school
184 readiness council, in accordance with the provisions of section 10-16r,
185 as amended by this act.

186 (d) The Office of Early Childhood, in administering the coordinated
187 system of early care and education and child development, may enter

188 into memoranda of agreement with and accept donations from
189 nonprofit and philanthropic organizations to accomplish the purposes
190 of this section.

191 Sec. 4. Section 10-16cc of the general statutes is repealed and the
192 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

193 (a) On or before July 15, 2011, the Governor shall appoint, in
194 consultation with the Early Childhood Education Cabinet, established
195 under section 10-16z, as amended by this act, a planning director for
196 the planning and development of the coordinated system of early care
197 and education and child development described in section 10-16bb, as
198 amended by this act, provided such appointment is made within
199 available appropriations or funded by donations from private sources
200 or federal funds to cover the costs of carrying out the provisions of this
201 section. The planning director shall be within the Office of Policy and
202 Management.

203 (b) (1) The planning director shall develop a plan for the
204 coordinated system of early care and education and child development
205 to be administered by the Office of Early Childhood, pursuant to
206 section 10-16bb, as amended by this act. Such plan shall consolidate
207 existing early childhood education and child care programs and
208 services serving children from birth to eight years of age, inclusive,
209 into a coordinated system that attempts to (A) reduce the academic
210 achievement gap, (B) increase participation in early childhood
211 education programs, (C) increase parent engagement, family literacy
212 and parenting skills, (D) increase oral language development, (E)
213 increase social competence, (F) decrease special education placements,
214 and (G) support parents and guardians of young children to find
215 employment and to remain employed and encourage such parents and
216 guardians to attend work training programs. Consolidation may
217 include, but not be limited to, school readiness programs, Head Start
218 programs, the family resource center program, established pursuant to
219 section 10-4o, child care facilities, licensing and services described in
220 section 8-210, as amended by this act, the birth-to-three program,

221 established pursuant to section 17a-248, as amended by this act,
222 professional development activities relating to early childhood
223 education and any other relevant early childhood programs and
224 services.

225 (2) In developing such plan, the planning director shall (A) consider
226 opportunities for consolidation between and within agencies to reduce
227 redundancy and to improve the focus on positive outcomes for
228 children and families; (B) seek areas of consolidation between and
229 within agencies; (C) provide for the creation of memoranda of
230 agreement between the coordinated system of early care and education
231 and child development and nonprofit and philanthropic organizations;
232 (D) identify opportunities to align services and meet the holistic needs
233 of children and families; (E) implement an accountability framework to
234 measure program and services outcomes; (F) identify common
235 requirements for funding from various sources and identify waiver
236 provisions related to such requirements that can be used to improve
237 service delivery in the state; (G) identify barriers under state or federal
238 law that inhibit effective consolidation of functions or utilization of
239 interagency agreements; (H) consult with qualified local and regional
240 planning groups; and (I) focus the memoranda of agreement to
241 relevant program areas, such as, maternal and child health, literacy,
242 family support, financial planning and early care and education.

243 (c) For purposes of the development of the plan for the coordinated
244 system of early care and education and child development, the
245 planning director may enter into memoranda of agreement with and
246 accept donations from nonprofit and philanthropic organizations.

247 (d) The Departments of Education, Social Services, Public Health,
248 Children and Families and Developmental Services and the Board of
249 Regents for Higher Education shall assist the planning director in the
250 planning and development of the plan for the coordinated system of
251 early care and education and child development.

252 (e) (1) On and after October 1, 2011, until July 1, 2013, the planning

253 director shall report quarterly to the Early Childhood Education
254 Cabinet. Such report may include, but not be limited to, (A)
255 recommendations regarding the consolidation of agencies to improve
256 coordination within the coordinated system of early care and
257 education and child development, (B) suggestions regarding how
258 federal, state and local resources can be combined to maximize
259 efficiencies in the system and outcomes for children and families, (C)
260 suggestions to improve the manner in which state and local early
261 childhood education initiatives are coordinated so as to provide
262 holistic, affordable, high quality early education for young children,
263 (D) recommendations for improvements to the coordinated system of
264 early care and education and child development, and (E) assurances
265 that the provisions of section 8-210, as amended by this act, are being
266 preserved in the planning and development of the coordinated system
267 of early care and education and child development.

268 (2) On and after January 1, 2012, until July 1, 2013, the planning
269 director shall semiannually report to the joint standing committees of
270 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
271 appropriations, human services and education, in accordance with the
272 provisions of section 11-4a. Such report may include, but not be limited
273 to, (A) recommendations regarding the consolidation of agencies to
274 improve coordination within the coordinated system of early care and
275 education and child development, (B) suggestions regarding how
276 federal, state and local resources can be combined to maximize
277 efficiencies in the system and outcomes for children and families, (C)
278 suggestions to improve the manner in which state and local early
279 childhood education initiatives are coordinated so as to provide
280 holistic, high quality early education for young children, (D)
281 recommendations for improvements to the coordinated system of early
282 care and education and child development, and (E) assurances that the
283 provisions of section 8-210, as amended by this act, are being
284 preserved in the planning and development of the coordinated system
285 of early care and education and child development.

286 [(3) On or before January 30, 2013, the planning director shall report
287 to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having
288 cognizance of matters relating to appropriations, human services and
289 education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a. Such
290 report shall include recommendations as to which department shall be
291 the lead agency and where the staff of the coordinated system of early
292 care and education and child development will be located.]

293 Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 10-266p of the general statutes is
294 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
295 *1, 2013*):

296 (a) The State Board of Education shall administer a priority school
297 district grant program to assist certain school districts to improve
298 student achievement and enhance educational opportunities. The
299 grant program shall include the priority school district portions of the
300 grant programs established pursuant to sections [10-16p,] 10-265f, 10-
301 265m and 10-266t. The grant program and its component parts shall be
302 for school districts in (1) the eight towns in the state with the largest
303 population, based on the most recent federal decennial census, (2)
304 towns which rank for the first fiscal year of each biennium from one to
305 eleven when all towns are ranked in descending order from one to one
306 hundred sixty-nine based on the number of children under the
307 temporary family assistance program, as defined in subdivision (17) of
308 section 10-262f, plus the mastery count of the town, as defined in
309 subdivision (13) of section 10-262f, and (3) towns which rank for the
310 first fiscal year of each biennium one to eleven when all towns are
311 ranked in descending order from one to one hundred sixty-nine based
312 on the ratio of the number of children under the temporary family
313 assistance program as so defined to the resident students of such town,
314 as defined in subdivision (22) of section 10-262f, plus the grant mastery
315 percentage of the town, as defined in subdivision (12) of section 10-
316 262f. The State Board of Education shall utilize the categorical grant
317 program established under this section and sections 10-266q and 10-
318 266r and other educational resources of the state to work cooperatively

319 with such school districts during any school year to improve their
320 educational programs or [to provide early childhood education or]
321 early reading intervention programs. The component parts of the grant
322 shall be allocated according to the provisions of sections [10-16p,] 10-
323 265f, 10-265m and 10-266t. Subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of
324 section 10-276a, the State Board of Education shall allocate one million
325 dollars to each of the eight towns described in subdivision (1) of this
326 subsection and five hundred thousand dollars to each of the towns
327 described in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection, except the
328 towns described in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not receive
329 any additional allocation if they are also described in subdivision (2) or
330 (3) of this subsection.

331 Sec. 6. Section 10-16n of the general statutes is repealed and the
332 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

333 (a) The [Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
334 Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the Office of
335 Early Childhood, shall establish a competitive grant program to assist
336 nonprofit agencies and local and regional boards of education, which
337 are federal Head Start grantees, in (1) establishing extended-day and
338 full-day, year-round, Head Start programs or expanding existing Head
339 Start programs to extended-day or full-day, year-round programs, (2)
340 enhancing program quality, and (3) increasing the number of children
341 served. The [commissioner] executive director, after consultation with
342 the committee established pursuant to subsection (c) of this section,
343 shall establish criteria for the grants, provided at least twenty-five per
344 cent of the funding for such grants shall be for the purpose of
345 enhancing program quality. Nonprofit agencies or boards of education
346 seeking grants pursuant to this section shall make application to the
347 [Commissioner of Education] executive director on such forms and at
348 such times as the [commissioner] executive director shall prescribe. All
349 grants pursuant to this section shall be funded within the limits of
350 available appropriations or otherwise from federal funds and private
351 donations. All full-day, year-round Head Start programs funded

352 pursuant to this section shall be in compliance with federal Head Start
353 performance standards.

354 (b) The [Department of Education] Office of Early Childhood shall
355 annually allocate to each town in which the number of children under
356 the aid to dependent children program, as defined in subdivision (14)
357 of section 10-262f, equals or exceeds nine hundred children,
358 determined for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, an amount equal to
359 one hundred fifty thousand dollars plus eight and one-half dollars for
360 each child under the aid to dependent children program, provided
361 such amount may be reduced proportionately so that the total amount
362 awarded pursuant to this subsection does not exceed two million
363 seven hundred thousand dollars. The [department] office shall award
364 grants to the local and regional boards of education for such towns and
365 nonprofit agencies located in such towns which meet the criteria
366 established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section to maintain the
367 programs established or expanded with funds provided pursuant to
368 this subsection in the fiscal years ending June 30, 1996, and June 30,
369 1997. Any funds remaining in the allocation to such a town after grants
370 are so awarded shall be used to increase allocations to other such
371 towns. Any funds remaining after grants are so awarded to boards of
372 education and nonprofit agencies in all such towns shall be available to
373 local and regional boards of education and nonprofit agencies in other
374 towns in the state for grants for such purposes.

375 (c) There is established a committee to advise the [Commissioner of
376 Education] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood
377 concerning the coordination, priorities for allocation and distribution,
378 and utilization of funds for Head Start and concerning the competitive
379 grant program established under this section, and to evaluate
380 programs funded pursuant to this section. The committee shall consist
381 of the following members: (1) One member designated by the
382 Commissioner of Social Services; (2) six members who are directors of
383 Head Start programs, two from community action agency program
384 sites or school readiness liaisons, one of whom shall be appointed by

385 the president pro tempore of the Senate and one by the speaker of the
386 House of Representatives, two from public school program sites, one
387 of whom shall be appointed by the majority leader of the Senate and
388 one by the majority leader of the House of Representatives, and two
389 from other nonprofit agency program sites, one of whom shall be
390 appointed by the minority leader of the Senate and one by the minority
391 leader of the House of Representatives; (3) one member designated by
392 the Commission on Children; (4) one member designated by the Early
393 Childhood Education Cabinet; (5) two members designated by the
394 Head Start Association, one of whom shall be the parent of a present or
395 former Head Start student; (6) one member designated by the
396 Connecticut Association for Community Action who shall have
397 expertise and experience concerning Head Start; (7) one member
398 designated by the Region I Office of Head Start within the federal
399 Administration of Children and Families of the Department of Health
400 and Human Services; and (8) the director of the Head Start
401 Collaboration Office.

402 (d) The [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the
403 Office of Early Childhood may adopt regulations, in accordance with
404 the provisions of chapter 54, for purposes of this section.

405 Sec. 7. Section 10-16p of the general statutes is repealed and the
406 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

407 (a) As used in sections 10-16o to 10-16s, inclusive, as amended by
408 this act, 10-16u, as amended by this act, 17b-749a, as amended by this
409 act, and 17b-749c, as amended by this act:

410 (1) "School readiness program" means a nonsectarian program that
411 (A) meets the standards set by the [department] Office of Early
412 Childhood pursuant to subsection (b) of this section and the
413 requirements of section 10-16q, as amended by this act, and (B)
414 provides a developmentally appropriate learning experience of not less
415 than four hundred fifty hours and one hundred eighty days for eligible
416 children, except as provided in subsection (d) of section 10-16q, as

417 amended by this act;

418 (2) "Eligible children" means children three and four years of age
419 and children five years of age who are not eligible to enroll in school
420 pursuant to section 10-15c, or who are eligible to enroll in school and
421 will attend a school readiness program pursuant to section 10-16t;

422 (3) "Priority school" means a school in which forty per cent or more
423 of the lunches served are served to students who are eligible for free or
424 reduced price lunches pursuant to federal law and regulations,
425 excluding such a school located in a priority school district pursuant to
426 section 10-266p, as amended by this act, or in a former priority school
427 district receiving a grant pursuant to subsection (c) of this section and,
428 on and after July 1, 2001, excluding such a school in a transitional
429 school district receiving a grant pursuant to section 10-16u, as
430 amended by this act;

431 (4) "Severe need school" means a school in a priority school district
432 pursuant to section 10-266p, as amended by this act, or in a former
433 priority school district in which forty per cent or more of the lunches
434 served are served to students who are eligible for free or reduced price
435 lunches;

436 (5) "Accredited" means accredited by the National Association for
437 the Education of Young Children, a Head Start on-site program review
438 instrument or a successor instrument pursuant to federal regulations,
439 or otherwise meeting such criteria as may be established by the
440 [commissioner] executive director, in consultation with the
441 Commissioner of Social Services, unless the context otherwise requires;

442 (6) "Year-round" means fifty weeks per year, except as provided in
443 subsection (d) of section 10-16q, as amended by this act;

444 [(7) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Education; and

445 (8) "Department" means the Department of Education.]

446 (7) "Executive director" means the executive director of the Office of
447 Early Childhood; and

448 (8) "Office" means the Office of Early Childhood.

449 (b) (1) The [Department of Education] Office of Early Childhood
450 shall be the lead agency for school readiness. For purposes of this
451 section and section 10-16u, as amended by this act, school readiness
452 program providers eligible for funding from the [Department of
453 Education] office shall include local and regional boards of education,
454 regional educational service centers, family resource centers and
455 providers of child day care centers, as defined in section 19a-77, as
456 amended by this act, Head Start programs, preschool programs and
457 other programs that meet such standards established by the
458 [Commissioner of Education] executive director. The [department]
459 office shall establish standards for school readiness programs. The
460 standards may include, but need not be limited to, guidelines for staff-
461 child interactions, curriculum content, including preliteracy
462 development, lesson plans, parent involvement, staff qualifications
463 and training, transition to school and administration. The [department]
464 office shall develop age-appropriate developmental skills and goals for
465 children attending such programs. [The commissioner, in consultation
466 with the president of the Board of Regents for Higher Education, the
467 Commissioner of Social Services and other appropriate entities, shall
468 develop a professional development program for the staff of school
469 readiness programs.]

470 (2) For purposes of this section:

471 (A) Prior to July 1, 2015, "staff qualifications" means there is in each
472 classroom an individual who has at least the following: (i) A childhood
473 development associate credential or an equivalent credential issued by
474 an organization approved by the Commissioner of Education and
475 twelve credits or more in early childhood education or child
476 development, as determined by the president of the Board of Regents
477 for Higher Education, after consultation with the [Commissioners of

478 Education and Social Services] executive director of the Office of Early
479 Childhood, from an institution of higher education (1) accredited by
480 the Board of Regents for Higher Education or State Board of
481 Education, and (2) regionally accredited; (ii) an associate's degree with
482 twelve credits or more in early childhood education or child
483 development, as determined by the president of the Board of Regents
484 for Higher Education, after consultation with the [Commissioners of
485 Education and Social Services] executive director of the Office of Early
486 Childhood, from such an institution; (iii) a four-year degree with
487 twelve credits or more in early childhood education or child
488 development, as determined by the president of the Board of Regents
489 for Higher Education, after consultation with the [Commissioners of
490 Education and Social Services] executive director of the Office of Early
491 Childhood, from such an institution; or (iv) certification pursuant to
492 section 10-145b with an endorsement in early childhood education or
493 special education;

494 (B) From July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2020, "staff qualifications" means
495 that for each early childhood education program accepting state funds
496 for infant, toddler and preschool spaces associated with such
497 program's child day care program or school readiness program, (i) at
498 least fifty per cent of those individuals with the primary responsibility
499 for a classroom of children hold (I) certification pursuant to section 10-
500 145b with an endorsement in early childhood education or early
501 childhood special education, or (II) a bachelor's degree with a
502 concentration in early childhood education, including, but not limited
503 to, a bachelor's degree in early childhood education, child study, child
504 development or human growth and development, from an institution
505 of higher education (1) accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher
506 Education or State Board of Education, and (2) regionally accredited,
507 provided such bachelor's degree program is approved by the Board of
508 Regents for Higher Education and the Department of Education, and
509 (ii) such remaining individuals with the primary responsibility for a
510 classroom of children hold an associate degree with a concentration in
511 early childhood education, including, but not limited to, an associate's

512 degree in early childhood education, child study, child development or
513 human growth and development, from an institution of higher
514 education (1) accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education
515 or State Board of Education, and (2) regionally accredited, provided
516 such associate degree program is approved by the Board of Regents for
517 Higher Education and the Department of Education; and

518 (C) On and after July 1, 2020, "staff qualifications" means that for
519 each early childhood education program accepting state funds for
520 infant, toddler and preschool spaces associated with such program's
521 child day care program or school readiness program, one hundred per
522 cent of those individuals with the primary responsibility for a
523 classroom of children hold (i) certification pursuant to section 10-145b
524 with an endorsement in early childhood education or early childhood
525 special education, or (ii) a bachelor's degree with a concentration in
526 early childhood education, including, but not limited to, a bachelor's
527 degree in early childhood education, child study, child development or
528 human growth and development, from an institution of higher
529 education (1) accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education
530 or State Board of Education, and (2) regionally accredited, provided
531 such bachelor's degree program is approved by the Board of Regents
532 for Higher Education and the Department of Education.

533 (3) Any individual with a bachelor's degree who, on or before June
534 30, 2015, is employed as a teacher by an early childhood education
535 program that accepts state funds for infant, toddler and preschool
536 spaces associated with such program's child day care program or
537 school readiness program and meets the staff qualifications required
538 under subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be
539 considered to meet the staff qualifications required under
540 subparagraphs (B) and (C) of subdivision (2) of this subsection. No
541 such early childhood education program shall terminate any such
542 individual from employment for purposes of meeting the staff
543 qualification requirements set forth in subparagraph (B) or (C) of
544 subdivision (2) of this subsection. Any such individual who terminates

545 his or her employment with such early childhood education program
546 and accepts a teacher position at another early childhood education
547 program accepting state funds for spaces associated with such
548 program's child day care program or school readiness program shall
549 submit documentation of such individual's progress toward meeting
550 the staff qualification requirements set forth in subparagraph (B) or (C)
551 of subdivision (2) of this subsection in a manner determined by the
552 [Department of Education] Office of Early Childhood.

553 (4) Any individual with a bachelor's degree other than those
554 bachelor's degrees specified in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of
555 subdivision (2) of this subsection may submit documentation
556 concerning such degree for review and assessment by the [Department
557 of Education] Office of Early Childhood as to whether such degree has
558 a sufficient concentration in early childhood education so as to satisfy
559 the requirements set forth in said subparagraphs (A) and (B).

560 (c) The [Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
561 Commissioner of Social Services,] executive director of the Office of
562 Early Childhood shall establish a grant program to provide spaces in
563 accredited school readiness programs for eligible children who reside
564 in priority school districts pursuant to section 10-266p, as amended by
565 this act, or in former priority school districts as provided in this
566 subsection. Under the program, the grant shall be provided, in
567 accordance with this section, to the town in which such priority school
568 district or former priority school district is located. Eligibility shall be
569 determined for a five-year period based on an applicant's designation
570 as a priority school district for the initial year of application, except
571 that if a school district that receives a grant pursuant to this subsection
572 is no longer designated as a priority school district at the end of such
573 five-year period, such former priority school district shall continue to
574 be eligible to receive a grant pursuant to this subsection. Grant awards
575 shall be made annually contingent upon available funding and a
576 satisfactory annual evaluation. The chief elected official of such town
577 and the superintendent of schools for such priority school district or

578 former priority school district shall submit a plan for the expenditure
579 of grant funds and responses to the local request for proposal process
580 to the [Departments of Education and Social Services. The departments
581 shall jointly review such plans and shall each approve the portion of
582 such plan within its jurisdiction for funding] executive director. The
583 executive director shall review and approve such plans. The plan shall:
584 (1) Be developed in consultation with the local or regional school
585 readiness council established pursuant to section 10-16r, as amended
586 by this act; (2) be based on a needs and resource assessment; (3)
587 provide for the issuance of requests for proposals for providers of
588 accredited school readiness programs, provided, after the initial
589 requests for proposals, facilities that have been approved to operate a
590 child care program financed through the Connecticut Health and
591 Education Facilities Authority and have received a commitment for
592 debt service on or before June 30, 2014, and on and after July 1, 2014,
593 from the Office of Early Childhood from the Department of Social
594 Services pursuant to section 17b-749i, as amended by this act, are
595 exempt from the requirement for issuance of annual requests for
596 proposals; and (4) identify the need for funding pursuant to section
597 17b-749a, as amended by this act, in order to extend the hours and
598 days of operation of school readiness programs in order to provide
599 child day care services for children attending such programs.

600 (d) [(1) The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
601 Commissioner of Social Services,] The executive director of the Office
602 of Early Childhood shall establish a competitive grant program [to
603 provide spaces in accredited school readiness programs] for eligible
604 children who reside [(A)] (1) in an area served by a priority school or a
605 former priority school, [as provided for in subdivision (2) of this
606 subsection, (B)] (2) in a town ranked one to fifty when all towns are
607 ranked in ascending order according to town wealth, as defined in
608 subdivision (26) of section 10-262f, whose school district is not a
609 priority school district pursuant to section 10-266p, as amended by this
610 act, or [(C)] (3) in a town formerly a town described in [subparagraph
611 (B)] subdivision (2) of this [subdivision, as provided for in subdivision

612 (2) of this] subsection. A town or regional school readiness council
613 awarded a grant pursuant to this subsection shall use the funds to (A)
614 purchase spaces for such children from providers of accredited school
615 readiness programs, or (B) provide wraparound services to such
616 children and their families. A town in which a priority school is
617 located, a regional school readiness council, pursuant to subsection (c)
618 of section 10-16r, for a region in which such a school is located or a
619 town described in [subparagraph (B)] subdivision (2) of this
620 [subdivision] subsection may apply for such a grant in an amount not
621 to exceed one hundred seven thousand dollars per priority school or
622 town. Eligibility shall be determined for a five-year period based on an
623 applicant's designation as having a priority school or being a town
624 described in [subparagraph (B)] subdivision (2) of this [subdivision]
625 subsection for the initial year of application. Grant awards shall be
626 made annually contingent upon available funding and a satisfactory
627 annual evaluation. The chief elected official of such town and the
628 superintendent of schools of the school district or the regional school
629 readiness council shall submit a plan, as described in subsection (c) of
630 this section, for the expenditure of such grant funds to the
631 [Department of Education] executive director. In awarding grants
632 pursuant to this subsection, the [commissioner] executive director shall
633 give preference to applications submitted by regional school readiness
634 councils and may, within available appropriations, provide a grant in
635 excess of one hundred seven thousand dollars to towns with two or
636 more priority schools in such district. [A town or regional school
637 readiness council awarded a grant pursuant to this subsection shall use
638 the funds to purchase spaces for such children from providers of
639 accredited school readiness programs.]

640 [(2) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (C) of this subdivision,
641 commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, if a town
642 received a grant pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection and is
643 no longer eligible to receive such a grant, the town may receive a
644 phase-out grant for each of the three fiscal years following the fiscal
645 year such town received its final grant pursuant to subdivision (1) of

646 this subsection.

647 (B) The amount of such phase-out grants shall be determined as
648 follows: (i) For the first fiscal year following the fiscal year such town
649 received its final grant pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, in
650 an amount that does not exceed seventy-five per cent of the grant
651 amount such town received for the town or school's final year of
652 eligibility pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection; (ii) for the
653 second fiscal year following the fiscal year such town received its final
654 grant pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, in an amount that
655 does not exceed fifty per cent of the grant amount such town received
656 for the town's or school's final year of eligibility pursuant to
657 subdivision (1) of this subsection; and (iii) for the third fiscal year
658 following the fiscal year such town received its final grant pursuant to
659 subdivision (1) of this subsection, in an amount that does not exceed
660 twenty-five per cent of the grant amount such town received for the
661 town's or school's final year of eligibility pursuant to subdivision (1) of
662 this subsection.

663 (C) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, and each fiscal year
664 thereafter, any town that received a grant pursuant to subparagraph
665 (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection for the fiscal year ending June
666 30, 2010, shall continue to receive a grant under this subsection even if
667 the town no longer meets the criteria for such grant pursuant to
668 subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection.]

669 (e) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, and each fiscal year
670 thereafter, priority school districts and former priority school districts
671 shall receive grants based on the sum of the products obtained by (A)
672 multiplying the district's number of contracted slots on March thirtieth
673 of the fiscal year prior to the fiscal year in which the grant is to be paid,
674 by the per child cost pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of
675 section 10-16q, as amended by this act, except that such per child cost
676 shall be reduced for slots that are less than year-round, and (B)
677 multiplying the number of additional or decreased slots the districts
678 have requested for the fiscal year in which the grant is to be paid by

679 the per child cost pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of
680 section 10-16q, as amended by this act, except such per child cost shall
681 be reduced for slots that are less than year-round. If said sum exceeds
682 the available appropriation, such number of requested additional slots
683 shall be reduced, as determined by the [Commissioner of Education]
684 executive director of the Office of Early Childhood, to stay within the
685 available appropriation.

686 (2) (A) If funds appropriated for the purposes of subsection (c) of
687 this section are not expended, the [Commissioner of Education]
688 executive director of the Office of Early Childhood may deposit such
689 unexpended funds in the account established under section 10-16aa, as
690 amended by this act, and use such unexpended funds in accordance
691 with the provisions of section 10-16aa, as amended by this act.

692 (B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, and each fiscal year
693 thereafter, if funds appropriated for the purposes of subsection (c) of
694 this section are not expended, an amount up to five hundred thousand
695 dollars of such unexpended funds may be available for the provision
696 of professional development for early childhood education program
697 providers offered by a professional development and program
698 improvement system within the Connecticut State University System
699 and available for use in accordance with the provisions of this
700 subparagraph for the subsequent fiscal year. The [Commissioner of
701 Education] executive director may use such unexpended funds on and
702 after July 1, 2012, [in consultation with the president of the Board of
703 Regents for Higher Education,] to support early childhood education
704 programs accepting state funds in satisfying the staff qualifications
705 requirements of subparagraphs (B) and (C) of subdivision (2) of
706 subsection (b) of this section. The [Department of Education] executive
707 director shall use any such funds to provide assistance to individual
708 staff members, giving priority to those staff members attending an
709 institution of higher education (1) accredited by the Board of Regents
710 for Higher Education or State Board of Education, and (2) regionally
711 accredited, at a maximum of five thousand dollars per staff member

712 per year for the cost of higher education courses leading to a bachelor's
713 degree or, not later than December 31, 2013, an associate's degree, as
714 such degrees are described in said subparagraphs (B) and (C) at an in-
715 state public institution of higher education or a Connecticut-based for-
716 profit or nonprofit institution of higher education, provided such staff
717 members have applied for all available federal and state scholarships
718 and grants, and such assistance does not exceed such staff members'
719 financial need. Individual staff members shall apply for such
720 unexpended funds in a manner determined by the [Department of
721 Education] executive director. The [Commissioner of Education]
722 executive director shall determine [, in consultation with the president
723 of the Board of Regents for Higher Education,] how such unexpended
724 funds shall be distributed.

725 (C) If funds appropriated for the purposes of subsection (c) of this
726 section are not expended pursuant to subsection (c) of this section,
727 deposited pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, or used
728 pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, the [Commissioner
729 of Education] executive director may use such unexpended funds to
730 support local school readiness programs. The [commissioner]
731 executive director may use such funds for purposes including, but not
732 limited to, (i) assisting local school readiness programs in meeting and
733 maintaining accreditation requirements, (ii) providing training in
734 implementing the preschool assessment and curriculum frameworks,
735 including training to enhance literacy teaching skills, (iii) developing a
736 state-wide preschool curriculum, (iv) developing student assessments
737 for students in grades kindergarten to two, inclusive, (v) developing
738 and implementing best practices for parents in supporting preschool
739 and kindergarten student learning, (vi) developing and implementing
740 strategies for children to transition from preschool to kindergarten,
741 (vii) providing for professional development, including assisting in
742 career ladder advancement, for school readiness staff, and (viii)
743 providing supplemental grants to other towns that are eligible for
744 grants pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

745 [(3) Notwithstanding subdivision (2) of this subsection, for the fiscal
746 years ending June 30, 2008, to June 30, 2013, inclusive, the Department
747 of Education may retain up to one hundred ninety-eight thousand two
748 hundred dollars of the amount appropriated for purposes of this
749 section for coordination, program evaluation and administration.]

750 (f) Any school readiness program that receives funds pursuant to
751 this section or section 10-16u, as amended by this act, shall not
752 discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion
753 or disability. For purposes of this section, a nonsectarian program
754 means any public or private school readiness program that is not
755 violative of the Establishment Clause of the Constitution of the State of
756 Connecticut or the Establishment Clause of the Constitution of the
757 United States of America.

758 (g) Subject to the provisions of this subsection, no funds received by
759 a town pursuant to subsection (c) or (d) of this section or section 10-
760 16u, as amended by this act, shall be used to supplant federal, state or
761 local funding received by such town for early childhood education,
762 provided a town may use an amount determined in accordance with
763 this subsection for coordination, program evaluation and
764 administration. Such amount shall be at least twenty-five thousand
765 dollars but not more than seventy-five thousand dollars and shall be
766 determined by the [Department of Education, in consultation with the
767 Department of Social Services,] executive director based on the school
768 readiness grant award allocated to the town pursuant to subsection (c)
769 or (d) of this section or section 10-16u, as amended by this act, and the
770 number of operating sites for coordination, program evaluation and
771 administration. Such amount shall be increased by an amount equal to
772 local funding provided for early childhood education coordination,
773 program evaluation and administration, not to exceed twenty-five
774 thousand dollars. Each town that receives a grant pursuant to
775 subsection (c) or (d) of this section or section 10-16u, as amended by
776 this act, shall designate a person to be responsible for such
777 coordination, program evaluation and administration and to act as a

778 liaison between the town and the [Departments of Education and
779 Social Services] executive director. Each school readiness program that
780 receives funds pursuant to this section or section 10-16u, as amended
781 by this act, shall provide information to the [department] executive
782 director or the school readiness council, as requested, that is necessary
783 for purposes of any school readiness program evaluation.

784 (h) For the first three years a town receives grants pursuant to this
785 section, such grants may be used, with the approval of the
786 commissioner, to prepare a facility or staff for operating a school
787 readiness program and shall be adjusted based on the number of days
788 of operation of a school readiness program if a shorter term of
789 operation is approved by the commissioner.

790 (i) A town may use grant funds to purchase spaces for eligible
791 children who reside in such town at an accredited school readiness
792 program located in another town. A regional school readiness council
793 may use grant funds to purchase spaces for eligible children who
794 reside in the region covered by the council at an accredited school
795 readiness program located outside such region.

796 (j) Children enrolled in school readiness programs funded pursuant
797 to this section shall not be counted (1) as resident students for
798 purposes of subdivision (22) of section 10-262f, or (2) in the
799 determination of average daily membership pursuant to subdivision
800 (2) of subsection (a) of section 10-261.

801 (k) Up to two per cent of the amount of the appropriation for this
802 section may be allocated to the competitive grant program pursuant to
803 subsection (d) of this section. The determination of the amount of such
804 allocation shall be made on or before August first.

805 Sec. 8. Section 10-16q of the general statutes is repealed and the
806 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

807 (a) Each school readiness program shall include: (1) A plan for
808 collaboration with other community programs and services, including

809 public libraries, and for coordination of resources in order to facilitate
810 full-day and year-round child care and education programs for
811 children of working parents and parents in education or training
812 programs; (2) parent involvement, parenting education and outreach;
813 (3) (A) record-keeping policies that require documentation of the name
814 and address of each child's doctor, primary care provider and health
815 insurance company and information on whether the child is
816 immunized and has had health screens pursuant to the federal Early
817 and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment Services Program
818 under 42 USC 1396d, and (B) referrals for health services, including
819 referrals for appropriate immunizations and screenings; (4) a plan for
820 the incorporation of appropriate preliteracy practices and teacher
821 training in such practices; (5) nutrition services; (6) referrals to family
822 literacy programs that incorporate adult basic education and provide
823 for the promotion of literacy through access to public library services;
824 (7) admission policies that promote enrollment of children from
825 different racial, ethnic and economic backgrounds and from other
826 communities; (8) a plan of transition for participating children from the
827 school readiness program to kindergarten and provide for the transfer
828 of records from the program to the kindergarten program; (9) a plan
829 for professional development for staff, including, but not limited to,
830 training (A) in preliteracy skills development, and (B) designed to
831 assure respect for racial and ethnic diversity; (10) a sliding fee scale for
832 families participating in the program pursuant to section 17b-749d, as
833 amended by this act; and (11) an annual evaluation of the effectiveness
834 of the program. [On and after July 1, 2000, school readiness programs
835 shall use the assessment measures developed pursuant to section 10-
836 16s in conducting their annual evaluations.]

837 [(b) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, the per child cost of
838 the Department of Education school readiness component of the
839 program offered by a school readiness provider shall not exceed six
840 thousand six hundred fifty dollars.]

841 [(2)] (b) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, [2009] 2014, and each

842 fiscal year thereafter, the per child cost of the [Department of
843 Education] Office of Early Childhood school readiness program
844 offered by a school readiness provider shall not exceed eight thousand
845 three hundred forty-six dollars.

846 [(3)] (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (e) of section
847 10-16p, as amended by this act, the [Department of Education] Office
848 of Early Childhood shall not provide funding to any school readiness
849 provider that (A) on or before January 1, 2004, first entered into a
850 contract with a town to provide school readiness services pursuant to
851 this section and is not accredited on January 1, 2007, or (B) after
852 January 1, 2004, first entered into a contract with a town to provide
853 school readiness services pursuant to this section and does not become
854 accredited by the date three years after the date on which the provider
855 first entered into such a contract, except that the [Commissioner of
856 Education] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood may
857 grant an extension of time for a school readiness program to become
858 accredited or reaccredited, provided (i) prior to such extension, the
859 [Department of Education] Office of Early Childhood conducts an on-
860 site assessment of any such program and maintains a report of such
861 assessment completed in a uniform manner, as prescribed by the
862 [commissioner] executive director, that includes a list of conditions
863 such program must fulfill to become accredited or reaccredited, (ii) on
864 or before June 30, 2014, the program is licensed by the Department of
865 Public Health if required to be licensed by chapter 368a, and on and
866 after July 1, 2014, the program is licensed by the Office of Early
867 Childhood if required to be licensed by chapter 368a, (iii) the program
868 has a corrective action plan that shall be prescribed by and monitored
869 by the [Commissioner of Education] Office of Early Childhood, and
870 (iv) the program meets such other conditions as may be prescribed by
871 the [commissioner] executive director. During the period of such
872 extension, such program shall be eligible for funding pursuant to said
873 section 10-16p.

874 [(4)] (3) A school readiness provider may provide child day care

875 services and the cost of such child day care services shall not be subject
876 to such per child cost limitation.

877 (c) A local or regional board of education may implement a sliding
878 fee scale for the cost of services provided to children enrolled in a
879 school readiness program.

880 (d) A town or school readiness council may file a waiver application
881 to the [Department of Education] Office of Early Childhood on forms
882 provided by the [department] office for the purpose of seeking
883 approval of a school readiness schedule that varies from the minimum
884 hours and number of days provided for in subdivision (1) of
885 subsection (a) of section 10-16p, as amended by this act, or from the
886 definition of a year-round program pursuant to subdivision (7) of said
887 subsection (a). The [Department of Education] Office of Early
888 Childhood may [, in consultation with the Department of Social
889 Services,] approve any such waiver if the [departments find] office
890 finds that the proposed schedule meets the purposes set forth in the
891 provisions of section 10-16o concerning the development of school
892 readiness programs and maximizes available dollars to serve more
893 children or address community needs.

894 Sec. 9. Subsection (b) of section 10-16r of the general statutes is
895 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
896 *1, 2014*):

897 (b) The local school readiness council shall: (1) Make
898 recommendations to the chief elected official and the superintendent of
899 schools on issues relating to school readiness, including any
900 applications for grants pursuant to sections 10-16p, as amended by this
901 act, 10-16u, as amended by this act, 17b-749a, as amended by this act,
902 and 17b-749c, as amended by this act; (2) foster partnerships among
903 providers of school readiness programs; (3) assist in the identification
904 of (A) the need for school readiness programs and the number of
905 children not being served by such a program, and (B) for priority
906 school districts pursuant to section 10-266p, as amended by this act,

907 the number of children not being served by such a program and the
908 estimated operating cost of providing universal school readiness to
909 eligible children in such districts who are not being served; (4) submit
910 biennial reports to the [Department of Education] Office of Early
911 Childhood on the number and location of school readiness spaces and
912 estimates of future needs; (5) submit biennial reports on factors
913 identified pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection; (6) cooperate
914 with the [department] office in any program evaluation [and, on and
915 after July 1, 2000, use measures developed pursuant to section 10-16s]
916 for purposes of evaluating the effectiveness of school readiness
917 programs; (7) identify existing and prospective resources and services
918 available to children and families; (8) facilitate the coordination of the
919 delivery of services to children and families, including (A) referral
920 procedures, and (B) before and after-school child care for children
921 attending kindergarten programs; (9) exchange information with other
922 councils, the community and organizations serving the needs of
923 children and families; (10) make recommendations to school officials
924 concerning transition from school readiness programs to kindergarten;
925 and (11) encourage public participation.

926 Sec. 10. Section 10-16s of the general statutes is repealed and the
927 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

928 [(a)] The executive director of the Office of Early Childhood and the
929 Commissioners of Education, [and] Children and Families,
930 Developmental Services, Social Services and Public Health shall
931 develop an agreement to define the duties and responsibilities of their
932 departments concerning [school readiness programs] implementation
933 of the coordinated system of early care and education and child
934 development, pursuant to section 10-16bb, as amended by this act. The
935 executive director and commissioners shall consult with other affected
936 state agencies. [The agreement shall include, but not be limited to, a
937 multiyear interagency agreement to establish and implement an
938 integrated school readiness plan. Functions to be described and
939 responsibilities to be undertaken by the two departments shall be

940 delineated in the agreement. On or before January 1, 2010, and
941 annually thereafter, the Commissioners of Education and Social
942 Services shall submit such agreement, in accordance with the
943 provisions of section 11-4a, to the Early Childhood Education Cabinet,
944 established pursuant to section 10-16z, and to the joint standing
945 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
946 relating to education and human services.]

947 [(b) On or before January 1, 2008, the commissioners shall adopt
948 assessment measures of school readiness programs for use by such
949 programs in conducting their annual evaluations pursuant to section
950 10-16q. The commissioners may adopt the assessment measures used
951 for Head Start programs.]

952 Sec. 11. Section 10-16u of the general statutes is repealed and the
953 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

954 For the fiscal year ending June 30, [2002] 2014, and each fiscal year
955 thereafter, the [Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
956 Commissioner of Social Services,] executive director of the Office of
957 Early Childhood shall provide grants, within available appropriations,
958 to eligible school readiness program providers pursuant to subsection
959 (b) of section 10-16p, as amended by this act, to provide spaces in
960 accredited school readiness programs for eligible children who reside
961 in transitional school districts pursuant to section 10-263c, except for
962 transitional school districts eligible for grants pursuant to subsection
963 (c) of section 10-16p, as amended by this act. Under the program, the
964 grant shall be provided to the town in which such transitional school
965 district is located. Eligibility shall be determined for a five-year period
966 based on a school district's designation as a transitional school district
967 in the initial year of application, except that grants pursuant to this
968 section shall not be provided for transitional school districts eligible for
969 grants pursuant to subsection (c) of said section 10-16p. Grant awards
970 shall be made annually contingent upon available funding and a
971 satisfactory annual evaluation. The chief elected official of such town
972 and the superintendent of schools for such transitional school district

973 shall submit a plan for the expenditure of grant funds and responses to
974 the local request for proposal process to the [Departments of Education
975 and Social Services. The departments shall jointly review such plans
976 and shall each approve the portion of such plan within its jurisdiction
977 for funding] executive director. The executive director shall review
978 and approve such plans. The plan shall meet the requirements
979 specified in subsection (c) of said section 10-16p, as amended by this
980 act.

981 Sec. 12. Section 10-16w of the general statutes is repealed and the
982 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

983 Within available appropriations, the [Commissioner of Education]
984 executive director of the Office of Early Childhood shall provide
985 technical assistance and training to school readiness programs to assist
986 in the application of preschool curriculum guidelines adopted by the
987 State Board of Education.

988 Sec. 13. Section 10-16z of the general statutes is repealed and the
989 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

990 (a) There is established the Early Childhood Education Cabinet. The
991 cabinet shall consist of: (1) the executive director of the Office of Early
992 Childhood, or the executive director's designee, (2) the Commissioner
993 of Education, or the commissioner's designee, [(2) one representative
994 from the Department of Education who is responsible for programs
995 required under the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act, 20
996 USC 1400 et seq., as amended from time to time, appointed by the
997 Commissioner of Education,] (3) the Commissioner of Social Services,
998 or the commissioner's designee, (4) [a representative from an
999 institution of higher education in this state appointed by] the president
1000 of the Board of Regents for Higher Education, or the president's
1001 designee, (5) the Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's
1002 designee, (6) the Commissioner of Developmental Services, or the
1003 commissioner's designee, (7) the Commissioner of Children and
1004 Families, or the commissioner's designee, (8) the executive director of

1005 the Commission on Children, or the executive director's designee, (9)
1006 the project director of the Connecticut Head Start State Collaboration
1007 Office, (10) a parent or guardian of a child who attends or attended a
1008 school readiness program appointed by the minority leader of the
1009 House of Representatives, (11) a representative of a local provider of
1010 early childhood education appointed by the minority leader of the
1011 Senate, (12) a representative of the Connecticut Family Resource
1012 Center Alliance appointed by the majority leader of the House of
1013 Representatives, (13) a representative of a state funded child care
1014 center appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, (14) two
1015 appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, one of
1016 whom is a member of [the House of Representatives] a board of
1017 education for a town designated as an alliance district, as defined in
1018 section 10-262u, and one of whom is a parent who has a child
1019 attending a school in [a priority school] an educational reform district,
1020 as defined in section 10-262u, (15) two appointed by the president pro
1021 tempore of the Senate, one of whom is [a member of the Senate] an
1022 instructor of a preschool program and one of whom is a representative
1023 of a public elementary school with a prekindergarten program, (16)
1024 two appointed by the Governor, one of whom is a representative of the
1025 Connecticut Head Start Association and one of whom is a
1026 representative of the business or philanthropic community in this
1027 state, and (17) the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or
1028 the secretary's designee. [The chairperson of the council shall be
1029 appointed from among its members by the Governor.]

1030 (b) The executive director of the Office of Early Childhood shall
1031 serve as the cochairperson of the cabinet. The other cochairperson of
1032 the cabinet shall be appointed from among its members by the
1033 Governor. The cabinet shall meet at least quarterly. Members shall not
1034 be compensated for their services. Any member who fails to attend
1035 three consecutive meetings or who fails to attend fifty per cent of all
1036 meetings held during any calendar year shall be deemed to have
1037 resigned from office.

1038 [(b)] (c) Within available appropriations and such private funding as
1039 may be available, the Early Childhood Education Cabinet shall (1)
1040 [coordinate among state agencies, as well as public and private
1041 partnerships, the development of services that enhance the health,
1042 safety and learning of children from birth to nine years of age,
1043 inclusive] assist the Office of Early Childhood in the administration of
1044 the coordinated system of early care and education and child
1045 development, pursuant to section 10-16bb, as amended by this act, (2)
1046 not later than December 1, 2009, and annually thereafter, develop an
1047 annual plan of action that assigns the appropriate state agency to
1048 complete the tasks specified in the federal Head Start Act of 2007, P.L.
1049 110-134, as amended from time to time, and (3) not later than March 1,
1050 2010, and annually thereafter, submit an annual state-wide strategic
1051 report, pursuant to said federal Head Start Act, in accordance with the
1052 provisions of section 11-4a, addressing the progress such agencies have
1053 made toward the completion of such tasks outlined under said federal
1054 Head Start Act and this subsection to the Governor and the joint
1055 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
1056 matters relating to education and human services.

1057 [(c)] (d) The Early Childhood Education Cabinet shall be within the
1058 [Department of Education] Office of Early Childhood for
1059 administrative purposes only.

1060 Sec. 14. Section 10-16aa of the general statutes is repealed and the
1061 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1062 There is established an account to be known as the competitive
1063 district grant account which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account
1064 within the General Fund. The account shall contain any moneys
1065 required by law to be deposited in the account. Moneys in the account
1066 shall be expended by the [Commissioner of Education] executive
1067 director of the Office of Early Childhood for the purposes of providing
1068 grants to competitive school districts to (1) make slots available in
1069 preschool school readiness programs, and (2) provide wraparound
1070 services to children and their families. For purposes of this section,

1071 "competitive school district" means a school district described in
1072 subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of section 10-16p, as amended by this
1073 act, that has more than nine thousand students enrolled in schools in
1074 the district.

1075 Sec. 15. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) The Office of Early Childhood
1076 is designated as the state agency for the administration of the child
1077 care development block grant pursuant to the Child Care and
1078 Development Block Grant Act of 1990.

1079 Sec. 16. Section 17b-2 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1080 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1081 The Department of Social Services is designated as the state agency
1082 for the administration of (1) [the child care development block grant
1083 pursuant to the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990;
1084 (2)] the Connecticut energy assistance program pursuant to the Low
1085 Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981; [(3)] (2) programs for the
1086 elderly pursuant to the Older Americans Act; [(4)] (3) the state plan for
1087 vocational rehabilitation services for the fiscal year ending June 30,
1088 1994; [(5)] (4) the refugee assistance program pursuant to the Refugee
1089 Act of 1980; [(6)] (5) the legalization impact assistance grant program
1090 pursuant to the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986; [(7)] (6)
1091 the temporary assistance for needy families program pursuant to the
1092 Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of
1093 1996; [(8)] (7) the Medicaid program pursuant to Title XIX of the Social
1094 Security Act; [(9)] (8) the supplemental nutrition assistance program
1095 pursuant to the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008; [(10)] (9) the state
1096 supplement to the Supplemental Security Income Program pursuant to
1097 the Social Security Act; [(11)] (10) the state child support enforcement
1098 plan pursuant to Title IV-D of the Social Security Act; and [(12)] (11)
1099 the state social services plan for the implementation of the social
1100 services block grants and community services block grants pursuant to
1101 the Social Security Act. The Department of Social Services is
1102 designated a public housing agency for the purpose of administering
1103 the Section 8 existing certificate program and the housing voucher

1104 program pursuant to the Housing Act of 1937.

1105 Sec. 17. Subsections (c) to (e), inclusive, of section 17b-705a of the
1106 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1107 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1108 (c) On or after July 1, [2012] 2013, and monthly thereafter, the
1109 [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the Office of
1110 Early Childhood shall compile a list of the names of family child care
1111 providers who have participated in the child care subsidy program
1112 established pursuant to section 17b-749 within the previous six
1113 calendar months. Such list shall be considered a public record, as
1114 defined in section 1-200.

1115 (d) For purposes of sections 4-65a and 5-270 and subsection (a) of
1116 section 5-278, the [Department of Social Services] Office of Early
1117 Childhood shall be considered an executive branch employer and an
1118 organization representing family child care providers that has been
1119 designated by the State Board of Labor Relations, pursuant to section
1120 5-275 or subsection (g) of this section, as the exclusive bargaining agent
1121 of such providers, shall have the right to bargain with the state
1122 concerning the terms and conditions of participation of family child
1123 care providers in the program covered by this section, including, but
1124 not limited to, (1) state reimbursement rates, (2) benefits, (3) payment
1125 procedures, (4) contract grievance arbitration, and (5) training,
1126 professional development and other requirements and opportunities
1127 appropriate for family child care providers.

1128 (e) (1) If the organization representing family child care providers
1129 and the [Department of Social Services] Office of Early Childhood do
1130 not reach an agreement not later than one hundred fifty days after
1131 negotiations have begun, the parties shall jointly select an arbitrator.
1132 The arbitrator selected shall have experience as an impartial arbitrator
1133 of labor-management disputes, and shall not be an individual
1134 employed as an advocate or consultant for labor or management in
1135 labor-management disputes. If the parties fail to agree on an arbitrator

1136 not later than one hundred sixty days after negotiations have begun,
1137 the selection of the arbitrator shall be made using the procedures
1138 under the voluntary labor arbitration rules of the American Arbitration
1139 Association.

1140 (2) Each party shall submit to the arbitrator, and to each other, a
1141 proposal setting forth such party's position on how each of the
1142 unresolved issues shall be resolved.

1143 (3) The arbitrator shall convene a hearing to allow the parties to
1144 provide evidence and argument to the arbitrator. The parties shall
1145 have the right to submit written briefs to the arbitrator. The arbitration
1146 record shall be officially closed at the close of the hearing, or the
1147 arbitrator's receipt of briefs, whichever is later.

1148 (4) The arbitrator's authority is limited to selecting the complete
1149 proposal of one party or the other on any unresolved issue. The
1150 arbitrator shall issue an award not later than forty-five days after the
1151 close of the record.

1152 (5) The factors to be considered by the arbitrator in arriving at a
1153 decision are: (A) The nature and needs of the family child care
1154 program and the needs and welfare of parents and children served by
1155 that program, including interests in better recruitment, retention and
1156 quality with respect to the covered family child care provider; (B) the
1157 history of negotiations between the parties including those leading to
1158 the instant proceeding; (C) the existing conditions of employment of
1159 similar groups of workers; (D) changes in the cost of living; and (E) the
1160 interests and welfare of the covered family child care providers.

1161 (6) The costs of the arbitrator and any fees associated with the
1162 arbitration proceeding shall be shared equally by the parties.

1163 (7) Any agreement or award reached pursuant to this section shall
1164 be submitted to the General Assembly for approval by filing the
1165 agreement or award with the clerks of the House and Senate. No
1166 provision of any agreement or award resulting from the collective

1167 bargaining process which would require supercedence of any law or
1168 regulation shall take effect without affirmative legislative approval.

1169 (8) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, any
1170 provision in any agreement or award which would require an
1171 additional appropriation in order to maintain the levels of services
1172 provided by existing appropriations shall be presented to the General
1173 Assembly for approval in accordance with the budgetary process
1174 applicable to appropriations, including, but not limited to, affirmative
1175 legislative approval. Other provisions of the agreement or award shall
1176 be deemed approved unless affirmatively rejected by a majority of
1177 either house not later than thirty days after the filing with the clerk of
1178 that chamber, provided the thirty-day period shall not begin or expire
1179 unless the General Assembly is in regular session. Once approved by
1180 the General Assembly, any provision of an agreement or award need
1181 not be resubmitted by the parties to such agreement or award as part
1182 of a future agreement approval process unless changes in the language
1183 of such provision are negotiated by the parties.

1184 Sec. 18. Section 17b-12 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1185 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1186 The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the
1187 Office of Early Childhood may accept and receive, on behalf of the
1188 [Department of Social Services] Office of Early Childhood or on behalf
1189 of the Children's Trust Fund established pursuant to section 17b-751,
1190 as amended by this act, any bequest or gift of personal property for
1191 services for a person who is, or members of whose immediate family
1192 are, receiving assistance or services from the [Department of Social
1193 Services, or both,] Office of Early Childhood or for services for a
1194 former recipient of assistance from the Department of Social Services
1195 or a potential recipient of assistance from the [Department of Social
1196 Services] Office of Early Childhood or for programs or services
1197 described in section 17b-751, as amended by this act. Any federal
1198 funds generated by virtue of any such bequest or gift may be used for
1199 the extension of services to such person or family members.

1200 Sec. 19. Section 17b-730 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1201 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1202 (a) The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the
1203 Office of Early Childhood is authorized to take advantage of any
1204 federal statutes and regulations relating to child day care and shall
1205 have the power to administer any federally-assisted child day care
1206 program in the event that said federal statutes or regulations require
1207 that said federally-assisted program be administered by a single state
1208 agency.

1209 (b) The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the
1210 Office of Early Childhood is authorized to take advantage of Title V of
1211 Public Law 88-452, entitled "Economic Opportunity Act of 1964", with
1212 respect to providing work training, aid and assistance to persons
1213 eligible for state-administered general assistance or public assistance,
1214 and to administer the same in such manner as is required for the
1215 receipt of federal funds therefor.

1216 Sec. 20. Section 17b-733 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1217 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1218 The [Department of Social Services] Office of Early Childhood shall
1219 be the lead agency for child day care services in Connecticut. The
1220 [department] office shall: (1) Identify, annually, existing child day care
1221 services and maintain an inventory of all available services; (2) provide
1222 technical assistance to corporations and private agencies in the
1223 development and expansion of child day care services for families at
1224 all income levels, including families of their employees and clients; (3)
1225 study and identify funding sources available for child day care
1226 including federal funds and tax benefits; (4) study the cost and
1227 availability of liability insurance for child day care providers; (5)
1228 provide, in conjunction with the Departments of Education and Higher
1229 Education, ongoing training for child day care providers including
1230 preparing videotaped workshops and distributing them to cable
1231 stations for broadcast on public access stations, and seek private

1232 donations to fund such training; (6) encourage child day care services
1233 to obtain accreditation; (7) develop a range of financing options for
1234 child care services, including the use of a tax-exempt bond program, a
1235 loan guarantee program and establishing a direct revolving loan
1236 program; (8) promote the colocation of child day care and school
1237 readiness programs pursuant to section 4b-31; (9) establish a
1238 performance-based evaluation system; (10) develop for
1239 recommendation to the Governor and the General Assembly measures
1240 to provide incentives for the private sector to develop and support
1241 expanded child day care services; (11) provide, within available funds
1242 and in conjunction with the temporary family assistance program as
1243 defined in section 17b-680, child day care to public assistance
1244 recipients; (12) develop and implement, with the assistance of the
1245 [Child Day Care Council] Early Childhood Education Cabinet and the
1246 Departments of [Public Health,] Social Services, Education, Higher
1247 Education, Children and Families, Economic and Community
1248 Development and Consumer Protection, a state-wide coordinated
1249 child day care and early childhood education training system (A) for
1250 child day care centers, group day care homes and family day care
1251 homes that provide child day care services, and (B) that makes
1252 available to such providers and their staff, within available
1253 appropriations, scholarship assistance, career counseling and training,
1254 advancement in career ladders, as defined in section 4-124bb, through
1255 seamless articulation of levels of training, program accreditation
1256 support and other initiatives recommended by the Departments of
1257 Social Services, Education and Higher Education; (13) plan and
1258 implement a unit cost reimbursement system for state-funded child
1259 day care services such that, on and after January 1, 2008, any increase
1260 in reimbursement shall be based on a requirement that such centers
1261 meet the staff qualifications, as defined in subsection (b) of section 10-
1262 16p, as amended by this act; (14) develop, within available funds,
1263 initiatives to increase compensation paid to child day care providers
1264 for educational opportunities, including, but not limited to, (A)
1265 incentives for educational advancement paid to persons employed by
1266 child day care centers receiving state or federal funds, and (B) support

1267 for the establishment and implementation by the Labor Commissioner
1268 of apprenticeship programs for child day care workers pursuant to
1269 sections 31-22m to 31-22q, inclusive, which programs shall be jointly
1270 administered by labor and management trustees; (15) evaluate the
1271 effectiveness of any initiatives developed pursuant to subdivision (14)
1272 of this section in improving staff retention rates and the quality of
1273 education and care provided to children; and (16) report annually to
1274 the Governor and the General Assembly on the status of child day care
1275 in Connecticut. Such report shall include (A) an itemization of the
1276 allocation of state and federal funds for child care programs; (B) the
1277 number of children served under each program so funded; (C) the
1278 number and type of such programs, providers and support personnel;
1279 (D) state activities to encourage partnership between the public and
1280 private sectors; (E) average payments issued by the state for both part-
1281 time and full-time child care; (F) range of family income and
1282 percentages served within each range by such programs; and (G) age
1283 range of children served.

1284 Sec. 21. Section 17b-734 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1285 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1286 The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the
1287 Office of Early Childhood shall establish and administer a program of
1288 grants to municipalities and state agencies for the purpose of planning,
1289 site preparation, construction, renovation or acquisition of facilities for
1290 use as child care facilities to be used primarily by the children of
1291 employees of such municipalities or state agencies and other potential
1292 participants. If openings occur for other potential participants in such a
1293 child care facility, priority for such openings shall be given to families
1294 at or below seventy-five per cent of the state's median income.

1295 Sec. 22. Subsection (a) of section 17b-735 of the general statutes is
1296 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1297 *1, 2014*):

1298 (a) For the purposes described in section 17b-734, as amended by

1299 this act, and for the payment of any administrative expenses of the
1300 [Department of Social Services] Office of Early Childhood related
1301 thereto the State Bond Commission shall have the power, from time to
1302 time, to authorize the issuance of bonds of the state in one or more
1303 series and principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate six million
1304 twenty-four thousand seven hundred ninety-eight dollars, provided
1305 one million dollars of said authorization shall be effective July 1, 2000.

1306 Sec. 23. Section 17b-736 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1307 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1308 The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the
1309 Office of Early Childhood shall adopt regulations in accordance with
1310 chapter 54 to carry out the purposes of sections 17b-734 and 17b-735, as
1311 amended by this act.

1312 Sec. 24. Section 17b-737 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1313 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1314 The Commissioner of [Social Services] Education shall establish a
1315 program, within available appropriations, to provide grants to
1316 municipalities, boards of education and child care providers to
1317 encourage the use of school facilities for the provision of child day care
1318 services before and after school. In order to qualify for a grant, a
1319 municipality, board of education or child care provider shall guarantee
1320 the availability of a school site which meets the standards set on or
1321 before June 30, 2014, by the Department of Public Health and on and
1322 after July 1, 2014, by the Department of Education, in regulations
1323 adopted under sections 19a-77, as amended by this act, 19a-79, as
1324 amended by this act, 19a-80, as amended by this act, and 19a-82 to 19a-
1325 87a, inclusive, as amended by this act, and shall agree to provide
1326 liability insurance coverage for the program. Grant funds shall be used
1327 by the municipality, board of education or child care provider for the
1328 maintenance and utility costs directly attributable to the use of the
1329 school facility for the day care program, for related transportation costs
1330 and for the portion of the municipality, board of education or child

1331 care provider liability insurance cost and other operational costs
1332 directly attributable to the day care program. The municipality or
1333 board of education may contract with a child day care provider for the
1334 program. The Commissioner of [Social Services] Education may adopt
1335 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, for
1336 purposes of this section. The commissioner may utilize available child
1337 care subsidies to implement the provisions of this section and
1338 encourage association and cooperation with the Head Start program
1339 established pursuant to section 10-16n, as amended by this act.

1340 Sec. 25. Section 17b-738 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1341 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1342 The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the
1343 Office of Early Childhood shall establish and administer a program of
1344 loans to business firms, as defined in subsection (a) of section 12-631,
1345 for the purpose of planning, site preparation, construction, renovation
1346 or acquisition of facilities, within the state, for use as licensed child day
1347 care centers, family day care homes or group day care homes to be
1348 used primarily by the children of employees of such corporations and
1349 children of employees of the municipalities in which such facilities are
1350 located. Such loans shall be made in accordance with the terms and
1351 conditions as provided in regulations adopted by the [Commissioner
1352 of Social Services] executive director, in accordance with chapter 54,
1353 shall be made for a period not to exceed five years and shall bear
1354 interest at a rate to be determined in accordance with subsection (t) of
1355 section 3-20.

1356 Sec. 26. Section 17b-739 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1357 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1358 Whenever the state (1) constructs, acquires or receives as a gift any
1359 office building which accommodates three hundred or more state
1360 employees, or (2) alters, repairs or makes additions to an existing state
1361 building which accommodates three hundred or more employees and
1362 such alterations, repairs or additions affect at least twenty-five per cent

1363 of the square footage of such building, the Department of Construction
1364 Services shall notify the [Department of Social Services] Office of Early
1365 Childhood. The [Department of Social Services] Office of Early
1366 Childhood, with the assistance of the Department of Administrative
1367 Services, shall determine the need for child care services for the
1368 employees in such building and other potential participants. If a
1369 demonstrated need for child care exists for thirty or more children of
1370 such employees and other potential participants and such care is
1371 unavailable, the Department of Construction Services shall set aside
1372 adequate space for child care facilities in such building. If openings
1373 occur for other potential participants in such a child care facility,
1374 priority for such openings shall be given to families at or below
1375 seventy-five per cent of the state's median income. Such facilities shall
1376 meet all state licensure requirements. The provisions of this section
1377 shall not apply to correctional institutions.

1378 Sec. 27. Section 17b-749 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1379 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1380 (a) The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the
1381 Office of Early Childhood shall establish and operate a child care
1382 subsidy program to increase the availability, affordability and quality
1383 of child care services for families with a parent or caretaker who is
1384 working, attending high school or who receives cash assistance under
1385 the temporary family assistance program from the Department of
1386 Social Services and is participating in an approved education, training,
1387 or other job preparation activity. Services available under the child
1388 care program shall include the provision of child care subsidies for
1389 children under the age of thirteen or children under the age of nineteen
1390 with special needs. The [department] office shall open and maintain
1391 enrollment for the child care subsidy program and shall administer
1392 such program within the existing budgetary resources available. The
1393 [department] office shall issue a notice on the [department's] office's
1394 Internet web site and shall provide written notice to recipients of
1395 program benefits and to service providers any time the [department]

1396 office closes the program to new applications, changes eligibility
1397 requirements, changes program benefits or makes any other change to
1398 the program's status or terms, provided the [department] office shall
1399 not be required to issue such notice when the [department] office
1400 expands program eligibility. Any change in the [department's] office's
1401 acceptance of new applications, eligibility requirements, program
1402 benefits or any other change to the program's status or terms for which
1403 the [department] office is required to give notice pursuant to this
1404 subsection, shall not be effective until thirty days after the
1405 [department] office issues such notice.

1406 (b) The [commissioner] executive director shall establish income
1407 standards for applicants and recipients at a level to include a family
1408 with gross income up to fifty per cent of the state-wide median
1409 income, except the [commissioner] executive director (1) may increase
1410 the income level to up to seventy-five per cent of the state-wide
1411 median income, (2) upon the request of the Commissioner of Children
1412 and Families, may waive the income standards for adoptive families so
1413 that children adopted on or after October 1, 1999, from the Department
1414 of Children and Families are eligible for the child care subsidy
1415 program, and (3) on and after March 1, 2003, shall reduce the income
1416 eligibility level to up to fifty-five per cent of the state-wide median
1417 income for applicants and recipients who qualify based on their loss of
1418 eligibility for temporary family assistance. The [commissioner]
1419 executive director may adopt regulations in accordance with chapter
1420 54 to establish income criteria and durational requirements for such
1421 waiver of income standards.

1422 (c) The [commissioner] executive director, in conjunction with the
1423 Commissioner of Social Services, shall establish eligibility and
1424 program standards including, but not limited to: (1) A priority intake
1425 and eligibility system with preference given to serving recipients of
1426 temporary family assistance who are employed or engaged in
1427 employment activities under the [department's] Department of Social
1428 Services' "Jobs First" program, working families whose temporary

1429 family assistance was discontinued not more than five years prior to
1430 the date of application for the child care subsidy program, teen
1431 parents, low-income working families, adoptive families of children
1432 who were adopted from the Department of Children and Families and
1433 who are granted a waiver of income standards under subdivision (2) of
1434 subsection (b), and working families who are at risk of welfare
1435 dependency; (2) health and safety standards for child care providers
1436 not required to be licensed; (3) a reimbursement system for child care
1437 services which account for differences in the age of the child, number
1438 of children in the family, the geographic region and type of care
1439 provided by licensed and unlicensed caregivers, the cost and type of
1440 services provided by licensed and unlicensed caregivers, successful
1441 completion of fifteen hours of annual in-service training or
1442 credentialing of child care directors and administrators, and program
1443 accreditation; (4) supplemental payment for special needs of the child
1444 and extended nontraditional hours; (5) an annual rate review process
1445 for providers which assures that reimbursement rates are maintained
1446 at levels which permit equal access to a variety of child care settings;
1447 (6) a sliding reimbursement scale for participating families; (7) an
1448 administrative appeals process; (8) an administrative hearing process
1449 to adjudicate cases of alleged fraud and abuse and to impose sanctions
1450 and recover overpayments; (9) an extended period of program and
1451 payment eligibility when a parent who is receiving a child care
1452 subsidy experiences a temporary interruption in employment or other
1453 approved activity; and (10) a waiting list for the child care subsidy
1454 program that reflects the priority and eligibility system set forth in
1455 subdivision (1) of this subsection, which is reviewed periodically, with
1456 the inclusion of this information in the annual report required to be
1457 issued annually by the [Department of Social Services] Office of Early
1458 Childhood to the Governor and the General Assembly in accordance
1459 with subdivision (10) of section 17b-733, as amended by this act. Such
1460 action will include, but not be limited to, family income, age of child,
1461 region of state and length of time on such waiting list.

1462 (d) Not later than January 1, 2011, an applicant determined to be

1463 eligible for program benefits shall remain eligible for such benefits for
1464 a period of not less than eight months from the date that such
1465 applicant is determined to be eligible, provided the [commissioner]
1466 executive director has not determined, during such eight-month
1467 period, that the applicant's circumstances have changed so as to render
1468 the applicant ineligible for program benefits. The [commissioner]
1469 executive director shall not make an eligibility determination for a
1470 recipient of program benefits more than one time per eight-month
1471 period, except as provided in subsection (e) of this section.

1472 (e) Not later than October 15, 2011, the [commissioner] executive
1473 director shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of
1474 section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General
1475 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services and
1476 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies concerning eligibility
1477 redeterminations made on an eight-month basis. Such report shall
1478 include an analysis of overpayments of program benefits made by the
1479 [department] office and administrative costs incurred by the
1480 [department] office as a result of eligibility redeterminations made on
1481 an eight-month basis. On and after October 15, 2011, the
1482 [commissioner] executive director may make eligibility
1483 redeterminations on a six-month basis if, after January 1, 2011, the
1484 [department's] office's overpayments of program benefits have
1485 increased in comparison with the period between January 1, 2010, and
1486 December 31, 2010, as a result of having an eight-month eligibility
1487 redetermination period.

1488 (f) A provider under the child care subsidy program that qualifies
1489 for eligibility and subsequently receives payment for child care
1490 services for recipients under this section shall be reimbursed for such
1491 services until informed by the [Department of Social Services] Office of
1492 Early Childhood of the recipient's ineligibility.

1493 (g) All licensed child care providers and those providers exempt
1494 from licensing shall provide the [Department of Social Services] Office
1495 of Early Childhood with the following information in order to

1496 maintain eligibility for reimbursement: (1) The name, address,
1497 appropriate identification, Social Security number and telephone
1498 number of the provider and all adults who work for or reside at the
1499 location where care is provided; (2) the name and address of the child's
1500 doctor, primary care provider and health insurance company; (3)
1501 whether the child is immunized and has had health screens pursuant
1502 to the federal Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment
1503 Services Program under 42 USC 1396d; and (4) the number of children
1504 cared for by the provider.

1505 (h) On or after [January 1, 1998] July 1, 2013, the [commissioner]
1506 executive director shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the
1507 provisions of chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this section.

1508 (i) The [commissioner] executive director shall submit to the joint
1509 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
1510 matters relating to human services and appropriations and the budgets
1511 of state agencies a copy of the Child Care and Development Fund Plan
1512 that the [commissioner] executive director submits to the
1513 Administration for Children and Families pursuant to federal law. The
1514 copy of the plan shall be submitted to the committees not later than
1515 thirty days after submission of the plan to the Administration for
1516 Children and Families.

1517 Sec. 28. Section 17b-749a of the general statutes is repealed and the
1518 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1519 (a) The [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the Office
1520 of Early Childhood shall establish, within available appropriations, a
1521 program to (1) purchase directly or provide subsidies to parents to
1522 purchase child day care services provided by any elementary or
1523 secondary school, nursery school, preschool, day care center, group
1524 day care home, family day care home, family resource center, Head
1525 Start program, or local or regional board of education, provided, if the
1526 [commissioner] executive director purchases such services directly, he
1527 shall give preference to purchasing from providers of full-day and

1528 year-round programs; and (2) award grants to providers of school
1529 readiness programs, as defined in section 10-16p, as amended by this
1530 act, to increase the hours of operation of their programs in order to
1531 provide child care for children attending such programs. The
1532 [commissioner] executive director, for purposes of subdivision (1) of
1533 this subsection, may model the program on the program established
1534 pursuant to section 17b-749, as amended by this act.

1535 (b) No funds received by a provider pursuant to this section shall be
1536 used to supplant federal funding received for early childhood
1537 education on behalf of children in an early childhood education
1538 program.

1539 (c) The [Commissioner of Education] executive director shall: (1)
1540 Coordinate the development of a range of alternative programs to
1541 meet the needs of all children; (2) foster partnerships between school
1542 districts and private organizations; (3) provide information and
1543 assistance to parents in selecting an appropriate school readiness
1544 program; and (4) work to ensure, to the extent possible, that school
1545 readiness programs allow open enrollment for all children and allow
1546 families receiving benefits for such a program to choose a public or
1547 accredited private program.

1548 Sec. 29. Subsection (a) of section 17b-749c of the general statutes is
1549 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1550 *1, 2013*):

1551 (a) The [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the Office
1552 of Early Childhood shall establish a program, within available
1553 appropriations, to provide, on a competitive basis, supplemental
1554 quality enhancement grants to providers of child day care services or
1555 providers of school readiness programs pursuant to section 10-16p, as
1556 amended by this act, and section 10-16u, as amended by this act. Child
1557 day care providers and school readiness programs may apply for a
1558 supplemental quality enhancement grant at such time and on such
1559 form as the [Commissioner of Education] executive director prescribes.

1560 Effective July 1, [2011] 2013, the [commissioner] executive director
1561 shall make funds payable to providers under such grants on a
1562 prospective basis.

1563 Sec. 30. Section 17b-749d of the general statutes is repealed and the
1564 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1565 Each licensed child day care provider receiving funding directly
1566 from the [Department of Social Services] Office of Early Childhood
1567 shall adopt a sliding fee scale based on family income. The
1568 [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the Office of
1569 Early Childhood shall develop a minimum sliding fee scale which may
1570 be adjusted upward by each such licensed day care program. All
1571 income derived from such fees shall be used to support the child day
1572 care program.

1573 Sec. 31. Section 17b-749e of the general statutes is repealed and the
1574 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1575 The [Department of Social Services] Office of Early Childhood shall
1576 establish and fund five regional accreditation projects, within available
1577 appropriations. The [department] office shall select qualified
1578 applicants for each region through a request for proposal process. The
1579 [department] office shall give priority to child day care facilities where
1580 at least twenty per cent of the children live with families earning less
1581 than seventy-five per cent of the state median income level.

1582 Sec. 32. Section 17b-749f of the general statutes is repealed and the
1583 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1584 (a) The [Commissioner of Social Services, in consultation with the
1585 Commissioner of Education,] executive director of the Office of Early
1586 Childhood shall develop and implement a performance-based
1587 evaluation system to evaluate licensed child day care centers, within
1588 available appropriations. Such a performance-based evaluation system
1589 shall be similar to the Head Start Performance Standards in 45 CFR
1590 1304.

1591 (b) The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director shall
1592 conduct, within available appropriations, a longitudinal study that
1593 examines the developmental progress of children and their families
1594 both during and following participation in a child day care program.

1595 (c) The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director shall
1596 report to the General Assembly, in accordance with section 11-4a, on or
1597 before January 1, [1998] 2014, on the implementation of the
1598 performance-based evaluation system and on the longitudinal study,
1599 and annually thereafter on the cumulative results of the evaluations.

1600 Sec. 33. Section 17b-749g of the general statutes is repealed and the
1601 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1602 (a) There is established a child care facilities loan guarantee
1603 program for the purpose of guaranteeing loans for the expansion or
1604 development of child care and child development centers in the state.
1605 The program shall contain any moneys required by law to be
1606 deposited in the program, including, but not limited to, any moneys
1607 appropriated by the state, premiums and fees for guaranteeing loans,
1608 and proceeds from the sale, disposition, lease or rental of collateral
1609 relating to loan guarantees. Any balance remaining in the program at
1610 the end of any fiscal year shall be carried forward in the program for
1611 the fiscal year next succeeding. The program shall be used to guarantee
1612 loans pursuant to subsection (b) of this section and to pay reasonable
1613 and necessary expenses incurred for administration under this section.
1614 The [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the Office of
1615 Early Childhood may enter into a contract with a quasi-public agency,
1616 banking institution or nonprofit corporation to provide for the
1617 administration of the program, provided no loan guarantee shall be
1618 made from the program without the authorization of the
1619 [commissioner] executive director as provided in subsection (b) of this
1620 section. The total aggregate amount of guarantees from the program,
1621 with respect to the insured portions of the loan, may not exceed at any
1622 one time an amount equal to three times the balance in the guarantee
1623 program.

1624 (b) The state, acting by and in the discretion of the [Commissioner of
1625 Education] executive director, may guarantee the repayment of loans,
1626 including, but not limited to, principal and interest, to a lending
1627 institution that has provided funding for the construction,
1628 reconstruction, rehabilitation or improvement of child care and child
1629 development facilities. The total aggregate of any loan guarantee
1630 under this section shall be not less than twenty per cent and shall not
1631 exceed fifty per cent of the principal amount of the obligation, as
1632 determined by approved underwriting standards approved by the
1633 [commissioner] executive director, and upon such terms and
1634 conditions as the [commissioner] executive director may prescribe. The
1635 term of any loan guarantee shall be determined by the useful life of the
1636 improvement but in no event shall exceed thirty years. The
1637 [commissioner] executive director shall arrange by contract with each
1638 lending institution or the borrower to safeguard the interests of the
1639 program in the event of a default by the borrower, including, at the
1640 discretion of the [commissioner] executive director, provision for
1641 notice to the program of default by the borrower, for foreclosure or
1642 other realization upon any security for the loan, for the time and
1643 conditions for payment to the lending institution by the program of the
1644 amount of any loss to the lending institution guaranteed by the
1645 program and for the disposition of the proceeds realized from any
1646 security for the loan guaranteed. When it appears desirable for a
1647 temporary period upon default or threatened default by the borrower,
1648 the [commissioner] executive director may authorize payments of
1649 installments of principal or interest, or both, from the program to the
1650 lending institution, and of taxes and insurance, which payments shall
1651 be repaid under such conditions as the program may prescribe and the
1652 program may also agree to revise terms of financing when such
1653 appears pertinent. Upon request of the lending institution, the
1654 [commissioner] executive director may at any time, under such
1655 equitable terms and conditions as it may prescribe, consent to the
1656 release of the borrower from his liability under the loan or consent to
1657 the release of parts of any secured property from the lien of the
1658 lending institution.

1659 (c) Priority for loan guarantees shall be given to financing child care
1660 centers and child development centers that (1) have obtained
1661 accreditation from the National Association for the Education of
1662 Young Children or have an application pending for such accreditation,
1663 and (2) are included in a local school readiness plan, and (3) shall
1664 promote the colocation of programs endorsed by the [Commissioners
1665 of Education and Social Services] executive director pursuant to
1666 section 4b-31. School readiness programs, licensed child care providers
1667 or nonprofit developers of a child care center operating under a legally
1668 enforceable agreement with child care providers are eligible for such
1669 guaranteed loans.

1670 (d) The [Commissioner of Education] executive director may adopt
1671 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to
1672 establish procedures and qualifications for application for guarantees
1673 under this section.

1674 Sec. 34. Section 17b-749h of the general statutes is repealed and the
1675 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1676 (a) There is established a program to be known as the "child care
1677 facilities direct revolving loan program". The program shall contain
1678 any moneys required by law to be deposited in the program,
1679 including, but not limited to, any moneys appropriated by the state,
1680 premiums, fees, interest payments and principal payments on direct
1681 loans and proceeds from the sale, disposition, lease or rental of
1682 collateral relating to direct loans. Any balance remaining in the
1683 program at the end of any fiscal year shall be carried forward in the
1684 program for the next succeeding fiscal year. The program shall be used
1685 to make loans pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, to make loan
1686 guarantees and to pay reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in
1687 administering loans and loan guarantees under this section. The
1688 [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the Office of Early
1689 Childhood may enter into a contract with a quasi-public agency,
1690 banking institution or nonprofit corporation to provide for the
1691 administration of the loan program, provided no loan or loan

1692 guarantee shall be made from the fund without the authorization of
1693 the [commissioner] executive director as provided in subsection (b) of
1694 this section.

1695 (b) The state, acting by and in the discretion of the [Commissioner of
1696 Education] executive director, may enter into a contract to provide
1697 financial assistance in the form of interest-free loans, deferred loans or
1698 guaranteed loans to child care providers or to nonprofit developers of
1699 a child care facility operating under a legally enforceable agreement
1700 with a child care provider, for costs or expenses incurred and directly
1701 connected with the expansion, improvement or development of child
1702 care facilities. Such costs and expenses may include: (1) Advances of
1703 loan proceeds for direct loans; (2) expenses incurred in project
1704 planning and design, including architectural expenses; (3) legal and
1705 financial expenses; (4) expenses incurred in obtaining required permits
1706 and approvals; (5) options to purchase land; (6) expenses incurred in
1707 obtaining required insurance; (7) expenses incurred in meeting state
1708 and local child care standards; (8) minor renovations and upgrading
1709 child care facilities to meet such standards and loans for the purpose of
1710 obtaining licensure under section 19a-77, as amended by this act; (9)
1711 purchase and installation of equipment, machinery and furniture,
1712 including equipment needed to accommodate children with special
1713 needs; and (10) other preliminary expenses authorized by the
1714 [commissioner] executive director. Loan proceeds shall not be used for
1715 the refinancing of existing loans, working capital, supplies or
1716 inventory.

1717 (c) The amount of a direct loan under this section may be up to
1718 eighty per cent of the total amount of investment but shall not exceed
1719 twenty-five thousand dollars for such facility as determined by the
1720 [commissioner] executive director except that if an applicant for a loan
1721 under this section has an existing loan that is guaranteed by the child
1722 care facilities loan guarantee program, established under section 17b-
1723 749g, as amended by this act, the direct loan provided under this
1724 section shall not exceed twenty per cent of the investment. The amount

1725 of any guarantee and a direct loan under this section shall not exceed
1726 eighty per cent.

1727 (d) Each provider applying for a loan under this section shall submit
1728 an application, on a form provided by the [commissioner] executive
1729 director that shall include, but is not limited to, the following
1730 information: (1) A detailed description of the proposed or existing
1731 child care facility; (2) an itemization of known and estimated costs; (3)
1732 the total amount of investment required to expand or develop the child
1733 care facility; (4) the funds available to the applicant without financial
1734 assistance from the [department] office; (5) the amount of financial
1735 assistance sought from the [department] office; (6) information relating
1736 to the financial status of the applicant, including, if available, a current
1737 balance sheet, a profit and loss statement and credit references; and (7)
1738 evidence that the loan applicant shall, as of the loan closing, own, have
1739 an option to purchase or have a lease for the term of the loan. Security
1740 for the loan may include an assignment of the lease or other
1741 subordination of any mortgage and the borrower shall be in default if
1742 the loan is not used for the intended purpose.

1743 (e) Payments of principal and interest on such loans shall be paid to
1744 the State Treasurer for deposit in the child care facilities direct
1745 revolving loan program established in subsection (a) of this section.

1746 (f) The [Commissioner of Education] executive director may adopt
1747 regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to carry out the provisions
1748 of this section. Such regulations may clarify loan procedures,
1749 repayment terms, security requirements, default and remedy
1750 provisions, and such other terms and conditions as [said
1751 commissioner] the executive director shall deem appropriate.

1752 Sec. 35. Section 17b-749i of the general statutes is repealed and the
1753 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1754 Within appropriations available to the State Treasurer for child care
1755 facilities, not already allocated toward debt service for specific child

1756 care facilities, the [Commissioner of Education] executive director of
1757 the Office of Early Childhood may, upon submission of a request by a
1758 facility operating a child care program that is financed with tax-exempt
1759 or taxable bonds issued through the Connecticut Health and
1760 Educational Facilities Authority, allow actual debt service, comprised
1761 of principal, interest and premium, if any, on the loan or loans, a debt
1762 service reserve fund and a reasonable repair and replacement reserve
1763 to be paid, provided such debt service terms and amounts are
1764 determined by the [commissioner] executive director, at the time the
1765 loan is entered into, to be reasonable in relation to the useful life and
1766 base value of the property.

1767 Sec. 36. Section 17b-749j of the general statutes is repealed and the
1768 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1769 The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the
1770 Office of Early Childhood shall establish health and safety standards,
1771 within available appropriations, for the child care subsidy program.
1772 The [commissioner] executive director shall adopt regulations, in
1773 accordance with chapter 54, which shall include, but not be limited to,
1774 the following: (1) A requirement for the provider or relative to apply
1775 for reimbursement from the [Department of Social Services] Office of
1776 Early Childhood; (2) a requirement for the provider or relative to
1777 provide reasonable confirmation of physical premises safety pursuant
1778 to 45 CFR Part 98.41; and (3) minimum health and safety training
1779 appropriate to the provider setting and the prevention and control of
1780 infectious diseases, including immunization. The [commissioner]
1781 executive director shall, within available appropriations, distribute
1782 information on the availability of health and safety training and
1783 assistance.

1784 Sec. 37. Section 17b-749k of the general statutes is repealed and the
1785 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1786 (a) The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the
1787 Office of Early Childhood shall, within available appropriations,

1788 require any person, other than a relative, providing child care services
1789 to a child in the child's home who receives a child care subsidy from
1790 the [Department of Social Services] Office of Early Childhood to
1791 submit to state and national criminal history records checks. The
1792 criminal history records checks required pursuant to this subsection
1793 shall be conducted in accordance with section 29-17a. The
1794 [commissioner] executive director shall also request a check of the state
1795 child abuse registry established pursuant to section 17a-101k.

1796 (b) The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director shall
1797 have the discretion to refuse payments for child care under any
1798 financial assistance program administered by him or her if the person
1799 providing such child care has been convicted in this state or any other
1800 state of a felony, as defined in section 53a-25, involving the use,
1801 attempted use or threatened use of physical force against another
1802 person, of cruelty to persons under section 53-20, injury or risk of
1803 injury to or impairing morals of children under section 53-21,
1804 abandonment of children under the age of six years under section 53-
1805 23 or any felony where the victim of the felony is a child under
1806 eighteen years of age, or of a violation of section 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-
1807 70b, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b or 53a-73a, or has a criminal record or
1808 was the subject of a substantiated report of child abuse in this state or
1809 any other state that the [commissioner] executive director reasonably
1810 believes renders the person unsuitable to provide child care.

1811 Sec. 38. Section 17b-750 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1812 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1813 No child care subsidy shall be paid to an unlicensed child care
1814 provider if such provider has been convicted of any crime involving
1815 sexual assault of a minor or serious physical injury to a minor or any
1816 crime committed in any other state or jurisdiction the essential
1817 elements of which are substantially the same as such crimes. If the
1818 [commissioner] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood has
1819 reason to believe that a provider of child care services has been so
1820 convicted, the [commissioner] executive director may demand that

1821 such provider be subject to state and national criminal history records
1822 checks. If criminal history records checks are required pursuant to this
1823 section, such checks shall be conducted in accordance with section 29-
1824 17a.

1825 Sec. 39. Section 17b-751 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1826 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1827 (a) There is established a Children's Trust Fund, the resources of
1828 which shall be used by the council established pursuant to subsection
1829 (b) of this section and the [Commissioner of Social Services] executive
1830 director of the Office of Early Childhood with the advice of the
1831 Children's Trust Fund Council to fund programs aimed at preventing
1832 child abuse and neglect and family resource programs. Said fund is
1833 intended to be in addition to those resources that would otherwise be
1834 appropriated by the state for programs aimed at preventing child
1835 abuse and neglect and family resource programs. The Children's Trust
1836 Fund Council and the [commissioner] executive director may apply for
1837 and accept any federal funds which are available for a Children's Trust
1838 Fund and shall administer such funds in the manner required by
1839 federal law. The fund shall receive money from grants and gifts made
1840 pursuant to section 17a-18. The Children's Trust Fund Council and the
1841 [commissioner] executive director may solicit and accept funds, on
1842 behalf of the Children's Trust Fund, to be used for the prevention of
1843 child abuse and neglect and family resource programs. The
1844 [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the Office of
1845 Early Childhood, with the advice of the Children's Trust Fund Council,
1846 shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter
1847 54, to administer the fund and to set eligibility requirements for
1848 programs seeking funding. Youth service bureaus may receive funds
1849 from the Children's Trust Fund.

1850 (b) There shall be established, within existing resources, a Children's
1851 Trust Fund Council which shall be within the [Department of Social
1852 Services] Office of Early Childhood. The council shall be composed of
1853 [~~sixteen~~] seventeen members as follows: (1) The Commissioners of

1854 Social Services, Education, Children and Families and Public Health, or
1855 their designees; (2) a representative of the business community with
1856 experience in fund-raising, appointed by the president pro tempore of
1857 the Senate; (3) a representative of the business community with
1858 experience in fund-raising, appointed by the speaker of the House of
1859 Representatives; (4) a representative of the business community with
1860 experience in fund-raising, appointed by the minority leader of the
1861 House of Representatives; (5) a representative of the business
1862 community with experience in fund-raising, appointed by the minority
1863 leader of the Senate; (6) a parent, appointed by the majority leader of
1864 the House of Representatives; (7) a parent, appointed by the majority
1865 leader of the Senate; (8) a parent, appointed by the president pro
1866 tempore of the Senate; (9) a person with expertise in child abuse
1867 prevention, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;
1868 (10) a person with expertise in child abuse prevention, appointed by
1869 the minority leader of the House of Representatives; (11) a staff
1870 member of a child abuse prevention program, appointed by the
1871 minority leader of the Senate; (12) a staff member of a child abuse
1872 prevention program, appointed by the majority leader of the House of
1873 Representatives; [and] (13) a pediatrician, appointed by the majority
1874 leader of the Senate; and (14) the executive director of the Office of
1875 Early Childhood. The council shall solicit and accept funds, on behalf
1876 of the Children's Trust Fund, to be used for the prevention of child
1877 abuse and neglect and family resource programs, and shall make
1878 grants to programs pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

1879 (c) On or before July 1, 2010, and annually thereafter, the Children's
1880 Trust Fund Council and the [commissioner] executive director shall
1881 report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the
1882 Governor and the joint standing committees of the General Assembly
1883 having cognizance of matters relating to human services, public health
1884 and education concerning the source and amount of funds received by
1885 the Children's Trust Fund, and the manner in which such funds were
1886 administered and disbursed.

1887 Sec. 40. Section 17b-751a of the general statutes is repealed and the
1888 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1889 A grandparent or other relative caregiver who is appointed a
1890 guardian of a child or children through the Superior Court and who is
1891 not a recipient of subsidized guardianship subsidies under section 17a-
1892 126 or foster care payments from the Department of Children and
1893 Families shall, within available appropriations, be eligible to apply for
1894 grants under the Kinship Fund and Grandparents and Relatives
1895 Respite Fund administered by the Children's Trust Fund Council and
1896 the [Department of Social Services] Office of Early Childhood through
1897 the Probate Court.

1898 Sec. 41. Section 17b-751d of the general statutes is repealed and the
1899 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1900 (a) The [Department of Social Services] Office of Early Childhood
1901 shall be the lead state agency for community-based, prevention-
1902 focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support
1903 families to prevent child abuse and neglect, in collaboration with the
1904 Children's Trust Fund Council, established pursuant to section 17b-
1905 751, as amended by this act. The responsibilities of the [department]
1906 office shall include, but not be limited to, collaborating with state
1907 agencies, hospitals, clinics, schools and community service
1908 organizations, with the guidance of the Children's Trust Fund Council,
1909 established pursuant to section 17b-751, as amended by this act, to: (1)
1910 Initiate programs to support families at risk for child abuse or neglect;
1911 (2) assist organizations to recognize child abuse and neglect; (3)
1912 encourage community safety; (4) increase broad-based efforts to
1913 prevent child abuse and neglect; (5) create a network of agencies to
1914 advance child abuse and neglect prevention; and (6) increase public
1915 awareness of child abuse and neglect issues. The [department] office,
1916 with the guidance of the Children's Trust Fund Council and subject to
1917 available state, federal and private funding, shall be responsible for
1918 implementing and maintaining programs and services, including, but
1919 not limited to: (A) The Nurturing Families Network, established

1920 pursuant to subsection (a) of section 17b-751b; (B) Family
1921 Empowerment Initiative programs; (C) Help Me Grow; (D) the
1922 Kinship Fund and Grandparent's Respite Fund; (E) Family School
1923 Connection; (F) support services for residents of a respite group home
1924 for girls; (G) legal services on behalf of indigent children; (H) volunteer
1925 services; (I) family development training; (J) shaken baby syndrome
1926 prevention; and (K) child sexual abuse prevention.

1927 (b) Not later than sixty days after October 5, 2009, the
1928 [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the Office of
1929 Early Childhood shall report, in accordance with section 11-4a, to the
1930 joint standing committees of the General Assembly, having cognizance
1931 of matters relating to human services and appropriations and the
1932 budgets of state agencies on the integration of the duties described in
1933 subsection (a) of this section into the department.

1934 Sec. 42. Section 17b-751e of the general statutes is repealed and the
1935 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1936 Any order, regulation or contract of the Children's Trust Fund
1937 Council agency that is in force on September 1, 2009, shall continue in
1938 force and effect as an order, regulation or contract of the [Department
1939 of Social Services] Office of Early Childhood until amended, repealed
1940 or superseded pursuant to law.

1941 Sec. 43. Section 17a-248 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1942 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1943 As used in this section and sections 17a-248b to 17a-248g, inclusive,
1944 as amended by this act, 38a-490a and 38a-516a, unless the context
1945 otherwise requires:

1946 (1) ["Commissioner"] "Executive director" means the [Commissioner
1947 of Developmental Services] executive director of the Office of Early
1948 Childhood.

1949 (2) "Council" means the State Interagency Birth-to-Three

1950 Coordinating Council established pursuant to section 17a-248b, as
1951 amended by this act.

1952 (3) "Early intervention services" means early intervention services,
1953 as defined in 34 CFR Part 303.12, as from time to time amended.

1954 (4) "Eligible children" means children from birth to thirty-six months
1955 of age, who are not eligible for special education and related services
1956 pursuant to sections 10-76a to 10-76h, inclusive, and who need early
1957 intervention services because such children are:

1958 (A) Experiencing a significant developmental delay as measured by
1959 standardized diagnostic instruments and procedures, including
1960 informed clinical opinion, in one or more of the following areas: (i)
1961 Cognitive development; (ii) physical development, including vision or
1962 hearing; (iii) communication development; (iv) social or emotional
1963 development; or (v) adaptive skills; or

1964 (B) Diagnosed as having a physical or mental condition that has a
1965 high probability of resulting in developmental delay.

1966 (5) "Evaluation" means a multidisciplinary professional, objective
1967 assessment conducted by appropriately qualified personnel in order to
1968 determine a child's eligibility for early intervention services.

1969 (6) "Individualized family service plan" means a written plan for
1970 providing early intervention services to an eligible child and the child's
1971 family.

1972 (7) "Lead agency" means the [Department of Developmental
1973 Services] Office of Early Childhood, the public [agency] entity
1974 responsible for the administration of the birth-to-three system in
1975 collaboration with the participating agencies.

1976 (8) "Parent" means (A) a biological, adoptive or foster parent of a
1977 child; (B) a guardian, except for the Commissioner of Children and
1978 Families; (C) an individual acting in the place of a biological or

1979 adoptive parent, including, but not limited to, a grandparent,
1980 stepparent, or other relative with whom the child lives; (D) an
1981 individual who is legally responsible for the child's welfare; or (E) an
1982 individual appointed to be a surrogate parent.

1983 (9) "Participating agencies" includes, but is not limited to, the
1984 Departments of Education, Social Services, Public Health, Children
1985 and Families and Developmental Services, the Office of Early
1986 Childhood, the Insurance Department, the Department of
1987 Rehabilitation Services and the Office of Protection and Advocacy for
1988 Persons with Disabilities.

1989 (10) "Qualified personnel" means persons who meet the standards
1990 specified in 34 CFR Part 303.12(e), as from time to time amended, and
1991 who are licensed physicians or psychologists or persons holding a
1992 state-approved or recognized license, certificate or registration in one
1993 or more of the following fields: (A) Special education, including
1994 teaching of the blind and the deaf; (B) speech and language pathology
1995 and audiology; (C) occupational therapy; (D) physical therapy; (E)
1996 social work; (F) nursing; (G) dietary or nutritional counseling; and (H)
1997 other fields designated by the [commissioner] executive director that
1998 meet requirements that apply to the area in which the person is
1999 providing early intervention services, provided there is no conflict
2000 with existing professional licensing, certification and registration
2001 requirements.

2002 (11) "Service coordinator" means a person carrying out service
2003 coordination, as defined in 34 CFR Part 303.22, as from time to time
2004 amended.

2005 (12) "Primary care provider" means physicians and advanced
2006 practice registered nurses, licensed by the Department of Public
2007 Health, who are responsible for performing or directly supervising the
2008 primary care services for children enrolled in the birth-to-three
2009 program.

2010 Sec. 44. Section 17a-248b of the general statutes is repealed and the
2011 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2012 (a) The lead agency shall establish a State Interagency Birth-to-Three
2013 Coordinating Council and shall provide staff assistance and other
2014 resources to the council. The council shall consist of the following
2015 members, appointed by the Governor: (1) Parents, including minority
2016 parents, of children with disabilities twelve years of age or younger,
2017 with knowledge of, or experience with, programs for children with
2018 disabilities from birth to thirty-six months of age, the total number of
2019 whom shall equal not less than twenty per cent of the total
2020 membership of the council, and at least one of whom shall be a parent
2021 of a child six years of age or younger, with a disability; (2) two
2022 members of the General Assembly at the time of their appointment,
2023 one of whom shall be designated by the speaker of the House of
2024 Representatives and one of whom shall be designated by the president
2025 pro tempore of the Senate; (3) one person involved in the training of
2026 personnel who provide early intervention services; (4) one person who
2027 is a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics; (5) one person
2028 from each of the participating agencies, who shall be designated by the
2029 commissioner or executive director of the participating agency and
2030 who have authority to engage in policy planning and implementation
2031 on behalf of the participating agency; (6) public or private providers of
2032 early intervention services, the total number of whom shall equal not
2033 less than twenty per cent of the total membership of the council; and
2034 (7) a representative of a Head Start program or agency. The Governor
2035 shall designate the chairperson of the council who shall not be the
2036 designee of the lead agency.

2037 (b) The Governor shall appoint all members of the council for terms
2038 of three years.

2039 (c) The council shall meet at least quarterly and shall provide public
2040 notice of its meetings, which shall be open and accessible to the general
2041 public. Special meetings may be called by the chairperson and shall be
2042 called at the request of the [commissioner] executive director.

2043 (d) Council members who are parents of children with disabilities
2044 shall be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in
2045 the performance of their duties under this section.

2046 (e) The council shall: (1) Assist the lead agency in the effective
2047 performance of the lead agency's responsibilities under section 17a-
2048 248, as amended by this act, this section and sections 17a-248c to 17a-
2049 248g, inclusive, as amended by this act, 38a-490a and 38a-516a,
2050 including identifying the sources of fiscal support for early
2051 intervention services and programs, assignment of financial
2052 responsibility to the appropriate agency, promotion of interagency
2053 agreements and preparing applications and amendments required
2054 pursuant to federal law; (2) advise and assist the [commissioner]
2055 executive director and other participating agencies in the development
2056 of standards and procedures pursuant to said sections; (3) advise and
2057 assist the [commissioner] executive director and the Commissioner of
2058 Education regarding the transition of children with disabilities to
2059 services provided under sections 10-76a to 10-76h, inclusive; (4) advise
2060 and assist the [commissioner] executive director in identifying barriers
2061 that impede timely and effective service delivery, including advice and
2062 assistance with regard to interagency disputes; and (5) prepare and
2063 submit an annual report in accordance with section 11-4a to the
2064 Governor and the General Assembly on the status of the birth-to-three
2065 system. At least thirty days prior to the [commissioner's] executive
2066 director's final approval of rules and regulations pursuant to section
2067 17a-248, as amended by this act, this section, sections 17a-248c to 17a-
2068 248g, inclusive, as amended by this act, 38a-490a and 38a-516a, other
2069 than emergency rules and regulations, the [commissioner] executive
2070 director shall submit proposed rules and regulations to the council for
2071 its review. The council shall review all proposed rules and regulations
2072 and report its recommendations thereon to the [commissioner]
2073 executive director within thirty days. The [commissioner] executive
2074 director shall not act in a manner inconsistent with the
2075 recommendations of the council without first providing the reasons for
2076 such action. The council, upon a majority vote of its members, may

2077 require that an alternative approach to the proposed rules and
2078 regulations be published with a notice of the proposed rules and
2079 regulations pursuant to chapter 54. When an alternative approach is
2080 published pursuant to this section, the [commissioner] executive
2081 director shall state the reasons for not selecting such alternative
2082 approach.

2083 Sec. 45. Subsection (a) of section 17a-248c of the general statutes is
2084 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
2085 *1, 2014*):

2086 (a) The [commissioner] executive director may establish one local
2087 interagency coordinating council in each region of the state. Each
2088 council shall consist of five or more individuals interested in the
2089 welfare of children ages birth to three years with disabilities or
2090 developmental delays.

2091 Sec. 46. Subsection (d) of section 17a-248d of the general statutes is
2092 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
2093 *1, 2014*):

2094 (d) The [commissioner] executive director, in coordination with the
2095 participating agencies and in consultation with the council, shall adopt
2096 regulations, pursuant to chapter 54, to carry out the provisions of
2097 section 17a-248, as amended by this act, and sections 17a-248b to 17a-
2098 248g, inclusive, as amended by this act, 38a-490a and 38a-516a.

2099 Sec. 47. Subsections (d) and (e) of section 17a-248g of the general
2100 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
2101 (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2102 (d) The [commissioner] executive director, in consultation with the
2103 Office of Policy and Management and the Insurance Commissioner,
2104 shall adopt regulations, pursuant to chapter 54, providing public
2105 reimbursement for deductibles and copayments imposed under an
2106 insurance policy or health benefit plan to the extent that such
2107 deductibles and copayments are applicable to early intervention

2108 services.

2109 (e) The [commissioner] executive director shall establish and
2110 periodically revise, in accordance with this section, a schedule of fees
2111 based on a sliding scale for early intervention services. The schedule of
2112 fees shall consider the cost of such services relative to the financial
2113 resources of the state and the parents or legal guardians of eligible
2114 children, provided that on and after October 6, 2009, the
2115 [commissioner] executive director shall (1) charge fees to such parents
2116 or legal guardians that are sixty per cent greater than the amount of
2117 the fees charged on the date prior to October 6, 2009; and (2) charge
2118 fees for all services provided, including those services provided in the
2119 first two months following the enrollment of a child in the program.
2120 Fees may be charged to any such parent or guardian, regardless of
2121 income, and shall be charged to any such parent or guardian with a
2122 gross annual family income of forty-five thousand dollars or more,
2123 except that no fee may be charged to the parent or guardian of a child
2124 who is eligible for Medicaid. Notwithstanding the provisions of
2125 subdivision (8) of section 17a-248, as amended by this act, as used in
2126 this subsection, "parent" means the biological or adoptive parent or
2127 legal guardian of any child receiving early intervention services. The
2128 [Department of Developmental Services] lead agency may assign its
2129 right to collect fees to a designee or provider participating in the early
2130 intervention program and providing services to a recipient in order to
2131 assist the provider in obtaining payment for such services. The
2132 [commissioner] executive director may implement procedures for the
2133 collection of the schedule of fees while in the process of adopting or
2134 amending such criteria in regulation, provided the [commissioner]
2135 executive director prints notice of intention to adopt or amend the
2136 regulations in the Connecticut Law Journal within twenty days of
2137 implementing the policy. Such collection procedures and schedule of
2138 fees shall be valid until the time the final regulations or amendments
2139 are effective.

2140 Sec. 48. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2014*) (a) The Office of Early

2141 Childhood shall constitute a successor agency to the Department of
2142 Public Health, in accordance with the provisions of sections 4-38d and
2143 4-39 of the general statutes, for the purpose of the conduct of
2144 regulation of child day care services pursuant to sections 19a-77 to 19a-
2145 80, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and
2146 sections 19a-82 to 19a-87, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended
2147 by this act, and for the purpose of administering the Maternal, Infant,
2148 and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program authorized under the
2149 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, P.L. 111-148.

2150 (b) Any order, regulation or policy of the Department of Public
2151 Health concerning child day care services that is established pursuant
2152 to sections 19a-77 to 19a-80, inclusive, of the general statutes, as
2153 amended by this act, or 19a-82 to 19a-87, inclusive, of the general
2154 statutes, as amended by this act, or otherwise authorized by law, that
2155 is in force on July 1, 2014, shall continue in force and effect as an order,
2156 regulation or policy until amended, repealed or superseded pursuant
2157 to law.

2158 Sec. 49. Subdivision (11) of subsection (g) of section 17a-28 of the
2159 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
2160 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2161 (11) The [Department of Public Health] Office of Early Childhood
2162 for the purpose of (A) determining the suitability of a person to care
2163 for children in a facility licensed pursuant to section 19a-77, as
2164 amended by this act, 19a-80 or 19a-87b, as amended by this act; (B)
2165 determining the suitability of such person for licensure; or (C) an
2166 investigation conducted pursuant to section 19a-80f, as amended by
2167 this act;

2168 Sec. 50. Section 19a-77 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2169 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2170 (a) As used in sections 19a-77 to 19a-80, inclusive, as amended by
2171 this act, and sections 19a-82 to 19a-87, inclusive, as amended by this

2172 act, "child day care services" shall include:

2173 (1) A "child day care center" which offers or provides a program of
2174 supplementary care to more than twelve related or unrelated children
2175 outside their own homes on a regular basis;

2176 (2) A "group day care home" which offers or provides a program of
2177 supplementary care (A) to not less than seven or more than twelve
2178 related or unrelated children on a regular basis, or (B) that meets the
2179 definition of a family day care home except that it operates in a facility
2180 other than a private family home;

2181 (3) A "family day care home" which consists of a private family
2182 home caring for not more than six children, including the provider's
2183 own children not in school full time, where the children are cared for
2184 not less than three or more than twelve hours during a twenty-four-
2185 hour period and where care is given on a regularly recurring basis
2186 except that care may be provided in excess of twelve hours but not
2187 more than seventy-two consecutive hours to accommodate a need for
2188 extended care or intermittent short-term overnight care. During the
2189 regular school year, a maximum of three additional children who are
2190 in school full time, including the provider's own children, shall be
2191 permitted, except that if the provider has more than three children
2192 who are in school full time, all of the provider's children shall be
2193 permitted;

2194 (4) "Night care" means the care provided for one or more hours
2195 between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.;

2196 (5) "Year-round" program means a program open at least fifty
2197 weeks per year.

2198 (b) For licensing requirement purposes, child day care services shall
2199 not include such services which are:

2200 (1) (A) Administered by a public school system, or (B) administered
2201 by a municipal agency or department and located in a public school

2202 building;

2203 (2) Administered by a private school which is in compliance with
2204 section 10-188 and is approved by the State Board of Education or is
2205 accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the State Board of
2206 Education;

2207 (3) Classes in music, dance, drama and art that are no longer than
2208 two hours in length; classes that teach a single skill that are no longer
2209 than two hours in length; library programs that are no longer than two
2210 hours in length; scouting; programs that offer exclusively sports
2211 activities; rehearsals; academic tutoring programs; or programs
2212 exclusively for children thirteen years of age or older;

2213 (4) Informal arrangements among neighbors and formal or informal
2214 arrangements among relatives in their own homes, provided the
2215 relative is limited to any of the following degrees of kinship by blood
2216 or marriage to the child being cared for or to the child's parent: Child,
2217 grandchild, sibling, niece, nephew, aunt, uncle or child of one's aunt or
2218 uncle;

2219 (5) Drop-in supplementary child care operations for educational or
2220 recreational purposes and the child receives such care infrequently
2221 where the parents are on the premises;

2222 (6) Drop-in supplementary child care operations in retail
2223 establishments where the parents remain in the same store as the child
2224 for retail shopping, provided the drop-in supplementary child-care
2225 operation does not charge a fee and does not refer to itself as a child
2226 day care center;

2227 (7) Drop-in programs administered by a nationally chartered boys'
2228 and girls' club;

2229 (8) Religious educational activities administered by a religious
2230 institution exclusively for children whose parents or legal guardians
2231 are members of such religious institution;

2232 (9) Administered by Solar Youth, Inc., a New Haven-based
2233 nonprofit youth development and environmental education
2234 organization, provided Solar Youth, Inc. informs the parents and legal
2235 guardians of any children enrolled in its programs that such programs
2236 are not licensed by the [Department of Public Health] Office of Early
2237 Childhood to provide child day care services;

2238 (10) Programs administered by organizations under contract with
2239 the Department of Social Services pursuant to section 17b-851a that
2240 promote the reduction of teenage pregnancy through the provision of
2241 services to persons who are ten to nineteen years of age, inclusive; or

2242 (11) Administered by the Cardinal Shehan Center, a Bridgeport-
2243 based nonprofit organization that is exclusively for school age
2244 children, provided the Cardinal Shehan Center informs the parents
2245 and legal guardians of any children enrolled in its programs that such
2246 programs are not licensed by the [Department of Public Health] Office
2247 of Early Childhood to provide child day care services.

2248 (c) No registrant or licensee of any child day care services as defined
2249 in subsection (a) of this section shall be issued an additional
2250 registration or license to provide any such services at the same facility.

2251 (d) When a licensee has vacated premises approved by the
2252 [department] office for the provision of child day care services and the
2253 landlord of such licensee establishes to the satisfaction of the
2254 [department] office that such licensee has no legal right or interest to
2255 such approved premises, the [department] office may make a
2256 determination with respect to an application for a new license for the
2257 provision of child day care services at such premises.

2258 Sec. 51. Section 19a-79 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2259 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2260 (a) The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2261 Office of Early Childhood shall adopt regulations, in accordance with
2262 the provisions of chapter 54, to carry out the purposes of sections 19a-

2263 77 to 19a-80, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 19a-82 to 19a-87,
2264 inclusive, as amended by this act, and to assure that child day care
2265 centers and group day care homes shall meet the health, educational
2266 and social needs of children utilizing such child day care centers and
2267 group day care homes. Such regulations shall (1) specify that before
2268 being permitted to attend any child day care center or group day care
2269 home, each child shall be protected as age-appropriate by adequate
2270 immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis,
2271 measles, mumps, rubella, hemophilus influenzae type B and any other
2272 vaccine required by the schedule of active immunization adopted
2273 pursuant to section 19a-7f, including appropriate exemptions for
2274 children for whom such immunization is medically contraindicated
2275 and for children whose parents object to such immunization on
2276 religious grounds, (2) specify conditions under which child day care
2277 center directors and teachers and group day care home providers may
2278 administer tests to monitor glucose levels in a child with diagnosed
2279 diabetes mellitus, and administer medicinal preparations, including
2280 controlled drugs specified in the regulations by the [commissioner]
2281 executive director, to a child receiving child day care services at such
2282 child day care center or group day care home pursuant to the written
2283 order of a physician licensed to practice medicine or a dentist licensed
2284 to practice dental medicine in this or another state, or an advanced
2285 practice registered nurse licensed to prescribe in accordance with
2286 section 20-94a, or a physician assistant licensed to prescribe in
2287 accordance with section 20-12d, and the written authorization of a
2288 parent or guardian of such child, (3) specify that an operator of a child
2289 day care center or group day care home, licensed before January 1,
2290 1986, or an operator who receives a license after January 1, 1986, for a
2291 facility licensed prior to January 1, 1986, shall provide a minimum of
2292 thirty square feet per child of total indoor usable space, free of
2293 furniture except that needed for the children's purposes, exclusive of
2294 toilet rooms, bathrooms, coatrooms, kitchens, halls, isolation room or
2295 other rooms used for purposes other than the activities of the children,
2296 (4) specify that a child day care center or group day care home licensed
2297 after January 1, 1986, shall provide thirty-five square feet per child of

2298 total indoor usable space, (5) establish appropriate child day care
2299 center staffing requirements for employees certified in
2300 cardiopulmonary resuscitation by the American Red Cross, the
2301 American Heart Association, the National Safety Council, American
2302 Safety and Health Institute or Medic First Aid International, Inc., (6)
2303 specify that on and after January 1, 2003, a child day care center or
2304 group day care home (A) shall not deny services to a child on the basis
2305 of a child's known or suspected allergy or because a child has a
2306 prescription for an automatic prefilled cartridge injector or similar
2307 automatic injectable equipment used to treat an allergic reaction, or for
2308 injectable equipment used to administer glucagon, (B) shall, not later
2309 than three weeks after such child's enrollment in such a center or
2310 home, have staff trained in the use of such equipment on-site during
2311 all hours when such a child is on-site, (C) shall require such child's
2312 parent or guardian to provide the injector or injectable equipment and
2313 a copy of the prescription for such medication and injector or injectable
2314 equipment upon enrollment of such child, and (D) shall require a
2315 parent or guardian enrolling such a child to replace such medication
2316 and equipment prior to its expiration date, and (7) specify that on and
2317 after January 1, 2005, a child day care center or group day care home
2318 (A) shall not deny services to a child on the basis of a child's diagnosis
2319 of asthma or because a child has a prescription for an inhalant
2320 medication to treat asthma, and (B) shall, not later than three weeks
2321 after such child's enrollment in such a center or home, have staff
2322 trained in the administration of such medication on-site during all
2323 hours when such a child is on-site, and (8) establish physical plant
2324 requirements for licensed child day care centers and licensed group
2325 day care homes that exclusively serve school-age children. When
2326 establishing such requirements, the [department] office shall give
2327 consideration to child day care centers and group day care homes that
2328 are located in private or public school buildings. With respect to this
2329 subdivision only, the [commissioner] executive director shall
2330 implement policies and procedures necessary to implement the
2331 physical plant requirements established pursuant to this subdivision
2332 while in the process of adopting such policies and procedures in

2333 regulation form. Until replaced by policies and procedures
2334 implemented pursuant to this subdivision, any physical plant
2335 requirement specified in the [department's] office's regulations that is
2336 generally applicable to child day care centers and group day care
2337 homes shall continue to be applicable to such centers and group day
2338 care homes that exclusively serve school-age children. The
2339 [commissioner] executive director shall print notice of the intent to
2340 adopt regulations pursuant to this subdivision in the Connecticut Law
2341 Journal not later than twenty days after the date of implementation of
2342 such policies and procedures. Policies and procedures implemented
2343 pursuant to this subdivision shall be valid until the time final
2344 regulations are adopted.

2345 (b) The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2346 Office of Early Childhood may adopt regulations, pursuant to chapter
2347 54, to establish civil penalties of not more than one hundred dollars per
2348 day for each day of violation and other disciplinary remedies that may
2349 be imposed, following a contested-case hearing, upon the holder of a
2350 license issued under section 19a-80, as amended by this act, to operate
2351 a child day care center or group day care home or upon the holder of a
2352 license issued under section 19a-87b, as amended by this act, to operate
2353 a family day care home.

2354 (c) The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2355 Office of Early Childhood shall exempt Montessori schools accredited
2356 by the American Montessori Society or the Association Montessori
2357 Internationale from any provision in regulations adopted pursuant to
2358 subsection (a) of this section which sets requirements on group size or
2359 child to staff ratios or the provision of cots.

2360 Sec. 52. Section 19a-80 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2361 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2362 (a) No person, group of persons, association, organization,
2363 corporation, institution or agency, public or private, shall maintain a
2364 child day care center or group day care home without a license issued

2365 in accordance with sections 19a-77 to 19a-80, inclusive, as amended by
2366 this act, and 19a-82 to 19a-87a, inclusive, as amended by this act.
2367 Applications for such license shall be made to the [Commissioner of
2368 Public Health] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood on
2369 forms provided by the [commissioner] executive director and shall
2370 contain the information required by regulations adopted under said
2371 sections. The forms shall contain a notice that false statements made
2372 therein are punishable in accordance with section 53a-157b.

2373 (b) (1) Upon receipt of an application for a license, the
2374 [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the Office of
2375 Early Childhood shall issue such license if, upon inspection and
2376 investigation, said [commissioner] executive director finds that the
2377 applicant, the facilities and the program meet the health, educational
2378 and social needs of children likely to attend the child day care center or
2379 group day care home and comply with requirements established by
2380 regulations adopted under sections 19a-77 to 19a-80, inclusive, as
2381 amended by this act, and sections 19a-82 to 19a-87a, inclusive, as
2382 amended by this act. The [commissioner] executive director shall offer
2383 an expedited application review process for an application submitted
2384 by a municipal agency or department. The [commissioner] executive
2385 director shall have discretion to determine whether a change of
2386 operator, ownership or location request from a currently licensed
2387 person or entity, as described in subsection (a) of this section, shall
2388 require the filing of a new license application from such person or
2389 entity. Each license shall be for a term of four years, shall be
2390 nontransferable, and may be renewed upon receipt by the
2391 [commissioner] executive director of a renewal application and
2392 accompanying licensure fee. The [commissioner] executive director
2393 may suspend or revoke such license after notice and an opportunity
2394 for a hearing as provided in section 19a-84 for violation of the
2395 regulations adopted under sections 19a-77 to 19a-80, inclusive, as
2396 amended by this act, and sections 19a-82 to 19a-87a, inclusive, as
2397 amended by this act.

2398 (2) The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2399 Office of Early Childhood shall collect from the licensee of a day care
2400 center a fee of five hundred dollars prior to issuing or renewing a
2401 license for a term of four years. The [commissioner] executive director
2402 shall collect from the licensee of a group day care home a fee of two
2403 hundred fifty dollars prior to issuing or renewing a license for a term
2404 of four years. The [commissioner] executive director shall require only
2405 one license for a child day care center operated in two or more
2406 buildings, provided the same licensee provides child day care services
2407 in each building and the buildings are joined together by a contiguous
2408 playground that is part of the licensed space.

2409 (c) The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2410 Office of Early Childhood, within available appropriations, shall
2411 require each prospective employee of a child day care center or group
2412 day care home in a position requiring the provision of care to a child to
2413 submit to state and national criminal history records checks. The
2414 criminal history records checks required pursuant to this subsection
2415 shall be conducted in accordance with section 29-17a. The
2416 [commissioner] executive director shall also request a check of the state
2417 child abuse registry established pursuant to section 17a-101k. Pursuant
2418 to the interagency agreement provided for in section 10-16s, as
2419 amended by this act, the Department of Social Services may agree to
2420 transfer funds appropriated for criminal history records checks to the
2421 [Department of Public Health] Office of Early Childhood. The
2422 [commissioner] executive director shall notify each licensee of the
2423 provisions of this subsection.

2424 (d) The [commissioner] executive director shall inform each
2425 licensee, by way of a plain language summary provided not later than
2426 sixty days after the regulation's effective date, of new or changed
2427 regulations adopted under sections 19a-77 to 19a-80, inclusive, as
2428 amended by this act, or sections 19a-82 to 19a-87a, inclusive, as
2429 amended by this act, with which a licensee must comply.

2430 Sec. 53. Section 19a-80f of the general statutes is repealed and the

2431 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2432 (a) As used in this section, "facility" means a child day care center, a
2433 group day care home and a family day care home, as defined in section
2434 19a-77, as amended by this act, and a youth camp, as defined in section
2435 19a-420.

2436 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the
2437 Commissioner of Children and Families, or the commissioner's
2438 designee, shall provide to the [Department of Public Health] Office of
2439 Early Childhood all records concerning reports and investigations of
2440 child abuse or neglect that have been reported to, or are being
2441 investigated by, the Department of Children and Families pursuant to
2442 section 17a-101g, including records of any administrative hearing held
2443 pursuant to section 17a-101k: (1) Occurring at any facility, and (2) by
2444 any staff member or licensee of any facility and by any household
2445 member of any family day care home, as defined in section 19a-77, as
2446 amended by this act, irrespective of where the abuse or neglect
2447 occurred.

2448 (c) The Department of Children and Families and the [Department
2449 of Public Health] Office of Early Childhood shall jointly investigate
2450 reports of abuse or neglect occurring at any facility. All information,
2451 records and reports concerning such investigation shall be shared
2452 between agencies as part of the investigative process.

2453 (d) The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2454 Office of Early Childhood shall compile a listing of allegations of
2455 violations that have been substantiated by the [Department of Public
2456 Health] Office of Early Childhood concerning a facility during the
2457 prior three-year period. The [Commissioner of Public Health]
2458 executive director of the Office of Early Childhood shall disclose
2459 information contained in the listing to any person who requests it,
2460 provided the information may be disclosed pursuant to sections 17a-
2461 101g and 17a-101k and does not identify children or family members
2462 of those children.

2463 (e) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, when the
2464 Commissioner of Children and Families has made a finding
2465 substantiating abuse or neglect: (1) That occurred at a facility, or (2) by
2466 any staff member or licensee of any facility, or by any household
2467 member of any family day care home and such finding is included on
2468 the state child abuse or neglect registry, maintained by the Department
2469 of Children and Families pursuant to section 17a-101k, such finding
2470 may be included in the listing compiled by the [Department of Public
2471 Health] Office of Early Childhood pursuant to subsection (d) of this
2472 section and may be disclosed to the public by the [Department of
2473 Public Health] Office of Early Childhood.

2474 (f) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, when the
2475 Commissioner of Children and Families, pursuant to section 17a-101j,
2476 has notified the [Department of Public Health] Office of Early
2477 Childhood of a recommended finding of child abuse or neglect at a
2478 facility and if such child abuse or neglect resulted in or involves (1) the
2479 death of a child; (2) the risk of serious physical injury or emotional
2480 harm of a child; (3) the serious physical harm of a child; (4) the arrest
2481 of a person due to abuse or neglect of a child; (5) a petition filed by the
2482 Commissioner of Children and Families pursuant to section 17a-112 or
2483 46b-129; or (6) sexual abuse of a child, the [Commissioner of Public
2484 Health] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood may
2485 include such finding of child abuse or neglect in the listing under
2486 subsection (d) of this section and may disclose such finding to the
2487 public. The Commissioner of Children and Families, or the
2488 commissioner's designee, shall immediately notify the [Commissioner
2489 of Public Health] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood
2490 when such child abuse or neglect is not substantiated after an
2491 investigation has been completed pursuant to subsection (b) of section
2492 17a-101g or a recommended finding of child abuse or neglect is
2493 reversed after a hearing or appeal conducted in accordance with the
2494 provisions of section 17a-101k. The [Commissioner of Public Health]
2495 executive director of the Office of Early Childhood shall immediately
2496 remove such information from the listing and shall not further disclose

2497 any such information to the public.

2498 (g) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, all
2499 records provided by the Commissioner of Children and Families, or
2500 the commissioner's designee, to the [Department of Public Health]
2501 Office of Early Childhood regarding child abuse or neglect occurring at
2502 any facility, may be utilized in an administrative proceeding or court
2503 proceeding relative to facility licensing. In any such proceeding, such
2504 records shall be confidential, except as provided by the provisions of
2505 section 4-177c, and such records shall not be subject to disclosure
2506 pursuant to section 1-210.

2507 Sec. 54. Section 19a-82 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2508 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2509 The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2510 Office of Early Childhood shall utilize consultative services and
2511 assistance from the Departments of Education, Mental Health and
2512 Addiction Services and Social Services and from municipal building,
2513 fire and health departments. The [commissioner] executive director
2514 shall make periodic inspections of licensed day care centers, group day
2515 care homes and family day care homes and shall provide technical
2516 assistance to licensees and applicants for licenses to assist them to
2517 attain and maintain the standards established in regulations adopted
2518 under sections 19a-77 to 19a-80, inclusive, as amended by this act, 19a-
2519 82 to 19a-87, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 19a-87b, as
2520 amended by this act.

2521 Sec. 55. Section 19a-86 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2522 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2523 The [commissioner] executive director of the Office of Early
2524 Childhood may request the Attorney General to bring an action in the
2525 superior court for the judicial district of Hartford to enjoin any person,
2526 group of persons, association, organization, corporation, institution, or
2527 agency, public or private, from maintaining a child day care center or

2528 group day care home without a license or operating a child day care
2529 center or group day care home in violation of regulations adopted
2530 under sections 19a-77 to 19a-80, inclusive, as amended by this act, and
2531 19a-82 to 19a-87, inclusive, as amended by this act.

2532 Sec. 56. Section 19a-87 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2533 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2534 (a) Any person or officer of an association, organization or
2535 corporation who shall establish, conduct, maintain or operate a day
2536 care center or group day care home without a current and valid license
2537 shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than one hundred dollars
2538 a day for each day that such center or home is operated without a
2539 license.

2540 (b) If the [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2541 Office of Early Childhood has reason to believe that a violation has
2542 occurred for which a civil penalty is authorized by subsection (a) of
2543 this section, he may send to such person or officer by certified mail,
2544 return receipt requested, or personally serve upon such person or
2545 officer, a notice which shall include: (1) A reference to the section or
2546 sections of the general statutes or regulations involved; (2) a short and
2547 plain statement of the matters asserted or charged; (3) a statement of
2548 the maximum civil penalty which may be imposed for such violation;
2549 and (4) a statement of the party's right to request a hearing, such
2550 request to be submitted in writing to the [commissioner] executive
2551 director not later than thirty days after the notice is mailed or served.

2552 (c) If such person or officer so requests, the [commissioner]
2553 executive director shall hold a hearing on the violation asserted. The
2554 hearing shall be held in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54. If
2555 such person or officer fails to request a hearing or fails to appear at the
2556 hearing or if, after the hearing, the [commissioner] executive director
2557 finds that the person or officer has committed such violation, the
2558 [commissioner] executive director may, in his discretion, order that a
2559 civil penalty be imposed that is not greater than the penalty stated in

2560 the notice. The [commissioner] executive director shall send a copy of
2561 any order issued pursuant to this subsection by certified mail, return
2562 receipt requested, to the person or officer named in such order.

2563 Sec. 57. Section 19a-87a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2564 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2565 (a) The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2566 Office of Early Childhood shall have the discretion to refuse to license
2567 under sections 19a-77 to 19a-80, inclusive, as amended by this act, and
2568 19a-82 to 19a-87, inclusive, as amended by this act, a person to
2569 conduct, operate or maintain a day care center or a group day care
2570 home, as defined in section 19a-77, as amended by this act, or to
2571 suspend or revoke the license or take any other action set forth in
2572 regulation that may be adopted pursuant to section 19a-79, as
2573 amended by this act, if, the person who owns, conducts, maintains or
2574 operates such center or home or a person employed therein in a
2575 position connected with the provision of care to a child receiving child
2576 day care services, has been convicted in this state or any other state of
2577 a felony as defined in section 53a-25 involving the use, attempted use
2578 or threatened use of physical force against another person, of cruelty to
2579 persons under section 53-20, injury or risk of injury to or impairing
2580 morals of children under section 53-21, abandonment of children
2581 under the age of six years under section 53-23, or any felony where the
2582 victim of the felony is a child under eighteen years of age, or of a
2583 violation of section 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-70b, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b or
2584 53a-73a, or has a criminal record in this state or any other state that the
2585 [commissioner] executive director reasonably believes renders the
2586 person unsuitable to own, conduct, operate or maintain or be
2587 employed by a child day care center or group day care home.
2588 However, no refusal of a license shall be rendered except in accordance
2589 with the provisions of sections 46a-79 to 46a-81, inclusive.

2590 (b) Any person who is licensed to conduct, operate or maintain a
2591 child day care center or group day care home shall notify the
2592 [commissioner] executive director of any criminal conviction of the

2593 owner, conductor, operator or maintainer of the center or home or of
2594 any person employed therein in a position connected with the
2595 provision of care to a child receiving child day care services,
2596 immediately upon obtaining knowledge of the conviction. Failure to
2597 comply with the notification requirement may result in the suspension
2598 or revocation of the license or the imposition of any action set forth in
2599 regulation, and shall subject the licensed person to a civil penalty of
2600 not more than one hundred dollars per day for each day after the
2601 person obtained knowledge of the conviction.

2602 (c) It shall be a class A misdemeanor for any person seeking
2603 employment in a position connected with the provision of care to a
2604 child receiving child day care services to make a false written
2605 statement regarding prior criminal convictions pursuant to a form
2606 bearing notice to the effect that such false statements are punishable,
2607 which statement he does not believe to be true and is intended to
2608 mislead the prospective employer.

2609 (d) Any person having reasonable cause to believe that a child day
2610 care center or a group day care home is operating without a current
2611 and valid license or in violation of regulations adopted under section
2612 19a-79, as amended by this act, or in a manner which may pose a
2613 potential danger to the health, welfare and safety of a child receiving
2614 child day care services, may report such information to the
2615 [Department of Public Health] Office of Early Childhood. The
2616 [department] office shall investigate any report or complaint received
2617 pursuant to this subsection. The name of the person making the report
2618 or complaint shall not be disclosed unless (1) such person consents to
2619 such disclosure, (2) a judicial or administrative proceeding results
2620 therefrom, or (3) a license action pursuant to subsection (a) of this
2621 section results therefrom. All records obtained by the [department]
2622 office in connection with any such investigation shall not be subject to
2623 the provisions of section 1-210 for a period of thirty days from the date
2624 of the petition or other event initiating such investigation, or until such
2625 time as the investigation is terminated pursuant to a withdrawal or

2626 other informal disposition or until a hearing is convened pursuant to
2627 chapter 54, whichever is earlier. A formal statement of charges issued
2628 by the [department] office shall be subject to the provisions of section
2629 1-210 from the time that it is served or mailed to the respondent.
2630 Records which are otherwise public records shall not be deemed
2631 confidential merely because they have been obtained in connection
2632 with an investigation under this section.

2633 (e) In addition to any powers the [Department of Public Health]
2634 Office of Early Childhood may have, in any investigation (1)
2635 concerning an application, reinstatement or renewal of a license for a
2636 child day care center, a group day care home or a family day care
2637 home, as such terms are defined in section 19a-77, as amended by this
2638 act, (2) of a complaint concerning child day care services, as described
2639 in section 19a-77, as amended by this act, or (3) concerning the possible
2640 provision of unlicensed child day care services, the [Department of
2641 Public Health] Office of Early Childhood may administer oaths, issue
2642 subpoenas, compel testimony and order the production of books,
2643 records and documents. If any person refuses to appear, testify or
2644 produce any book, record or document when so ordered, a judge of
2645 the Superior Court may make such order as may be appropriate to aid
2646 in the enforcement of this section.

2647 Sec. 58. Section 19a-87b of the general statutes is repealed and the
2648 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2649 (a) No person, group of persons, association, organization,
2650 corporation, institution or agency, public or private, shall maintain a
2651 family day care home, as defined in section 19a-77, as amended by this
2652 act, without a license issued by the [Commissioner of Public Health]
2653 executive director of the Office of Early Childhood. Licensure forms
2654 shall be obtained from the [Department of Public Health] Office of
2655 Early Childhood. Applications for licensure shall be made to the
2656 [commissioner] executive director on forms provided by the
2657 [department] office and shall contain the information required by
2658 regulations adopted under this section. The licensure and application

2659 forms shall contain a notice that false statements made therein are
2660 punishable in accordance with section 53a-157b. Applicants shall state,
2661 in writing, that they are in compliance with the regulations adopted by
2662 the [commissioner] executive director pursuant to subsection (f) of this
2663 section. Before a family day care home license is granted, the
2664 [department] office shall make an inquiry and investigation which
2665 shall include a visit and inspection of the premises for which the
2666 license is requested. Any inspection conducted by the [department]
2667 office shall include an inspection for evident sources of lead poisoning.
2668 The [department] office shall provide for a chemical analysis of any
2669 paint chips found on such premises. Neither the [commissioner]
2670 executive director nor the [commissioner's] executive director's
2671 designee shall require an annual inspection for homes seeking license
2672 renewal or for licensed homes, except that the [commissioner]
2673 executive director or the [commissioner's] executive director's designee
2674 shall make unannounced visits, during customary business hours, to at
2675 least thirty-three and one-third per cent of the licensed family day care
2676 homes each year. A licensed family day care home shall not be subject
2677 to any conditions on the operation of such home by local officials,
2678 other than those imposed by the [department] office pursuant to this
2679 subsection, if the home complies with all local codes and ordinances
2680 applicable to single and multifamily dwellings.

2681 (b) No person shall act as an assistant or substitute staff member to a
2682 person or entity maintaining a family day care home, as defined in
2683 section 19a-77, as amended by this act, without an approval issued by
2684 the [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the Office of
2685 Early Childhood. Any person seeking to act as an assistant or
2686 substitute staff member in a family day care home shall submit an
2687 application for such approval to the [department] office. Applications
2688 for approval shall: (1) Be made to the [commissioner] executive
2689 director on forms provided by the [department] office, (2) contain the
2690 information required by regulations adopted under this section, and
2691 (3) be accompanied by a fee of twenty dollars. The approval
2692 application forms shall contain a notice that false statements made in

2693 such form are punishable in accordance with section 53a-157b.

2694 (c) The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2695 Office of Early Childhood, within available appropriations, shall
2696 require each initial applicant or prospective employee of a family day
2697 care home in a position requiring the provision of care to a child,
2698 including an assistant or substitute staff member, to submit to state
2699 and national criminal history records checks. The criminal history
2700 records checks required pursuant to this subsection shall be conducted
2701 in accordance with section 29-17a. The [commissioner] executive
2702 director shall also request a check of the state child abuse registry
2703 established pursuant to section 17a-101k. The [commissioner]
2704 executive director shall notify each licensee of the provisions of this
2705 subsection.

2706 (d) An application for initial licensure pursuant to this section shall
2707 be accompanied by a fee of forty dollars and such license shall be
2708 issued for a term of four years. An application for renewal of a license
2709 issued pursuant to this section shall be accompanied by a fee of forty
2710 dollars and a certification from the licensee that any child enrolled in
2711 the family day care home has received age-appropriate immunizations
2712 in accordance with regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (f) of
2713 this section. A license issued pursuant to this section shall be renewed
2714 for a term of four years.

2715 (e) An application for initial staff approval or renewal of staff
2716 approval shall be accompanied by a fee of fifteen dollars. Such
2717 approvals shall be issued or renewed for a term of two years.

2718 (f) The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2719 Office of Early Childhood shall adopt regulations, in accordance with
2720 the provisions of chapter 54, to assure that family day care homes, as
2721 defined in section 19a-77, as amended by this act, shall meet the health,
2722 educational and social needs of children utilizing such homes. Such
2723 regulations shall ensure that the family day care home is treated as a
2724 residence, and not an institutional facility. Such regulations shall

2725 specify that each child be protected as age-appropriate by adequate
2726 immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis,
2727 measles, mumps, rubella, hemophilus influenzae type B and any other
2728 vaccine required by the schedule of active immunization adopted
2729 pursuant to section 19a-7f. Such regulations shall provide appropriate
2730 exemptions for children for whom such immunization is medically
2731 contraindicated and for children whose parents object to such
2732 immunization on religious grounds. Such regulations shall also specify
2733 conditions under which family day care home providers may
2734 administer tests to monitor glucose levels in a child with diagnosed
2735 diabetes mellitus, and administer medicinal preparations, including
2736 controlled drugs specified in the regulations by the [commissioner]
2737 executive director, to a child receiving day care services at a family day
2738 care home pursuant to a written order of a physician licensed to
2739 practice medicine in this or another state, an advanced practice
2740 registered nurse licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-94a
2741 or a physician assistant licensed to prescribe in accordance with section
2742 20-12d, and the written authorization of a parent or guardian of such
2743 child. Such regulations shall specify appropriate standards for
2744 extended care and intermittent short-term overnight care. The
2745 [commissioner] executive director shall inform each licensee, by way of
2746 a plain language summary provided not later than sixty days after the
2747 regulation's effective date, of any new or changed regulations adopted
2748 under this subsection with which a licensee must comply.

2749 Sec. 59. Section 19a-87c of the general statutes is repealed and the
2750 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2751 (a) Any person or officer of an association, organization or
2752 corporation who shall establish, conduct, maintain or operate a family
2753 day care home, as defined in section 19a-77, as amended by this act,
2754 without a current and valid license shall be subject to a civil penalty of
2755 not more than one hundred dollars a day for each day that such home
2756 is operated without a license.

2757 (b) If the [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the

2758 Office of Early Childhood has reason to believe that a violation has
2759 occurred for which a civil penalty is authorized by subsection (a) of
2760 this section, [he] the executive director may send to such person or
2761 officer by certified mail, return receipt requested, or personally serve
2762 upon such person or officer, a notice which shall include: (1) A
2763 reference to the section or sections of the general statutes or
2764 regulations involved; (2) a short and plain statement of the matters
2765 asserted or charged; (3) a statement of the maximum civil penalty
2766 which may be imposed for such violation; and (4) a statement of the
2767 party's right to request a hearing. Such request shall be submitted in
2768 writing to the [commissioner] executive director not later than thirty
2769 days after the notice is mailed or served.

2770 (c) If such person or officer so requests, the [commissioner]
2771 executive director shall hold a hearing on the violation asserted. The
2772 hearing shall be held in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54. If
2773 such person or officer fails to request a hearing or fails to appear at the
2774 hearing or if, after the hearing, the [commissioner] executive director
2775 finds that the person or officer has committed such violation, the
2776 [commissioner] executive director may, in his or her discretion, order
2777 that a civil penalty be imposed that is not greater than the penalty
2778 stated in the notice. The [commissioner] executive director shall send a
2779 copy of any order issued pursuant to this subsection by certified mail,
2780 return receipt requested, to the person or officer named in such order.

2781 Sec. 60. Section 19a-87d of the general statutes is repealed and the
2782 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2783 The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2784 Office of Early Childhood may request the Attorney General to bring
2785 an action, in the superior court for the judicial district in which such
2786 home is located, to enjoin any person, group of persons, association,
2787 organization, corporation, institution or agency, public or private, from
2788 maintaining a family day care home, as defined in section 19a-77, as
2789 amended by this act, without a license or in violation of regulations
2790 adopted under section 19a-87b, as amended by this act, and

2791 satisfactory proof of the lack of a license or the violation of the
2792 regulations without more shall entitle the [commissioner] executive
2793 director to injunctive relief.

2794 Sec. 61. Section 19a-87e of the general statutes is repealed and the
2795 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2796 (a) The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2797 Office of Early Childhood may (1) refuse to license under section 19a-
2798 87b, as amended by this act, a person to own, conduct, operate or
2799 maintain a family day care home, as defined in section 19a-77, as
2800 amended by this act, (2) refuse to approve under section 19a-87b, as
2801 amended by this act, a person to act as an assistant or substitute staff
2802 member in a family day care home, as defined in section 19a-77, as
2803 amended by this act, or (3) suspend or revoke the license or approval
2804 or take any other action that may be set forth in regulation that may be
2805 adopted pursuant to section 19a-79, as amended by this act, if the
2806 person who owns, conducts, maintains or operates the family day care
2807 home, the person who acts as an assistant or substitute staff member in
2808 a family day care home or a person employed in such family day care
2809 home in a position connected with the provision of care to a child
2810 receiving child day care services, has been convicted, in this state or
2811 any other state of a felony, as defined in section 53a-25, involving the
2812 use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force against another
2813 person, or has a criminal record in this state or any other state that the
2814 [commissioner] executive director reasonably believes renders the
2815 person unsuitable to own, conduct, operate or maintain or be
2816 employed by a family day care home, or act as an assistant or
2817 substitute staff member in a family day care home, or if such persons
2818 or a person residing in the household has been convicted in this state
2819 or any other state of cruelty to persons under section 53-20, injury or
2820 risk of injury to or impairing morals of children under section 53-21,
2821 abandonment of children under the age of six years under section 53-
2822 23, or any felony where the victim of the felony is a child under
2823 eighteen years of age, a violation of section 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-70b,

2824 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b or 53a-73a, illegal manufacture, distribution,
2825 sale, prescription, dispensing or administration under section 21a-277
2826 or 21a-278, or illegal possession under section 21a-279, or if such
2827 person, a person who acts as assistant or substitute staff member in a
2828 family day care home or a person employed in such family day care
2829 home in a position connected with the provision of care to a child
2830 receiving child day care services, either fails to substantially comply
2831 with the regulations adopted pursuant to section 19a-87b, as amended
2832 by this act, or conducts, operates or maintains the home in a manner
2833 which endangers the health, safety and welfare of the children
2834 receiving child day care services. Any refusal of a license or approval
2835 pursuant to this section shall be rendered in accordance with the
2836 provisions of sections 46a-79 to 46a-81, inclusive. Any person whose
2837 license or approval has been revoked pursuant to this section shall be
2838 ineligible to apply for a license or approval for a period of one year
2839 from the effective date of revocation.

2840 (b) When the [commissioner] executive director intends to suspend
2841 or revoke a license or approval or take any other action against a
2842 license or approval set forth in regulation adopted pursuant to section
2843 19a-79, as amended by this act, the [commissioner] executive director
2844 shall notify the licensee or approved staff member in writing of the
2845 [commissioner's] executive director's intended action. The licensee or
2846 approved staff member may, if aggrieved by such intended action,
2847 make application for a hearing in writing over the licensee's or
2848 approved staff member's signature to the [commissioner] executive
2849 director. The licensee or approved staff member shall state in the
2850 application in plain language the reasons why the licensee or approved
2851 staff member claims to be aggrieved. The application shall be delivered
2852 to the [commissioner] executive director within thirty days of the
2853 licensee's or approved staff member's receipt of notification of the
2854 intended action. The [commissioner] executive director shall
2855 thereupon hold a hearing within sixty days from receipt of such
2856 application and shall, at least ten days prior to the date of such
2857 hearing, mail a notice, giving the time and place of the hearing, to the

2858 licensee or approved staff member. The provisions of this subsection
2859 shall not apply to the denial of an initial application for a license or
2860 approval under section 19a-87b, as amended by this act, provided the
2861 [commissioner] executive director shall notify the applicant of any
2862 such denial and the reasons for such denial by mailing written notice
2863 to the applicant at the applicant's address shown on the license or
2864 approval application.

2865 (c) Any person who is licensed to conduct, operate or maintain a
2866 family day care home or approved to act as an assistant or substitute
2867 staff member in a family day care home shall notify the
2868 [commissioner] executive director of any conviction of the owner,
2869 conductor, operator or maintainer of the family day care home or of
2870 any person residing in the household or any person employed in such
2871 family day care home in a position connected with the provision of
2872 care to a child receiving child day care services, of a crime which
2873 affects the [commissioner's] executive director's discretion under
2874 subsection (a) of this section, immediately upon obtaining knowledge
2875 of such conviction. Failure to comply with the notification requirement
2876 of this subsection may result in the suspension or revocation of the
2877 license or approval or the taking of any other action against a license or
2878 approval set forth in regulation adopted pursuant to section 19a-79, as
2879 amended by this act, and shall subject the licensee or approved staff
2880 member to a civil penalty of not more than one hundred dollars per
2881 day for each day after the person obtained knowledge of the
2882 conviction.

2883 (d) It shall be a class A misdemeanor for any person seeking
2884 employment in a position connected with the provision of care to a
2885 child receiving family day care home services to make a false written
2886 statement regarding prior criminal convictions pursuant to a form
2887 bearing notice to the effect that such false statements are punishable,
2888 which statement such person does not believe to be true and is
2889 intended to mislead the prospective employer.

2890 (e) Any person having reasonable cause to believe that a family day

2891 care home, as defined in section 19a-77, as amended by this act, is
2892 operating without a current and valid license or in violation of the
2893 regulations adopted under section 19a-87b, as amended by this act, or
2894 in a manner which may pose a potential danger to the health, welfare
2895 and safety of a child receiving child day care services, may report such
2896 information to [any office of the Department of Public Health] the
2897 Office of Early Childhood. The [department] office shall investigate
2898 any report or complaint received pursuant to this subsection. The
2899 name of the person making the report or complaint shall not be
2900 disclosed unless (1) such person consents to such disclosure, (2) a
2901 judicial or administrative proceeding results from such report or
2902 complaint, or (3) a license action pursuant to subsection (a) of this
2903 section results from such report or complaint. All records obtained by
2904 the [department] office in connection with any such investigation shall
2905 not be subject to the provisions of section 1-210 for a period of thirty
2906 days from the date of the petition or other event initiating such
2907 investigation, or until such time as the investigation is terminated
2908 pursuant to a withdrawal or other informal disposition or until a
2909 hearing is convened pursuant to chapter 54, whichever is earlier. A
2910 formal statement of charges issued by the [department] office shall be
2911 subject to the provisions of section 1-210 from the time that it is served
2912 or mailed to the respondent. Records which are otherwise public
2913 records shall not be deemed confidential merely because they have
2914 been obtained in connection with an investigation under this section.

2915 Sec. 62. Section 8-210 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2916 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2917 (a) The state, acting by and in the discretion of the Commissioner of
2918 Social Services or the [Commissioner of Education] executive director
2919 of the Office of Early Childhood, as appropriate, may enter into a
2920 contract with a municipality or a qualified private, nonprofit
2921 corporation for state financial assistance for the planning, construction,
2922 renovation, site preparation and purchase of improved or unimproved
2923 property as part of a capital development project for neighborhood

2924 facilities. Such facilities may include, but are not limited to, child day
2925 care facilities, elderly centers, multipurpose human resource centers,
2926 emergency shelters for the homeless and shelters for victims of
2927 domestic violence. The financial assistance shall be in the form of state
2928 grants-in-aid equal to (1) all or any portion of the cost of such capital
2929 development project if the grantee is a qualified private nonprofit
2930 corporation, or (2) up to two-thirds of the cost of such capital
2931 development project if the grantee is a municipality, as determined by
2932 the Commissioner of Social Services or the [Commissioner of
2933 Education] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood, as
2934 appropriate.

2935 (b) The state, acting by and in the discretion of the [Commissioner of
2936 Education] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood, may
2937 enter into a contract with a municipality, a human resource
2938 development agency or a nonprofit corporation for state financial
2939 assistance in developing and operating child day care centers for
2940 children disadvantaged by reasons of economic, social or
2941 environmental conditions, provided no such financial assistance shall
2942 be available for the operating costs of any such day care center unless
2943 it has been licensed by the [Commissioner of Public Health] executive
2944 director of the Office of Early Childhood pursuant to section 19a-80, as
2945 amended by this act. Such financial assistance shall be available for a
2946 program of a municipality, of a human resource development agency
2947 or of a nonprofit corporation which may provide for personnel,
2948 equipment, supplies, activities, program materials and renovation and
2949 remodeling of physical facilities of such day care centers. Such contract
2950 shall provide for state financial assistance, within available
2951 appropriations, in the form of a state grant-in-aid (1) for a portion of
2952 the cost of such program as determined by the [Commissioner of
2953 Education] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood, if not
2954 federally assisted, or (2) equal to one-half of the amount by which the
2955 net cost of such program as approved by the [Commissioner of
2956 Education] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood exceeds
2957 the federal grant-in-aid thereof. The [Commissioner of Education]

2958 executive director of the Office of Early Childhood may authorize child
2959 day care centers provided financial assistance pursuant to this
2960 subsection to apply a program surplus to the next program year. The
2961 [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the Office of Early
2962 Childhood shall consult with directors of child day care centers in
2963 establishing fees for the operation of such centers.

2964 (c) The [Department of Education] Office of Early Childhood, in
2965 consultation with representatives from child care centers, within
2966 available appropriations, shall develop guidelines for state-contracted
2967 child care center programs. The guidelines shall include standards for
2968 program quality and design and identify short and long-term
2969 outcomes for families participating in such programs. The
2970 [Department of Education] Office of Early Childhood, within available
2971 appropriations, shall provide a copy of such guidelines to each state-
2972 contracted child care center. Each state-contracted child care center
2973 shall use the guidelines to develop a program improvement plan for
2974 the next twelve-month period and shall submit the plan to the
2975 [department] office. The plan shall include goals to be used for
2976 measuring such improvement. The [department] office shall use the
2977 plan to monitor the progress of the center.

2978 (d) The state, acting by and in the discretion of the [Commissioner
2979 of Education] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood may
2980 enter into a contract with a municipality, a human resource
2981 development agency or a nonprofit corporation for state financial
2982 assistance for a project of renovation of any child day care facility
2983 receiving assistance pursuant to the provisions of this section, to make
2984 such facility accessible to the physically disabled, in the form of a state
2985 grant-in-aid equal to (1) the total net cost of the project as approved by
2986 the [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the Office of
2987 Early Childhood, or (2) the total amount by which the net cost of the
2988 project as approved by the [Commissioner of Education] executive
2989 director of the Office of Early Childhood exceeds the federal grant-in-
2990 aid thereof.

2991 (e) Any municipality, human resource development agency or
2992 nonprofit corporation which enters into a contract pursuant to this
2993 section for state financial assistance for a day care facility shall have
2994 sole responsibility for the development of the budget of the day care
2995 program, including, but not limited to, personnel costs, purchases of
2996 equipment, supplies, activities and program materials, within the
2997 resources provided by the state under said contract. Upon local
2998 determination of a change in the type of day care service required in
2999 the area, a municipality, human resource development agency or
3000 nonprofit corporation may, within the limits of its annual budget and
3001 subject to the provisions of this subsection and sections 19a-77 to 19a-
3002 80, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 19a-82 to 19a-87a, inclusive,
3003 as amended by this act, change its day care service. An application to
3004 change the type of child day care service provided shall be submitted
3005 to the [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the Office of
3006 Early Childhood. Not later than forty-five days after the
3007 [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the Office of Early
3008 Childhood receives the application, the [Commissioner of Education]
3009 executive director of the Office of Early Childhood shall advise the
3010 municipality, human resource development agency or nonprofit
3011 corporation of the [Commissioner of Education's] executive director of
3012 the Office of Early Childhood's approval, denial or approval with
3013 modifications of the application. If the [Commissioner of Education]
3014 executive director of the Office of Early Childhood fails to act on the
3015 application not later than forty-five days after the application's
3016 submittal, the application shall be deemed approved.

3017 (f) The [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the Office
3018 of Early Childhood may, in his discretion, with the approval of the
3019 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management authorize the
3020 expenditure of such funds for the purposes of this section as shall
3021 enable the [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the
3022 Office of Early Childhood to apply for, qualify for and provide the
3023 state's share of a federally assisted day care program.

3024 Sec. 63. Subsection (a) of section 10a-194c of the general statutes is
3025 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3026 *1, 2014*):

3027 (a) The Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority
3028 shall establish a program to finance low interest loans for child care
3029 and child development centers, family resource centers and Head Start
3030 programs that shall be known as the Connecticut Child Care Facilities
3031 Program. Loans shall be made for the purpose of new construction or
3032 renovation of existing centers or complying with federal, state and
3033 local child care requirements, including health and safety standards.
3034 For purposes of this section, "child development center" means a
3035 building used by a nonprofit school readiness program, as defined in
3036 section 10-16p, as amended by this act, and "child care center" means a
3037 nonprofit facility that is licensed by the [Department of Public Health]
3038 Office of Early Childhood as a child day care center or a group day
3039 care home, both as defined in section 19a-77, as amended by this act.

3040 Sec. 64. Section 12-634 of the general statutes is repealed and the
3041 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

3042 The Commissioner of Revenue Services shall grant a credit against
3043 any tax due under the provisions of chapter 207, 208, 209, 210, 211 or
3044 212 in an amount not to exceed sixty per cent of the total cash amount
3045 invested during the taxable year by the business firm in programs
3046 operated or created pursuant to proposals approved pursuant to
3047 section 12-632 for planning, site preparation, construction, renovation
3048 or acquisition of facilities for purposes of establishing a child day care
3049 facility to be used primarily by the children of such business firm's
3050 employees and equipment installed for such facility, including kitchen
3051 appliances, to the extent that such equipment or appliances are
3052 necessary in the use of such facility for purposes of child day care,
3053 provided: (1) Such facility is operated under the authority of a license
3054 issued by the [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of
3055 the Office of Early Childhood in accordance with sections 19a-77, as
3056 amended by this act, to 19a-87, inclusive, as amended by this act, (2)

3057 such facility is operated without profit by such business firm related to
3058 any charges imposed for the use of such facility for purposes of child
3059 day care, and (3) the amount of tax credit allowed any business firm
3060 under the provisions of this section for any income year may not
3061 exceed fifty thousand dollars. If two or more business firms share in
3062 the cost of establishing such a facility for the children of their
3063 employees, each such taxpayer shall be allowed such credit in relation
3064 to the respective share, paid or incurred by such taxpayer, of the total
3065 expenditures for the facility in such income year. The commissioner
3066 shall not grant a credit pursuant to this section to any taxpayer
3067 claiming a credit for the same year pursuant to section 12-217x.

3068 Sec. 65. Subsection (b) of section 17a-101 of the general statutes is
3069 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3070 *1, 2014*):

3071 (b) The following persons shall be mandated reporters: Any
3072 physician or surgeon licensed under the provisions of chapter 370, any
3073 resident physician or intern in any hospital in this state, whether or not
3074 so licensed, any registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, medical
3075 examiner, dentist, dental hygienist or psychologist, a school employee,
3076 as defined in section 53a-65, social worker, police officer, juvenile or
3077 adult probation officer, juvenile or adult parole officer, member of the
3078 clergy, pharmacist, physical therapist, optometrist, chiropractor,
3079 podiatrist, mental health professional or physician assistant, any
3080 person who is a licensed or certified emergency medical services
3081 provider, any person who is a licensed or certified alcohol and drug
3082 counselor, any person who is a licensed marital and family therapist,
3083 any person who is a sexual assault counselor or a battered women's
3084 counselor, as defined in section 52-146k, any person who is a licensed
3085 professional counselor, any person who is a licensed foster parent, any
3086 person paid to care for a child in any public or private facility, child
3087 day care center, group day care home or family day care home licensed
3088 by the state, any employee of the Department of Children and
3089 Families, any employee of the [Department of Public Health] Office of

3090 Early Childhood who is responsible for the licensing of child day care
3091 centers, group day care homes [,] or family day care homes, [or] any
3092 employee of the Department of Public Health who is responsible for
3093 the licensing of youth camps, the Child Advocate and any employee of
3094 the Office of the Child Advocate and any family relations counselor,
3095 family relations counselor trainee or family services supervisor
3096 employed by the Judicial Department.

3097 Sec. 66. Subsection (b) of section 17b-90 of the general statutes is
3098 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3099 *1, 2014*):

3100 (b) No person shall, except for purposes directly connected with the
3101 administration of programs of the Department of Social Services and in
3102 accordance with the regulations of the commissioner, solicit, disclose,
3103 receive or make use of, or authorize, knowingly permit, participate in
3104 or acquiesce in the use of, any list of the names of, or any information
3105 concerning, persons applying for or receiving assistance from the
3106 Department of Social Services or persons participating in a program
3107 administered by said department, directly or indirectly derived from
3108 the records, papers, files or communications of the state or its
3109 subdivisions or agencies, or acquired in the course of the performance
3110 of official duties. The Commissioner of Social Services shall disclose (1)
3111 to any authorized representative of the Labor Commissioner such
3112 information directly related to unemployment compensation,
3113 administered pursuant to chapter 567 or information necessary for
3114 implementation of sections 17b-688b, 17b-688c and 17b-688h and
3115 section 122 of public act 97-2 of the June 18 special session*, (2) to any
3116 authorized representative of the Commissioner of Mental Health and
3117 Addiction Services any information necessary for the implementation
3118 and operation of the basic needs supplement program or the Medicaid
3119 program for low-income adults, established pursuant to section 17b-
3120 261n, (3) to any authorized representative of the Commissioner of
3121 Administrative Services or the Commissioner of Emergency Services
3122 and Public Protection such information as the Commissioner of Social

3123 Services determines is directly related to and necessary for the
3124 Department of Administrative Services or the Department of
3125 Emergency Services and Public Protection for purposes of performing
3126 their functions of collecting social services recoveries and
3127 overpayments or amounts due as support in social services cases,
3128 investigating social services fraud or locating absent parents of public
3129 assistance recipients, (4) to any authorized representative of the
3130 Commissioner of Children and Families necessary information
3131 concerning a child or the immediate family of a child receiving services
3132 from the Department of Social Services, including safety net services, if
3133 the Commissioner of Children and Families or the Commissioner of
3134 Social Services has determined that imminent danger to such child's
3135 health, safety or welfare exists to target the services of the family
3136 services programs administered by the Department of Children and
3137 Families, (5) to a town official or other contractor or authorized
3138 representative of the Labor Commissioner such information
3139 concerning an applicant for or a recipient of assistance under state-
3140 administered general assistance deemed necessary by the
3141 Commissioner of Social Services and the Labor Commissioner to carry
3142 out their respective responsibilities to serve such persons under the
3143 programs administered by the Labor Department that are designed to
3144 serve applicants for or recipients of state-administered general
3145 assistance, (6) to any authorized representative of the Commissioner of
3146 Mental Health and Addiction Services for the purposes of the
3147 behavioral health managed care program established by section 17a-
3148 453, (7) to any authorized representative of the [Commissioner of
3149 Public Health] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood to
3150 carry out his or her respective responsibilities under programs that
3151 regulate child day care services or to any authorized representative of
3152 the Commissioner of Public Health to carry out his or her respective
3153 responsibilities under programs that regulate youth camps, (8) to a
3154 health insurance provider, in IV-D support cases, as defined in
3155 subdivision (13) of subsection (b) of section 46b-231, information
3156 concerning a child and the custodial parent of such child that is
3157 necessary to enroll such child in a health insurance plan available

3158 through such provider when the noncustodial parent of such child is
3159 under court order to provide health insurance coverage but is unable
3160 to provide such information, provided the Commissioner of Social
3161 Services determines, after providing prior notice of the disclosure to
3162 such custodial parent and an opportunity for such parent to object,
3163 that such disclosure is in the best interests of the child, (9) to any
3164 authorized representative of the Department of Correction, in IV-D
3165 support cases, as defined in subdivision (13) of subsection (b) of
3166 section 46b-231, information concerning noncustodial parents that is
3167 necessary to identify inmates or parolees with IV-D support cases who
3168 may benefit from Department of Correction educational, training, skill
3169 building, work or rehabilitation programming that will significantly
3170 increase an inmate's or parolee's ability to fulfill such inmate's support
3171 obligation, (10) to any authorized representative of the Judicial Branch,
3172 in IV-D support cases, as defined in subdivision (13) of subsection (b)
3173 of section 46b-231, information concerning noncustodial parents that is
3174 necessary to: (A) Identify noncustodial parents with IV-D support
3175 cases who may benefit from educational, training, skill building, work
3176 or rehabilitation programming that will significantly increase such
3177 parent's ability to fulfill such parent's support obligation, (B) assist in
3178 the administration of the Title IV-D child support program, or (C)
3179 assist in the identification of cases involving family violence, or (11) to
3180 any authorized representative of the State Treasurer, in IV-D support
3181 cases, as defined in subdivision (13) of subsection (b) of section 46b-
3182 231, information that is necessary to identify child support obligors
3183 who owe overdue child support prior to the Treasurer's payment of
3184 such obligors' claim for any property unclaimed or presumed
3185 abandoned under part III of chapter 32. No such representative shall
3186 disclose any information obtained pursuant to this section, except as
3187 specified in this section. Any applicant for assistance provided through
3188 said department shall be notified that, if and when such applicant
3189 receives benefits, the department will be providing law enforcement
3190 officials with the address of such applicant upon the request of any
3191 such official pursuant to section 17b-16a.

3192 Sec. 67. Subsection (a) of section 10-16mm of the general statutes is
3193 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3194 *1, 2013*):

3195 (a) There is established a task force to address the academic
3196 achievement gaps in Connecticut by considering effective approaches
3197 to closing the achievement gaps in elementary, middle and high
3198 schools. The task force shall develop, in consultation with the
3199 Department of Education, the Connecticut State University System, the
3200 Interagency Council for Ending the Achievement Gap established
3201 pursuant to section 10-16nn, and the joint standing committee of the
3202 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education,
3203 a master plan to eliminate the academic achievement gaps by January
3204 1, 2020. Such master plan shall: (1) Identify the achievement gaps that
3205 exist among and between (A) racial groups, (B) ethnic groups, (C)
3206 socioeconomic groups, (D) genders, and (E) English language learners
3207 and students whose primary language is English; (2) focus efforts on
3208 closing the achievement gaps identified in subdivision (1) of this
3209 subsection; (3) establish annual benchmarks for implementation of the
3210 master plan and closing the achievement gaps; and (4) make
3211 recommendations regarding the creation of a Secretary of Education.]
3212 and (5) develop a plan for (A) changing the requirement for when a
3213 child five years of age may enroll in kindergarten pursuant to section
3214 10-15c from January first of the school year to October first of the
3215 school year, and (B) the creation of spaces in school readiness
3216 programs for those children who reach the age of five after October
3217 first of any school year and are no longer eligible to enroll in
3218 kindergarten for such school year.] The task force may amend such
3219 master plan at any time. For purposes of this section, "achievement
3220 gaps" means the existence of a significant disparity in the academic
3221 performance of students among and between (A) racial groups, (B)
3222 ethnic groups, (C) socioeconomic groups, (D) genders, and (E) English
3223 language learners and students whose primary language is English.

3224 Sec. 68. Section 10-4o of the general statutes is repealed and the

3225 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

3226 (a) The [Department of Education, in conjunction with the
3227 Department of Social Services,] Office of Early Childhood, in
3228 consultation with the Department of Education, shall coordinate a
3229 family resource center program to provide comprehensive child care
3230 services, remedial educational and literacy services, families-in-
3231 training programs and supportive services to parents who are
3232 recipients of temporary family assistance and other parents in need of
3233 such services. The family resource centers shall be located in or
3234 associated with public schools, and any family resource center
3235 established on or after July 1, 2000, shall be located in a public
3236 elementary school unless the [Commissioner of Education] executive
3237 director of the Office of Early Childhood, in consultation with the
3238 Commissioner of Education, waives such requirement. The
3239 [commissioner] executive director shall determine the manner in
3240 which the grant recipients of such program, such as municipalities,
3241 boards of education and child care providers shall be selected. The
3242 family resource center shall provide: (1) Quality full-day child care and
3243 school readiness programs for children age three and older who are
3244 not enrolled in school and child care for children enrolled in school up
3245 to the age of twelve for before and after regular school hours and on a
3246 full-day basis during school holidays and school vacation, in
3247 compliance with all state statutes and regulations governing child day
3248 care and, in the case of the school readiness programs, in compliance
3249 with the standards set for such programs pursuant to section 10-16p₂
3250 as amended by this act; (2) support services to parents of newborn
3251 infants to ascertain their needs and provide them with referrals to
3252 other services and organizations and, if necessary, education in
3253 parenting skills; (3) support and educational services to parents whose
3254 children are participants of the child care services of the program and
3255 who are interested in obtaining a high school diploma or its
3256 equivalent. Parents and their preschool age children may attend
3257 classes in parenting and child learning skills together so as to promote
3258 the mutual pursuit of education and enhance parent-child interaction;

3259 (4) training, technical assistance and other support by the staff of the
3260 center to family day care providers in the community and serve as an
3261 information and referral system for other child care needs in the
3262 community or coordinate with such systems as may already exist in
3263 the community; (5) a families-in-training program to provide, within
3264 available appropriations, community support services to expectant
3265 parents and parents of children under the age of three. Such services
3266 shall include, but not be limited to, providing information and advice
3267 to parents on their children's language, cognitive, social and motor
3268 development, visiting a participant's home on a regular basis,
3269 organizing group meetings at the center for neighborhood parents of
3270 young children and providing a reference center for parents who need
3271 special assistance or services. The program shall provide for the
3272 recruitment of parents to participate in such program; and (6) a sliding
3273 scale of payment, as developed by the office, in consultation with the
3274 Department of Social Services, for child care services at the center. The
3275 center shall also provide a teen pregnancy prevention program for
3276 adolescents emphasizing responsible decision-making and
3277 communication skills.

3278 (b) The [Department of Education] Office of Early Childhood, in
3279 consultation with representatives from family resource centers, within
3280 available appropriations, shall develop guidelines for family resource
3281 center programs. The guidelines shall include standards for program
3282 quality and design and identify short and long-term outcomes for
3283 families participating in such programs. The [Department of
3284 Education] office, within available appropriations, shall provide a copy
3285 of such guidelines to each family resource center. Each family resource
3286 center shall use the guidelines to develop a program improvement
3287 plan for the next twelve-month period and shall submit the plan to the
3288 [department] office. The plan shall include goals to be used for
3289 measuring such improvement. The [department] office shall use the
3290 plan to monitor the progress of the center. Family resource centers in
3291 existence on July 1, 1997, shall be given a preference for grants for
3292 school readiness awarded by the [Department of Education or the

3293 Department of Social Services] office and for financing pursuant to
3294 sections 10a-194c, 17b-749g and 17b-749h, as amended by this act.

3295 (c) The [Department of Education] Office of Early Childhood, in
3296 consultation with the Department of Education, within available
3297 appropriations, shall provide for a longitudinal study of family
3298 resource centers every three years.

3299 (d) The [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the
3300 Office of Early Childhood may provide grants to municipalities,
3301 boards of education and child care providers to carry out the purposes
3302 of subsection (a) of this section. Each family resource center shall have
3303 a program administrator who has at least two years of experience in
3304 child care, public administration or early childhood education and a
3305 master's degree in child development, early childhood education or a
3306 related field.

3307 (e) The [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the Office
3308 of Early Childhood may accept and receive on behalf of the
3309 [department] Office of Early Childhood or any family resource center,
3310 subject to section 4b-22, any bequest, devise or grant made to the
3311 [department] office or any family resource center for the purpose of
3312 establishing a new family resource center or expanding an existing
3313 center, and may hold and use such property for the purpose specified
3314 in such bequest, devise or gift.

3315 Sec. 69. (Effective July 1, 2013) The Office of Early Childhood shall
3316 conduct a regression discontinuity study of all state-funded early
3317 childhood programs in the state. Such study shall examine each child
3318 enrolled in such state-funded early childhood programs for the school
3319 year commencing July 1, 2013, and determine such child's readiness to
3320 enter kindergarten. Not later than January 1, 2015, the office shall
3321 submit a report on the findings of such regression discontinuity study
3322 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
3323 cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with the
3324 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

3325 Sec. 70. Section 10-16dd of the general statutes is repealed and the
 3326 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

3327 The [Department of Education] Office of Early Childhood, in
 3328 collaboration with the Department of Education and the Governor's
 3329 Early Care and Education Cabinet, shall develop a system for the
 3330 sharing of information between preschool and school readiness
 3331 programs and kindergarten regarding children's oral language and
 3332 preliteracy proficiency.

3333 Sec. 71. Section 17b-748 of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*
 3334 *July 1, 2013*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	4-5
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	10-16bb
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	10-16cc
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	10-266p(a)
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	10-16n
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	10-16p
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	10-16q
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	10-16r(b)
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	10-16s
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	10-16u
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	10-16w
Sec. 13	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	10-16z
Sec. 14	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	10-16aa
Sec. 15	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	New section
Sec. 16	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	17b-2
Sec. 17	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	17b-705a(c) to (e)
Sec. 18	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	17b-12
Sec. 19	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	17b-730
Sec. 20	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	17b-733
Sec. 21	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	17b-734
Sec. 22	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	17b-735(a)
Sec. 23	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	17b-736

Sec. 24	July 1, 2013	17b-737
Sec. 25	July 1, 2014	17b-738
Sec. 26	July 1, 2013	17b-739
Sec. 27	July 1, 2013	17b-749
Sec. 28	July 1, 2014	17b-749a
Sec. 29	July 1, 2013	17b-749c(a)
Sec. 30	July 1, 2013	17b-749d
Sec. 31	July 1, 2014	17b-749e
Sec. 32	July 1, 2013	17b-749f
Sec. 33	July 1, 2014	17b-749g
Sec. 34	July 1, 2014	17b-749h
Sec. 35	July 1, 2014	17b-749i
Sec. 36	July 1, 2013	17b-749j
Sec. 37	July 1, 2013	17b-749k
Sec. 38	July 1, 2013	17b-750
Sec. 39	July 1, 2014	17b-751
Sec. 40	July 1, 2014	17b-751a
Sec. 41	July 1, 2014	17b-751d
Sec. 42	July 1, 2014	17b-751e
Sec. 43	July 1, 2014	17a-248
Sec. 44	July 1, 2014	17a-248b
Sec. 45	July 1, 2014	17a-248c(a)
Sec. 46	July 1, 2014	17a-248d(d)
Sec. 47	July 1, 2014	17a-248g(d) and (e)
Sec. 48	July 1, 2014	New section
Sec. 49	July 1, 2014	17a-28(g)(11)
Sec. 50	July 1, 2014	19a-77
Sec. 51	July 1, 2014	19a-79
Sec. 52	July 1, 2014	19a-80
Sec. 53	July 1, 2014	19a-80f
Sec. 54	July 1, 2014	19a-82
Sec. 55	July 1, 2014	19a-86
Sec. 56	July 1, 2014	19a-87
Sec. 57	July 1, 2014	19a-87a
Sec. 58	July 1, 2014	19a-87b
Sec. 59	July 1, 2014	19a-87c
Sec. 60	July 1, 2014	19a-87d
Sec. 61	July 1, 2014	19a-87e
Sec. 62	July 1, 2014	8-210
Sec. 63	July 1, 2014	10a-194c(a)

Sec. 64	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	12-634
Sec. 65	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	17a-101(b)
Sec. 66	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	17b-90(b)
Sec. 67	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	10-16mm(a)
Sec. 68	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	10-4o
Sec. 69	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	New section
Sec. 70	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	10-16dd
Sec. 71	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	Repealer section

ED

Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

FIN