



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 676

January Session, 2013

Substitute House Bill No. 6359

House of Representatives, May 1, 2013

The Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding reported through REP. WIDLITZ of the 98th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

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, established pursuant to
26 section 10-16z of the general statutes, as amended by this act; (5)
27 implementing a communications strategy for outreach to families,
28 service providers and policymakers; (6) not later than January 1, 2015,
29 beginning a state-wide longitudinal evaluation of the school readiness
30 program examining the educational progress of children from
31 prekindergarten programs to grade four, inclusive, including a study
32 of the reliability and validity of the kindergarten assessment tool
33 developed pursuant to subsection (h) of section 10-14n of the general
34 statutes; (7) developing, coordinating and supporting public and
35 private partnerships to aid early childhood initiatives; and (8)
36 developing a plan for (A) changing the requirement for when a child
37 five years of age may enroll in kindergarten pursuant to section 10-15c
38 of the general statutes from January first of the school year to October
39 first of the school year, and (B) the creation of spaces in school
40 readiness programs for those children who reach five years of age after
41 October first of any school year and are not eligible to enroll in
42 kindergarten for such school year.

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

50 of such board, program or center are entered into the early childhood
51 information system.

52 (d) The Office of Early Childhood shall constitute a successor
53 department, in accordance with the provisions of sections 4-38d, 4-38e
54 and 4-39 of the general statutes, to (1) the Department of Education
55 with respect to sections 8-210, 10-4o, 10-16n, 10-16p to 10-16r, inclusive,
56 10-16u, 10-16w, 10-16aa, 10-16dd, 17b-749a, 17b-749c and 17b-749g to
57 17b-749i, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended by this act; (2)
58 the Department of Social Services with respect to section 15 of this act
59 and sections 17b-705a, 17b-12, 17b-730, 17b-733 to 17b-736, inclusive,
60 17b-738, 17b-739, 17b-749, 17b-749d to 17b-749f, inclusive, 17b-749j,
61 17b-749k, 17b-750 to 17b-751a, inclusive, 17b-751d and 17b-751e of the
62 general statutes, as amended by this act; (3) the Department of
63 Developmental Services with respect to sections 17a-248, 17a-248b to
64 17a-248d, inclusive, and 17a-248g of the general statutes, as amended
65 by this act; and (4) the Department of Public Health with respect to
66 sections 10a-194c, 12-634, 17a-28, 17a-101, 17b-90, 19a-77, 19a-79, 19a-
67 80, 19a-80f, 19a-82 and 19a-86 to 19a-87e, inclusive, of the general
68 statutes, as amended by this act.

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

71 As used in sections 4-6, 4-7 and 4-8, the term "department head"
72 means Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management,
73 Commissioner of Administrative Services, Commissioner of Revenue
74 Services, Banking Commissioner, Commissioner of Children and
75 Families, Commissioner of Construction Services, Commissioner of
76 Consumer Protection, Commissioner of Correction, Commissioner of
77 Economic and Community Development, State Board of Education,
78 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection,
79 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection,
80 Commissioner of Agriculture, Commissioner of Public Health,
81 Insurance Commissioner, Labor Commissioner, Liquor Control
82 Commission, Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services,

83 Commissioner of Social Services, Commissioner of Developmental
84 Services, Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, Commissioner of
85 Transportation, Commissioner of Veterans' Affairs, Commissioner of
86 Housing, Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services, the executive
87 director of the Office of Early Childhood and the executive director of
88 the Office of Military Affairs. As used in sections 4-6 and 4-7,
89 "department head" also means the Commissioner of Education and the
90 president of the Board of Regents for Higher Education.

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

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

103 (b) The Office of Early Childhood, in administering the coordinated
104 system of early care and education and child development, shall (1)
105 create a unified set of reporting requirements for the programs
106 described in subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 10-16cc, as
107 amended by this act, for the purpose of collecting the data elements
108 necessary to perform quality assessments and longitudinal analysis; (2)
109 compare and analyze the data collected pursuant to reporting
110 requirements created under subdivision (1) of this subsection with the
111 data collected in the state-wide public school information system,
112 pursuant to section 10-10a, for population-level analysis of children
113 and families; (3) develop and update appropriate early learning
114 standards and assessment tools for children from birth to five years of
115 age, inclusive, that are age and developmentally appropriate and that

116 are aligned with existing learning standards as of July 1, 2013, and
117 assessment tools for students in grades kindergarten to twelve,
118 inclusive; (4) continually monitor and evaluate all early childhood
119 education and child care programs and services, focusing on program
120 outcomes in satisfying the health, safety, developmental and
121 educational needs of all children; (5) develop indicators that assess
122 strategies designed to strengthen the family through parental
123 involvement in a child's development and education, including
124 children with special needs; (6) increase the availability of early
125 childhood education and child care programs and services and
126 encourage the providers of such programs and services to work
127 together to create multiple options that allow families to participate in
128 programs that serve the particular needs of each family; (7) provide
129 information and technical assistance to persons seeking early
130 childhood education and child care programs and services; (8) assist
131 state agencies and municipalities in obtaining available federal
132 funding for early childhood education and child care programs and
133 services; (9) provide technical assistance and consultation to licensed
134 providers of early childhood education and child care programs and
135 services and assist any potential provider of such programs and
136 services in obtaining the necessary licensure and certification; (10)
137 incorporate the quality rating and improvement system developed by
138 the [Department of Education] office that covers home-based, center-
139 based and school-based early child care and learning; (11) maintain a
140 system of accreditation facilitation to assist early childhood education
141 and child care programs and services in achieving national standards
142 and program improvement; (12) create partnerships between state
143 agencies and philanthropic organizations to assist in the
144 implementation of the coordinated system of early care and education
145 and child development; (13) align the system's policy and program
146 goals with those of the Early Childhood Education Cabinet, pursuant
147 to section 10-16z, as amended by this act, and the Head Start advisory
148 committee, pursuant to section 10-16n, as amended by this act; (14)
149 ensure a coordinated and comprehensive state-wide system of
150 professional development for providers of early childhood education

151 and child care programs and services; (15) develop family-centered
152 services that assist families in their communities; (16) provide families
153 with opportunities for choice in services including quality child care;
154 (17) integrate early childhood education and special education
155 services; (18) emphasize targeted research-based interventions; (19)
156 organize services into a coherent system; (20) coordinate a
157 comprehensive and accessible delivery system for early childhood
158 education and child care services; (21) focus on performance measures
159 to ensure that services are accountable, effective and accessible to the
160 consumer; (22) promote universal access to early childhood care and
161 education; (23) ensure nonduplication of monitoring and evaluation;
162 (24) encourage, promote and coordinate funding for the establishment
163 and administration of local and regional early childhood councils that
164 implement local and regional birth-to-eight systems; and (25) perform
165 any other activities that will assist in the provision of early childhood
166 education and child care programs and services.

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

186 childhood council, perform the duties and functions of a school
187 readiness council, in accordance with the provisions of section 10-16r,
188 as amended by this act.

189 (d) The Office of Early Childhood, in administering the coordinated
190 system of early care and education and child development, may enter
191 into memoranda of agreement with and accept donations from
192 nonprofit and philanthropic organizations to accomplish the purposes
193 of this section.

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

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

206 (b) (1) The planning director shall develop a plan for the
207 coordinated system of early care and education and child development
208 to be administered by the Office of Early Childhood, pursuant to
209 section 10-16bb, as amended by this act. Such plan shall consolidate
210 existing early childhood education and child care programs and
211 services serving children from birth to eight years of age, inclusive,
212 into a coordinated system that attempts to (A) reduce the academic
213 achievement gap, (B) increase participation in early childhood
214 education programs, (C) increase parent engagement, family literacy
215 and parenting skills, (D) increase oral language development, (E)
216 increase social competence, (F) decrease special education placements,
217 and (G) support parents and guardians of young children to find
218 employment and to remain employed and encourage such parents and

219 guardians to attend work training programs. Consolidation may
220 include, but not be limited to, school readiness programs, Head Start
221 programs, the family resource center program, established pursuant to
222 section 10-40, child care facilities, licensing and services described in
223 section 8-210, as amended by this act, the birth-to-three program,
224 established pursuant to section 17a-248, as amended by this act,
225 professional development activities relating to early childhood
226 education and any other relevant early childhood programs and
227 services.

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

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

250 (d) The Departments of Education, Social Services, Public Health,
251 Children and Families and Developmental Services and the Board of

252 Regents for Higher Education shall assist the planning director in the
253 planning and development of the plan for the coordinated system of
254 early care and education and child development.

255 (e) (1) On and after October 1, 2011, until July 1, 2013, the planning
256 director shall report quarterly to the Early Childhood Education
257 Cabinet. Such report may include, but not be limited to, (A)
258 recommendations regarding the consolidation of agencies to improve
259 coordination within the coordinated system of early care and
260 education and child development, (B) suggestions regarding how
261 federal, state and local resources can be combined to maximize
262 efficiencies in the system and outcomes for children and families, (C)
263 suggestions to improve the manner in which state and local early
264 childhood education initiatives are coordinated so as to provide
265 holistic, affordable, high quality early education for young children,
266 (D) recommendations for improvements to the coordinated system of
267 early care and education and child development, and (E) assurances
268 that the provisions of section 8-210, as amended by this act, are being
269 preserved in the planning and development of the coordinated system
270 of early care and education and child development.

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

286 provisions of section 8-210, as amended by this act, are being
287 preserved in the planning and development of the coordinated system
288 of early care and education and child development.

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

296 Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 10-266p of the general statutes is
297 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
298 *1, 2013*):

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

319 262f. The State Board of Education shall utilize the categorical grant
320 program established under this section and sections 10-266q and 10-
321 266r and other educational resources of the state to work cooperatively
322 with such school districts during any school year to improve their
323 educational programs or [to provide early childhood education or]
324 early reading intervention programs. The component parts of the grant
325 shall be allocated according to the provisions of sections [10-16p,] 10-
326 265f, 10-265m and 10-266t. Subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of
327 section 10-276a, the State Board of Education shall allocate one million
328 dollars to each of the eight towns described in subdivision (1) of this
329 subsection and five hundred thousand dollars to each of the towns
330 described in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection, except the
331 towns described in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not receive
332 any additional allocation if they are also described in subdivision (2) or
333 (3) of this subsection.

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

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

353 available appropriations or otherwise from federal funds and private
354 donations. All full-day, year-round Head Start programs funded
355 pursuant to this section shall be in compliance with federal Head Start
356 performance standards.

357 (b) The [Department of Education] Office of Early Childhood shall
358 annually allocate to each town in which the number of children under
359 the [aid to dependent children] temporary family assistance program,
360 as defined in subdivision [(14)] (17) of section 10-262f, equals or
361 exceeds nine hundred children, determined for the fiscal year ending
362 June 30, 1996, an amount equal to one hundred fifty thousand dollars
363 plus eight and one-half dollars for each child under the [aid to
364 dependent children] temporary family assistance program, provided
365 such amount may be reduced proportionately so that the total amount
366 awarded pursuant to this subsection does not exceed two million
367 seven hundred thousand dollars. The [department] office shall award
368 grants to the local and regional boards of education for such towns and
369 nonprofit agencies located in such towns which meet the criteria
370 established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section to maintain the
371 programs established or expanded with funds provided pursuant to
372 this subsection in the fiscal years ending June 30, 1996, and June 30,
373 1997. Any funds remaining in the allocation to such a town after grants
374 are so awarded shall be used to increase allocations to other such
375 towns. Any funds remaining after grants are so awarded to boards of
376 education and nonprofit agencies in all such towns shall be available to
377 local and regional boards of education and nonprofit agencies in other
378 towns in the state for grants for such purposes.

379 (c) There is established a committee to advise the [Commissioner of
380 Education] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood
381 concerning the coordination, priorities for allocation and distribution,
382 and utilization of funds for Head Start and concerning the competitive
383 grant program established under this section, and to evaluate
384 programs funded pursuant to this section. The committee shall consist
385 of the following members: (1) One member designated by the
386 Commissioner of Social Services; (2) six members who are directors of

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

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

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

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

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

420 children, except as provided in subsection (d) of section 10-16q, as
421 amended by this act;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

450 (7) "Executive director" means the executive director of the Office of
451 Early Childhood; and

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

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

474 (2) For purposes of this section:

475 (A) Prior to July 1, 2015, "staff qualifications" means there is in each
476 classroom an individual who has at least the following: (i) A childhood
477 development associate credential or an equivalent credential issued by
478 an organization approved by the Commissioner of Education and
479 twelve credits or more in early childhood education or child
480 development, as determined by the president of the Board of Regents
481 for Higher Education, after consultation with the [Commissioners of
482 Education and Social Services] executive director of the Office of Early

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

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

518 education (1) accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education
519 or State Board of Education, and (2) regionally accredited, provided
520 such associate degree program is approved by the Board of Regents for
521 Higher Education and the Department of Education; and

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

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

552 program's child day care program or school readiness program shall
553 submit documentation of such individual's progress toward meeting
554 the staff qualification requirements set forth in subparagraph (B) or (C)
555 of subdivision (2) of this subsection in a manner determined by the
556 [Department of Education] Office of Early Childhood.

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

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

586 such plan within its jurisdiction for funding] executive director. The
587 executive director shall review and approve such plans. The plan shall:
588 (1) Be developed in consultation with the local or regional school
589 readiness council established pursuant to section 10-16r, as amended
590 by this act; (2) be based on a needs and resource assessment; (3)
591 provide for the issuance of requests for proposals for providers of
592 accredited school readiness programs, provided, after the initial
593 requests for proposals, facilities that have been approved to operate a
594 child care program financed through the Connecticut Health and
595 Education Facilities Authority and have received a commitment for
596 debt service from the Department of Social Services, pursuant to
597 section 17b-749i, as amended by this act, on or before June 30, 2014,
598 and on and after July 1, 2014, from the Office of Early Childhood, are
599 exempt from the requirement for issuance of annual requests for
600 proposals; and (4) identify the need for funding pursuant to section
601 17b-749a, as amended by this act, in order to extend the hours and
602 days of operation of school readiness programs in order to provide
603 child day care services for children attending such programs.

604 (d) [(1) The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
605 Commissioner of Social Services,] The executive director of the Office
606 of Early Childhood shall establish a competitive grant program [to
607 provide spaces in accredited school readiness programs] for eligible
608 children who reside [(A)] (1) in an area served by a priority school or a
609 former priority school, [as provided for in subdivision (2) of this
610 subsection, (B)] (2) in a town ranked one to fifty when all towns are
611 ranked in ascending order according to town wealth, as defined in
612 subdivision (26) of section 10-262f, whose school district is not a
613 priority school district pursuant to section 10-266p, as amended by this
614 act, or [(C)] (3) in a town formerly a town described in [subparagraph
615 (B)] subdivision (2) of this [subdivision, as provided for in subdivision
616 (2) of this] subsection. A town or regional school readiness council
617 awarded a grant pursuant to this subsection shall use the funds to (A)
618 purchase spaces for such children from providers of accredited school
619 readiness programs, or (B) provide wraparound services to such
620 children and their families. A town in which a priority school is

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

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

651 (B) The amount of such phase-out grants shall be determined as
652 follows: (i) For the first fiscal year following the fiscal year such town
653 received its final grant pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, in
654 an amount that does not exceed seventy-five per cent of the grant

655 amount such town received for the town or school's final year of
656 eligibility pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection; (ii) for the
657 second fiscal year following the fiscal year such town received its final
658 grant pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, in an amount that
659 does not exceed fifty per cent of the grant amount such town received
660 for the town's or school's final year of eligibility pursuant to
661 subdivision (1) of this subsection; and (iii) for the third fiscal year
662 following the fiscal year such town received its final grant pursuant to
663 subdivision (1) of this subsection, in an amount that does not exceed
664 twenty-five per cent of the grant amount such town received for the
665 town's or school's final year of eligibility pursuant to subdivision (1) of
666 this subsection.

667 (C) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, and each fiscal year
668 thereafter, any town that received a grant pursuant to subparagraph
669 (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection for the fiscal year ending June
670 30, 2010, shall continue to receive a grant under this subsection even if
671 the town no longer meets the criteria for such grant pursuant to
672 subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection.]

673 (e) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, and each fiscal year
674 thereafter, priority school districts and former priority school districts
675 shall receive grants based on the sum of the products obtained by (A)
676 multiplying the district's number of contracted slots on March thirtieth
677 of the fiscal year prior to the fiscal year in which the grant is to be paid,
678 by the per child cost pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of
679 section 10-16q, as amended by this act, except that such per child cost
680 shall be reduced for slots that are less than year-round, and (B)
681 multiplying the number of additional or decreased slots the districts
682 have requested for the fiscal year in which the grant is to be paid by
683 the per child cost pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of
684 section 10-16q, as amended by this act, except such per child cost shall
685 be reduced for slots that are less than year-round. If said sum exceeds
686 the available appropriation, such number of requested additional slots
687 shall be reduced, as determined by the [Commissioner of Education]
688 executive director of the Office of Early Childhood, to stay within the

689 available appropriation.

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

696 (B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, and each fiscal year
697 thereafter, if funds appropriated for the purposes of subsection (c) of
698 this section are not expended, an amount up to five hundred thousand
699 dollars of such unexpended funds may be available for the provision
700 of professional development for early childhood education program
701 providers offered by a professional development and program
702 improvement system within the Connecticut State University System
703 and available for use in accordance with the provisions of this
704 subparagraph for the subsequent fiscal year. The [Commissioner of
705 Education] executive director may use such unexpended funds on and
706 after July 1, 2012, [in consultation with the president of the Board of
707 Regents for Higher Education,] to support early childhood education
708 programs accepting state funds in satisfying the staff qualifications
709 requirements of subparagraphs (B) and (C) of subdivision (2) of
710 subsection (b) of this section. The [Department of Education] executive
711 director shall use any such funds to provide assistance to individual
712 staff members, giving priority to those staff members attending an
713 institution of higher education (1) accredited by the Board of Regents
714 for Higher Education or State Board of Education, and (2) regionally
715 accredited, at a maximum of five thousand dollars per staff member
716 per year for the cost of higher education courses leading to a bachelor's
717 degree or, not later than December 31, 2013, an associate's degree, as
718 such degrees are described in said subparagraphs (B) and (C) at an in-
719 state public institution of higher education or a Connecticut-based for-
720 profit or nonprofit institution of higher education, provided such staff
721 members have applied for all available federal and state scholarships
722 and grants, and such assistance does not exceed such staff members'

723 financial need. Individual staff members shall apply for such
724 unexpended funds in a manner determined by the [Department of
725 Education] executive director. The [Commissioner of Education]
726 executive director shall determine [, in consultation with the president
727 of the Board of Regents for Higher Education,] how such unexpended
728 funds shall be distributed.

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

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

754 (f) Any school readiness program that receives funds pursuant to
755 this section or section 10-16u, as amended by this act, shall not

756 discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion
757 or disability. For purposes of this section, a nonsectarian program
758 means any public or private school readiness program that is not
759 violative of the Establishment Clause of the Constitution of the State of
760 Connecticut or the Establishment Clause of the Constitution of the
761 United States of America.

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

788 (h) For the first three years a town receives grants pursuant to this
789 section, such grants may be used, with the approval of the

790 [commissioner] executive director, to prepare a facility or staff for
791 operating a school readiness program and shall be adjusted based on
792 the number of days of operation of a school readiness program if a
793 shorter term of operation is approved by the [commissioner] executive
794 director.

795 (i) A town may use grant funds to purchase spaces for eligible
796 children who reside in such town at an accredited school readiness
797 program located in another town. A regional school readiness council
798 may use grant funds to purchase spaces for eligible children who
799 reside in the region covered by the council at an accredited school
800 readiness program located outside such region.

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

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

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

812 (a) Each school readiness program shall include: (1) A plan for
813 collaboration with other community programs and services, including
814 public libraries, and for coordination of resources in order to facilitate
815 full-day and year-round child care and education programs for
816 children of working parents and parents in education or training
817 programs; (2) parent involvement, parenting education and outreach;
818 (3) (A) record-keeping policies that require documentation of the name
819 and address of each child's doctor, primary care provider and health
820 insurance company and information on whether the child is
821 immunized and has had health screens pursuant to the federal Early

822 and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment Services Program
823 under 42 USC 1396d, and (B) referrals for health services, including
824 referrals for appropriate immunizations and screenings; (4) a plan for
825 the incorporation of appropriate preliteracy practices and teacher
826 training in such practices; (5) nutrition services; (6) referrals to family
827 literacy programs that incorporate adult basic education and provide
828 for the promotion of literacy through access to public library services;
829 (7) admission policies that promote enrollment of children from
830 different racial, ethnic and economic backgrounds and from other
831 communities; (8) a plan of transition for participating children from the
832 school readiness program to kindergarten and provide for the transfer
833 of records from the program to the kindergarten program; (9) a plan
834 for professional development for staff, including, but not limited to,
835 training (A) in preliteracy skills development, and (B) designed to
836 assure respect for racial and ethnic diversity; (10) a sliding fee scale for
837 families participating in the program pursuant to section 17b-749d, as
838 amended by this act; and (11) an annual evaluation of the effectiveness
839 of the program. [On and after July 1, 2000, school readiness programs
840 shall use the assessment measures developed pursuant to section 10-
841 16s in conducting their annual evaluations.]

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

846 [(2)] (b) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, [2009] 2014, and each
847 fiscal year thereafter, the per child cost of the [Department of
848 Education] Office of Early Childhood school readiness program
849 offered by a school readiness provider shall not exceed eight thousand
850 three hundred forty-six dollars.

851 [(3)] (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (e) of section
852 10-16p, as amended by this act, the [Department of Education] Office
853 of Early Childhood shall not provide funding to any school readiness
854 provider that (A) on or before January 1, 2004, first entered into a

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

879 [(4)] (3) A school readiness provider may provide child day care
880 services and the cost of such child day care services shall not be subject
881 to such per child cost limitation.

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

885 (d) A town or school readiness council may file a waiver application
886 to the [Department of Education] Office of Early Childhood on forms
887 provided by the [department] office for the purpose of seeking

888 approval of a school readiness schedule that varies from the minimum
889 hours and number of days provided for in subdivision (1) of
890 subsection (a) of section 10-16p, as amended by this act, or from the
891 definition of a year-round program pursuant to subdivision [(7) of
892 said] (6) of subsection (a) of section 10-16p, as amended by this act. The
893 [Department of Education] Office of Early Childhood may [, in
894 consultation with the Department of Social Services,] approve any
895 such waiver if the [departments find] office finds that the proposed
896 schedule meets the purposes set forth in the provisions of section 10-
897 16o concerning the development of school readiness programs and
898 maximizes available dollars to serve more children or address
899 community needs.

900 Sec. 9. Subsection (b) of section 10-16r of the general statutes is
901 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
902 *1, 2014*):

903 (b) The local school readiness council shall: (1) Make
904 recommendations to the chief elected official and the superintendent of
905 schools on issues relating to school readiness, including any
906 applications for grants pursuant to sections 10-16p, as amended by this
907 act, 10-16u, as amended by this act, 17b-749a, as amended by this act,
908 and 17b-749c, as amended by this act; (2) foster partnerships among
909 providers of school readiness programs; (3) assist in the identification
910 of (A) the need for school readiness programs and the number of
911 children not being served by such a program, and (B) for priority
912 school districts pursuant to section 10-266p, as amended by this act,
913 the number of children not being served by such a program and the
914 estimated operating cost of providing universal school readiness to
915 eligible children in such districts who are not being served; (4) submit
916 biennial reports to the [Department of Education] Office of Early
917 Childhood on the number and location of school readiness spaces and
918 estimates of future needs; (5) submit biennial reports on factors
919 identified pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection; (6) cooperate
920 with the [department] office in any program evaluation [and, on and
921 after July 1, 2000, use measures developed pursuant to section 10-16s]

922 for purposes of evaluating the effectiveness of school readiness
923 programs; (7) identify existing and prospective resources and services
924 available to children and families; (8) facilitate the coordination of the
925 delivery of services to children and families, including (A) referral
926 procedures, and (B) before and after-school child care for children
927 attending kindergarten programs; (9) exchange information with other
928 councils, the community and organizations serving the needs of
929 children and families; (10) make recommendations to school officials
930 concerning transition from school readiness programs to kindergarten;
931 and (11) encourage public participation.

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

934 [(a)] The executive director of the Office of Early Childhood and the
935 Commissioners of Education, [and] Children and Families,
936 Developmental Services, Social Services and Public Health shall
937 develop an agreement to define the duties and responsibilities of their
938 departments concerning [school readiness programs] implementation
939 of the coordinated system of early care and education and child
940 development, pursuant to section 10-16bb, as amended by this act. The
941 executive director and commissioners shall consult with other affected
942 state agencies. [The agreement shall include, but not be limited to, a
943 multiyear interagency agreement to establish and implement an
944 integrated school readiness plan. Functions to be described and
945 responsibilities to be undertaken by the two departments shall be
946 delineated in the agreement. On or before January 1, 2010, and
947 annually thereafter, the Commissioners of Education and Social
948 Services shall submit such agreement, in accordance with the
949 provisions of section 11-4a, to the Early Childhood Education Cabinet,
950 established pursuant to section 10-16z, and to the joint standing
951 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
952 relating to education and human services.]

953 [(b)] On or before January 1, 2008, the commissioners shall adopt
954 assessment measures of school readiness programs for use by such

955 programs in conducting their annual evaluations pursuant to section
956 10-16q. The commissioners may adopt the assessment measures used
957 for Head Start programs.]

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

960 For the fiscal year ending June 30, [2002] 2014, and each fiscal year
961 thereafter, the [Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
962 Commissioner of Social Services,] executive director of the Office of
963 Early Childhood shall provide grants, within available appropriations,
964 to eligible school readiness program providers pursuant to subsection
965 (b) of section 10-16p, as amended by this act, to provide spaces in
966 accredited school readiness programs for eligible children who reside
967 in transitional school districts pursuant to section 10-263c, except for
968 transitional school districts eligible for grants pursuant to subsection
969 (c) of section 10-16p, as amended by this act. Under the program, the
970 grant shall be provided to the town in which such transitional school
971 district is located. Eligibility shall be determined for a five-year period
972 based on a school district's designation as a transitional school district
973 in the initial year of application, except that grants pursuant to this
974 section shall not be provided for transitional school districts eligible for
975 grants pursuant to subsection (c) of said section 10-16p. Grant awards
976 shall be made annually contingent upon available funding and a
977 satisfactory annual evaluation. The chief elected official of such town
978 and the superintendent of schools for such transitional school district
979 shall submit a plan for the expenditure of grant funds and responses to
980 the local request for proposal process to the [Departments of Education
981 and Social Services. The departments shall jointly review such plans
982 and shall each approve the portion of such plan within its jurisdiction
983 for funding. The plan shall] executive director. The executive director
984 shall review and approve such plans, provided such plans meet the
985 requirements specified in subsection (c) of said section 10-16p.

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

988 [Within available appropriations, the Commissioner of Education]
989 The executive director of the Office of Early Childhood shall provide,
990 within available appropriations, technical assistance and training to
991 school readiness programs to assist in the application of preschool
992 curriculum guidelines adopted by the State Board of Education.

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

995 (a) There is established the Early Childhood Education Cabinet. The
996 cabinet shall consist of: (1) The executive director of the Office of Early
997 Childhood, or the executive director's designee, (2) the Commissioner
998 of Education, or the commissioner's designee, [(2) one representative
999 from the Department of Education who is responsible for programs
1000 required under the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act, 20
1001 USC 1400 et seq., as amended from time to time, appointed by the
1002 Commissioner of Education,] (3) the Commissioner of Social Services,
1003 or the commissioner's designee, (4) [a representative from an
1004 institution of higher education in this state appointed by] the president
1005 of the Board of Regents for Higher Education, or the president's
1006 designee, (5) the Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's
1007 designee, (6) the Commissioner of Developmental Services, or the
1008 commissioner's designee, (7) the Commissioner of Children and
1009 Families, or the commissioner's designee, (8) the executive director of
1010 the Commission on Children, or the executive director's designee, (9)
1011 the project director of the Connecticut Head Start State Collaboration
1012 Office, (10) a parent or guardian of a child who attends or attended a
1013 school readiness program appointed by the minority leader of the
1014 House of Representatives, (11) a representative of a local provider of
1015 early childhood education appointed by the minority leader of the
1016 Senate, (12) a representative of the Connecticut Family Resource
1017 Center Alliance appointed by the majority leader of the House of
1018 Representatives, (13) a representative of a state funded child care
1019 center appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, (14) two
1020 appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, one of
1021 whom is a member of [the House of Representatives] a board of

1022 education for a town designated as an alliance district, as defined in
1023 section 10-262u, and one of whom is a parent who has a child
1024 attending a school in [a priority school] an educational reform district,
1025 as defined in section 10-262u, (15) two appointed by the president pro
1026 tempore of the Senate, one of whom is [a member of the Senate] an
1027 instructor of a preschool program and one of whom is a representative
1028 of a public elementary school with a prekindergarten program, (16)
1029 two appointed by the Governor, one of whom is a representative of the
1030 Connecticut Head Start Association and one of whom is a
1031 representative of the business or philanthropic community in this
1032 state, and (17) the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or
1033 the secretary's designee. [The chairperson of the council shall be
1034 appointed from among its members by the Governor.]

1035 (b) The executive director of the Office of Early Childhood shall
1036 serve as the cochairperson of the cabinet. The other cochairperson of
1037 the cabinet shall be appointed from among its members by the
1038 Governor. The cabinet shall meet at least quarterly. Members shall not
1039 be compensated for their services. Any member who fails to attend
1040 three consecutive meetings or who fails to attend fifty per cent of all
1041 meetings held during any calendar year shall be deemed to have
1042 resigned from the cabinet.

1043 [(b)] (c) Within available appropriations and such private funding as
1044 may be available, the Early Childhood Education Cabinet shall (1)
1045 [coordinate among state agencies, as well as public and private
1046 partnerships, the development of services that enhance the health,
1047 safety and learning of children from birth to nine years of age,
1048 inclusive] assist the Office of Early Childhood in the administration of
1049 the coordinated system of early care and education and child
1050 development, pursuant to section 10-16bb, as amended by this act, (2)
1051 not later than December 1, 2009, and annually thereafter, develop an
1052 annual plan of action that assigns the appropriate state agency to
1053 complete the tasks specified in the federal Head Start Act of 2007, P.L.
1054 110-134, as amended from time to time, and (3) not later than March 1,
1055 2010, and annually thereafter, submit an annual state-wide strategic

1056 report, pursuant to said federal Head Start Act, in accordance with the
1057 provisions of section 11-4a, addressing the progress such agencies have
1058 made toward the completion of such tasks outlined under said federal
1059 Head Start Act and this subsection to the Governor and the joint
1060 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
1061 matters relating to education and human services.

1062 [(c)] (d) The Early Childhood Education Cabinet shall be within the
1063 [Department of Education] Office of Early Childhood for
1064 administrative purposes only.

1065 Sec. 14. Section 10-16aa of the general statutes is repealed and the
1066 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1067 There is established an account to be known as the competitive
1068 district grant account which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account
1069 within the General Fund. The account shall contain any moneys
1070 required by law to be deposited in the account. Moneys in the account
1071 shall be expended by the [Commissioner of Education] executive
1072 director of the Office of Early Childhood for the purposes of providing
1073 grants to competitive school districts to (1) make slots available in
1074 preschool school readiness programs, and (2) provide wraparound
1075 services to children and their families. For purposes of this section,
1076 "competitive school district" means a school district described in
1077 subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of section 10-16p, as amended by this
1078 act, that has more than nine thousand students enrolled in schools in
1079 the district.

1080 Sec. 15. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) The Office of Early Childhood
1081 is designated as the state agency for the administration of the child
1082 care development block grant pursuant to the Child Care and
1083 Development Block Grant Act of 1990.

1084 Sec. 16. Section 17b-2 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1085 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1086 The Department of Social Services is designated as the state agency

1087 for the administration of (1) [the child care development block grant
1088 pursuant to the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990;
1089 (2)] the Connecticut energy assistance program pursuant to the Low
1090 Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981; [(3)] (2) programs for the
1091 elderly pursuant to the Older Americans Act; [(4)] (3) the state plan for
1092 vocational rehabilitation services for the fiscal year ending June 30,
1093 1994; [(5)] (4) the refugee assistance program pursuant to the Refugee
1094 Act of 1980; [(6)] (5) the legalization impact assistance grant program
1095 pursuant to the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986; [(7)] (6)
1096 the temporary assistance for needy families program pursuant to the
1097 Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of
1098 1996; [(8)] (7) the Medicaid program pursuant to Title XIX of the Social
1099 Security Act; [(9)] (8) the supplemental nutrition assistance program
1100 pursuant to the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008; [(10)] (9) the state
1101 supplement to the Supplemental Security Income Program pursuant to
1102 the Social Security Act; [(11)] (10) the state child support enforcement
1103 plan pursuant to Title IV-D of the Social Security Act; and [(12)] (11)
1104 the state social services plan for the implementation of the social
1105 services block grants and community services block grants pursuant to
1106 the Social Security Act. The Department of Social Services is
1107 designated a public housing agency for the purpose of administering
1108 the Section 8 existing certificate program and the housing voucher
1109 program pursuant to the Housing Act of 1937.

1110 Sec. 17. Subsections (c) to (e), inclusive, of section 17b-705a of the
1111 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1112 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1113 (c) On or after July 1, [2012] 2013, and monthly thereafter, the
1114 [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the Office of
1115 Early Childhood shall compile a list of the names of family child care
1116 providers who have participated in the child care subsidy program
1117 established pursuant to section 17b-749, as amended by this act, within
1118 the previous six calendar months. Such list shall be considered a public
1119 record, as defined in section 1-200.

1120 (d) For purposes of sections 4-65a and 5-270 and subsection (a) of
1121 section 5-278, the [Department of Social Services] Office of Early
1122 Childhood shall be considered an executive branch employer and an
1123 organization representing family child care providers that has been
1124 designated by the State Board of Labor Relations, pursuant to section
1125 5-275 or subsection (g) of this section, as the exclusive bargaining agent
1126 of such providers, shall have the right to bargain with the state
1127 concerning the terms and conditions of participation of family child
1128 care providers in the program covered by this section, including, but
1129 not limited to, (1) state reimbursement rates, (2) benefits, (3) payment
1130 procedures, (4) contract grievance arbitration, and (5) training,
1131 professional development and other requirements and opportunities
1132 appropriate for family child care providers.

1133 (e) (1) If the organization representing family child care providers
1134 and the [Department of Social Services] Office of Early Childhood do
1135 not reach an agreement not later than one hundred fifty days after
1136 negotiations have begun, the parties shall jointly select an arbitrator.
1137 The arbitrator selected shall have experience as an impartial arbitrator
1138 of labor-management disputes, and shall not be an individual
1139 employed as an advocate or consultant for labor or management in
1140 labor-management disputes. If the parties fail to agree on an arbitrator
1141 not later than one hundred sixty days after negotiations have begun,
1142 the selection of the arbitrator shall be made using the procedures
1143 under the voluntary labor arbitration rules of the American Arbitration
1144 Association.

1145 (2) Each party shall submit to the arbitrator, and to each other, a
1146 proposal setting forth such party's position on how each of the
1147 unresolved issues shall be resolved.

1148 (3) The arbitrator shall convene a hearing to allow the parties to
1149 provide evidence and argument to the arbitrator. The parties shall
1150 have the right to submit written briefs to the arbitrator. The arbitration
1151 record shall be officially closed at the close of the hearing, or the
1152 arbitrator's receipt of briefs, whichever is later.

1153 (4) The arbitrator's authority is limited to selecting the complete
1154 proposal of one party or the other on any unresolved issue. The
1155 arbitrator shall issue an award not later than forty-five days after the
1156 close of the record.

1157 (5) The factors to be considered by the arbitrator in arriving at a
1158 decision are: (A) The nature and needs of the family child care
1159 program and the needs and welfare of parents and children served by
1160 that program, including interests in better recruitment, retention and
1161 quality with respect to the covered family child care provider; (B) the
1162 history of negotiations between the parties including those leading to
1163 the instant proceeding; (C) the existing conditions of employment of
1164 similar groups of workers; (D) changes in the cost of living; and (E) the
1165 interests and welfare of the covered family child care providers.

1166 (6) The costs of the arbitrator and any fees associated with the
1167 arbitration proceeding shall be shared equally by the parties.

1168 (7) Any agreement or award reached pursuant to this section shall
1169 be submitted to the General Assembly for approval by filing the
1170 agreement or award with the clerks of the House and Senate. No
1171 provision of any agreement or award resulting from the collective
1172 bargaining process which would require supercedence of any law or
1173 regulation shall take effect without affirmative legislative approval.

1174 (8) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, any
1175 provision in any agreement or award which would require an
1176 additional appropriation in order to maintain the levels of services
1177 provided by existing appropriations shall be presented to the General
1178 Assembly for approval in accordance with the budgetary process
1179 applicable to appropriations, including, but not limited to, affirmative
1180 legislative approval. Other provisions of the agreement or award shall
1181 be deemed approved unless affirmatively rejected by a majority of
1182 either house not later than thirty days after the filing with the clerk of
1183 that chamber, provided the thirty-day period shall not begin or expire
1184 unless the General Assembly is in regular session. Once approved by
1185 the General Assembly, any provision of an agreement or award need

1186 not be resubmitted by the parties to such agreement or award as part
1187 of a future agreement approval process unless changes in the language
1188 of such provision are negotiated by the parties.

1189 Sec. 18. Section 17b-12 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1190 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1191 The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the
1192 Office of Early Childhood may accept and receive, on behalf of the
1193 [Department of Social Services] Office of Early Childhood or on behalf
1194 of the Children's Trust Fund established pursuant to section 17b-751,
1195 as amended by this act, any bequest or gift of personal property for
1196 services for a person who is, or members of whose immediate family
1197 are, receiving assistance or services from the [Department of Social
1198 Services, or both,] Office of Early Childhood or for services for a
1199 former recipient of assistance from the Department of Social Services
1200 or a potential recipient of assistance from the [Department of Social
1201 Services] Office of Early Childhood or for programs or services
1202 described in section 17b-751, as amended by this act. Any federal
1203 funds generated by virtue of any such bequest or gift may be used for
1204 the extension of services to such person or family members.

1205 Sec. 19. Section 17b-730 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1206 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1207 (a) The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the
1208 Office of Early Childhood is authorized to take advantage of any
1209 federal statutes and regulations relating to child day care and shall
1210 have the power to administer any federally-assisted child day care
1211 program in the event that said federal statutes or regulations require
1212 that said federally-assisted program be administered by a single state
1213 agency.

1214 (b) The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the
1215 Office of Early Childhood is authorized to take advantage of Title V of
1216 Public Law 88-452, entitled "Economic Opportunity Act of 1964", with
1217 respect to providing work training, aid and assistance to persons

1218 eligible for state-administered general assistance or public assistance,
1219 and to administer the same in such manner as is required for the
1220 receipt of federal funds therefor.

1221 Sec. 20. Section 17b-733 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1222 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1223 The [Department of Social Services] Office of Early Childhood shall
1224 be the lead agency for child day care services in Connecticut. The
1225 [department] office shall: (1) Identify, annually, existing child day care
1226 services and maintain an inventory of all available services; (2) provide
1227 technical assistance to corporations and private agencies in the
1228 development and expansion of child day care services for families at
1229 all income levels, including families of their employees and clients; (3)
1230 study and identify funding sources available for child day care
1231 including federal funds and tax benefits; (4) study the cost and
1232 availability of liability insurance for child day care providers; (5)
1233 provide, in conjunction with the Departments of Education and Higher
1234 Education, ongoing training for child day care providers including
1235 preparing videotaped workshops and distributing them to cable
1236 stations for broadcast on public access stations, and seek private
1237 donations to fund such training; (6) encourage child day care services
1238 to obtain accreditation; (7) develop a range of financing options for
1239 child care services, including the use of a tax-exempt bond program, a
1240 loan guarantee program and establishing a direct revolving loan
1241 program; (8) promote the colocation of child day care and school
1242 readiness programs pursuant to section 4b-31; (9) establish a
1243 performance-based evaluation system; (10) develop for
1244 recommendation to the Governor and the General Assembly measures
1245 to provide incentives for the private sector to develop and support
1246 expanded child day care services; (11) provide, within available funds
1247 and in conjunction with the temporary family assistance program as
1248 defined in section 17b-680, child day care to public assistance
1249 recipients; (12) develop and implement, with the assistance of the
1250 [Child Day Care Council] Early Childhood Education Cabinet and the
1251 Departments of [Public Health,] Social Services, Education, Higher

1252 Education, Children and Families, Economic and Community
1253 Development and Consumer Protection, a state-wide coordinated
1254 child day care and early childhood education training system (A) for
1255 child day care centers, group day care homes and family day care
1256 homes that provide child day care services, and (B) that makes
1257 available to such providers and their staff, within available
1258 appropriations, scholarship assistance, career counseling and training,
1259 advancement in career ladders, as defined in section 4-124bb, through
1260 seamless articulation of levels of training, program accreditation
1261 support and other initiatives recommended by the Departments of
1262 Social Services, Education and Higher Education; (13) plan and
1263 implement a unit cost reimbursement system for state-funded child
1264 day care services such that, on and after January 1, 2008, any increase
1265 in reimbursement shall be based on a requirement that such centers
1266 meet the staff qualifications, as defined in subsection (b) of section 10-
1267 16p, as amended by this act; (14) develop, within available funds,
1268 initiatives to increase compensation paid to child day care providers
1269 for educational opportunities, including, but not limited to, (A)
1270 incentives for educational advancement paid to persons employed by
1271 child day care centers receiving state or federal funds, and (B) support
1272 for the establishment and implementation by the Labor Commissioner
1273 of apprenticeship programs for child day care workers pursuant to
1274 sections 31-22m to 31-22q, inclusive, which programs shall be jointly
1275 administered by labor and management trustees; (15) evaluate the
1276 effectiveness of any initiatives developed pursuant to subdivision (14)
1277 of this section in improving staff retention rates and the quality of
1278 education and care provided to children; and (16) report annually to
1279 the Governor and the General Assembly on the status of child day care
1280 in Connecticut. Such report shall include (A) an itemization of the
1281 allocation of state and federal funds for child care programs; (B) the
1282 number of children served under each program so funded; (C) the
1283 number and type of such programs, providers and support personnel;
1284 (D) state activities to encourage partnership between the public and
1285 private sectors; (E) average payments issued by the state for both part-
1286 time and full-time child care; (F) range of family income and

1287 percentages served within each range by such programs; and (G) age
1288 range of children served.

1289 Sec. 21. Section 17b-734 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1290 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1291 The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the
1292 Office of Early Childhood shall establish and administer a program of
1293 grants to municipalities and state agencies for the purpose of planning,
1294 site preparation, construction, renovation or acquisition of facilities for
1295 use as child care facilities to be used primarily by the children of
1296 employees of such municipalities or state agencies and other potential
1297 participants. If openings occur for other potential participants in such a
1298 child care facility, priority for such openings shall be given to families
1299 at or below seventy-five per cent of the state's median income.

1300 Sec. 22. Subsection (a) of section 17b-735 of the general statutes is
1301 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1302 *1, 2014*):

1303 (a) For the purposes described in section 17b-734, as amended by
1304 this act, and for the payment of any administrative expenses of the
1305 [Department of Social Services] Office of Early Childhood related
1306 thereto the State Bond Commission shall have the power, from time to
1307 time, to authorize the issuance of bonds of the state in one or more
1308 series and principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate six million
1309 twenty-four thousand seven hundred ninety-eight dollars, provided
1310 one million dollars of said authorization shall be effective July 1, 2000.

1311 Sec. 23. Section 17b-736 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1312 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1313 The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the
1314 Office of Early Childhood shall adopt regulations in accordance with
1315 chapter 54 to carry out the purposes of sections 17b-734 and 17b-735, as
1316 amended by this act.

1317 Sec. 24. Section 17b-737 of the general statutes is repealed and the

1318 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1319 The Commissioner of [Social Services] Education shall establish a
1320 program, within available appropriations, to provide grants to
1321 municipalities, boards of education and child care providers to
1322 encourage the use of school facilities for the provision of child day care
1323 services before and after school. In order to qualify for a grant, a
1324 municipality, board of education or child care provider shall guarantee
1325 the availability of a school site which meets the standards set on or
1326 before June 30, 2014, by the Department of Public Health and on and
1327 after July 1, 2014, by the Department of Education, in regulations
1328 adopted under sections 19a-77, as amended by this act, 19a-79, as
1329 amended by this act, 19a-80, as amended by this act, and 19a-82 to 19a-
1330 87a, inclusive, as amended by this act, and shall agree to provide
1331 liability insurance coverage for the program. Grant funds shall be used
1332 by the municipality, board of education or child care provider for the
1333 maintenance and utility costs directly attributable to the use of the
1334 school facility for the day care program, for related transportation costs
1335 and for the portion of the municipality, board of education or child
1336 care provider liability insurance cost and other operational costs
1337 directly attributable to the day care program. The municipality or
1338 board of education may contract with a child day care provider for the
1339 program. The Commissioner of [Social Services] Education may adopt
1340 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, for
1341 purposes of this section. The commissioner may utilize available child
1342 care subsidies to implement the provisions of this section and
1343 encourage association and cooperation with the Head Start program
1344 established pursuant to section 10-16n, as amended by this act.

1345 Sec. 25. Section 17b-738 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1346 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1347 The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the
1348 Office of Early Childhood shall establish and administer a program of
1349 loans to business firms, as defined in subsection (a) of section 12-631,
1350 for the purpose of planning, site preparation, construction, renovation

1351 or acquisition of facilities, within the state, for use as licensed child day
1352 care centers, family day care homes or group day care homes to be
1353 used primarily by the children of employees of such corporations and
1354 children of employees of the municipalities in which such facilities are
1355 located. Such loans shall be made in accordance with the terms and
1356 conditions as provided in regulations adopted by the [Commissioner
1357 of Social Services] executive director, in accordance with chapter 54,
1358 shall be made for a period not to exceed five years and shall bear
1359 interest at a rate to be determined in accordance with subsection (t) of
1360 section 3-20.

1361 Sec. 26. Section 17b-739 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1362 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1363 Whenever the state (1) constructs, acquires or receives as a gift any
1364 office building which accommodates three hundred or more state
1365 employees, or (2) alters, repairs or makes additions to an existing state
1366 building which accommodates three hundred or more employees and
1367 such alterations, repairs or additions affect at least twenty-five per cent
1368 of the square footage of such building, the Department of Construction
1369 Services shall notify the [Department of Social Services] Office of Early
1370 Childhood. The [Department of Social Services] Office of Early
1371 Childhood, with the assistance of the Department of Administrative
1372 Services, shall determine the need for child care services for the
1373 employees in such building and other potential participants. If a
1374 demonstrated need for child care exists for thirty or more children of
1375 such employees and other potential participants and such care is
1376 unavailable, the Department of Construction Services shall set aside
1377 adequate space for child care facilities in such building. If openings
1378 occur for other potential participants in such a child care facility,
1379 priority for such openings shall be given to families at or below
1380 seventy-five per cent of the state's median income. Such facilities shall
1381 meet all state licensure requirements. The provisions of this section
1382 shall not apply to correctional institutions.

1383 Sec. 27. Section 17b-749 of the general statutes is repealed and the

1384 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1385 (a) The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the
1386 Office of Early Childhood shall establish and operate a child care
1387 subsidy program to increase the availability, affordability and quality
1388 of child care services for families with a parent or caretaker who is
1389 working, attending high school or who receives cash assistance under
1390 the temporary family assistance program from the Department of
1391 Social Services and is participating in an approved education, training,
1392 or other job preparation activity. Services available under the child
1393 care program shall include the provision of child care subsidies for
1394 children under the age of thirteen or children under the age of nineteen
1395 with special needs. The [department] office shall open and maintain
1396 enrollment for the child care subsidy program and shall administer
1397 such program within the existing budgetary resources available. The
1398 [department] office shall issue a notice on the [department's] office's
1399 Internet web site and shall provide written notice to recipients of
1400 program benefits and to service providers any time the [department]
1401 office closes the program to new applications, changes eligibility
1402 requirements, changes program benefits or makes any other change to
1403 the program's status or terms, provided the [department] office shall
1404 not be required to issue such notice when the [department] office
1405 expands program eligibility. Any change in the [department's] office's
1406 acceptance of new applications, eligibility requirements, program
1407 benefits or any other change to the program's status or terms for which
1408 the [department] office is required to give notice pursuant to this
1409 subsection, shall not be effective until thirty days after the
1410 [department] office issues such notice.

1411 (b) The [commissioner] executive director shall establish income
1412 standards for applicants and recipients at a level to include a family
1413 with gross income up to fifty per cent of the state-wide median
1414 income, except the [commissioner] executive director (1) may increase
1415 the income level to up to seventy-five per cent of the state-wide
1416 median income, (2) upon the request of the Commissioner of Children
1417 and Families, may waive the income standards for adoptive families so

1418 that children adopted on or after October 1, 1999, from the Department
1419 of Children and Families are eligible for the child care subsidy
1420 program, and (3) on and after March 1, 2003, shall reduce the income
1421 eligibility level to up to fifty-five per cent of the state-wide median
1422 income for applicants and recipients who qualify based on their loss of
1423 eligibility for temporary family assistance. The [commissioner]
1424 executive director may adopt regulations in accordance with chapter
1425 54 to establish income criteria and durational requirements for such
1426 waiver of income standards.

1427 (c) The [commissioner] executive director, in conjunction with the
1428 Commissioner of Social Services, shall establish eligibility and
1429 program standards including, but not limited to: (1) A priority intake
1430 and eligibility system with preference given to serving recipients of
1431 temporary family assistance who are employed or engaged in
1432 employment activities under the [department's] Department of Social
1433 Services' "Jobs First" program, working families whose temporary
1434 family assistance was discontinued not more than five years prior to
1435 the date of application for the child care subsidy program, teen
1436 parents, low-income working families, adoptive families of children
1437 who were adopted from the Department of Children and Families and
1438 who are granted a waiver of income standards under subdivision (2) of
1439 subsection (b), and working families who are at risk of welfare
1440 dependency; (2) health and safety standards for child care providers
1441 not required to be licensed; (3) a reimbursement system for child care
1442 services which account for differences in the age of the child, number
1443 of children in the family, the geographic region and type of care
1444 provided by licensed and unlicensed caregivers, the cost and type of
1445 services provided by licensed and unlicensed caregivers, successful
1446 completion of fifteen hours of annual in-service training or
1447 credentialing of child care directors and administrators, and program
1448 accreditation; (4) supplemental payment for special needs of the child
1449 and extended nontraditional hours; (5) an annual rate review process
1450 for providers which assures that reimbursement rates are maintained
1451 at levels which permit equal access to a variety of child care settings;
1452 (6) a sliding reimbursement scale for participating families; (7) an

1453 administrative appeals process; (8) an administrative hearing process
1454 to adjudicate cases of alleged fraud and abuse and to impose sanctions
1455 and recover overpayments; (9) an extended period of program and
1456 payment eligibility when a parent who is receiving a child care
1457 subsidy experiences a temporary interruption in employment or other
1458 approved activity; and (10) a waiting list for the child care subsidy
1459 program that reflects the priority and eligibility system set forth in
1460 subdivision (1) of this subsection, which is reviewed periodically, with
1461 the inclusion of this information in the annual report required to be
1462 issued annually by the [Department of Social Services] Office of Early
1463 Childhood to the Governor and the General Assembly in accordance
1464 with subdivision (10) of section 17b-733, as amended by this act. Such
1465 action will include, but not be limited to, family income, age of child,
1466 region of state and length of time on such waiting list.

1467 (d) Not later than January 1, 2011, an applicant determined to be
1468 eligible for program benefits shall remain eligible for such benefits for
1469 a period of not less than eight months from the date that such
1470 applicant is determined to be eligible, provided the [commissioner]
1471 executive director has not determined, during such eight-month
1472 period, that the applicant's circumstances have changed so as to render
1473 the applicant ineligible for program benefits. The [commissioner]
1474 executive director shall not make an eligibility determination for a
1475 recipient of program benefits more than one time per eight-month
1476 period, except as provided in subsection (e) of this section.

1477 (e) Not later than October 15, 2011, the [commissioner] executive
1478 director shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of
1479 section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General
1480 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services and
1481 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies concerning eligibility
1482 redeterminations made on an eight-month basis. Such report shall
1483 include an analysis of overpayments of program benefits made by the
1484 [department] office and administrative costs incurred by the
1485 [department] office as a result of eligibility redeterminations made on
1486 an eight-month basis. On and after October 15, 2011, the

1487 [commissioner] executive director may make eligibility
1488 redeterminations on a six-month basis if, after January 1, 2011, the
1489 [department's] office's overpayments of program benefits have
1490 increased in comparison with the period between January 1, 2010, and
1491 December 31, 2010, as a result of having an eight-month eligibility
1492 redetermination period.

1493 (f) A provider under the child care subsidy program that qualifies
1494 for eligibility and subsequently receives payment for child care
1495 services for recipients under this section shall be reimbursed for such
1496 services until informed by the [Department of Social Services] Office of
1497 Early Childhood of the recipient's ineligibility.

1498 (g) All licensed child care providers and those providers exempt
1499 from licensing shall provide the [Department of Social Services] Office
1500 of Early Childhood with the following information in order to
1501 maintain eligibility for reimbursement: (1) The name, address,
1502 appropriate identification, Social Security number and telephone
1503 number of the provider and all adults who work for or reside at the
1504 location where care is provided; (2) the name and address of the child's
1505 doctor, primary care provider and health insurance company; (3)
1506 whether the child is immunized and has had health screens pursuant
1507 to the federal Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment
1508 Services Program under 42 USC 1396d; and (4) the number of children
1509 cared for by the provider.

1510 (h) On or after [January 1, 1998] July 1, 2013, the [commissioner]
1511 executive director shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the
1512 provisions of chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this section.

1513 (i) The [commissioner] executive director shall submit to the joint
1514 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
1515 matters relating to human services and appropriations and the budgets
1516 of state agencies a copy of the Child Care and Development Fund Plan
1517 that the [commissioner] executive director submits to the
1518 Administration for Children and Families pursuant to federal law. The
1519 copy of the plan shall be submitted to the committees not later than

1520 thirty days after submission of the plan to the Administration for
1521 Children and Families.

1522 Sec. 28. Section 17b-749a of the general statutes is repealed and the
1523 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1524 (a) The [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the Office
1525 of Early Childhood shall establish, within available appropriations, a
1526 program to (1) purchase directly or provide subsidies to parents to
1527 purchase child day care services provided by any elementary or
1528 secondary school, nursery school, preschool, day care center, group
1529 day care home, family day care home, family resource center, Head
1530 Start program, or local or regional board of education, provided, if the
1531 [commissioner] executive director purchases such services directly, he
1532 shall give preference to purchasing from providers of full-day and
1533 year-round programs; and (2) award grants to providers of school
1534 readiness programs, as defined in section 10-16p, as amended by this
1535 act, to increase the hours of operation of their programs in order to
1536 provide child care for children attending such programs. The
1537 [commissioner] executive director, for purposes of subdivision (1) of
1538 this subsection, may model the program on the program established
1539 pursuant to section 17b-749, as amended by this act.

1540 (b) No funds received by a provider pursuant to this section shall be
1541 used to supplant federal funding received for early childhood
1542 education on behalf of children in an early childhood education
1543 program.

1544 (c) The [Commissioner of Education] executive director shall: (1)
1545 Coordinate the development of a range of alternative programs to
1546 meet the needs of all children; (2) foster partnerships between school
1547 districts and private organizations; (3) provide information and
1548 assistance to parents in selecting an appropriate school readiness
1549 program; and (4) work to ensure, to the extent possible, that school
1550 readiness programs allow open enrollment for all children and allow
1551 families receiving benefits for such a program to choose a public or
1552 accredited private program.

1553 Sec. 29. Subsection (a) of section 17b-749c of the general statutes is
1554 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1555 *1, 2013*):

1556 (a) The [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the Office
1557 of Early Childhood shall establish a program, within available
1558 appropriations, to provide, on a competitive basis, supplemental
1559 quality enhancement grants to providers of child day care services or
1560 providers of school readiness programs pursuant to section 10-16p, as
1561 amended by this act, and section 10-16u, as amended by this act. Child
1562 day care providers and school readiness programs may apply for a
1563 supplemental quality enhancement grant at such time and on such
1564 form as the [Commissioner of Education] executive director prescribes.
1565 Effective July 1, [2011] 2013, the [commissioner] executive director
1566 shall make funds payable to providers under such grants on a
1567 prospective basis.

1568 Sec. 30. Section 17b-749d of the general statutes is repealed and the
1569 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1570 Each licensed child day care provider receiving funding directly
1571 from the [Department of Social Services] Office of Early Childhood
1572 shall adopt a sliding fee scale based on family income. The
1573 [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the Office of
1574 Early Childhood shall develop a minimum sliding fee scale which may
1575 be adjusted upward by each such licensed day care program. All
1576 income derived from such fees shall be used to support the child day
1577 care program.

1578 Sec. 31. Section 17b-749e of the general statutes is repealed and the
1579 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1580 The [Department of Social Services] Office of Early Childhood shall
1581 establish and fund five regional accreditation projects, within available
1582 appropriations. The [department] office shall select qualified
1583 applicants for each region through a request for proposal process. The
1584 [department] office shall give priority to child day care facilities where

1585 at least twenty per cent of the children live with families earning less
1586 than seventy-five per cent of the state median income level.

1587 Sec. 32. Section 17b-749f of the general statutes is repealed and the
1588 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1589 (a) The [Commissioner of Social Services, in consultation with the
1590 Commissioner of Education,] executive director of the Office of Early
1591 Childhood shall develop and implement a performance-based
1592 evaluation system to evaluate licensed child day care centers, within
1593 available appropriations. Such a performance-based evaluation system
1594 shall be similar to the Head Start Performance Standards in 45 CFR
1595 1304.

1596 (b) The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director shall
1597 conduct, within available appropriations, a longitudinal study that
1598 examines the developmental progress of children and their families
1599 both during and following participation in a child day care program.

1600 (c) The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director shall
1601 report to the General Assembly, in accordance with section 11-4a, on or
1602 before January 1, [1998] 2014, on the implementation of the
1603 performance-based evaluation system and on the longitudinal study,
1604 and annually thereafter on the cumulative results of the evaluations.

1605 Sec. 33. Section 17b-749g of the general statutes is repealed and the
1606 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1607 (a) There is established a child care facilities loan guarantee
1608 program for the purpose of guaranteeing loans for the expansion or
1609 development of child care and child development centers in the state.
1610 The program shall contain any moneys required by law to be
1611 deposited in the program, including, but not limited to, any moneys
1612 appropriated by the state, premiums and fees for guaranteeing loans,
1613 and proceeds from the sale, disposition, lease or rental of collateral
1614 relating to loan guarantees. Any balance remaining in the program at
1615 the end of any fiscal year shall be carried forward in the program for

1616 the fiscal year next succeeding. The program shall be used to guarantee
1617 loans pursuant to subsection (b) of this section and to pay reasonable
1618 and necessary expenses incurred for administration under this section.
1619 The [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the Office of
1620 Early Childhood may enter into a contract with a quasi-public agency,
1621 banking institution or nonprofit corporation to provide for the
1622 administration of the program, provided no loan guarantee shall be
1623 made from the program without the authorization of the
1624 [commissioner] executive director as provided in subsection (b) of this
1625 section. The total aggregate amount of guarantees from the program,
1626 with respect to the insured portions of the loan, may not exceed at any
1627 one time an amount equal to three times the balance in the guarantee
1628 program.

1629 (b) The state, acting by and in the discretion of the [Commissioner of
1630 Education] executive director, may guarantee the repayment of loans,
1631 including, but not limited to, principal and interest, to a lending
1632 institution that has provided funding for the construction,
1633 reconstruction, rehabilitation or improvement of child care and child
1634 development facilities. The total aggregate of any loan guarantee
1635 under this section shall be not less than twenty per cent and shall not
1636 exceed fifty per cent of the principal amount of the obligation, as
1637 determined by approved underwriting standards approved by the
1638 [commissioner] executive director, and upon such terms and
1639 conditions as the [commissioner] executive director may prescribe. The
1640 term of any loan guarantee shall be determined by the useful life of the
1641 improvement but in no event shall exceed thirty years. The
1642 [commissioner] executive director shall arrange by contract with each
1643 lending institution or the borrower to safeguard the interests of the
1644 program in the event of a default by the borrower, including, at the
1645 discretion of the [commissioner] executive director, provision for
1646 notice to the program of default by the borrower, for foreclosure or
1647 other realization upon any security for the loan, for the time and
1648 conditions for payment to the lending institution by the program of the
1649 amount of any loss to the lending institution guaranteed by the
1650 program and for the disposition of the proceeds realized from any

1651 security for the loan guaranteed. When it appears desirable for a
1652 temporary period upon default or threatened default by the borrower,
1653 the [commissioner] executive director may authorize payments of
1654 installments of principal or interest, or both, from the program to the
1655 lending institution, and of taxes and insurance, which payments shall
1656 be repaid under such conditions as the program may prescribe and the
1657 program may also agree to revise terms of financing when such
1658 appears pertinent. Upon request of the lending institution, the
1659 [commissioner] executive director may at any time, under such
1660 equitable terms and conditions as it may prescribe, consent to the
1661 release of the borrower from his liability under the loan or consent to
1662 the release of parts of any secured property from the lien of the
1663 lending institution.

1664 (c) Priority for loan guarantees shall be given to financing child care
1665 centers and child development centers that (1) have obtained
1666 accreditation from the National Association for the Education of
1667 Young Children or have an application pending for such accreditation,
1668 and (2) are included in a local school readiness plan, and (3) shall
1669 promote the colocation of programs endorsed by the [Commissioners
1670 of Education and Social Services] executive director pursuant to
1671 section 4b-31. School readiness programs, licensed child care providers
1672 or nonprofit developers of a child care center operating under a legally
1673 enforceable agreement with child care providers are eligible for such
1674 guaranteed loans.

1675 (d) The [Commissioner of Education] executive director may adopt
1676 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to
1677 establish procedures and qualifications for application for guarantees
1678 under this section.

1679 Sec. 34. Section 17b-749h of the general statutes is repealed and the
1680 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1681 (a) There is established a program to be known as the "child care
1682 facilities direct revolving loan program". The program shall contain
1683 any moneys required by law to be deposited in the program,

1684 including, but not limited to, any moneys appropriated by the state,
1685 premiums, fees, interest payments and principal payments on direct
1686 loans and proceeds from the sale, disposition, lease or rental of
1687 collateral relating to direct loans. Any balance remaining in the
1688 program at the end of any fiscal year shall be carried forward in the
1689 program for the next succeeding fiscal year. The program shall be used
1690 to make loans pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, to make loan
1691 guarantees and to pay reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in
1692 administering loans and loan guarantees under this section. The
1693 [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the Office of Early
1694 Childhood may enter into a contract with a quasi-public agency,
1695 banking institution or nonprofit corporation to provide for the
1696 administration of the loan program, provided no loan or loan
1697 guarantee shall be made from the fund without the authorization of
1698 the [commissioner] executive director as provided in subsection (b) of
1699 this section.

1700 (b) The state, acting by and in the discretion of the [Commissioner of
1701 Education] executive director, may enter into a contract to provide
1702 financial assistance in the form of interest-free loans, deferred loans or
1703 guaranteed loans to child care providers or to nonprofit developers of
1704 a child care facility operating under a legally enforceable agreement
1705 with a child care provider, for costs or expenses incurred and directly
1706 connected with the expansion, improvement or development of child
1707 care facilities. Such costs and expenses may include: (1) Advances of
1708 loan proceeds for direct loans; (2) expenses incurred in project
1709 planning and design, including architectural expenses; (3) legal and
1710 financial expenses; (4) expenses incurred in obtaining required permits
1711 and approvals; (5) options to purchase land; (6) expenses incurred in
1712 obtaining required insurance; (7) expenses incurred in meeting state
1713 and local child care standards; (8) minor renovations and upgrading
1714 child care facilities to meet such standards and loans for the purpose of
1715 obtaining licensure under section 19a-77, as amended by this act; (9)
1716 purchase and installation of equipment, machinery and furniture,
1717 including equipment needed to accommodate children with special
1718 needs; and (10) other preliminary expenses authorized by the

1719 [commissioner] executive director. Loan proceeds shall not be used for
1720 the refinancing of existing loans, working capital, supplies or
1721 inventory.

1722 (c) The amount of a direct loan under this section may be up to
1723 eighty per cent of the total amount of investment but shall not exceed
1724 twenty-five thousand dollars for such facility as determined by the
1725 [commissioner] executive director except that if an applicant for a loan
1726 under this section has an existing loan that is guaranteed by the child
1727 care facilities loan guarantee program, established under section 17b-
1728 749g, as amended by this act, the direct loan provided under this
1729 section shall not exceed twenty per cent of the investment. The amount
1730 of any guarantee and a direct loan under this section shall not exceed
1731 eighty per cent.

1732 (d) Each provider applying for a loan under this section shall submit
1733 an application, on a form provided by the [commissioner] executive
1734 director that shall include, but is not limited to, the following
1735 information: (1) A detailed description of the proposed or existing
1736 child care facility; (2) an itemization of known and estimated costs; (3)
1737 the total amount of investment required to expand or develop the child
1738 care facility; (4) the funds available to the applicant without financial
1739 assistance from the [department] office; (5) the amount of financial
1740 assistance sought from the [department] office; (6) information relating
1741 to the financial status of the applicant, including, if available, a current
1742 balance sheet, a profit and loss statement and credit references; and (7)
1743 evidence that the loan applicant shall, as of the loan closing, own, have
1744 an option to purchase or have a lease for the term of the loan. Security
1745 for the loan may include an assignment of the lease or other
1746 subordination of any mortgage and the borrower shall be in default if
1747 the loan is not used for the intended purpose.

1748 (e) Payments of principal and interest on such loans shall be paid to
1749 the State Treasurer for deposit in the child care facilities direct
1750 revolving loan program established in subsection (a) of this section.

1751 (f) The [Commissioner of Education] executive director may adopt

1752 regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to carry out the provisions
1753 of this section. Such regulations may clarify loan procedures,
1754 repayment terms, security requirements, default and remedy
1755 provisions, and such other terms and conditions as [said
1756 commissioner] the executive director shall deem appropriate.

1757 Sec. 35. Section 17b-749i of the general statutes is repealed and the
1758 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1759 Within appropriations available to the State Treasurer for child care
1760 facilities, not already allocated toward debt service for specific child
1761 care facilities, the [Commissioner of Education] executive director of
1762 the Office of Early Childhood may, upon submission of a request by a
1763 facility operating a child care program that is financed with tax-exempt
1764 or taxable bonds issued through the Connecticut Health and
1765 Educational Facilities Authority, allow actual debt service, comprised
1766 of principal, interest and premium, if any, on the loan or loans, a debt
1767 service reserve fund and a reasonable repair and replacement reserve
1768 to be paid, provided such debt service terms and amounts are
1769 determined by the [commissioner] executive director, at the time the
1770 loan is entered into, to be reasonable in relation to the useful life and
1771 base value of the property.

1772 Sec. 36. Section 17b-749j of the general statutes is repealed and the
1773 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1774 The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the
1775 Office of Early Childhood shall establish health and safety standards,
1776 within available appropriations, for the child care subsidy program.
1777 The [commissioner] executive director shall adopt regulations, in
1778 accordance with chapter 54, which shall include, but not be limited to,
1779 the following: (1) A requirement for the provider or relative to apply
1780 for reimbursement from the [Department of Social Services] Office of
1781 Early Childhood; (2) a requirement for the provider or relative to
1782 provide reasonable confirmation of physical premises safety pursuant
1783 to 45 CFR Part 98.41; and (3) minimum health and safety training
1784 appropriate to the provider setting and the prevention and control of

1785 infectious diseases, including immunization. The [commissioner]
1786 executive director shall, within available appropriations, distribute
1787 information on the availability of health and safety training and
1788 assistance.

1789 Sec. 37. Section 17b-749k of the general statutes is repealed and the
1790 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1791 (a) The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the
1792 Office of Early Childhood shall, within available appropriations,
1793 require any person, other than a relative, providing child care services
1794 to a child in the child's home who receives a child care subsidy from
1795 the [Department of Social Services] Office of Early Childhood to
1796 submit to state and national criminal history records checks. The
1797 criminal history records checks required pursuant to this subsection
1798 shall be conducted in accordance with section 29-17a. The
1799 [commissioner] executive director shall also request a check of the state
1800 child abuse registry established pursuant to section 17a-101k.

1801 (b) The [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director shall
1802 have the discretion to refuse payments for child care under any
1803 financial assistance program administered by him or her if the person
1804 providing such child care has been convicted in this state or any other
1805 state of a felony, as defined in section 53a-25, involving the use,
1806 attempted use or threatened use of physical force against another
1807 person, of cruelty to persons under section 53-20, injury or risk of
1808 injury to or impairing morals of children under section 53-21,
1809 abandonment of children under the age of six years under section 53-
1810 23 or any felony where the victim of the felony is a child under
1811 eighteen years of age, or of a violation of section 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-
1812 70b, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b or 53a-73a, or has a criminal record or
1813 was the subject of a substantiated report of child abuse in this state or
1814 any other state that the [commissioner] executive director reasonably
1815 believes renders the person unsuitable to provide child care.

1816 Sec. 38. Section 17b-750 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1817 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

1818 No child care subsidy shall be paid to an unlicensed child care
1819 provider if such provider has been convicted of any crime involving
1820 sexual assault of a minor or serious physical injury to a minor or any
1821 crime committed in any other state or jurisdiction the essential
1822 elements of which are substantially the same as such crimes. If the
1823 [commissioner] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood has
1824 reason to believe that a provider of child care services has been so
1825 convicted, the [commissioner] executive director may demand that
1826 such provider be subject to state and national criminal history records
1827 checks. If criminal history records checks are required pursuant to this
1828 section, such checks shall be conducted in accordance with section 29-
1829 17a.

1830 Sec. 39. Section 17b-751 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1831 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1832 (a) There is established a Children's Trust Fund, the resources of
1833 which shall be used by the council established pursuant to subsection
1834 (b) of this section and the [Commissioner of Social Services] executive
1835 director of the Office of Early Childhood with the advice of the
1836 Children's Trust Fund Council to fund programs aimed at preventing
1837 child abuse and neglect and family resource programs. Said fund is
1838 intended to be in addition to those resources that would otherwise be
1839 appropriated by the state for programs aimed at preventing child
1840 abuse and neglect and family resource programs. The Children's Trust
1841 Fund Council and the [commissioner] executive director may apply for
1842 and accept any federal funds which are available for a Children's Trust
1843 Fund and shall administer such funds in the manner required by
1844 federal law. The fund shall receive money from grants and gifts made
1845 pursuant to section 17a-18. The Children's Trust Fund Council and the
1846 [commissioner] executive director may solicit and accept funds, on
1847 behalf of the Children's Trust Fund, to be used for the prevention of
1848 child abuse and neglect and family resource programs. The
1849 [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the Office of
1850 Early Childhood, with the advice of the Children's Trust Fund Council,
1851 shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter

1852 54, to administer the fund and to set eligibility requirements for
1853 programs seeking funding. Youth service bureaus may receive funds
1854 from the Children's Trust Fund.

1855 (b) There shall be established, within existing resources, a Children's
1856 Trust Fund Council which shall be within the [Department of Social
1857 Services] Office of Early Childhood. The council shall be composed of
1858 [sixteen] seventeen members as follows: (1) The Commissioners of
1859 Social Services, Education, Children and Families and Public Health, or
1860 their designees; (2) a representative of the business community with
1861 experience in fund-raising, appointed by the president pro tempore of
1862 the Senate; (3) a representative of the business community with
1863 experience in fund-raising, appointed by the speaker of the House of
1864 Representatives; (4) a representative of the business community with
1865 experience in fund-raising, appointed by the minority leader of the
1866 House of Representatives; (5) a representative of the business
1867 community with experience in fund-raising, appointed by the minority
1868 leader of the Senate; (6) a parent, appointed by the majority leader of
1869 the House of Representatives; (7) a parent, appointed by the majority
1870 leader of the Senate; (8) a parent, appointed by the president pro
1871 tempore of the Senate; (9) a person with expertise in child abuse
1872 prevention, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;
1873 (10) a person with expertise in child abuse prevention, appointed by
1874 the minority leader of the House of Representatives; (11) a staff
1875 member of a child abuse prevention program, appointed by the
1876 minority leader of the Senate; (12) a staff member of a child abuse
1877 prevention program, appointed by the majority leader of the House of
1878 Representatives; [and] (13) a pediatrician, appointed by the majority
1879 leader of the Senate; and (14) the executive director of the Office of
1880 Early Childhood. The council shall solicit and accept funds, on behalf
1881 of the Children's Trust Fund, to be used for the prevention of child
1882 abuse and neglect and family resource programs, and shall make
1883 grants to programs pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

1884 (c) On or before July 1, 2010, and annually thereafter, the Children's
1885 Trust Fund Council and the [commissioner] executive director shall

1886 report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the
1887 Governor and the joint standing committees of the General Assembly
1888 having cognizance of matters relating to human services, public health
1889 and education concerning the source and amount of funds received by
1890 the Children's Trust Fund, and the manner in which such funds were
1891 administered and disbursed.

1892 Sec. 40. Section 17b-751a of the general statutes is repealed and the
1893 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1894 A grandparent or other relative caregiver who is appointed a
1895 guardian of a child or children through the Superior Court and who is
1896 not a recipient of subsidized guardianship subsidies under section 17a-
1897 126 or foster care payments from the Department of Children and
1898 Families shall, within available appropriations, be eligible to apply for
1899 grants under the Kinship Fund and Grandparents and Relatives
1900 Respite Fund administered by the Children's Trust Fund Council and
1901 the [Department of Social Services] Office of Early Childhood through
1902 the Probate Court.

1903 Sec. 41. Section 17b-751d of the general statutes is repealed and the
1904 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

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

1919 advance child abuse and neglect prevention; and (6) increase public
1920 awareness of child abuse and neglect issues. The [department] office,
1921 with the guidance of the Children's Trust Fund Council and subject to
1922 available state, federal and private funding, shall be responsible for
1923 implementing and maintaining programs and services, including, but
1924 not limited to: (A) The Nurturing Families Network, established
1925 pursuant to subsection (a) of section 17b-751b; (B) Family
1926 Empowerment Initiative programs; (C) Help Me Grow; (D) the
1927 Kinship Fund and Grandparent's Respite Fund; (E) Family School
1928 Connection; (F) support services for residents of a respite group home
1929 for girls; (G) legal services on behalf of indigent children; (H) volunteer
1930 services; (I) family development training; (J) shaken baby syndrome
1931 prevention; and (K) child sexual abuse prevention.

1932 (b) Not later than sixty days after October 5, 2009, the
1933 [Commissioner of Social Services] executive director of the Office of
1934 Early Childhood shall report, in accordance with section 11-4a, to the
1935 joint standing committees of the General Assembly, having cognizance
1936 of matters relating to human services and appropriations and the
1937 budgets of state agencies on the integration of the duties described in
1938 subsection (a) of this section into the department.

1939 Sec. 42. Section 17b-751e of the general statutes is repealed and the
1940 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1941 Any order, regulation or contract of the Children's Trust Fund
1942 Council agency that is in force on September 1, 2009, shall continue in
1943 force and effect as an order, regulation or contract of the [Department
1944 of Social Services] Office of Early Childhood until amended, repealed
1945 or superseded pursuant to law.

1946 Sec. 43. Section 17a-248 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1947 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1948 As used in this section and sections 17a-248b to 17a-248g, inclusive,
1949 as amended by this act, 38a-490a and 38a-516a, unless the context
1950 otherwise requires:

1951 [(1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Developmental
1952 Services.]

1953 (1) "Executive director" means the executive director of the Office of
1954 Early Childhood.

1955 (2) "Council" means the State Interagency Birth-to-Three
1956 Coordinating Council established pursuant to section 17a-248b, as
1957 amended by this act.

1958 (3) "Early intervention services" means early intervention services,
1959 as defined in 34 CFR Part 303.12, as from time to time amended.

1960 (4) "Eligible children" means children from birth to thirty-six months
1961 of age, who are not eligible for special education and related services
1962 pursuant to sections 10-76a to 10-76h, inclusive, and who need early
1963 intervention services because such children are:

1964 (A) Experiencing a significant developmental delay as measured by
1965 standardized diagnostic instruments and procedures, including
1966 informed clinical opinion, in one or more of the following areas: (i)
1967 Cognitive development; (ii) physical development, including vision or
1968 hearing; (iii) communication development; (iv) social or emotional
1969 development; or (v) adaptive skills; or

1970 (B) Diagnosed as having a physical or mental condition that has a
1971 high probability of resulting in developmental delay.

1972 (5) "Evaluation" means a multidisciplinary professional, objective
1973 assessment conducted by appropriately qualified personnel in order to
1974 determine a child's eligibility for early intervention services.

1975 (6) "Individualized family service plan" means a written plan for
1976 providing early intervention services to an eligible child and the child's
1977 family.

1978 (7) "Lead agency" means the [Department of Developmental
1979 Services] Office of Early Childhood, the public [agency] entity

1980 responsible for the administration of the birth-to-three system in
1981 collaboration with the participating agencies.

1982 (8) "Parent" means (A) a biological, adoptive or foster parent of a
1983 child; (B) a guardian, except for the Commissioner of Children and
1984 Families; (C) an individual acting in the place of a biological or
1985 adoptive parent, including, but not limited to, a grandparent,
1986 stepparent, or other relative with whom the child lives; (D) an
1987 individual who is legally responsible for the child's welfare; or (E) an
1988 individual appointed to be a surrogate parent.

1989 (9) "Participating agencies" includes, but is not limited to, the
1990 Departments of Education, Social Services, Public Health, Children
1991 and Families and Developmental Services, the Office of Early
1992 Childhood, the Insurance Department, the Department of
1993 Rehabilitation Services and the Office of Protection and Advocacy for
1994 Persons with Disabilities.

1995 (10) "Qualified personnel" means persons who meet the standards
1996 specified in 34 CFR Part 303.12(e), as from time to time amended, and
1997 who are licensed physicians or psychologists or persons holding a
1998 state-approved or recognized license, certificate or registration in one
1999 or more of the following fields: (A) Special education, including
2000 teaching of the blind and the deaf; (B) speech and language pathology
2001 and audiology; (C) occupational therapy; (D) physical therapy; (E)
2002 social work; (F) nursing; (G) dietary or nutritional counseling; and (H)
2003 other fields designated by the [commissioner] executive director that
2004 meet requirements that apply to the area in which the person is
2005 providing early intervention services, provided there is no conflict
2006 with existing professional licensing, certification and registration
2007 requirements.

2008 (11) "Service coordinator" means a person carrying out service
2009 coordination, as defined in 34 CFR Part 303.22, as from time to time
2010 amended.

2011 (12) "Primary care provider" means physicians and advanced

2012 practice registered nurses, licensed by the Department of Public
2013 Health, who are responsible for performing or directly supervising the
2014 primary care services for children enrolled in the birth-to-three
2015 program.

2016 Sec. 44. Section 17a-248b of the general statutes is repealed and the
2017 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2018 (a) The lead agency shall establish a State Interagency Birth-to-Three
2019 Coordinating Council and shall provide staff assistance and other
2020 resources to the council. The council shall consist of the following
2021 members, appointed by the Governor: (1) Parents, including minority
2022 parents, of children with disabilities twelve years of age or younger,
2023 with knowledge of, or experience with, programs for children with
2024 disabilities from birth to thirty-six months of age, the total number of
2025 whom shall equal not less than twenty per cent of the total
2026 membership of the council, and at least one of whom shall be a parent
2027 of a child six years of age or younger, with a disability; (2) two
2028 members of the General Assembly at the time of their appointment,
2029 one of whom shall be designated by the speaker of the House of
2030 Representatives and one of whom shall be designated by the president
2031 pro tempore of the Senate; (3) one person involved in the training of
2032 personnel who provide early intervention services; (4) one person who
2033 is a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics; (5) one person
2034 from each of the participating agencies, who shall be designated by the
2035 commissioner or executive director of the participating agency and
2036 who have authority to engage in policy planning and implementation
2037 on behalf of the participating agency; (6) public or private providers of
2038 early intervention services, the total number of whom shall equal not
2039 less than twenty per cent of the total membership of the council; and
2040 (7) a representative of a Head Start program or agency. The Governor
2041 shall designate the chairperson of the council who shall not be the
2042 designee of the lead agency.

2043 (b) The Governor shall appoint all members of the council for terms
2044 of three years.

2045 (c) The council shall meet at least quarterly and shall provide public
2046 notice of its meetings, which shall be open and accessible to the general
2047 public. Special meetings may be called by the chairperson and shall be
2048 called at the request of the [commissioner] executive director.

2049 (d) Council members who are parents of children with disabilities
2050 shall be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in
2051 the performance of their duties under this section.

2052 (e) The council shall: (1) Assist the lead agency in the effective
2053 performance of the lead agency's responsibilities under section 17a-
2054 248, as amended by this act, this section and sections 17a-248c to 17a-
2055 248g, inclusive, as amended by this act, 38a-490a and 38a-516a,
2056 including identifying the sources of fiscal support for early
2057 intervention services and programs, assignment of financial
2058 responsibility to the appropriate agency, promotion of interagency
2059 agreements and preparing applications and amendments required
2060 pursuant to federal law; (2) advise and assist the [commissioner]
2061 executive director and other participating agencies in the development
2062 of standards and procedures pursuant to said sections; (3) advise and
2063 assist the [commissioner] executive director and the Commissioner of
2064 Education regarding the transition of children with disabilities to
2065 services provided under sections 10-76a to 10-76h, inclusive; (4) advise
2066 and assist the [commissioner] executive director in identifying barriers
2067 that impede timely and effective service delivery, including advice and
2068 assistance with regard to interagency disputes; and (5) prepare and
2069 submit an annual report in accordance with section 11-4a to the
2070 Governor and the General Assembly on the status of the birth-to-three
2071 system. At least thirty days prior to the [commissioner's] executive
2072 director's final approval of rules and regulations pursuant to section
2073 17a-248, as amended by this act, this section, sections 17a-248c to 17a-
2074 248g, inclusive, as amended by this act, 38a-490a and 38a-516a, other
2075 than emergency rules and regulations, the [commissioner] executive
2076 director shall submit proposed rules and regulations to the council for
2077 its review. The council shall review all proposed rules and regulations
2078 and report its recommendations thereon to the [commissioner]

2079 executive director within thirty days. The [commissioner] executive
2080 director shall not act in a manner inconsistent with the
2081 recommendations of the council without first providing the reasons for
2082 such action. The council, upon a majority vote of its members, may
2083 require that an alternative approach to the proposed rules and
2084 regulations be published with a notice of the proposed rules and
2085 regulations pursuant to chapter 54. When an alternative approach is
2086 published pursuant to this section, the [commissioner] executive
2087 director shall state the reasons for not selecting such alternative
2088 approach.

2089 Sec. 45. Subsection (a) of section 17a-248c of the general statutes is
2090 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
2091 *1, 2014*):

2092 (a) The [commissioner] executive director may establish one local
2093 interagency coordinating council in each region of the state. Each
2094 council shall consist of five or more individuals interested in the
2095 welfare of children ages birth to three years with disabilities or
2096 developmental delays.

2097 Sec. 46. Subsection (d) of section 17a-248d of the general statutes is
2098 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
2099 *1, 2014*):

2100 (d) The [commissioner] executive director, in coordination with the
2101 participating agencies and in consultation with the council, shall adopt
2102 regulations, pursuant to chapter 54, to carry out the provisions of
2103 section 17a-248, as amended by this act, and sections 17a-248b to 17a-
2104 248g, inclusive, as amended by this act, 38a-490a and 38a-516a.

2105 Sec. 47. Subsections (d) and (e) of section 17a-248g of the general
2106 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
2107 (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2108 (d) The [commissioner] executive director, in consultation with the
2109 Office of Policy and Management and the Insurance Commissioner,

2110 shall adopt regulations, pursuant to chapter 54, providing public
2111 reimbursement for deductibles and copayments imposed under an
2112 insurance policy or health benefit plan to the extent that such
2113 deductibles and copayments are applicable to early intervention
2114 services.

2115 (e) The [commissioner] executive director shall establish and
2116 periodically revise, in accordance with this section, a schedule of fees
2117 based on a sliding scale for early intervention services. The schedule of
2118 fees shall consider the cost of such services relative to the financial
2119 resources of the state and the parents or legal guardians of eligible
2120 children, provided that on and after October 6, 2009, the
2121 [commissioner] executive director shall (1) charge fees to such parents
2122 or legal guardians that are sixty per cent greater than the amount of
2123 the fees charged on the date prior to October 6, 2009; and (2) charge
2124 fees for all services provided, including those services provided in the
2125 first two months following the enrollment of a child in the program.
2126 Fees may be charged to any such parent or guardian, regardless of
2127 income, and shall be charged to any such parent or guardian with a
2128 gross annual family income of forty-five thousand dollars or more,
2129 except that no fee may be charged to the parent or guardian of a child
2130 who is eligible for Medicaid. Notwithstanding the provisions of
2131 subdivision (8) of section 17a-248, as amended by this act, as used in
2132 this subsection, "parent" means the biological or adoptive parent or
2133 legal guardian of any child receiving early intervention services. The
2134 [Department of Developmental Services] lead agency may assign its
2135 right to collect fees to a designee or provider participating in the early
2136 intervention program and providing services to a recipient in order to
2137 assist the provider in obtaining payment for such services. The
2138 [commissioner] executive director may implement procedures for the
2139 collection of the schedule of fees while in the process of adopting or
2140 amending such criteria in regulation, provided the [commissioner]
2141 executive director prints notice of intention to adopt or amend the
2142 regulations in the Connecticut Law Journal within twenty days of
2143 implementing the policy. Such collection procedures and schedule of
2144 fees shall be valid until the time the final regulations or amendments

2145 are effective.

2146 Sec. 48. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2014*) (a) The Office of Early
2147 Childhood shall constitute a successor agency to the Department of
2148 Public Health, in accordance with the provisions of sections 4-38d and
2149 4-39 of the general statutes, for the purpose of the conduct of
2150 regulation of child day care services pursuant to sections 19a-77 to 19a-
2151 80, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and
2152 sections 19a-82 to 19a-87, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended
2153 by this act, and for the purpose of administering the Maternal, Infant,
2154 and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program authorized under the
2155 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, P.L. 111-148.

2156 (b) Any order, regulation or policy of the Department of Public
2157 Health concerning child day care services that is established pursuant
2158 to sections 19a-77 to 19a-80, inclusive, of the general statutes, as
2159 amended by this act, or 19a-82 to 19a-87, inclusive, of the general
2160 statutes, as amended by this act, or otherwise authorized by law, that
2161 is in force on July 1, 2014, shall continue in force and effect as an order,
2162 regulation or policy until amended, repealed or superseded pursuant
2163 to law.

2164 Sec. 49. Subdivision (11) of subsection (g) of section 17a-28 of the
2165 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
2166 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2167 (11) The [Department of Public Health] Office of Early Childhood
2168 for the purpose of (A) determining the suitability of a person to care
2169 for children in a facility licensed pursuant to section 19a-77, as
2170 amended by this act, 19a-80 or 19a-87b, as amended by this act; (B)
2171 determining the suitability of such person for licensure; or (C) an
2172 investigation conducted pursuant to section 19a-80f, as amended by
2173 this act;

2174 Sec. 50. Section 19a-77 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2175 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2176 (a) As used in sections 19a-77 to 19a-80, inclusive, as amended by
2177 this act, and sections 19a-82 to 19a-87, inclusive, as amended by this
2178 act, "child day care services" shall include:

2179 (1) A "child day care center" which offers or provides a program of
2180 supplementary care to more than twelve related or unrelated children
2181 outside their own homes on a regular basis;

2182 (2) A "group day care home" which offers or provides a program of
2183 supplementary care (A) to not less than seven or more than twelve
2184 related or unrelated children on a regular basis, or (B) that meets the
2185 definition of a family day care home except that it operates in a facility
2186 other than a private family home;

2187 (3) A "family day care home" which consists of a private family
2188 home caring for not more than six children, including the provider's
2189 own children not in school full time, where the children are cared for
2190 not less than three or more than twelve hours during a twenty-four-
2191 hour period and where care is given on a regularly recurring basis
2192 except that care may be provided in excess of twelve hours but not
2193 more than seventy-two consecutive hours to accommodate a need for
2194 extended care or intermittent short-term overnight care. During the
2195 regular school year, a maximum of three additional children who are
2196 in school full time, including the provider's own children, shall be
2197 permitted, except that if the provider has more than three children
2198 who are in school full time, all of the provider's children shall be
2199 permitted;

2200 (4) "Night care" means the care provided for one or more hours
2201 between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.;

2202 (5) "Year-round" program means a program open at least fifty
2203 weeks per year.

2204 (b) For licensing requirement purposes, child day care services shall
2205 not include such services which are:

2206 (1) (A) Administered by a public school system, or (B) administered

2207 by a municipal agency or department and located in a public school
2208 building;

2209 (2) Administered by a private school which is in compliance with
2210 section 10-188 and is approved by the State Board of Education or is
2211 accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the State Board of
2212 Education;

2213 (3) Classes in music, dance, drama and art that are no longer than
2214 two hours in length; classes that teach a single skill that are no longer
2215 than two hours in length; library programs that are no longer than two
2216 hours in length; scouting; programs that offer exclusively sports
2217 activities; rehearsals; academic tutoring programs; or programs
2218 exclusively for children thirteen years of age or older;

2219 (4) Informal arrangements among neighbors and formal or informal
2220 arrangements among relatives in their own homes, provided the
2221 relative is limited to any of the following degrees of kinship by blood
2222 or marriage to the child being cared for or to the child's parent: Child,
2223 grandchild, sibling, niece, nephew, aunt, uncle or child of one's aunt or
2224 uncle;

2225 (5) Drop-in supplementary child care operations for educational or
2226 recreational purposes and the child receives such care infrequently
2227 where the parents are on the premises;

2228 (6) Drop-in supplementary child care operations in retail
2229 establishments where the parents remain in the same store as the child
2230 for retail shopping, provided the drop-in supplementary child-care
2231 operation does not charge a fee and does not refer to itself as a child
2232 day care center;

2233 (7) Drop-in programs administered by a nationally chartered boys'
2234 and girls' club;

2235 (8) Religious educational activities administered by a religious
2236 institution exclusively for children whose parents or legal guardians
2237 are members of such religious institution;

2238 (9) Administered by Solar Youth, Inc., a New Haven-based
2239 nonprofit youth development and environmental education
2240 organization, provided Solar Youth, Inc. informs the parents and legal
2241 guardians of any children enrolled in its programs that such programs
2242 are not licensed by the [Department of Public Health] Office of Early
2243 Childhood to provide child day care services;

2244 (10) Programs administered by organizations under contract with
2245 the Department of Social Services pursuant to section 17b-851a that
2246 promote the reduction of teenage pregnancy through the provision of
2247 services to persons who are ten to nineteen years of age, inclusive; or

2248 (11) Administered by the Cardinal Shehan Center, a Bridgeport-
2249 based nonprofit organization that is exclusively for school age
2250 children, provided the Cardinal Shehan Center informs the parents
2251 and legal guardians of any children enrolled in its programs that such
2252 programs are not licensed by the [Department of Public Health] Office
2253 of Early Childhood to provide child day care services.

2254 (c) No registrant or licensee of any child day care services as defined
2255 in subsection (a) of this section shall be issued an additional
2256 registration or license to provide any such services at the same facility.

2257 (d) When a licensee has vacated premises approved by the
2258 [department] office for the provision of child day care services and the
2259 landlord of such licensee establishes to the satisfaction of the
2260 [department] office that such licensee has no legal right or interest to
2261 such approved premises, the [department] office may make a
2262 determination with respect to an application for a new license for the
2263 provision of child day care services at such premises.

2264 Sec. 51. Section 19a-79 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2265 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2266 (a) The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2267 Office of Early Childhood shall adopt regulations, in accordance with
2268 the provisions of chapter 54, to carry out the purposes of sections 19a-

2269 77 to 19a-80, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 19a-82 to 19a-87,
2270 inclusive, as amended by this act, and to assure that child day care
2271 centers and group day care homes shall meet the health, educational
2272 and social needs of children utilizing such child day care centers and
2273 group day care homes. Such regulations shall (1) specify that before
2274 being permitted to attend any child day care center or group day care
2275 home, each child shall be protected as age-appropriate by adequate
2276 immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis,
2277 measles, mumps, rubella, hemophilus influenzae type B and any other
2278 vaccine required by the schedule of active immunization adopted
2279 pursuant to section 19a-7f, including appropriate exemptions for
2280 children for whom such immunization is medically contraindicated
2281 and for children whose parents object to such immunization on
2282 religious grounds, (2) specify conditions under which child day care
2283 center directors and teachers and group day care home providers may
2284 administer tests to monitor glucose levels in a child with diagnosed
2285 diabetes mellitus, and administer medicinal preparations, including
2286 controlled drugs specified in the regulations by the [commissioner]
2287 executive director, to a child receiving child day care services at such
2288 child day care center or group day care home pursuant to the written
2289 order of a physician licensed to practice medicine or a dentist licensed
2290 to practice dental medicine in this or another state, or an advanced
2291 practice registered nurse licensed to prescribe in accordance with
2292 section 20-94a, or a physician assistant licensed to prescribe in
2293 accordance with section 20-12d, and the written authorization of a
2294 parent or guardian of such child, (3) specify that an operator of a child
2295 day care center or group day care home, licensed before January 1,
2296 1986, or an operator who receives a license after January 1, 1986, for a
2297 facility licensed prior to January 1, 1986, shall provide a minimum of
2298 thirty square feet per child of total indoor usable space, free of
2299 furniture except that needed for the children's purposes, exclusive of
2300 toilet rooms, bathrooms, coatrooms, kitchens, halls, isolation room or
2301 other rooms used for purposes other than the activities of the children,
2302 (4) specify that a child day care center or group day care home licensed
2303 after January 1, 1986, shall provide thirty-five square feet per child of

2304 total indoor usable space, (5) establish appropriate child day care
2305 center staffing requirements for employees certified in
2306 cardiopulmonary resuscitation by the American Red Cross, the
2307 American Heart Association, the National Safety Council, American
2308 Safety and Health Institute or Medic First Aid International, Inc., (6)
2309 specify that on and after January 1, 2003, a child day care center or
2310 group day care home (A) shall not deny services to a child on the basis
2311 of a child's known or suspected allergy or because a child has a
2312 prescription for an automatic prefilled cartridge injector or similar
2313 automatic injectable equipment used to treat an allergic reaction, or for
2314 injectable equipment used to administer glucagon, (B) shall, not later
2315 than three weeks after such child's enrollment in such a center or
2316 home, have staff trained in the use of such equipment on-site during
2317 all hours when such a child is on-site, (C) shall require such child's
2318 parent or guardian to provide the injector or injectable equipment and
2319 a copy of the prescription for such medication and injector or injectable
2320 equipment upon enrollment of such child, and (D) shall require a
2321 parent or guardian enrolling such a child to replace such medication
2322 and equipment prior to its expiration date, and (7) specify that on and
2323 after January 1, 2005, a child day care center or group day care home
2324 (A) shall not deny services to a child on the basis of a child's diagnosis
2325 of asthma or because a child has a prescription for an inhalant
2326 medication to treat asthma, and (B) shall, not later than three weeks
2327 after such child's enrollment in such a center or home, have staff
2328 trained in the administration of such medication on-site during all
2329 hours when such a child is on-site, and (8) establish physical plant
2330 requirements for licensed child day care centers and licensed group
2331 day care homes that exclusively serve school-age children. When
2332 establishing such requirements, the [department] office shall give
2333 consideration to child day care centers and group day care homes that
2334 are located in private or public school buildings. With respect to this
2335 subdivision only, the [commissioner] executive director shall
2336 implement policies and procedures necessary to implement the
2337 physical plant requirements established pursuant to this subdivision
2338 while in the process of adopting such policies and procedures in

2339 regulation form. Until replaced by policies and procedures
2340 implemented pursuant to this subdivision, any physical plant
2341 requirement specified in the [department's] office's regulations that is
2342 generally applicable to child day care centers and group day care
2343 homes shall continue to be applicable to such centers and group day
2344 care homes that exclusively serve school-age children. The
2345 [commissioner] executive director shall print notice of the intent to
2346 adopt regulations pursuant to this subdivision in the Connecticut Law
2347 Journal not later than twenty days after the date of implementation of
2348 such policies and procedures. Policies and procedures implemented
2349 pursuant to this subdivision shall be valid until the time final
2350 regulations are adopted.

2351 (b) The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2352 Office of Early Childhood may adopt regulations, pursuant to chapter
2353 54, to establish civil penalties of not more than one hundred dollars per
2354 day for each day of violation and other disciplinary remedies that may
2355 be imposed, following a contested-case hearing, upon the holder of a
2356 license issued under section 19a-80, as amended by this act, to operate
2357 a child day care center or group day care home or upon the holder of a
2358 license issued under section 19a-87b, as amended by this act, to operate
2359 a family day care home.

2360 (c) The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2361 Office of Early Childhood shall exempt Montessori schools accredited
2362 by the American Montessori Society or the Association Montessori
2363 Internationale from any provision in regulations adopted pursuant to
2364 subsection (a) of this section which sets requirements on group size or
2365 child to staff ratios or the provision of cots.

2366 Sec. 52. Section 19a-80 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2367 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2368 (a) No person, group of persons, association, organization,
2369 corporation, institution or agency, public or private, shall maintain a
2370 child day care center or group day care home without a license issued
2371 in accordance with sections 19a-77 to 19a-80, inclusive, as amended by

2372 this act, and 19a-82 to 19a-87a, inclusive, as amended by this act.
2373 Applications for such license shall be made to the [Commissioner of
2374 Public Health] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood on
2375 forms provided by the [commissioner] executive director and shall
2376 contain the information required by regulations adopted under said
2377 sections. The forms shall contain a notice that false statements made
2378 therein are punishable in accordance with section 53a-157b.

2379 (b) (1) Upon receipt of an application for a license, the
2380 [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the Office of
2381 Early Childhood shall issue such license if, upon inspection and
2382 investigation, said [commissioner] executive director finds that the
2383 applicant, the facilities and the program meet the health, educational
2384 and social needs of children likely to attend the child day care center or
2385 group day care home and comply with requirements established by
2386 regulations adopted under sections 19a-77 to 19a-80, inclusive, as
2387 amended by this act, and sections 19a-82 to 19a-87a, inclusive, as
2388 amended by this act. The [commissioner] executive director shall offer
2389 an expedited application review process for an application submitted
2390 by a municipal agency or department. The [commissioner] executive
2391 director shall have discretion to determine whether a change of
2392 operator, ownership or location request from a currently licensed
2393 person or entity, as described in subsection (a) of this section, shall
2394 require the filing of a new license application from such person or
2395 entity. Each license shall be for a term of four years, shall be
2396 nontransferable, and may be renewed upon receipt by the
2397 [commissioner] executive director of a renewal application and
2398 accompanying licensure fee. The [commissioner] executive director
2399 may suspend or revoke such license after notice and an opportunity
2400 for a hearing as provided in section 19a-84 for violation of the
2401 regulations adopted under sections 19a-77 to 19a-80, inclusive, as
2402 amended by this act, and sections 19a-82 to 19a-87a, inclusive, as
2403 amended by this act.

2404 (2) The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2405 Office of Early Childhood shall collect from the licensee of a day care

2406 center a fee of five hundred dollars prior to issuing or renewing a
2407 license for a term of four years. The [commissioner] executive director
2408 shall collect from the licensee of a group day care home a fee of two
2409 hundred fifty dollars prior to issuing or renewing a license for a term
2410 of four years. The [commissioner] executive director shall require only
2411 one license for a child day care center operated in two or more
2412 buildings, provided the same licensee provides child day care services
2413 in each building and the buildings are joined together by a contiguous
2414 playground that is part of the licensed space.

2415 (c) The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2416 Office of Early Childhood, within available appropriations, shall
2417 require each prospective employee of a child day care center or group
2418 day care home in a position requiring the provision of care to a child to
2419 submit to state and national criminal history records checks. The
2420 criminal history records checks required pursuant to this subsection
2421 shall be conducted in accordance with section 29-17a. The
2422 [commissioner] executive director shall also request a check of the state
2423 child abuse registry established pursuant to section 17a-101k. Pursuant
2424 to the interagency agreement provided for in section 10-16s, as
2425 amended by this act, the Department of Social Services may agree to
2426 transfer funds appropriated for criminal history records checks to the
2427 [Department of Public Health] Office of Early Childhood. The
2428 [commissioner] executive director shall notify each licensee of the
2429 provisions of this subsection.

2430 (d) The [commissioner] executive director shall inform each
2431 licensee, by way of a plain language summary provided not later than
2432 sixty days after the regulation's effective date, of new or changed
2433 regulations adopted under sections 19a-77 to 19a-80, inclusive, as
2434 amended by this act, or sections 19a-82 to 19a-87a, inclusive, as
2435 amended by this act, with which a licensee must comply.

2436 Sec. 53. Section 19a-80f of the general statutes is repealed and the
2437 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2438 (a) As used in this section, "facility" means a child day care center, a

2439 group day care home and a family day care home, as defined in section
2440 19a-77, as amended by this act, and a youth camp, as defined in section
2441 19a-420.

2442 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the
2443 Commissioner of Children and Families, or the commissioner's
2444 designee, shall provide to the [Department of Public Health] Office of
2445 Early Childhood all records concerning reports and investigations of
2446 child abuse or neglect that have been reported to, or are being
2447 investigated by, the Department of Children and Families pursuant to
2448 section 17a-101g, including records of any administrative hearing held
2449 pursuant to section 17a-101k: (1) Occurring at any facility, and (2) by
2450 any staff member or licensee of any facility and by any household
2451 member of any family day care home, as defined in section 19a-77, as
2452 amended by this act, irrespective of where the abuse or neglect
2453 occurred.

2454 (c) The Department of Children and Families and the [Department
2455 of Public Health] Office of Early Childhood shall jointly investigate
2456 reports of abuse or neglect occurring at any facility. All information,
2457 records and reports concerning such investigation shall be shared
2458 between agencies as part of the investigative process.

2459 (d) The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2460 Office of Early Childhood shall compile a listing of allegations of
2461 violations that have been substantiated by the [Department of Public
2462 Health] Office of Early Childhood concerning a facility during the
2463 prior three-year period. The [Commissioner of Public Health]
2464 executive director of the Office of Early Childhood shall disclose
2465 information contained in the listing to any person who requests it,
2466 provided the information may be disclosed pursuant to sections 17a-
2467 101g and 17a-101k and does not identify children or family members
2468 of those children.

2469 (e) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, when the
2470 Commissioner of Children and Families has made a finding
2471 substantiating abuse or neglect: (1) That occurred at a facility, or (2) by

2472 any staff member or licensee of any facility, or by any household
2473 member of any family day care home and such finding is included on
2474 the state child abuse or neglect registry, maintained by the Department
2475 of Children and Families pursuant to section 17a-101k, such finding
2476 may be included in the listing compiled by the [Department of Public
2477 Health] Office of Early Childhood pursuant to subsection (d) of this
2478 section and may be disclosed to the public by the [Department of
2479 Public Health] Office of Early Childhood.

2480 (f) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, when the
2481 Commissioner of Children and Families, pursuant to section 17a-101j,
2482 has notified the [Department of Public Health] Office of Early
2483 Childhood of a recommended finding of child abuse or neglect at a
2484 facility and if such child abuse or neglect resulted in or involves (1) the
2485 death of a child; (2) the risk of serious physical injury or emotional
2486 harm of a child; (3) the serious physical harm of a child; (4) the arrest
2487 of a person due to abuse or neglect of a child; (5) a petition filed by the
2488 Commissioner of Children and Families pursuant to section 17a-112 or
2489 46b-129; or (6) sexual abuse of a child, the [Commissioner of Public
2490 Health] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood may
2491 include such finding of child abuse or neglect in the listing under
2492 subsection (d) of this section and may disclose such finding to the
2493 public. The Commissioner of Children and Families, or the
2494 commissioner's designee, shall immediately notify the [Commissioner
2495 of Public Health] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood
2496 when such child abuse or neglect is not substantiated after an
2497 investigation has been completed pursuant to subsection (b) of section
2498 17a-101g or a recommended finding of child abuse or neglect is
2499 reversed after a hearing or appeal conducted in accordance with the
2500 provisions of section 17a-101k. The [Commissioner of Public Health]
2501 executive director of the Office of Early Childhood shall immediately
2502 remove such information from the listing and shall not further disclose
2503 any such information to the public.

2504 (g) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, all
2505 records provided by the Commissioner of Children and Families, or

2506 the commissioner's designee, to the [Department of Public Health]
2507 Office of Early Childhood regarding child abuse or neglect occurring at
2508 any facility, may be utilized in an administrative proceeding or court
2509 proceeding relative to facility licensing. In any such proceeding, such
2510 records shall be confidential, except as provided by the provisions of
2511 section 4-177c, and such records shall not be subject to disclosure
2512 pursuant to section 1-210.

2513 Sec. 54. Section 19a-82 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2514 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2515 The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2516 Office of Early Childhood shall utilize consultative services and
2517 assistance from the Departments of Education, Mental Health and
2518 Addiction Services and Social Services and from municipal building,
2519 fire and health departments. The [commissioner] executive director
2520 shall make periodic inspections of licensed day care centers, group day
2521 care homes and family day care homes and shall provide technical
2522 assistance to licensees and applicants for licenses to assist them to
2523 attain and maintain the standards established in regulations adopted
2524 under sections 19a-77 to 19a-80, inclusive, as amended by this act, 19a-
2525 82 to 19a-87, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 19a-87b, as
2526 amended by this act.

2527 Sec. 55. Section 19a-86 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2528 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2529 The [commissioner] executive director of the Office of Early
2530 Childhood may request the Attorney General to bring an action in the
2531 superior court for the judicial district of Hartford to enjoin any person,
2532 group of persons, association, organization, corporation, institution, or
2533 agency, public or private, from maintaining a child day care center or
2534 group day care home without a license or operating a child day care
2535 center or group day care home in violation of regulations adopted
2536 under sections 19a-77 to 19a-80, inclusive, as amended by this act, and
2537 19a-82 to 19a-87, inclusive, as amended by this act.

2538 Sec. 56. Section 19a-87 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2539 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2540 (a) Any person or officer of an association, organization or
2541 corporation who shall establish, conduct, maintain or operate a day
2542 care center or group day care home without a current and valid license
2543 shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than one hundred dollars
2544 a day for each day that such center or home is operated without a
2545 license.

2546 (b) If the [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2547 Office of Early Childhood has reason to believe that a violation has
2548 occurred for which a civil penalty is authorized by subsection (a) of
2549 this section, he may send to such person or officer by certified mail,
2550 return receipt requested, or personally serve upon such person or
2551 officer, a notice which shall include: (1) A reference to the section or
2552 sections of the general statutes or regulations involved; (2) a short and
2553 plain statement of the matters asserted or charged; (3) a statement of
2554 the maximum civil penalty which may be imposed for such violation;
2555 and (4) a statement of the party's right to request a hearing, such
2556 request to be submitted in writing to the [commissioner] executive
2557 director not later than thirty days after the notice is mailed or served.

2558 (c) If such person or officer so requests, the [commissioner]
2559 executive director shall hold a hearing on the violation asserted. The
2560 hearing shall be held in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54. If
2561 such person or officer fails to request a hearing or fails to appear at the
2562 hearing or if, after the hearing, the [commissioner] executive director
2563 finds that the person or officer has committed such violation, the
2564 [commissioner] executive director may, in his discretion, order that a
2565 civil penalty be imposed that is not greater than the penalty stated in
2566 the notice. The [commissioner] executive director shall send a copy of
2567 any order issued pursuant to this subsection by certified mail, return
2568 receipt requested, to the person or officer named in such order.

2569 Sec. 57. Section 19a-87a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2570 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2571 (a) The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2572 Office of Early Childhood shall have the discretion to refuse to license
2573 under sections 19a-77 to 19a-80, inclusive, as amended by this act, and
2574 19a-82 to 19a-87, inclusive, as amended by this act, a person to
2575 conduct, operate or maintain a day care center or a group day care
2576 home, as defined in section 19a-77, as amended by this act, or to
2577 suspend or revoke the license or take any other action set forth in
2578 regulation that may be adopted pursuant to section 19a-79, as
2579 amended by this act, if, the person who owns, conducts, maintains or
2580 operates such center or home or a person employed therein in a
2581 position connected with the provision of care to a child receiving child
2582 day care services, has been convicted in this state or any other state of
2583 a felony as defined in section 53a-25 involving the use, attempted use
2584 or threatened use of physical force against another person, of cruelty to
2585 persons under section 53-20, injury or risk of injury to or impairing
2586 morals of children under section 53-21, abandonment of children
2587 under the age of six years under section 53-23, or any felony where the
2588 victim of the felony is a child under eighteen years of age, or of a
2589 violation of section 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-70b, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b or
2590 53a-73a, or has a criminal record in this state or any other state that the
2591 [commissioner] executive director reasonably believes renders the
2592 person unsuitable to own, conduct, operate or maintain or be
2593 employed by a child day care center or group day care home.
2594 However, no refusal of a license shall be rendered except in accordance
2595 with the provisions of sections 46a-79 to 46a-81, inclusive.

2596 (b) Any person who is licensed to conduct, operate or maintain a
2597 child day care center or group day care home shall notify the
2598 [commissioner] executive director of any criminal conviction of the
2599 owner, conductor, operator or maintainer of the center or home or of
2600 any person employed therein in a position connected with the
2601 provision of care to a child receiving child day care services,
2602 immediately upon obtaining knowledge of the conviction. Failure to
2603 comply with the notification requirement may result in the suspension
2604 or revocation of the license or the imposition of any action set forth in
2605 regulation, and shall subject the licensed person to a civil penalty of

2606 not more than one hundred dollars per day for each day after the
2607 person obtained knowledge of the conviction.

2608 (c) It shall be a class A misdemeanor for any person seeking
2609 employment in a position connected with the provision of care to a
2610 child receiving child day care services to make a false written
2611 statement regarding prior criminal convictions pursuant to a form
2612 bearing notice to the effect that such false statements are punishable,
2613 which statement he does not believe to be true and is intended to
2614 mislead the prospective employer.

2615 (d) Any person having reasonable cause to believe that a child day
2616 care center or a group day care home is operating without a current
2617 and valid license or in violation of regulations adopted under section
2618 19a-79, as amended by this act, or in a manner which may pose a
2619 potential danger to the health, welfare and safety of a child receiving
2620 child day care services, may report such information to the
2621 [Department of Public Health] Office of Early Childhood. The
2622 [department] office shall investigate any report or complaint received
2623 pursuant to this subsection. The name of the person making the report
2624 or complaint shall not be disclosed unless (1) such person consents to
2625 such disclosure, (2) a judicial or administrative proceeding results
2626 therefrom, or (3) a license action pursuant to subsection (a) of this
2627 section results therefrom. All records obtained by the [department]
2628 office in connection with any such investigation shall not be subject to
2629 the provisions of section 1-210 for a period of thirty days from the date
2630 of the petition or other event initiating such investigation, or until such
2631 time as the investigation is terminated pursuant to a withdrawal or
2632 other informal disposition or until a hearing is convened pursuant to
2633 chapter 54, whichever is earlier. A formal statement of charges issued
2634 by the [department] office shall be subject to the provisions of section
2635 1-210 from the time that it is served or mailed to the respondent.
2636 Records which are otherwise public records shall not be deemed
2637 confidential merely because they have been obtained in connection
2638 with an investigation under this section.

2639 (e) In addition to any powers the [Department of Public Health]
2640 Office of Early Childhood may have, in any investigation (1)
2641 concerning an application, reinstatement or renewal of a license for a
2642 child day care center, a group day care home or a family day care
2643 home, as such terms are defined in section 19a-77, as amended by this
2644 act, (2) of a complaint concerning child day care services, as described
2645 in section 19a-77, as amended by this act, or (3) concerning the possible
2646 provision of unlicensed child day care services, the [Department of
2647 Public Health] Office of Early Childhood may administer oaths, issue
2648 subpoenas, compel testimony and order the production of books,
2649 records and documents. If any person refuses to appear, testify or
2650 produce any book, record or document when so ordered, a judge of
2651 the Superior Court may make such order as may be appropriate to aid
2652 in the enforcement of this section.

2653 Sec. 58. Section 19a-87b of the general statutes is repealed and the
2654 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2655 (a) No person, group of persons, association, organization,
2656 corporation, institution or agency, public or private, shall maintain a
2657 family day care home, as defined in section 19a-77, as amended by this
2658 act, without a license issued by the [Commissioner of Public Health]
2659 executive director of the Office of Early Childhood. Licensure forms
2660 shall be obtained from the [Department of Public Health] Office of
2661 Early Childhood. Applications for licensure shall be made to the
2662 [commissioner] executive director on forms provided by the
2663 [department] office and shall contain the information required by
2664 regulations adopted under this section. The licensure and application
2665 forms shall contain a notice that false statements made therein are
2666 punishable in accordance with section 53a-157b. Applicants shall state,
2667 in writing, that they are in compliance with the regulations adopted by
2668 the [commissioner] executive director pursuant to subsection (f) of this
2669 section. Before a family day care home license is granted, the
2670 [department] office shall make an inquiry and investigation which
2671 shall include a visit and inspection of the premises for which the
2672 license is requested. Any inspection conducted by the [department]

2673 office shall include an inspection for evident sources of lead poisoning.
2674 The [department] office shall provide for a chemical analysis of any
2675 paint chips found on such premises. Neither the [commissioner]
2676 executive director nor the [commissioner's] executive director's
2677 designee shall require an annual inspection for homes seeking license
2678 renewal or for licensed homes, except that the [commissioner]
2679 executive director or the [commissioner's] executive director's designee
2680 shall make unannounced visits, during customary business hours, to at
2681 least thirty-three and one-third per cent of the licensed family day care
2682 homes each year. A licensed family day care home shall not be subject
2683 to any conditions on the operation of such home by local officials,
2684 other than those imposed by the [department] office pursuant to this
2685 subsection, if the home complies with all local codes and ordinances
2686 applicable to single and multifamily dwellings.

2687 (b) No person shall act as an assistant or substitute staff member to a
2688 person or entity maintaining a family day care home, as defined in
2689 section 19a-77, as amended by this act, without an approval issued by
2690 the [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the Office of
2691 Early Childhood. Any person seeking to act as an assistant or
2692 substitute staff member in a family day care home shall submit an
2693 application for such approval to the [department] office. Applications
2694 for approval shall: (1) Be made to the [commissioner] executive
2695 director on forms provided by the [department] office, (2) contain the
2696 information required by regulations adopted under this section, and
2697 (3) be accompanied by a fee of twenty dollars. The approval
2698 application forms shall contain a notice that false statements made in
2699 such form are punishable in accordance with section 53a-157b.

2700 (c) The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2701 Office of Early Childhood, within available appropriations, shall
2702 require each initial applicant or prospective employee of a family day
2703 care home in a position requiring the provision of care to a child,
2704 including an assistant or substitute staff member, to submit to state
2705 and national criminal history records checks. The criminal history
2706 records checks required pursuant to this subsection shall be conducted

2707 in accordance with section 29-17a. The [commissioner] executive
2708 director shall also request a check of the state child abuse registry
2709 established pursuant to section 17a-101k. The [commissioner]
2710 executive director shall notify each licensee of the provisions of this
2711 subsection.

2712 (d) An application for initial licensure pursuant to this section shall
2713 be accompanied by a fee of forty dollars and such license shall be
2714 issued for a term of four years. An application for renewal of a license
2715 issued pursuant to this section shall be accompanied by a fee of forty
2716 dollars and a certification from the licensee that any child enrolled in
2717 the family day care home has received age-appropriate immunizations
2718 in accordance with regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (f) of
2719 this section. A license issued pursuant to this section shall be renewed
2720 for a term of four years.

2721 (e) An application for initial staff approval or renewal of staff
2722 approval shall be accompanied by a fee of fifteen dollars. Such
2723 approvals shall be issued or renewed for a term of two years.

2724 (f) The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2725 Office of Early Childhood shall adopt regulations, in accordance with
2726 the provisions of chapter 54, to assure that family day care homes, as
2727 defined in section 19a-77, as amended by this act, shall meet the health,
2728 educational and social needs of children utilizing such homes. Such
2729 regulations shall ensure that the family day care home is treated as a
2730 residence, and not an institutional facility. Such regulations shall
2731 specify that each child be protected as age-appropriate by adequate
2732 immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis,
2733 measles, mumps, rubella, hemophilus influenzae type B and any other
2734 vaccine required by the schedule of active immunization adopted
2735 pursuant to section 19a-7f. Such regulations shall provide appropriate
2736 exemptions for children for whom such immunization is medically
2737 contraindicated and for children whose parents object to such
2738 immunization on religious grounds. Such regulations shall also specify
2739 conditions under which family day care home providers may

2740 administer tests to monitor glucose levels in a child with diagnosed
2741 diabetes mellitus, and administer medicinal preparations, including
2742 controlled drugs specified in the regulations by the [commissioner]
2743 executive director, to a child receiving day care services at a family day
2744 care home pursuant to a written order of a physician licensed to
2745 practice medicine in this or another state, an advanced practice
2746 registered nurse licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-94a
2747 or a physician assistant licensed to prescribe in accordance with section
2748 20-12d, and the written authorization of a parent or guardian of such
2749 child. Such regulations shall specify appropriate standards for
2750 extended care and intermittent short-term overnight care. The
2751 [commissioner] executive director shall inform each licensee, by way of
2752 a plain language summary provided not later than sixty days after the
2753 regulation's effective date, of any new or changed regulations adopted
2754 under this subsection with which a licensee must comply.

2755 Sec. 59. Section 19a-87c of the general statutes is repealed and the
2756 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2757 (a) Any person or officer of an association, organization or
2758 corporation who shall establish, conduct, maintain or operate a family
2759 day care home, as defined in section 19a-77, as amended by this act,
2760 without a current and valid license shall be subject to a civil penalty of
2761 not more than one hundred dollars a day for each day that such home
2762 is operated without a license.

2763 (b) If the [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2764 Office of Early Childhood has reason to believe that a violation has
2765 occurred for which a civil penalty is authorized by subsection (a) of
2766 this section, [he] the executive director may send to such person or
2767 officer by certified mail, return receipt requested, or personally serve
2768 upon such person or officer, a notice which shall include: (1) A
2769 reference to the section or sections of the general statutes or
2770 regulations involved; (2) a short and plain statement of the matters
2771 asserted or charged; (3) a statement of the maximum civil penalty
2772 which may be imposed for such violation; and (4) a statement of the

2773 party's right to request a hearing. Such request shall be submitted in
2774 writing to the [commissioner] executive director not later than thirty
2775 days after the notice is mailed or served.

2776 (c) If such person or officer so requests, the [commissioner]
2777 executive director shall hold a hearing on the violation asserted. The
2778 hearing shall be held in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54. If
2779 such person or officer fails to request a hearing or fails to appear at the
2780 hearing or if, after the hearing, the [commissioner] executive director
2781 finds that the person or officer has committed such violation, the
2782 [commissioner] executive director may, in his or her discretion, order
2783 that a civil penalty be imposed that is not greater than the penalty
2784 stated in the notice. The [commissioner] executive director shall send a
2785 copy of any order issued pursuant to this subsection by certified mail,
2786 return receipt requested, to the person or officer named in such order.

2787 Sec. 60. Section 19a-87d of the general statutes is repealed and the
2788 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2789 The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2790 Office of Early Childhood may request the Attorney General to bring
2791 an action, in the superior court for the judicial district in which such
2792 home is located, to enjoin any person, group of persons, association,
2793 organization, corporation, institution or agency, public or private, from
2794 maintaining a family day care home, as defined in section 19a-77, as
2795 amended by this act, without a license or in violation of regulations
2796 adopted under section 19a-87b, as amended by this act, and
2797 satisfactory proof of the lack of a license or the violation of the
2798 regulations without more shall entitle the [commissioner] executive
2799 director to injunctive relief.

2800 Sec. 61. Section 19a-87e of the general statutes is repealed and the
2801 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2802 (a) The [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of the
2803 Office of Early Childhood may (1) refuse to license under section 19a-
2804 87b, as amended by this act, a person to own, conduct, operate or

2805 maintain a family day care home, as defined in section 19a-77, as
2806 amended by this act, (2) refuse to approve under section 19a-87b, as
2807 amended by this act, a person to act as an assistant or substitute staff
2808 member in a family day care home, as defined in section 19a-77, as
2809 amended by this act, or (3) suspend or revoke the license or approval
2810 or take any other action that may be set forth in regulation that may be
2811 adopted pursuant to section 19a-79, as amended by this act, if the
2812 person who owns, conducts, maintains or operates the family day care
2813 home, the person who acts as an assistant or substitute staff member in
2814 a family day care home or a person employed in such family day care
2815 home in a position connected with the provision of care to a child
2816 receiving child day care services, has been convicted, in this state or
2817 any other state of a felony, as defined in section 53a-25, involving the
2818 use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force against another
2819 person, or has a criminal record in this state or any other state that the
2820 [commissioner] executive director reasonably believes renders the
2821 person unsuitable to own, conduct, operate or maintain or be
2822 employed by a family day care home, or act as an assistant or
2823 substitute staff member in a family day care home, or if such persons
2824 or a person residing in the household has been convicted in this state
2825 or any other state of cruelty to persons under section 53-20, injury or
2826 risk of injury to or impairing morals of children under section 53-21,
2827 abandonment of children under the age of six years under section 53-
2828 23, or any felony where the victim of the felony is a child under
2829 eighteen years of age, a violation of section 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-70b,
2830 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b or 53a-73a, illegal manufacture, distribution,
2831 sale, prescription, dispensing or administration under section 21a-277
2832 or 21a-278, or illegal possession under section 21a-279, or if such
2833 person, a person who acts as assistant or substitute staff member in a
2834 family day care home or a person employed in such family day care
2835 home in a position connected with the provision of care to a child
2836 receiving child day care services, either fails to substantially comply
2837 with the regulations adopted pursuant to section 19a-87b, as amended
2838 by this act, or conducts, operates or maintains the home in a manner
2839 which endangers the health, safety and welfare of the children

2840 receiving child day care services. Any refusal of a license or approval
2841 pursuant to this section shall be rendered in accordance with the
2842 provisions of sections 46a-79 to 46a-81, inclusive. Any person whose
2843 license or approval has been revoked pursuant to this section shall be
2844 ineligible to apply for a license or approval for a period of one year
2845 from the effective date of revocation.

2846 (b) When the [commissioner] executive director intends to suspend
2847 or revoke a license or approval or take any other action against a
2848 license or approval set forth in regulation adopted pursuant to section
2849 19a-79, as amended by this act, the [commissioner] executive director
2850 shall notify the licensee or approved staff member in writing of the
2851 [commissioner's] executive director's intended action. The licensee or
2852 approved staff member may, if aggrieved by such intended action,
2853 make application for a hearing in writing over the licensee's or
2854 approved staff member's signature to the [commissioner] executive
2855 director. The licensee or approved staff member shall state in the
2856 application in plain language the reasons why the licensee or approved
2857 staff member claims to be aggrieved. The application shall be delivered
2858 to the [commissioner] executive director within thirty days of the
2859 licensee's or approved staff member's receipt of notification of the
2860 intended action. The [commissioner] executive director shall
2861 thereupon hold a hearing within sixty days from receipt of such
2862 application and shall, at least ten days prior to the date of such
2863 hearing, mail a notice, giving the time and place of the hearing, to the
2864 licensee or approved staff member. The provisions of this subsection
2865 shall not apply to the denial of an initial application for a license or
2866 approval under section 19a-87b, as amended by this act, provided the
2867 [commissioner] executive director shall notify the applicant of any
2868 such denial and the reasons for such denial by mailing written notice
2869 to the applicant at the applicant's address shown on the license or
2870 approval application.

2871 (c) Any person who is licensed to conduct, operate or maintain a
2872 family day care home or approved to act as an assistant or substitute
2873 staff member in a family day care home shall notify the

2874 [commissioner] executive director of any conviction of the owner,
2875 conductor, operator or maintainer of the family day care home or of
2876 any person residing in the household or any person employed in such
2877 family day care home in a position connected with the provision of
2878 care to a child receiving child day care services, of a crime which
2879 affects the [commissioner's] executive director's discretion under
2880 subsection (a) of this section, immediately upon obtaining knowledge
2881 of such conviction. Failure to comply with the notification requirement
2882 of this subsection may result in the suspension or revocation of the
2883 license or approval or the taking of any other action against a license or
2884 approval set forth in regulation adopted pursuant to section 19a-79, as
2885 amended by this act, and shall subject the licensee or approved staff
2886 member to a civil penalty of not more than one hundred dollars per
2887 day for each day after the person obtained knowledge of the
2888 conviction.

2889 (d) It shall be a class A misdemeanor for any person seeking
2890 employment in a position connected with the provision of care to a
2891 child receiving family day care home services to make a false written
2892 statement regarding prior criminal convictions pursuant to a form
2893 bearing notice to the effect that such false statements are punishable,
2894 which statement such person does not believe to be true and is
2895 intended to mislead the prospective employer.

2896 (e) Any person having reasonable cause to believe that a family day
2897 care home, as defined in section 19a-77, as amended by this act, is
2898 operating without a current and valid license or in violation of the
2899 regulations adopted under section 19a-87b, as amended by this act, or
2900 in a manner which may pose a potential danger to the health, welfare
2901 and safety of a child receiving child day care services, may report such
2902 information to [any office of the Department of Public Health] the
2903 Office of Early Childhood. The [department] office shall investigate
2904 any report or complaint received pursuant to this subsection. The
2905 name of the person making the report or complaint shall not be
2906 disclosed unless (1) such person consents to such disclosure, (2) a
2907 judicial or administrative proceeding results from such report or

2908 complaint, or (3) a license action pursuant to subsection (a) of this
2909 section results from such report or complaint. All records obtained by
2910 the [department] office in connection with any such investigation shall
2911 not be subject to the provisions of section 1-210 for a period of thirty
2912 days from the date of the petition or other event initiating such
2913 investigation, or until such time as the investigation is terminated
2914 pursuant to a withdrawal or other informal disposition or until a
2915 hearing is convened pursuant to chapter 54, whichever is earlier. A
2916 formal statement of charges issued by the [department] office shall be
2917 subject to the provisions of section 1-210 from the time that it is served
2918 or mailed to the respondent. Records which are otherwise public
2919 records shall not be deemed confidential merely because they have
2920 been obtained in connection with an investigation under this section.

2921 Sec. 62. Section 8-210 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2922 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

2923 (a) The state, acting by and in the discretion of the Commissioner of
2924 Social Services or the [Commissioner of Education] executive director
2925 of the Office of Early Childhood, as appropriate, may enter into a
2926 contract with a municipality or a qualified private, nonprofit
2927 corporation for state financial assistance for the planning, construction,
2928 renovation, site preparation and purchase of improved or unimproved
2929 property as part of a capital development project for neighborhood
2930 facilities. Such facilities may include, but are not limited to, child day
2931 care facilities, elderly centers, multipurpose human resource centers,
2932 emergency shelters for the homeless and shelters for victims of
2933 domestic violence. The financial assistance shall be in the form of state
2934 grants-in-aid equal to (1) all or any portion of the cost of such capital
2935 development project if the grantee is a qualified private nonprofit
2936 corporation, or (2) up to two-thirds of the cost of such capital
2937 development project if the grantee is a municipality, as determined by
2938 the Commissioner of Social Services or the [Commissioner of
2939 Education] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood, as
2940 appropriate.

2941 (b) The state, acting by and in the discretion of the [Commissioner of
2942 Education] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood, may
2943 enter into a contract with a municipality, a human resource
2944 development agency or a nonprofit corporation for state financial
2945 assistance in developing and operating child day care centers for
2946 children disadvantaged by reasons of economic, social or
2947 environmental conditions, provided no such financial assistance shall
2948 be available for the operating costs of any such day care center unless
2949 it has been licensed by the [Commissioner of Public Health] executive
2950 director of the Office of Early Childhood pursuant to section 19a-80, as
2951 amended by this act. Such financial assistance shall be available for a
2952 program of a municipality, of a human resource development agency
2953 or of a nonprofit corporation which may provide for personnel,
2954 equipment, supplies, activities, program materials and renovation and
2955 remodeling of physical facilities of such day care centers. Such contract
2956 shall provide for state financial assistance, within available
2957 appropriations, in the form of a state grant-in-aid (1) for a portion of
2958 the cost of such program as determined by the [Commissioner of
2959 Education] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood, if not
2960 federally assisted, or (2) equal to one-half of the amount by which the
2961 net cost of such program as approved by the [Commissioner of
2962 Education] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood exceeds
2963 the federal grant-in-aid thereof. The [Commissioner of Education]
2964 executive director of the Office of Early Childhood may authorize child
2965 day care centers provided financial assistance pursuant to this
2966 subsection to apply a program surplus to the next program year. The
2967 [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the Office of Early
2968 Childhood shall consult with directors of child day care centers in
2969 establishing fees for the operation of such centers.

2970 (c) The [Department of Education] Office of Early Childhood, in
2971 consultation with representatives from child care centers, within
2972 available appropriations, shall develop guidelines for state-contracted
2973 child care center programs. The guidelines shall include standards for
2974 program quality and design and identify short and long-term
2975 outcomes for families participating in such programs. The

2976 [Department of Education] Office of Early Childhood, within available
2977 appropriations, shall provide a copy of such guidelines to each state-
2978 contracted child care center. Each state-contracted child care center
2979 shall use the guidelines to develop a program improvement plan for
2980 the next twelve-month period and shall submit the plan to the
2981 [department] office. The plan shall include goals to be used for
2982 measuring such improvement. The [department] office shall use the
2983 plan to monitor the progress of the center.

2984 (d) The state, acting by and in the discretion of the [Commissioner
2985 of Education] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood may
2986 enter into a contract with a municipality, a human resource
2987 development agency or a nonprofit corporation for state financial
2988 assistance for a project of renovation of any child day care facility
2989 receiving assistance pursuant to the provisions of this section, to make
2990 such facility accessible to the physically disabled, in the form of a state
2991 grant-in-aid equal to (1) the total net cost of the project as approved by
2992 the [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the Office of
2993 Early Childhood, or (2) the total amount by which the net cost of the
2994 project as approved by the [Commissioner of Education] executive
2995 director of the Office of Early Childhood exceeds the federal grant-in-
2996 aid thereof.

2997 (e) Any municipality, human resource development agency or
2998 nonprofit corporation which enters into a contract pursuant to this
2999 section for state financial assistance for a day care facility shall have
3000 sole responsibility for the development of the budget of the day care
3001 program, including, but not limited to, personnel costs, purchases of
3002 equipment, supplies, activities and program materials, within the
3003 resources provided by the state under said contract. Upon local
3004 determination of a change in the type of day care service required in
3005 the area, a municipality, human resource development agency or
3006 nonprofit corporation may, within the limits of its annual budget and
3007 subject to the provisions of this subsection and sections 19a-77 to 19a-
3008 80, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 19a-82 to 19a-87a, inclusive,
3009 as amended by this act, change its day care service. An application to

3010 change the type of child day care service provided shall be submitted
3011 to the [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the Office of
3012 Early Childhood. Not later than forty-five days after the
3013 [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the Office of Early
3014 Childhood receives the application, the [Commissioner of Education]
3015 executive director of the Office of Early Childhood shall advise the
3016 municipality, human resource development agency or nonprofit
3017 corporation of the [Commissioner of Education's] executive director of
3018 the Office of Early Childhood's approval, denial or approval with
3019 modifications of the application. If the [Commissioner of Education]
3020 executive director of the Office of Early Childhood fails to act on the
3021 application not later than forty-five days after the application's
3022 submittal, the application shall be deemed approved.

3023 (f) The [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the Office
3024 of Early Childhood may, in his discretion, with the approval of the
3025 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management authorize the
3026 expenditure of such funds for the purposes of this section as shall
3027 enable the [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the
3028 Office of Early Childhood to apply for, qualify for and provide the
3029 state's share of a federally assisted day care program.

3030 Sec. 63. Subsection (a) of section 10a-194c of the general statutes is
3031 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3032 *1, 2014*):

3033 (a) The Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority
3034 shall establish a program to finance low interest loans for child care
3035 and child development centers, family resource centers and Head Start
3036 programs that shall be known as the Connecticut Child Care Facilities
3037 Program. Loans shall be made for the purpose of new construction or
3038 renovation of existing centers or complying with federal, state and
3039 local child care requirements, including health and safety standards.
3040 For purposes of this section, "child development center" means a
3041 building used by a nonprofit school readiness program, as defined in
3042 section 10-16p, as amended by this act, and "child care center" means a

3043 nonprofit facility that is licensed by the [Department of Public Health]
3044 Office of Early Childhood as a child day care center or a group day
3045 care home, both as defined in section 19a-77, as amended by this act.

3046 Sec. 64. Section 12-634 of the general statutes is repealed and the
3047 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

3048 The Commissioner of Revenue Services shall grant a credit against
3049 any tax due under the provisions of chapter 207, 208, 209, 210, 211 or
3050 212 in an amount not to exceed sixty per cent of the total cash amount
3051 invested during the taxable year by the business firm in programs
3052 operated or created pursuant to proposals approved pursuant to
3053 section 12-632 for planning, site preparation, construction, renovation
3054 or acquisition of facilities for purposes of establishing a child day care
3055 facility to be used primarily by the children of such business firm's
3056 employees and equipment installed for such facility, including kitchen
3057 appliances, to the extent that such equipment or appliances are
3058 necessary in the use of such facility for purposes of child day care,
3059 provided: (1) Such facility is operated under the authority of a license
3060 issued by the [Commissioner of Public Health] executive director of
3061 the Office of Early Childhood in accordance with sections 19a-77, as
3062 amended by this act, to 19a-87, inclusive, as amended by this act, (2)
3063 such facility is operated without profit by such business firm related to
3064 any charges imposed for the use of such facility for purposes of child
3065 day care, and (3) the amount of tax credit allowed any business firm
3066 under the provisions of this section for any income year may not
3067 exceed fifty thousand dollars. If two or more business firms share in
3068 the cost of establishing such a facility for the children of their
3069 employees, each such taxpayer shall be allowed such credit in relation
3070 to the respective share, paid or incurred by such taxpayer, of the total
3071 expenditures for the facility in such income year. The commissioner
3072 shall not grant a credit pursuant to this section to any taxpayer
3073 claiming a credit for the same year pursuant to section 12-217x.

3074 Sec. 65. Subsection (b) of section 17a-101 of the general statutes is
3075 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*

3076 1, 2014):

3077 (b) The following persons shall be mandated reporters: Any
3078 physician or surgeon licensed under the provisions of chapter 370, any
3079 resident physician or intern in any hospital in this state, whether or not
3080 so licensed, any registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, medical
3081 examiner, dentist, dental hygienist or psychologist, a school employee,
3082 as defined in section 53a-65, social worker, police officer, juvenile or
3083 adult probation officer, juvenile or adult parole officer, member of the
3084 clergy, pharmacist, physical therapist, optometrist, chiropractor,
3085 podiatrist, mental health professional or physician assistant, any
3086 person who is a licensed or certified emergency medical services
3087 provider, any person who is a licensed or certified alcohol and drug
3088 counselor, any person who is a licensed marital and family therapist,
3089 any person who is a sexual assault counselor or a battered women's
3090 counselor, as defined in section 52-146k, any person who is a licensed
3091 professional counselor, any person who is a licensed foster parent, any
3092 person paid to care for a child in any public or private facility, child
3093 day care center, group day care home or family day care home licensed
3094 by the state, any employee of the Department of Children and
3095 Families, any employee of the [Department of Public Health] Office of
3096 Early Childhood who is responsible for the licensing of child day care
3097 centers, group day care homes [,] or family day care homes, [or] any
3098 employee of the Department of Public Health who is responsible for
3099 the licensing of youth camps, the Child Advocate and any employee of
3100 the Office of the Child Advocate and any family relations counselor,
3101 family relations counselor trainee or family services supervisor
3102 employed by the Judicial Department.

3103 Sec. 66. Subsection (b) of section 17b-90 of the general statutes is
3104 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3105 *1, 2014*):

3106 (b) No person shall, except for purposes directly connected with the
3107 administration of programs of the Department of Social Services and in
3108 accordance with the regulations of the commissioner, solicit, disclose,

3109 receive or make use of, or authorize, knowingly permit, participate in
3110 or acquiesce in the use of, any list of the names of, or any information
3111 concerning, persons applying for or receiving assistance from the
3112 Department of Social Services or persons participating in a program
3113 administered by said department, directly or indirectly derived from
3114 the records, papers, files or communications of the state or its
3115 subdivisions or agencies, or acquired in the course of the performance
3116 of official duties. The Commissioner of Social Services shall disclose (1)
3117 to any authorized representative of the Labor Commissioner such
3118 information directly related to unemployment compensation,
3119 administered pursuant to chapter 567 or information necessary for
3120 implementation of sections 17b-688b, 17b-688c and 17b-688h and
3121 section 122 of public act 97-2 of the June 18 special session, (2) to any
3122 authorized representative of the Commissioner of Mental Health and
3123 Addiction Services any information necessary for the implementation
3124 and operation of the basic needs supplement program or the Medicaid
3125 program for low-income adults, established pursuant to section 17b-
3126 261n, (3) to any authorized representative of the Commissioner of
3127 Administrative Services or the Commissioner of Emergency Services
3128 and Public Protection such information as the Commissioner of Social
3129 Services determines is directly related to and necessary for the
3130 Department of Administrative Services or the Department of
3131 Emergency Services and Public Protection for purposes of performing
3132 their functions of collecting social services recoveries and
3133 overpayments or amounts due as support in social services cases,
3134 investigating social services fraud or locating absent parents of public
3135 assistance recipients, (4) to any authorized representative of the
3136 Commissioner of Children and Families necessary information
3137 concerning a child or the immediate family of a child receiving services
3138 from the Department of Social Services, including safety net services, if
3139 the Commissioner of Children and Families or the Commissioner of
3140 Social Services has determined that imminent danger to such child's
3141 health, safety or welfare exists to target the services of the family
3142 services programs administered by the Department of Children and
3143 Families, (5) to a town official or other contractor or authorized

3144 representative of the Labor Commissioner such information
3145 concerning an applicant for or a recipient of assistance under state-
3146 administered general assistance deemed necessary by the
3147 Commissioner of Social Services and the Labor Commissioner to carry
3148 out their respective responsibilities to serve such persons under the
3149 programs administered by the Labor Department that are designed to
3150 serve applicants for or recipients of state-administered general
3151 assistance, (6) to any authorized representative of the Commissioner of
3152 Mental Health and Addiction Services for the purposes of the
3153 behavioral health managed care program established by section 17a-
3154 453, (7) to any authorized representative of the [Commissioner of
3155 Public Health] executive director of the Office of Early Childhood to
3156 carry out his or her respective responsibilities under programs that
3157 regulate child day care services or to any authorized representative of
3158 the Commissioner of Public Health to carry out his or her respective
3159 responsibilities under programs that regulate youth camps, (8) to a
3160 health insurance provider, in IV-D support cases, as defined in
3161 subdivision (13) of subsection (b) of section 46b-231, information
3162 concerning a child and the custodial parent of such child that is
3163 necessary to enroll such child in a health insurance plan available
3164 through such provider when the noncustodial parent of such child is
3165 under court order to provide health insurance coverage but is unable
3166 to provide such information, provided the Commissioner of Social
3167 Services determines, after providing prior notice of the disclosure to
3168 such custodial parent and an opportunity for such parent to object,
3169 that such disclosure is in the best interests of the child, (9) to any
3170 authorized representative of the Department of Correction, in IV-D
3171 support cases, as defined in subdivision (13) of subsection (b) of
3172 section 46b-231, information concerning noncustodial parents that is
3173 necessary to identify inmates or parolees with IV-D support cases who
3174 may benefit from Department of Correction educational, training, skill
3175 building, work or rehabilitation programming that will significantly
3176 increase an inmate's or parolee's ability to fulfill such inmate's support
3177 obligation, (10) to any authorized representative of the Judicial Branch,
3178 in IV-D support cases, as defined in subdivision (13) of subsection (b)

3179 of section 46b-231, information concerning noncustodial parents that is
3180 necessary to: (A) Identify noncustodial parents with IV-D support
3181 cases who may benefit from educational, training, skill building, work
3182 or rehabilitation programming that will significantly increase such
3183 parent's ability to fulfill such parent's support obligation, (B) assist in
3184 the administration of the Title IV-D child support program, or (C)
3185 assist in the identification of cases involving family violence, or (11) to
3186 any authorized representative of the State Treasurer, in IV-D support
3187 cases, as defined in subdivision (13) of subsection (b) of section 46b-
3188 231, information that is necessary to identify child support obligors
3189 who owe overdue child support prior to the Treasurer's payment of
3190 such obligors' claim for any property unclaimed or presumed
3191 abandoned under part III of chapter 32. No such representative shall
3192 disclose any information obtained pursuant to this section, except as
3193 specified in this section. Any applicant for assistance provided through
3194 said department shall be notified that, if and when such applicant
3195 receives benefits, the department will be providing law enforcement
3196 officials with the address of such applicant upon the request of any
3197 such official pursuant to section 17b-16a.

3198 Sec. 67. Subsection (a) of section 10-16mm of the general statutes is
3199 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3200 *1, 2013*):

3201 (a) There is established a task force to address the academic
3202 achievement gaps in Connecticut by considering effective approaches
3203 to closing the achievement gaps in elementary, middle and high
3204 schools. The task force shall develop, in consultation with the
3205 Department of Education, the Connecticut State University System, the
3206 Interagency Council for Ending the Achievement Gap established
3207 pursuant to section 10-16nn, and the joint standing committee of the
3208 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education,
3209 a master plan to eliminate the academic achievement gaps by January
3210 1, 2020. Such master plan shall: (1) Identify the achievement gaps that
3211 exist among and between (A) racial groups, (B) ethnic groups, (C)
3212 socioeconomic groups, (D) genders, and (E) English language learners

3213 and students whose primary language is English; (2) focus efforts on
3214 closing the achievement gaps identified in subdivision (1) of this
3215 subsection; (3) establish annual benchmarks for implementation of the
3216 master plan and closing the achievement gaps; and (4) make
3217 recommendations regarding the creation of a Secretary of Education.];
3218 and (5) develop a plan for (A) changing the requirement for when a
3219 child five years of age may enroll in kindergarten pursuant to section
3220 10-15c from January first of the school year to October first of the
3221 school year, and (B) the creation of spaces in school readiness
3222 programs for those children who reach the age of five after October
3223 first of any school year and are no longer eligible to enroll in
3224 kindergarten for such school year.] The task force may amend such
3225 master plan at any time. For purposes of this section, "achievement
3226 gaps" means the existence of a significant disparity in the academic
3227 performance of students among and between (A) racial groups, (B)
3228 ethnic groups, (C) socioeconomic groups, (D) genders, and (E) English
3229 language learners and students whose primary language is English.

3230 Sec. 68. Section 10-4o of the general statutes is repealed and the
3231 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

3232 (a) The [Department of Education, in conjunction with the
3233 Department of Social Services] Office of Early Childhood, in
3234 consultation with the Department of Education, shall coordinate a
3235 family resource center program to provide comprehensive child care
3236 services, remedial educational and literacy services, families-in-
3237 training programs and supportive services to parents who are
3238 recipients of temporary family assistance and other parents in need of
3239 such services. The family resource centers shall be located in or
3240 associated with public schools, and any family resource center
3241 established on or after July 1, 2000, shall be located in a public
3242 elementary school unless the executive director of the Office of Early
3243 Childhood, in consultation with the Commissioner of Education,
3244 waives such requirement. The [commissioner] executive director shall
3245 determine the manner in which the grant recipients of such program,
3246 such as municipalities, boards of education and child care providers

3247 shall be selected. The family resource center shall provide: (1) Quality
3248 full-day child care and school readiness programs for children age
3249 three and older who are not enrolled in school and child care for
3250 children enrolled in school up to the age of twelve for before and after
3251 regular school hours and on a full-day basis during school holidays
3252 and school vacation, in compliance with all state statutes and
3253 regulations governing child day care and, in the case of the school
3254 readiness programs, in compliance with the standards set for such
3255 programs pursuant to section 10-16p, as amended by this act; (2)
3256 support services to parents of newborn infants to ascertain their needs
3257 and provide them with referrals to other services and organizations
3258 and, if necessary, education in parenting skills; (3) support and
3259 educational services to parents whose children are participants of the
3260 child care services of the program and who are interested in obtaining
3261 a high school diploma or its equivalent. Parents and their preschool
3262 age children may attend classes in parenting and child learning skills
3263 together so as to promote the mutual pursuit of education and enhance
3264 parent-child interaction; (4) training, technical assistance and other
3265 support by the staff of the center to family day care providers in the
3266 community and serve as an information and referral system for other
3267 child care needs in the community or coordinate with such systems as
3268 may already exist in the community; (5) a families-in-training program
3269 to provide, within available appropriations, community support
3270 services to expectant parents and parents of children under the age of
3271 three. Such services shall include, but not be limited to, providing
3272 information and advice to parents on their children's language,
3273 cognitive, social and motor development, visiting a participant's home
3274 on a regular basis, organizing group meetings at the center for
3275 neighborhood parents of young children and providing a reference
3276 center for parents who need special assistance or services. The
3277 program shall provide for the recruitment of parents to participate in
3278 such program; and (6) a sliding scale of payment, as developed by the
3279 office, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for child
3280 care services at the center. The center shall also provide a teen
3281 pregnancy prevention program for adolescents emphasizing

3282 responsible decision-making and communication skills.

3283 (b) The [Department of Education] Office of Early Childhood, in
3284 consultation with representatives from family resource centers, within
3285 available appropriations, shall develop guidelines for family resource
3286 center programs. The guidelines shall include standards for program
3287 quality and design and identify short and long-term outcomes for
3288 families participating in such programs. The [Department of
3289 Education] office, within available appropriations, shall provide a copy
3290 of such guidelines to each family resource center. Each family resource
3291 center shall use the guidelines to develop a program improvement
3292 plan for the next twelve-month period and shall submit the plan to the
3293 [department] office. The plan shall include goals to be used for
3294 measuring such improvement. The [department] office shall use the
3295 plan to monitor the progress of the center. Family resource centers in
3296 existence on July 1, 1997, shall be given a preference for grants for
3297 school readiness awarded by the [Department of Education or the
3298 Department of Social Services] office and for financing pursuant to
3299 sections 10a-194c, 17b-749g and 17b-749h, as amended by this act.

3300 (c) The Office of Early Childhood, in consultation with the
3301 Department of Education, within available appropriations, shall
3302 provide for a longitudinal study of family resource centers every three
3303 years.

3304 (d) The [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the
3305 Office of Early Childhood may provide grants to municipalities,
3306 boards of education and child care providers to carry out the purposes
3307 of subsection (a) of this section. Each family resource center shall have
3308 a program administrator who has at least two years of experience in
3309 child care, public administration or early childhood education and a
3310 master's degree in child development, early childhood education or a
3311 related field.

3312 (e) The [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the Office
3313 of Early Childhood may accept and receive on behalf of the
3314 [department] Office of Early Childhood or any family resource center,

3315 subject to section 4b-22, any bequest, devise or grant made to the
3316 [department] office or any family resource center for the purpose of
3317 establishing a new family resource center or expanding an existing
3318 center, and may hold and use such property for the purpose specified
3319 in such bequest, devise or gift.

3320 Sec. 69. (*Effective July 1, 2013*) The Office of Early Childhood shall
3321 conduct a regression discontinuity study of all state-funded early
3322 childhood programs in the state. Such study shall examine each child
3323 enrolled in such state-funded early childhood programs for the school
3324 year commencing July 1, 2013, and determine such child's readiness to
3325 enter kindergarten. Not later than January 1, 2015, the office shall
3326 submit a report on the findings of such regression discontinuity study
3327 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
3328 cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with the
3329 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

3330 Sec. 70. Section 10-16dd of the general statutes is repealed and the
3331 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

3332 The [Department of Education] Office of Early Childhood, in
3333 collaboration with the Department of Education and the Governor's
3334 Early Care and Education Cabinet, shall develop a system for the
3335 sharing of information between preschool and school readiness
3336 programs and kindergarten regarding children's oral language and
3337 preliteracy proficiency.

3338 Sec. 71. Subsection (a) of section 2c-2h of the general statutes is
3339 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3340 *1, 2013*):

3341 (a) Not later than July 1, 2014, and not later than every ten years
3342 thereafter, the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
3343 having cognizance of any of the following governmental entities or
3344 programs shall conduct a review of the applicable entity or program in
3345 accordance with the provisions of section 2c-3:

- 3346 (1) Connecticut Examining Board for Barbers and Hairdressers and
3347 Cosmeticians, established under section 20-235a;
- 3348 (2) Board of Chiropractic Examiners, established under section 20-
3349 25;
- 3350 (3) Board of Examiners of Electrologists, established under section
3351 20-268;
- 3352 (4) Liquor Control Commission, established under section 30-2;
- 3353 [(5) The Child Day Care Council, established under section 17b-748;]
- 3354 [(6)] (5) State Insurance and Risk Management Board, established
3355 under section 4a-19;
- 3356 [(7)] (6) State Milk Regulation Board, established under section 22-
3357 131; and
- 3358 [(8)] (7) State Codes and Standards Committee, established under
3359 section 29-251.
- 3360 Sec. 72. Section 17b-748 of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*
3361 *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	July 1, 2013	10-16z
Sec. 14	July 1, 2013	10-16aa
Sec. 15	July 1, 2013	New section
Sec. 16	July 1, 2013	17b-2
Sec. 17	July 1, 2013	17b-705a(c) to (e)
Sec. 18	July 1, 2014	17b-12
Sec. 19	July 1, 2013	17b-730
Sec. 20	July 1, 2013	17b-733
Sec. 21	July 1, 2014	17b-734
Sec. 22	July 1, 2014	17b-735(a)
Sec. 23	July 1, 2014	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	July 1, 2014	12-634
Sec. 65	July 1, 2014	17a-101(b)
Sec. 66	July 1, 2014	17b-90(b)
Sec. 67	July 1, 2013	10-16mm(a)
Sec. 68	July 1, 2013	10-4o
Sec. 69	July 1, 2013	New section
Sec. 70	July 1, 2013	10-16dd
Sec. 71	July 1, 2013	2c-2h(a)
Sec. 72	July 1, 2013	Repealer section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In section 1(b)(4) added internal reference for accuracy and clarity; in section 1(c) added reference to schools under the jurisdiction of a board of education for accuracy and consistency; in section 1(d) removed internal reference to section 17b-373 for accuracy; in section 6, section 10-16n(b), updated obsolete references to "aid to dependent children program" with "temporary family assistance program" for accuracy; in section 7, section 10-16p(c)(3), relocated the phrase "on or before June 30, 2014, and on and after July 1, 2014, from the Office of Early Childhood" for accuracy; in section 7, section 10-16p(h), bracketed references to "commissioner" and added "executive director" for accuracy and consistency; in section 8, section 10-16q(d), corrected an internal reference for accuracy; in section 13, section 10-16z(b), replaced "office" with "the cabinet" for accuracy; and section 71 was added and the remaining section was renumbered for accuracy and consistency.

ED Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

FIN

FIN Joint Favorable Subst.-LCO

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

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: See Below

Municipal Impact: See Below

Explanation

The bill establishes an Office of Early Childhood (OEC) and transfers various functions into the new office.

sHB 6350, the FY 14 and FY 15 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, includes various transfers and new funding in OEC. Not all of the programs transferred into OEC are in statute and require language changes outside of the budget; therefore, not all are included in this bill. The timing of the transfers for some of the functions is not consistent in both this bill and the budget bill, sHB 6350 (as noted in the corresponding sections below). Also, the transfers included in Sections 49 - 61 and 68 of this bill are not reflected in the budget bill. The table below is provided for illustrative purposes to reflect the complete budgetary transfers from various agencies and the new funding included in OEC as reflected in sHB 6350, the FY 14 and FY 15 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee.

**Transfers and Funding for OEC as reflected in
sHB 6350, the FY 14 and FY 15 budget bill,
as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee**

Agency	FY 14 \$	FY 15 \$
Department of Social Services	13,994,802	116,179,435
Department of Education	112,133,018	111,714,660
Board of Regents	473,657	486,499

Agency	FY 14 \$	FY 15 \$
Department of Developmental Services	37,962,202	37,991,718
Office of Early Childhood - New Funding ¹	1,245,188	4,145,605
Total General Fund	165,808,867	270,517,917
Federal Funds ²	27,375,877	34,261,381
TOTAL FUNDS	193,184,744	304,779,298

¹Includes \$245,441 in FY 14 and \$2.9 million in FY 15 for GAAP Adjustments.

²Includes \$9.7 million in each year of the federal Home Visitation program administered by DPH.

The following bulleted list summarizes the programs transferred into OEC included in sHB 6350, the FY 14 & FY 15 budget bill as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee (transfers starting in FY 14 unless otherwise noted):

- **Department of Social Services** - Care4Kids (transferred in FY 15), Charts a Course, funding for 211 Infoline, Children's Trust Fund for Nurturing Families and Help Me Grow.
- **Department of Education** - School Readiness, and other early childhood programs.
- **Board of Regents** - CT Charts a Course.
- **Department of Developmental Services** - Birth-to-Three.
- **Department of Public Health** - administration of the federal Home Visitation program.

Below are a section-by-section explanation of the various transfers and the creation of OEC included in the bill.

Sections 1 - 3 and 70 create the new Office of Early Childhood (OEC) and outline its responsibilities.

Sections 4 and 10 are technical in nature and have no fiscal impact.

Sections 5 and 7 - 9, 11, 12, 14 transfer responsibilities associated with the School Readiness account from the State Department of

Education (SDE) to OEC. Funding of \$74.8 million is transferred in FY 14 and \$74.3 million in FY 15. Additionally, funding and responsibility for the competitive school readiness slots are transferred from SDE to OEC and corresponding funding totaling \$6.8 million in both FY 14 and FY 15. These transfers are included in sHB 6350, the FY 14 and FY 15 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee. Additionally, **Section 7** eliminates an early childhood entitlement for the former priority school district towns of Bloomfield, Bristol, Middletown and West Haven, totaling approximately \$6.2 million. These towns would have to qualify for funding under the competitive portion of the priority school district grant, which limits grants to \$107,000 per school. Therefore, this would redistribute the \$6.2 million among the current priority school district towns.

Section 6 transfers responsibilities associated with Head Start from SDE to OEC. Funding of \$4.3 million is transferred in both FY 14 and FY 15 in sHB 6350, the FY 14 and FY 15 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee.

Section 13 transfers responsibilities associated with the Early Childhood Cabinet from SDE to OEC.

Sections 15 - 17, 19 - 20, 27, 30 - 32, and 36 - 38 transfer responsibilities associated with the child care subsidy program, commonly referred to as Care4Kids, from the Department of Social Services (DSS) to OEC beginning in FY 14. Funding of \$101.6 million and 2 positions are transferred in FY 15 from DSS to OEC under sHB 6350, the FY 14 and FY 15 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee to reflect this change.

Section 18 makes conforming changes and has no fiscal impact. It allows OEC instead of DSS to accept bequests or gifts on behalf of the agency or the Children's Trust Fund.

Sections 21 - 26 transfer responsibilities associated with bond-funded grants to municipalities and state agencies for child care facilities from DSS to OEC. This is not anticipated to result in a fiscal

impact as the General Obligation (GO) bond authorization for such activities has been spent.

Sections 28, 33 - 35 transfer the responsibilities associated with the child day care services program from SDE to OEC. Funding of \$18.4 million is transferred in sHB 6350, the FY 14 and FY 15 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee.

Section 29 transfers the responsibilities associated with the school readiness quality enhancement program from SDE to OEC. Funding of \$3.9 million is transferred in both FY 14 and FY 15 in sHB 6350, the FY 14 and FY 15 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee.

Sections 39 - 42 transfer responsibilities associated with the Children's Trust Fund from DSS to OEC beginning in FY 15. Funding of \$10.7 million in FY 14 and \$11.3 million in FY 15 is transferred from DSS to OEC to support the Nurturing Families Network and Help Me Grow programs and related positions under sHB 6350, the FY 14 and FY 15 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee.

Sections 43 - 47 change the lead agency of the Birth-to-Three system from the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to OEC in FY 15. A transfer of \$38 million and 7 positions in FY 14 and FY 15 is included in sHB 6350, the FY 14 and FY 15 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee associated with transferring the Birth-to-Three program from DDS to OEC.

Section 48 transfers the administration of the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program authorized under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, P.L. 111-148, from the Department of Public Health (DPH) to OEC in FY 15. Federal funding of \$9.7 million is transferred in both FY 14 and FY 15 from DPH to OEC under sHB 6350, the FY 14 and FY 15 budget bill as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee.

Sections 49 - 61 transfer responsibilities under various statutes associated with the licensure and regulation of child day care centers, group day care homes, and family day care homes from DPH to OEC in FY 15. These responsibilities include license application processing, the provision of technical assistance, facility monitoring, complaint investigation and enforcement activities. Funding of \$2.3 million and 40 positions are not transferred from DPH to OEC in FY 15 under sHB 6350, the FY 14 and FY 15 budget bill as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee.

Sections 62 - 67 make conforming changes to reflect the transfers and do not result in a fiscal impact.

Section 68 transfers the responsibility of family resource centers from SDE to OEC. The family resource centers are funded in SDE at \$7.6 million in both FY 14 and FY 15. sHB 6350, the FY 14 and FY 15 budget bill as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee does not provide for this transfer into OEC.

Section 69 requires OEC to conduct a regression discontinuity study of all early childhood programs in the state. Funding of \$400,000 is provided in the Office of Legislative Management's budget in FY 14 under sHB 6350, the FY 14 and FY 15 budget bill as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, for the Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering Studies (CASE) to perform an early childhood discontinuity study.

Sections 71 - 72 eliminate the Child Day Care Council, which has no fiscal impact.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 6359*****AN ACT CONCERNING AN EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEM.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill establishes the Office of Early Childhood (OEC), headed by an executive director who serves at the pleasure of the governor. The office assumes the responsibility of administering early childhood programs that are currently run by the State Department of Education (SDE), the Department of Social Services (DSS), the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), and the Department of Public Health (DPH). For some programs, OEC or its executive director assumes a lead agency role, entirely replacing the existing administering agency; for others, the existing agency maintains a consultative role. For example, for school readiness programming OEC assumes a lead agency role, with SDE and DSS acting as consultants for various aspects.

The substance and content of these programs generally remain the same after transfer to OEC. The transfer process occurs in two phases. In the first phase, OEC is responsible for the following major programs as of July 1, 2013:

1. school readiness, which is currently run by SDE;
2. the family resource center program, currently administered by SDE;
3. child day care services management, evaluation, and professional development, presently the responsibility of DSS;
4. the Children's Trust Fund, currently a division of DSS; and
5. Connecticut Charts-a-Course, currently run by DSS.

In the second phase, OEC is responsible for the following major programs as of July 1, 2014:

1. state- and federally-funded child day care subsidies, currently administered by DSS;
2. child day care licensing and investigation of abuse claims, which DPH currently performs; and
3. the Birth-to-Three System, which DDS currently oversees.

The bill also reassigns various funds, grants, and loans to OEC oversight. Additionally, it changes the organization and membership of certain cabinets and councils, and it eliminates the Child Day Care Council.

The bill makes many minor, conforming, and technical changes; it also deletes several obsolete deadlines.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Various; see below.

§§ 1-2 — OFFICE ORGANIZATION, LEADERSHIP, AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The bill creates OEC, to be housed in SDE for administrative purposes only. An executive director, appointed by the governor as a department head, implements the policies and directives of the office. OEC responsibilities include:

1. delivering services to children;
2. administering the coordinated system of early care and education and child development;
3. developing and implementing an early childhood information system;
4. developing and reporting on an early childhood accountability plan;

5. implementing a communications strategy for outreach to families, service providers, and policymakers;
6. by January 1, 2015, beginning a statewide longitudinal evaluation of the school readiness program to examine children's educational progress from preschool through grade four;
7. developing, coordinating, and supporting public and private partnerships to aid early childhood initiatives; and
8. developing a plan for changing the kindergarten entrance age requirement from January 1 to October 1 of the school year, and creating spaces in school readiness programs for children who are displaced by the change.

The bill designates OEC as a successor department to SDE, DSS, DDS, and DPH for administration of certain programs, funds, and cabinets detailed in subsequent sections.

The bill also requires local and regional school boards, school readiness programs receiving public funding, and licensed child day care centers to enter all children and staff into the early childhood information system.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

§§ 3-4 — COORDINATED SYSTEM AND PLANNING DIRECTOR

The bill requires OEC to administer the coordinated system of early care and education and child development in accordance with the planning director's plan. Appointed by the governor in 2011, the planning director has created a plan that consolidates programs and services from several agencies to create this coordinated system. By law, the coordinated system consists of comprehensive and aligned policies, responsibilities, practices, and services for young children and their families, including prenatal care and care for children from birth to age eight to ensure optimal health, safety, and learning for each

child.

The bill shifts to OEC the responsibility to perform 25 tasks that the system must accomplish by law (see BACKGROUND). One such task requires OEC to design and incorporate the quality rating and improvement system for home-based, center-based, and school-based early child care and learning. Current law requires SDE to design this rating and improvement system.

Additionally, the bill requires OEC, instead of the “system,” to work with local and regional early childhood education councils to implement the coordinated system at the local level, and it permits OEC to enter into memoranda of agreement with and accept donations from nonprofit or philanthropic entities while administering the system.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

SDE PROGRAMS TRANSFERRED TO OEC

§§ 7-12 — *School Readiness*

Currently, school readiness develops a network of programs that increase the number of full-day, full-year spaces in accredited programs for children ages three to five who are ineligible to enroll in public school. The programs use preschool curriculum standards established by the State Board of Education. Under the bill, most of the substance and content of this program remains the same upon transfer to OEC, except as noted below.

The bill eliminates the requirement that the education commissioner, in consultation with the Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR) president, provide professional development for the staff of school readiness programs. This requirement is not reassigned to the OEC executive director.

It also eliminates the requirement that school readiness programs use the assessment measures developed under the interagency agreement on school readiness in conducting annual program

evaluations.

The bill continues the \$8,346 per child cost ceiling for school readiness programs.

By law, SDE and DSS must reach an agreement defining each agency's duties concerning school readiness programs. Under the bill, the OEC executive director, and the commissioners of the Department of Children and Families (DCF), DDS, and DPH must join these two agencies and instead develop an agreement on how each will implement the coordinated system of early care and education and child development.

The bill also eliminates the requirement that the agency commissioners (1) annually submit the interagency agreement to the Education Committee and the Early Childhood Education Cabinet and (2) develop school readiness program evaluation assessment measures.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

§ 28 — Subsidies for Purchase of Day Care Services

SDE currently administers a program that purchases or permits parents to purchase day care services using state subsidies. This program also provides grants to school readiness program providers to increase the number of hours of child day care services. The bill appoints the OEC executive director, rather than the SDE commissioner, to oversee the program.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

§ 68 — Family Resource Centers

Currently, this program provides many services to children and their families through centers located in or associated with public schools. Services include child care, remedial education and literacy, families-in-training programs, and supportive services to parents receiving Temporary Family Assistance. Under the bill, the substance of this program remains unchanged.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

DSS PROGRAMS TRANSFERRED TO OEC

§§ 20-26, 30-38 — *Child Day Care Services Lead Agency Duties*

By law, lead agency duties for child day care include: (1) taking inventory of available services and funding sources, (2) training day care providers, (3) establishing a performance-based evaluation system, and (4) developing a coordinated professional development system. Additionally, the lead agency oversees loan programs and grants for child care facilities. Under the bill, the substance of these duties remains unchanged.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013, except for the sections authorizing OEC to oversee funding of facilities, which take effect July 1, 2014.

§§ 15-17, 19, 27, 29 — *Federal and State Child Day Care Subsidizes – Care 4 Kids*

Under current law, Care 4 Kids helps low- to moderate-income families pay for child care costs. This program is partially funded by the federal Child Care Development Fund. Under the bill, the substance of this program remains unchanged.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

§§ 18, 39-41 — *Children’s Trust Fund*

By law, programs subsidized by the Children’s Trust Fund are (1) aimed at preventing child abuse and neglect or (2) are family resource programs. These programs are funded by grants administered by the Children’s Trust Fund Council. The bill permits the OEC executive director, rather than the DSS commissioner, to accept and receive bequests or gifts of personal property on behalf of the Children’s Trust Fund that are given for services to help people who are receiving or have immediately family members receiving services (1) from OEC, (2) formerly from DSS, or (3) potentially from OEC.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

§ 40 — Kinship Fund; Grandparents and Relatives Respite Fund

These family resource programs are subsidized by the Children's Trust Fund. They provide grants to children's court-appointed guardians, who may be grandparents or relative caretakers, for housing, transportation, and child care expenses. Currently, DSS, in conjunction with the Children's Trust Fund Council, administers grants to fund these programs. Under the bill, OEC takes over DSS's role.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

§ 20 — Connecticut Charts-a-Course

The bill eliminates the requirement that DPH assist with the development and implementation of a statewide coordinated training system for child day care and early childhood education, commonly known as Connecticut Charts-a-Course. The bill also directs OEC to develop Connecticut Charts-a-Course with the Early Childhood Education Cabinet, instead of the Child Day Care Council.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

DDS PROGRAM TRANSFERRED TO OEC**§§ 43-47 — Birth-to-Three System**

The Birth-to-Three System offers early intervention services to meet the developmental and health-related needs of infants and toddlers who have delays or disabilities. It offers three programs: general programs, autism-specific programs, and hearing specialty programs. Under the bill, the substance of this system remains unchanged.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

DPH PROGRAMS TRANSFERRED TO OEC**§§ 48-61 — Licensing and Investigation of Child Day Care Services**

Under current law, DPH performs day care licensing and investigation duties, including:

1. approving applications and revoking licenses of providers at child day care centers, group day care homes, and family day care homes;
2. conducting criminal history and child abuse registry records checks of providers and their employees;
3. investigating reports of child abuse or neglect involving facilities; and
4. periodically inspecting and seeking injunctions against facilities that violate regulations.

Under the bill, the substance of these duties remains unchanged.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

§§ 5-7, 11, 14-16, 21, 24, 28-29, 33-35 — TRANSFER OF GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAMS

The bill consolidates grant and loan programs administered by two different agencies into the proposed OEC. The majority of the substance and content of these programs remain the same under the bill, unless noted below.

Grants and Loan Programs Transferred to OEC

Table 1 describes the substance of the grant and loan programs.

Table 1: Grants and Loan Programs for Transfer

Grants / Loan Programs	Description
<i>State Department of Education</i>	
Priority school district grants for school readiness seats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State-funded grant program that provides spaces in school readiness programs for eligible children in priority school districts and competitive grant municipalities
Competitive school district grant for preschool school readiness seats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant program allows competitive school districts to buy school readiness spaces in other districts
Transitional school district grants for school readiness seats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State-funded grant program providing spaces in school readiness programs for eligible children in transitional school districts
Head Start Grant Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal child development grant program benefitting nonprofit entities and boards of

	<p>education in towns with children age birth to five receiving cash welfare benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDE establishes competitive grant program for applicants and allocates funds
Competitive District Grant Account	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains funds to be spent by education commissioner on competitive school district grants for school readiness seats
Subsidy program to purchase day care services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program permits agency to buy, or have parents buy, day care services from schools, centers, homes, family resource centers, Head Start programs, or boards of education. • Also gives grants to school readiness program providers to increase their hours to provide day care services.
Supplemental quality enhancement grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awarded on a competitive basis to child day care and school readiness providers
Child care facilities loan guarantee program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guarantees loans for the expansion or development of child care and child development centers in the state. • Administering agency can enter into contracts with quasi-public agencies, banks, or nonprofits to administer the program. Agency must authorize all loan guarantees.
Child care facilities direct revolving loan program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used to provide loans for costs incurred with the development of child care facilities. • Administering agency can enter into contracts with quasi-public agencies, banks, or nonprofits to administer the program. Agency must authorize all loan guarantees.
Debt service reserve fund for CHEFA-financed child care facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administering agency can allow actual debt service on loans, as well as determine the terms and amounts of the debt service.
Department of Social Services	
Grants for state and municipal employee child day care facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses proceeds of up to \$6,024,798 previously authorized state bonds to cover administrative costs of grants for planning, constructing, or renovating facilities for employee child care
Grants for use of schools as day care facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program for municipalities, boards of education, and child care providers to encourage use of school facilities for before- and after-school day care
Loans for business firm employee child day care facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program offers five-year loans at an interest rate established by the State Bond Commission for business firms to plan, construct, or renovate facilities for employee child care and child care for children in the firm's municipality • Administering agency's commissioner makes regulations that set the terms and conditions of the loans

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013, except for grants to child care

facilities for state and municipal employees, subsidies to purchase day care services, and child care facilities loan and debt services programs, which take effect July 1, 2014.

SUBSTANTIVE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM CHANGES

§§ 6-7, 14 — *Competitive Grant Program*

The bill adds a new use for competitive grant program funds. Currently, the law permits funds to be used to provide spaces in accredited school readiness programs. Under the bill, these funds also can be used to provide “wraparound” services to children and their families (e.g., family engagement; parent leadership; physical, dental, and mental health programs; early childhood development). It makes a conforming change in the law establishing the grant funding source.

The bill also eliminates the authority of towns that received priority school district school readiness grants in FY 10 to continue to receive the grant in perpetuity if they no longer meet grant eligibility criteria in FY 11 and beyond.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

§ 24 — *Grants for Use of Schools as Day Care Facilities*

The bill requires the SDE commissioner, instead of the DSS commissioner, to run the program that provides grants to municipalities, local school boards, and child care providers to encourage the use of school facilities for before- and after-school child day care.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

CABINETS AND COUNCILS

§ 9 — *Local School Readiness Councils*

The bill requires local school readiness councils to cooperate with OEC during evaluation of school readiness program effectiveness and report evaluation results to OEC, rather than SDE. These councils advise their district’s chief elected official and superintendent on issues relating to school readiness.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

§ 13 — *Early Childhood Education Cabinet*

The bill assigns to the Early Childhood Education Cabinet the new duty of assisting OEC in administering the coordinated system of early care and education and child development. This responsibility replaces the cabinet's existing duty to coordinate services among state agencies to enhance the health, safety, and learning of children from birth to age nine.

The bill also reconstitutes the cabinet, as shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Early Childhood Cabinet Membership

<i>New Members</i>	<i>Appointing Authority</i>
OEC executive director, or designee	n/a
BOR president, or designee	n/a
Member of school board in Alliance District town	House speaker
Parent of a child attending school in education reform district	House speaker
Preschool program instructor	Senate president pro tempore
<i>Removed Members</i>	
SDE representative responsible for programs required under the federal IDEA	SDE commissioner
Higher education institution representative	BOR president
House member	House speaker
Senate member	Senate president pro tempore
Parent of child attending priority school district	House speaker
<i>Remaining Members</i>	
SDE commissioner, or designee	n/a
DSS commissioner, or designee	n/a
DPH commissioner, or designee	n/a
DDS commissioner, or designee	n/a
DCF commissioner, or designee	n/a
Commission on children executive director, or designee	n/a
Project director of Connecticut Head Start State Collaboration Office	n/a
Parent of child who attends or attended school readiness program	House minority leader
Local provider of early childhood education	Senate minority leader
Representative of Connecticut Family Resource Center Alliance	House majority leader
Representative of a state-funded child day care center	Senate majority leader
Representative of public elementary school with a pre-kindergarten program	Senate president pro tempore

Representative of Connecticut Head Start Association	Governor
Representative of the state business or philanthropic community	Governor
OPM secretary, or designee	n/a

The bill replaces the governor's authority to appoint one cabinet chair from the members. Instead, the OEC executive director and a gubernatorial appointee from among the members serve as co-chairs.

Under the bill, the cabinet must meet at least quarterly. All cabinet members serve without pay and are deemed to have resigned if they miss at least half the meetings in a calendar year.

The bill moves the cabinet from SDE to OEC for administrative purposes only.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

§ 42 — Children's Trust Fund Council

The bill adds the OEC executive director to the Children's Trust Fund Council, bringing its total membership to 17. By law, the council must advise the Children's Trust Fund and use its resources to fund programming. Orders and regulations issued by the council since September 1, 2009 are considered to be that of OEC under the bill.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

OTHER CHANGES

§ 17 — Collective Bargaining

The bill requires OEC, rather than DSS, to be an executive branch employer that bargains with unions representing family child care providers.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

§§ 15, 19 — Federal Child Care and Development Fund and Utilization of Federal Programs

The bill replaces DSS with OEC as the state agency for administering the federal block grant that provides much of the

funding for the state's child care programs. It also permits the OEC executive director, rather than the DSS commissioner, to take advantage of federally assisted day care programming and programming created under the federal Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, which includes Head Start.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

§§ 65, 66 — Mandated Reporters of Child Abuse and Neglect and Disclosure of DSS Records

As a conforming change, the bill adds to the list of mandated reporters of child abuse and neglect any OEC employee responsible for licensing day care centers, group day care homes, or family day care homes. It continues to require DPH employees responsible for licensing youth camps to report, since youth camp licensure remains within DPH.

The bill makes a parallel change concerning disclosure of DSS records.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

§§ 68, 69 — Family Resource Center and Regression Discontinuity Studies

The bill requires OEC, in consultation with the SDE commissioner, to conduct longitudinal studies of family resource centers (FRCs) every three years. Currently, SDE alone must conduct such studies.

The bill also requires OEC to conduct a regression discontinuity study of all state-funded early childhood programs in Connecticut to determine the kindergarten readiness of each child enrolled for the 2013-14 school year. Regression discontinuity design measures children both before and after their participation in the program being studied. OEC must report its findings to the Education Committee by January 1, 2015.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

§ 70 — Information Sharing System

The bill requires OEC to collaborate with SDE and the Governor's Early Care and Education Cabinet to develop a system that shares information between preschool or school readiness programs and kindergarten programs. Currently, SDE alone must collaborate with the cabinet. The shared information concerns children's oral language and pre-literacy proficiency.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

BACKGROUND***Coordinated System of Early Care and Education and Child Development***

The coordinated system must accomplish 25 tasks that address the following areas:

1. program reporting and data analysis,
2. student assessments,
3. program assessments,
4. family and parental involvement,
5. outreach and coordination,
6. funding,
7. licensing, and
8. professional development (CGS § 10-16bb (b)).

Related Bill

sHB 6624 (File 554), requires the coordinated system of early care and education and child development to compare and analyze data collected by the state longitudinal data system.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference
Yea 25 Nay 0 (03/28/2013)

Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

Joint Favorable
Yea 41 Nay 8 (04/12/2013)