



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 155

February Session, 2014

House Bill No. 5323

House of Representatives, March 27, 2014

The Committee on Human Services reported through REP. ABERCROMBIE of the 83rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE CHILD POVERTY AND PREVENTION COUNCIL.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 4-67x of the 2014 supplement to
2 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

4 (a) There shall be a Child Poverty and Prevention Council consisting
5 of the following members or their designees: The Secretary of the
6 Office of Policy and Management, the president pro tempore of the
7 Senate, the speaker of the House of Representatives, the minority
8 leader of the Senate and the minority leader of the House of
9 Representatives, the Commissioners of Children and Families, Social
10 Services, Correction, Developmental Services, Mental Health and
11 Addiction Services, Transportation, Public Health, Education,
12 Housing, Agriculture and Economic and Community Development,
13 the Labor Commissioner, the Chief Court Administrator, the
14 chairperson of the Board of Regents for Higher Education, the Child

15 Advocate and the executive directors of the Commission on Children,
16 the Office of Early Childhood and the Commission on Human Rights
17 and Opportunities. The Secretary of the Office of Policy and
18 Management, or the secretary's designee, shall be the chairperson of
19 the council. The council shall (1) develop and promote the
20 implementation of a ten-year plan, to begin June 8, 2004, to reduce the
21 number of children living in poverty in the state by fifty per cent, and
22 (2) within available appropriations, establish prevention goals and
23 recommendations and measure prevention service outcomes in
24 accordance with this section in order to promote the health and well-
25 being of children and families.

26 Sec. 2. Subsection (g) of section 4-67x of the 2014 supplement to the
27 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
28 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

29 (g) (1) On or before November first of each year from 2006 to 2014,
30 inclusive, each budgeted state agency with membership on the council
31 that provides prevention services to children shall, within available
32 appropriations, report to the council in accordance with this
33 subsection.

34 (2) Each agency report shall include at least two prevention services
35 not to exceed the actual number of prevention services provided by the
36 agency. For each prevention service reported by the agency, the agency
37 report shall include (A) a statement of the number of children and
38 families served, (B) a description of the preventive purposes of the
39 service, (C) for reports due after November 1, 2006, a description of
40 performance-based standards and outcomes included in relevant
41 contracts pursuant to subsection (h) of this section, and (D) any
42 performance-based vendor accountability protocols.

43 (3) Each agency report shall also include (A) long-term agency
44 goals, strategies and outcomes to promote the health and well-being of
45 children and families, (B) overall findings on the effectiveness of
46 prevention within such agency, (C) a statement of whether there are
47 methods used by such agency to reduce disparities in child

48 performance and outcomes by race, income level and gender, and a
49 description of such methods, if any, and (D) other information the
50 agency head deems relevant to demonstrate the preventive value of
51 services provided by the agency. Long-term agency goals, strategies
52 and outcomes reported under this subdivision may include, but need
53 not be limited to, the following:

54 (i) With respect to health goals, increasing (I) the number of healthy
55 pregnant women and newborns, (II) the number of youths who adopt
56 healthy behaviors, and (III) access to health care for children and
57 families;

58 (ii) With respect to education goals, increasing the number of
59 children who (I) are ready for school at an appropriate age, (II) learn to
60 read by third grade, (III) succeed in school, (IV) graduate from high
61 school, and (V) successfully obtain and maintain employment as
62 adults;

63 (iii) With respect to safety goals, decreasing (I) the rate of child
64 neglect and abuse, (II) the number of children who are unsupervised
65 after school, (III) the incidence of child and youth suicide, and (IV) the
66 incidence of juvenile crime; and

67 (iv) With respect to housing goals, increasing access to stable and
68 adequate housing.

69 (4) Each agency report shall also include (A) a list of agency
70 programs that provide prevention services, (B) the actual prevention
71 services expenditures for the most recently completed fiscal year, and
72 (C) the percentage of total actual agency expenditures in the most
73 recently completed fiscal year that were actual prevention services
74 expenditures.

75 Sec. 3. Section 4-67v of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective from*
76 *passage*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	4-67x(a)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	4-67x(g)
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	Repealer section

HS *Joint Favorable*

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: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill adds members to the Child Poverty and Prevention Council, and expands the information each member agency is required to report. These provisions have no fiscal impact.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 5323*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE CHILD POVERTY AND PREVENTION COUNCIL.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill adds three members, or their designees, to the Child Poverty and Prevention Council: (1) the Department of Housing commissioner, (2) the Department of Agriculture commissioner, and (3) the executive director of the Office of Early Childhood.

It also adds to reporting requirements for budgeted state agencies that provide preventative services to children and are members of the council. In addition to existing requirements, the bill requires agency reports to the council, due by November 1 annually, to include (1) a list of agency programs that provide prevention services, (2) actual prevention services expenditures for the most recently completed fiscal year, and (3) agency expenditures on prevention services as a percentage of all agency expenditures. Current law requires these reports through 2014.

Finally, the bill eliminates a requirement that the governor's budget include a prevention report corresponding with goals the council established. Current law requires this report, within available appropriations, for each biennial budget through June 30, 2021. But, by law, the council terminates on June 30, 2015.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND***Prevention Services***

By law, "prevention services" are policies and programs that promote healthy, safe, and productive lives. Their purposes include

reducing crime, violence, substance abuse, illness, academic failure, and other socially destructive behavior.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 18 Nay 0 (03/11/2014)