



General Assembly

**Amendment**

February Session, 2014

LCO No. 4501

**\*SB0042404501SD0\***

Offered by:

SEN. WILLIAMS, 29<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. LOONEY, 11<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. COLEMAN, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dist.  
SEN. DOYLE, 9<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. LEBEAU, 3<sup>rd</sup> Dist.

SEN. DUFF, 25<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. SLOSSBERG, 14<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. STILLMAN, 20<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. BYE, 5<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. BARTOLOMEO, 13<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Senate Bill No. 424

File No. 391

Cal. No. 254

**"AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS  
FOR CHILDREN IN THE CARE AND CUSTODY OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2014*) (a) For purposes of this section:

4 (1) "Preschool-aged child" means any child age three to five,  
5 inclusive, who is placed in out-of-home care by the Commissioner of  
6 Children and Families pursuant to an order of commitment under  
7 section 46b-129 of the general statutes and who is not enrolled in a  
8 preschool program or kindergarten at the time of such placement; and

9 (2) "Eligible preschool program" means (A) a school readiness  
10 program, as defined in section 10-16p of the general statutes, (B) a

11 preschool program offered by a local or regional board of education or  
12 regional educational service center, (C) a preschool program accredited  
13 by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, (D) a  
14 Head Start program, or (E) any preschool program in which the  
15 commissioner determines is suitable to meet the needs of the child.

16 (b) Not later than January 1, 2015, the Commissioner of Children  
17 and Families, in consultation with the Office of Early Childhood,  
18 established pursuant to substitute senate bill 25 of the current session,  
19 as amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A", shall (1) adopt  
20 policies and procedures that maximize the enrollment of eligible  
21 preschool-aged children in eligible preschool programs, and (2) submit  
22 such policies and procedures to the joint standing committees of the  
23 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children,  
24 human services, education and appropriations, in accordance with the  
25 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

26 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than January 1, 2015, the  
27 Commissioner of Children and Families, in consultation with the  
28 Office of Early Childhood, established pursuant to substitute senate  
29 bill 25 of the current session, as amended by Senate Amendment  
30 Schedule "A", shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions  
31 of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees  
32 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
33 children, human services, education and appropriations concerning (1)  
34 the number of eligible preschool-aged children, as defined in section 1  
35 of this act, who are enrolled in an eligible preschool program, as  
36 defined in section 1 of this act, at the time that such children are placed  
37 in out-of-home care by the Commissioner of Children and Families  
38 pursuant to an order of commitment under section 46b-129 of the  
39 general statutes, (2) the number of eligible preschool-aged children  
40 who are not enrolled in an eligible preschool program at the time of  
41 such placement, (3) the number of children age birth to three,  
42 inclusive, who are placed in out-of-home care by the Commissioner of  
43 Children and Families pursuant to an order of commitment under

44 section 46b-129 of the general statutes, (4) the number of eligible  
45 preschool-aged children who require special education and related  
46 services and the number and percentage of such children who enrolled  
47 in a preschool program, (5) an analysis of the availability of spaces in  
48 eligible preschool programs in relation to the geographic placement of  
49 eligible preschool-aged children described in subdivision (2) of this  
50 subsection, (6) an analysis of the availability of spaces in eligible  
51 preschool programs in relation to the nature of such eligible preschool  
52 program and the cost of such eligible preschool program to the  
53 Department of Children and Families, (7) an analysis of eligible  
54 preschool programs and transportation options that will minimize  
55 costs to the department, including eligible preschool programs that  
56 provide transportation or whose geographic proximity to a child's  
57 placement is such that the provision of transportation by a foster  
58 parent or caregiver is considered within the reasonable expectations of  
59 the duties of such foster parent or caregiver, and (8) a plan to provide  
60 priority access to eligible preschool-aged children described in  
61 subdivision (2) of this subsection at state and federally-funded  
62 preschool programs."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section