



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 195**

January Session, 2015

Senate Bill No. 307

*Senate, March 24, 2015*

The Committee on Children reported through SEN. BARTOLOMEO of the 13th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT IMPLEMENTING A QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES' PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than January 1,  
2 2016, the Department of Children and Families shall adopt and  
3 implement the Performance-Based Standards program developed by  
4 the United States Department of Justice for the purposes of improving  
5 the Department of Children and Families' ability to (1) compile  
6 information relating to incidents involving children housed in facilities  
7 operated by the department, including, but not limited to, incidents of  
8 violence, (2) analyze data regarding such incidents, and (3) respond to  
9 trends identified during the analysis of such data.

10 (b) Upon implementation of the program, the Department of  
11 Children and Families shall, not less than quarterly, report to the  
12 Connecticut Juvenile Training School advisory group and the Child  
13 Advocate regarding the information compiled pursuant to

14 subdivisions (1) to (3), inclusive, of subsection (a) of this section.

15 (c) Not later than January 1, 2017, and annually thereafter, the  
16 Commissioner of Children and Families shall report, in accordance  
17 with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint  
18 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
19 matters relating to children on the status of the program implemented  
20 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and the information compiled  
21 pursuant to subdivisions (1) to (3), inclusive, of subsection (a) of this  
22 section.

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

**KID**      *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.

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## **OFA Fiscal Note**

### **State Impact:**

<b>Agency Affected</b>	<b>Fund-Effect</b>	<b>FY 16 \$</b>	<b>FY 17 \$</b>
Children & Families, Dept.	GF - Cost	Up to \$60,000	Up to \$48,000

**Municipal Impact:** None

### **Explanation**

The bill requires the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to implement the Performance Based Standards evaluation program administered by the United States Department of Justice. Per the Department of Justice, the cost for the first year of the program is \$15,000 per facility, including one-time startup costs. The annual on-going costs of the program are approximately \$10,000 to \$12,000 per facility. The legislation could apply to up to four DCF run facilities: Connecticut Juvenile Training School, the Pueblo Unit, Solnit North, and Solnit South.

### **The Out Years**

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

Sources: Department of Justice website on Performance Based Standards  
[http://pbstandards.org/cjcaresources/93/Candidacy\\_Application\\_Guide\\_Final.pdf](http://pbstandards.org/cjcaresources/93/Candidacy_Application_Guide_Final.pdf)

**OLR Bill Analysis****SB 307*****AN ACT IMPLEMENTING A QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES' PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the Department of Children and Families (DCF), by January 1, 2016, to adopt and implement the Performance-Based Standards program developed by the U.S. Justice Department. DCF must do this to improve its ability to:

1. compile information on incidents, including violent ones, involving children living in DCF facilities;
2. analyze data on these incidents; and
3. respond to trends the analysis identifies.

On implementing the program, DCF must report at least quarterly to the Connecticut Juvenile Training School advisory group and child advocate on the information it compiles.

By January 1, 2017, the DCF commissioner must begin annual reporting to the Committee on Children on the program's status and the information it compiles.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**BACKGROUND*****Performance Based Standards***

Performance-Based Standards for Youth Correction and Detention Facilities, begun in 1995 by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, uses national standards

and outcome measures to identify, monitor, and improve conditions and treatment services for incarcerated youths. Program participants collect and analyze data to target specific areas for improvement.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Committee on Children

Joint Favorable

Yea 13 Nay 0 (03/10/2015)