

- Birth to Three System
 - Child First Program
 - Early Childhood Consultation Partnership (ECCP)
 - Family Based Recovery (FBR)
 - Maternal Infant Outreach Program (MIOP)
 - Nurturing Families Network (NFN)
 - Zero to Three Visitation (ZTT)
-

Proposed S.B. No. 311 AN ACT CONCERNING NOTIFICATION TO BOARDS OF EDUCATION OF THE PLACEMENT OF CERTAIN CHILDREN IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Department of Children and Families offers the following comments regarding Proposed S.B. No. 311, An Act Concerning Notification to Boards of Education of the Placement of Certain Children in the School District. This bill would require the Department of Children and Families and the State Board of Education to notify school districts when a child who is in DCF custody has been placed in such school district.

We believe that this bill is unnecessary because current DCF policy (*see Attachment B*), requires the child's assigned DCF Social Worker to provide oral notification to a local education agency (LEA) within one business day of a placement and to provide written notification within two business days.

Proposed S.B. No. 312 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE CHILDREN

The Department of Children and Families offers the following comments regarding Proposed S.B. No. 312, An Act Concerning the Protection of Particularly Vulnerable Children. This bill proposes to require policies and procedures to reduce fatalities in children ages birth to three.

A "case-control" study, just completed by DCF's Office of Research and Evaluation, found that Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDs) was the most common cause of death (28.2%), followed by medical complications (12.1%), unsafe sleep (11.2%) and physical injury (8.1%). Consistent with previous Department reviews, unsafe sleep was found to be related to the deaths in 33.9 percent of the deaths. The study analyzed 124 fatalities between January 1, 2005 and May 31, 2014 of children ages zero to three in families with some agency involvement. This analysis is prompting changes that will pinpoint families with the highest risks and increase oversight and services for these families.

The study, which compared the cases in which a child died to a control group, found the following statistically significant factors:

- Age of the child – The older the child is, the less likely the child will die. Among the 124 children who died, 65 percent were less than six months of age;

FORM DCF 603 – DCF Notification to the Local Education Agency

DCF-603
08/2014 (rev.)

Department of Children and Families
DCF Notification to the Local Education Agency

To: Office of the Superintendent (School district with financial responsibility, i.e., where parent lives)		Date Sent
Please be advised that:		
Child's Name	Date of Birth	
has been placed		
Date of Placement:		
by the Department of Children and Families in a: (check one box below)		Name and Address of Placement:
<input type="checkbox"/> Foster Home	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent/Guardian Home	
<input type="checkbox"/> Group Home	<input type="checkbox"/> Shelter	
<input type="checkbox"/> Residential Facility		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)		
		Telephone:
<input type="checkbox"/> The child requires special education and related services or has been referred to determine special education eligibility.		
<input type="checkbox"/> To the best of DCF's knowledge, Nexus exists with Nexus School District: Basis for Nexus (Include name and address of the individual listed below who lives in town listed on line above) <input type="checkbox"/> Mother: <input type="checkbox"/> Father: <input type="checkbox"/> Guardian: Address: Telephone:		Other Parent: <input type="checkbox"/> Mother: <input type="checkbox"/> Father: <input type="checkbox"/> Guardian: <input type="checkbox"/> Address: Telephone:
<input type="checkbox"/> No Nexus Exists Basis for No-Nexus (check applicable box for each parent)		
Mother	Father	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Has No Connecticut Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Parental Rights Have Been Terminated
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deceased
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Identity Unknown
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Resides in a Connecticut Correctional or Treatment Facility
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Whereabouts are Unknown
Note: Based upon information available to DCF this Nexus/No-Nexus status has existed since (date):		
Legal Status:	<input type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner of the Department of Children and Families has custody of the child but not guardianship. <input type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner of the Department of Children and Families is the legal guardian of the child. <input type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner of the Department of Children and Families is the statutory parent of the child. <input type="checkbox"/> DCF guardianship ended on:	
Records:	<input type="checkbox"/> The child previously attended school in: District	
C.G.S. §17a-16a School Placement Decision:	<input type="checkbox"/> It is in the best interests of the child to remain in the school of origin. <input type="checkbox"/> It is in the best interests of the child to attend the receiving school. <input type="checkbox"/> The child will remain in the school of origin until a best interests determination is made. <input type="checkbox"/> School placement decision is not applicable.	
DCF SOCIAL WORKER/JUVENILE JUSTICE SOCIAL WORKER	TELEPHONE NUMBER	DATE (m/d/year)
DCF AREA OFFICE/FACILITY	ADDRESS	
Copies sent to:	<input type="checkbox"/> Surrogate Parent Program – e-mail: surrogate.office@ct.gov – Fax: (860) 713-7052 <input type="checkbox"/> School district where child is attending school <input type="checkbox"/> School district that child left <input type="checkbox"/> Placement (where child resides) <input type="checkbox"/> Child's Attorney and GAL (name(s)) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (name)	