



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

**Public Hearing Testimony  
Committee on Children  
February 17, 2015**



---

**H.B. No. 6723 AN ACT CONCERNING GROUNDS FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS**

The Department of Children and Families **supports** H.B. No. 6723, An Act Concerning Grounds for Termination of Parental Rights.

This bill updates the statutory grounds for termination of parental rights consistent with other statutes and current practice.

Sections 17a-112(j) and 45a-717(g) need to be amended to update the legal basis for failure to rehabilitate on the grounds that a child has been neglected, uncared for, or abused. The current statute does not include "abused" which needs to be added to incorporate a change that was made to the statutory definition of "neglect." Previously, "abuse" was included as a form of neglect, and there is a need to revise the statutes to make a distinct legal basis for the initial neglect/abused/uncared for petition.