



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

Raised Bill No. 183

LCO No. 1502



Referred to Committee on COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

Introduced by:
(KID)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROGRAM OF FAMILY ASSESSMENT RESPONSE.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (g) of section 17a-101g of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (g) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (f),
5 inclusive, of this section, the commissioner may establish a program of
6 family assessment response to reports of child abuse and neglect
7 whereby the report may be referred to appropriate community
8 providers for family assessment and services without an investigation
9 or at any time during an investigation, provided there has been an
10 initial safety assessment of the circumstances of a family and child and
11 criminal background checks have been performed on all adults
12 involved in the report.

13 (2) The commissioner may adopt procedures to establish a method
14 for the department to monitor the progress of the child and family

15 referred to a community provider pursuant to subdivision (1) of this
16 subsection and to set standards for reopening an investigation
17 pursuant to this section.

18 (3) Consistent with the provisions of section 17a-28, the department
19 shall disclose all relevant information in its possession concerning the
20 child and family, including prior child protection activity, to each
21 provider to whom a report has been referred for use by the provider in
22 the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of unique needs of the family
23 and the prevention of future reports. Each provider who has received a
24 report of child abuse or neglect referred pursuant to this subsection
25 shall disclose to the department, consistent with the provisions of
26 section 17a-28, all relevant information gathered during assessment,
27 diagnosis and treatment of the child and family. The department may
28 use such information solely to monitor and ensure the continued safety
29 and well-being of the child or children.

30 (4) Not later than July 1, 2016, and annually thereafter, the
31 department shall submit, in accordance with the provisions of section
32 11-4a, a report to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
33 having cognizance of matters relating to children for inclusion in the
34 annual report card prepared pursuant to section 2-53m on the status of
35 the program of family assessment response. Such report shall include
36 data from the previous twelve months, including, but not limited to:
37 (A) The number of reports of child abuse or neglect, and the
38 percentage of the total of such reports, referred for standard child
39 protective services that were thereafter referred for family assessment
40 and services; (B) the number of families referred for family assessment
41 and services; (C) an identification, by type, of the reporter of the child
42 abuse or neglect that resulted in the family being referred for family
43 assessment and services; (D) the number of instances, and the
44 percentage of the total of such instances, in which a family that has
45 been referred for family assessment and services is thereafter referred
46 for standard child protective services; (E) an analysis of the outcome of
47 each report that was referred for family assessment and services; (F) an

48 analysis of the department's prior or subsequent involvement with a
49 family that has been referred for family assessment and services, if
50 applicable; (G) a description of services that are commonly provided to
51 families receiving family assessment and services from community
52 providers; (H) an analysis of the department's staff development and
53 training practices relating to the program of family assessment
54 response; (I) the number of families, and the percentage of the total of
55 such families, referred to the program of family assessment response
56 that ultimately participate in the services provided pursuant to such
57 program; and (J) the number of families, and the percentage of the total
58 of such families, referred to the program of family assessment response
59 that ultimately complete their participation in the services provided
60 pursuant to such program.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	17a-101g(g)

Statement of Purpose:

To require the Department of Children and Families to submit an annual report on the program of family assessment response for inclusion in the annual report card on policies and programs affecting children.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]