



General Assembly

**Amendment**

February Session, 2016

LCO No. 4549



Offered by:  
SEN. FASANO, 34<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 183

File No. 34

Cal. No. 83

**"AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROGRAM OF FAMILY ASSESSMENT RESPONSE."**

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and  
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a  
4 Family Assessment Response Advisory Council. The council shall  
5 advise the Department of Children and Families regarding the  
6 program of family assessment response by prescribing (1) appropriate  
7 risk assessment and decision making tools for evaluating reports of  
8 suspected abuse or neglect and determining reports that are  
9 appropriate for referral through the program, (2) processes for  
10 monitoring reports after they are referred to program to evaluate the  
11 progress of the child and family, (3) criteria for the reassignment of  
12 reports referred to program for investigation, and (4) quality assurance  
13 and assessment tools to evaluate the efficacy of the program.

14 (b) The council shall consist of the following members:

15 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,  
16 one of whom shall be a representative from a child advocacy  
17 organization in the state and one of whom shall be a representative  
18 from a community provider of family assessment and services in the  
19 state;

20 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one  
21 of whom shall be a representative from a community partner or a local  
22 service provider and one of whom shall be a representative from a  
23 citizen review panel in the state;

24 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
25 Representatives, who shall be a pediatrician with experience in  
26 diagnosing and treating injuries related to the abuse and neglect of  
27 children;

28 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall be  
29 an attorney with experience representing children or adults in cases  
30 involving the abuse and neglect of children;

31 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
32 Representatives, who shall be a parent or guardian who has personal  
33 experience with the child protective services system;

34 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be  
35 a child or youth who has personal experience with the child protective  
36 services system;

37 (7) The Commissioner of Children and Families, or the  
38 commissioner's designee;

39 (8) The Commissioner of Social Services, or the commissioner's  
40 designee;

41 (9) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee;  
42 and

43 (10) The Child Advocate of the Office of the Child Advocate, or the

44 Child Advocate's designee.

45 (c) Each member shall serve for a term of four years. All initial  
46 appointments to the council shall be made by August 1, 2016, and  
47 initial members shall serve a four-year term commencing on August 1,  
48 2016. Any vacancy shall be filled by the original appointing authority  
49 by appointment for the unexpired portion of any term. Members of the  
50 council shall serve until their respective successors are appointed.

51 (d) The members of the council shall choose one of the members of  
52 the council to be chairperson of the council. A majority of the members  
53 of the council then in office shall constitute a quorum for the  
54 transaction of any business, and action shall be by vote of a majority of  
55 the members present at a meeting. The council shall meet at least once  
56 during each calendar quarter and at such other times as the  
57 chairperson deems necessary or upon the request of a majority of the  
58 members in office. Members of the council shall serve without  
59 compensation, but shall be reimbursed for all reasonable expenses  
60 incurred in the performance of their duties.

61 (e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the  
62 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children  
63 shall serve as administrative staff of the council.

64 (f) Not later than January 1, 2017, and annually thereafter, the  
65 council shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of  
66 section 11-4a of the general statutes, on the status of the program of  
67 family assessment response to the joint standing committee of the  
68 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children.  
69 Such report may include recommendations for administrative or  
70 legislative changes and any other information that the council deems  
71 necessary and proper to improve the effectiveness of the program of  
72 family assessment response."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:
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Sec. 501	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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