



General Assembly

January Session, 2017

**Committee Bill No. 6297**

LCO No. 3875



Referred to Committee on COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

Introduced by:  
(KID)

**AN ACT CONCERNING VOLUNTARY ADMISSION TO THE  
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.**

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 17a-11 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
3 *1, 2017*):

4 (a) The commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion, admit  
5 to the department on a voluntary basis any child or youth who, in the  
6 commissioner's opinion, could benefit from any of the services offered  
7 or administered by, or under contract with, or otherwise available to,  
8 the department. Application for voluntary admission shall be made in  
9 writing by the parent or guardian of a child under fourteen years of  
10 age or by such person himself or herself if he or she is a child fourteen  
11 years of age or older or a youth. The fact that a parent or guardian has  
12 applied for [services] or received services for [his or her] a child or  
13 youth through voluntary admission shall not be used against [the]  
14 such parent or guardian (1) in any investigation conducted by the  
15 department in accordance with section 17a-101g, (2) when making  
16 placement decisions for the child or youth, (3) when making foster care

17 licensing determinations in accordance with section 17a-114, or (4) in  
18 any court proceeding related to the placement of a minor relative of  
19 the parent. When a child or youth is admitted to the department on a  
20 voluntary basis, the commissioner shall not request or require that  
21 such child or youth's parent or guardian terminate such parent or  
22 guardian's parental rights or transfer legal custody of the child or  
23 youth to the department.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2017	17a-11(a)

**Statement of Purpose:**

To prohibit the Commissioner of Children and Families from requesting or requiring that the parent or guardian of a child or youth admitted to the department on a voluntary basis terminate such parent or guardian's parental rights or transfer legal custody of the child or youth to the department.

*[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.]*

Co-Sponsors: REP. REBIMBAS, 70th Dist.

H.B. 6297