



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 110

February Session, 2018

Substitute Senate Bill No. 312

Senate, March 28, 2018

The Committee on Children reported through SEN. MOORE, M. of the 22nd Dist. and SEN. SUZIO of the 13th Dist., Chairpersons of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING RISK ASSESSMENT PRACTICES AND THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision (11) of subsection (g) of section 17a-101g of
2 the 2018 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the
3 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2018*):

4 (11) Not later than July 1, 2016, and annually thereafter, the
5 department shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of
6 section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
7 having cognizance of matters relating to children for inclusion in the
8 annual report card prepared pursuant to section 2-53m on the status of
9 family assessment response. Such report shall include data from the
10 previous calendar year, including, but not limited to: (A) The number
11 of accepted reports of child abuse or neglect, and the percentage of
12 reports assigned to the family assessment response track; (B) the

13 disposition of families assigned a family assessment response; (C) for
14 cases assigned to the family assessment response track, a breakdown
15 by reporter type; (D) the number and percentage of family assessment
16 response cases that changed track to investigations; (E) an analysis of
17 the department's prior or subsequent involvement with a family that
18 has been assigned to family assessment response, if applicable; (F) an
19 analysis of the department's prior or subsequent involvement with a
20 family that has been assigned to a community partner agency; (G) a
21 description of services that are commonly provided to families referred
22 to the community support for families program; (H) a description of
23 the department's staff development and training practices relating to
24 intake; (I) the number and percentage of referred families who were
25 ultimately enrolled in the community support for families program; (J)
26 the number and percentage of families receiving a family assessment
27 response broken down by race and ethnicity; (K) the reason for
28 discharge from the community support for families program, as
29 identified in subdivision (7) of this subsection, broken down by race
30 and ethnicity; [and] (L) a comparison of the needs identified and the
31 needs addressed for families referred to the community support for
32 families program; and (M) an analysis of the efficacy of the
33 department's risk and safety assessment practices, including
34 information concerning the methodology used to determine the
35 reliability of such practices, the utilization of evidence-based practices
36 and tools, and the effectiveness of such assessment practices for
37 identifying children at risk for abuse or neglect.

38 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2018*) (a) The Commissioner of
39 Children and Families, in collaboration with the Commissioners of
40 Early Childhood, Developmental Services and Social Services, shall
41 develop investigation, assessment and case-planning procedures that
42 are responsive to the needs of children with intellectual and
43 developmental disabilities.

44 (b) Not later than February 1, 2019, the Commissioner of Children
45 and Families shall submit a report describing the procedures
46 developed and any legislative recommendations arising from said

47 collaboration, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
48 having cognizance of matters relating to children, in accordance with
49 the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2018</i>	17a-101g(g)(11)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2018</i>	New section

KID *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None***Explanation***

This bill requires the Department of Children and Families, in collaboration with the Departments of Early Childhood, Developmental Services, and Social Services, to develop procedures that are responsive to the needs of children with intellectual/developmental disabilities, and produce an associated report, by 2/1/19. No fiscal impact to these state agencies is anticipated as they have the expertise needed to fulfill the provisions of the bill within the timeframe allotted.

The Out Years***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 312*****AN ACT CONCERNING RISK ASSESSMENT PRACTICES AND THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Department of Children and Families (DCF) commissioner, in collaboration with the early childhood, developmental services, and social services commissioners, to develop investigation, assessment, and case-planning procedures that are responsive to the needs of children with intellectual and developmental disabilities. By February 1, 2019, the bill requires the DCF commissioner to submit to the Children's Committee a report that describes the procedures developed and includes any legislative recommendations resulting from the collaboration.

By law, DCF must annually report certain information to the Children's Committee for inclusion in the children's report card (see BACKGROUND). The bill requires the report to additionally include an analysis of the efficacy of DCF's risk and safety assessment practices, including information about the (1) methodology used to determine the practices' reliability, (2) use of evidence-based practices and tools, and (3) effectiveness of these practices for identifying children at risk of abuse or neglect.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2018

BACKGROUND***Children's Report Card***

By law, the Children's Committee, in collaboration with the offices of Fiscal Analysis and Legislative Research and the Commission on

Children, must maintain an annual report card that evaluates the progress of state policies and programs in promoting the result that all Connecticut children grow up in a stable living environment, safe, healthy, and ready to lead successful lives. The report must use data and indicators to measure the progress towards this goal in a variety of areas (e.g., state-wide rates of child abuse and child poverty) (CGS § 2-53m).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Committee on Children

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 12 Nay 0 (03/15/2018)