

# Committee on Children JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** SB-310

**Title:** AN ACT CONCERNING PERMANENCY PLANNING FOR CHILDREN.

**Vote Date:** 3/15/2018

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable

**PH Date:** 3/6/2018

**File No.:**

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## **SPONSORS OF BILL:**

Committee on Children

## **REASONS FOR BILL:**

This bill would permit the Judicial Department to contract with a nonprofit entity that provides services to assist the court in preparing and monitoring expectations to promote permanency planning for children.

## **RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

### **Janet Freimuth, Executive Director, Children in Placement:**

The executive director of Children in Placement submitted testimony and testified in opposition to this bill. She stated that CIP has promoted goodwill, created jobs and has received numerous commendations from judges and court personnel for their good work in the community. Also, to date, CIP has never turned down a case and they are collaborating in ways that support CT's children in placement. Janet Freimuth does not believe Connecticut should hand over this important organization to a national organization with its own policies and leadership that is beyond the jurisdiction of the state. In conclusion, she would like the Committee to reject S.B. 310 to allow CIP to continue their work as they build their momentum and funding base.

### **Joette Katz, Commissioner, The Department of Children and Families:**

DCF submitted testimony and testified in support of this bill. The Department has increasing concern regarding the constitutionality of provisions similar to section 51-10b of the General Statutes as it benefits only one entity and as such is a violation of the public emoluments clause.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

See response from administration/agency.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

See response from administration/agency.

**Reported by: Mikhela Hull**

**Date: 3/19/18**