



General Assembly

February Session, 2018

Raised Bill No. 5331

LCO No. 1436



Referred to Committee on COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

Introduced by:
(KID)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE CHILDREN'S REPORT CARD.

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

1 Section 1. Section 2-53m of the 2018 supplement to the general
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3 (*Effective October 1, 2018*):

4 (a) The joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
5 cognizance of matters relating to children, in consultation with the
6 Office of Fiscal Analysis, the Office of Legislative Research and the
7 Commission on Women, Children and Seniors shall maintain an
8 annual report card that evaluates the progress of state policies and
9 programs in promoting the result that all Connecticut children grow
10 up in a stable living environment, safe, healthy and ready to lead
11 successful lives. Progress shall be measured by primary and secondary
12 indicators of progress, including, but not limited to, indicators
13 [established in the final report of the former Legislative Program
14 Review and Investigations Committee prepared pursuant to the
15 provisions of section 1 of public act 09-166*,] of state-wide rates of
16 child abuse, child poverty, low birth weight [, third grade] and reading

17 proficiency. [, and the annual social health index developed pursuant
18 to section 46a-131a.] For each indicator, the data shall also be presented
19 according to ethnicity or race, gender, [geography and, where
20 appropriate,] age and other relevant characteristics where appropriate.
21 The joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
22 cognizance of matters relating to children shall prepare and make the
23 report card available to the public on the Internet web site of the
24 General Assembly on or before January 15, [2018] 2019, and annually
25 thereafter. [On or before January 15, 2018, and annually thereafter, said
26 committee shall make the report card available to the public on the
27 Internet and on the web site of the General Assembly and shall
28 transmit the report card electronically to (1) members of the joint
29 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
30 matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies
31 and human services, (2) the Commissioners of Children and Families,
32 Education and Public Health, (3) the Child Advocate, (4) the Secretary
33 of the Office of Policy and Management, and (5) the Chief Court
34 Administrator.]

35 (b) On or before January 15, 2012, the [select] joint standing
36 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
37 relating to children, in consultation with a working group of
38 representatives of state agencies and departments, community
39 organizations, private provider agencies operating programs that
40 impact the well-being of children and families, parents and other
41 caretakers of children, child advocacy organizations, health care
42 professionals that serve children and families, schools, and child care
43 providers, shall identify or develop (1) an indicator for measuring
44 whether children are living with their families and have stability in
45 their living environments, (2) secondary indicators for measuring
46 progress within each area of children's well-being related to measuring
47 progress in their health, safety, stability, education and future success,
48 including, but not limited to, food security, and (3) key measures of
49 performance of the state child welfare system, including, but not
50 limited to, (A) rates of repeat maltreatment among victims of child

51 abuse and neglect; (B) placement in out-of-home care among children
52 at risk of abuse and neglect; (C) child fatalities involving child abuse or
53 neglect; (D) rates of reunification and permanency for children
54 removed from their homes; and (E) the developmental and health
55 status and educational progress of children served by the child welfare
56 system and other appropriate measures of well-being and preparation
57 for success in life. [Not less than annually,]

58 (c) On or before January 15, 2019, and annually thereafter, the joint
59 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
60 matters relating to children shall, [: (i) With the assistance of the
61 working group] in consultation with a leadership committee
62 comprised of (1) the chairpersons and ranking members of the joint
63 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
64 matters relating to human services, education, the judiciary, public
65 health and appropriations, (2) the executive director of the
66 Commission on Women, Children and Seniors, or the executive
67 director's designee, (3) the Commissioners of Children and Families,
68 Education, Social Services, Public Health and Early Childhood, or the
69 commissioners' designees, (4) the Chief Court Administrator, or the
70 Chief Court Administrator's designee, (5) the Child Advocate, or the
71 Child Advocate's designee, (6) the Governor's Nonprofit Liaison, and
72 (7) representatives of the Connecticut Association of Nonprofits,
73 Connecticut Voices for Children, Connecticut Association for Human
74 Services, Connecticut Community Providers Association, CT Parent
75 Power, Center for Children's Advocacy, Child Health and
76 Development Institute of Connecticut, Connecticut Association for
77 Community Action and Connecticut Chapter of the American
78 Academy of Pediatrics, review the adequacy of primary and secondary
79 indicators, system-level performance measures, and related data
80 resources for such indicators and measures, and determine whether
81 there are more appropriate alternatives to monitoring progress in
82 achieving the result that all Connecticut children grow up in a stable
83 living environment, safe, healthy and ready to lead successful lives. [,
84 and (ii) in consultation with the results-based] Such leadership

85 committee shall be chaired by one member of such committee selected
86 by the speaker of the House of Representatives and one member of
87 such committee selected by the president pro tempore of the Senate.

88 (d) On or before January 15, 2019, the joint standing committee of
89 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
90 children and the accountability subcommittee of the joint standing
91 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
92 relating to appropriations [and the budgets of state agencies,] shall
93 identify programs within the child welfare system that make a
94 significant contribution to achieving such result and require the
95 entities administering such programs to prepare annual report cards
96 employing the results-based format developed by said subcommittee.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2018	2-53m

Statement of Purpose:

To eliminate the requirement that the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children electronically transmit the Children's Report Card to certain entities, and to specify the membership of the leadership committee with which said committee shall consult.

[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.]