



General Assembly

February Session, 2018

***Raised Bill No. 437***

LCO No. 2159



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:  
(HS)

***AN ACT CONCERNING A TWO-GENERATIONAL INITIATIVE.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 17b-112l of the 2018 supplement to the general  
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
3 (*Effective from passage*):

4 (a) There is established an initiative to foster family economic self-  
5 sufficiency in low-income households through a comprehensive two-  
6 generational service delivery approach. The initiative shall promote  
7 systemic change to create conditions across local and state public sector  
8 agencies and the private sector to support early childhood care and  
9 education, health and workforce readiness and self-sufficiency across two  
10 generations in the same household. Households may include, but need  
11 not be limited to, mothers, fathers, noncustodial parents and other  
12 primary caregivers.

13 (b) The Office of Early Childhood shall serve as the two-generational  
14 initiative's coordinating agency for the executive branch. The initiative  
15 may review and consider the following, within available appropriations:

16 (1) Improvements to the coordination and delivery of early learning  
17 programs, adult education, child care, housing, job training,  
18 transportation, financial literacy and other related support services,  
19 including, but not limited to, health and mental health services, offered at  
20 one location, wherever possible;

21 (2) Alignment of existing state and local support systems around the  
22 household, including how to leverage Temporary Assistance for Needy  
23 Families block grant funds, and services to equip such households with  
24 the tools and skills needed to overcome obstacles and engage  
25 opportunities;

26 (3) Development of a long-term plan to coordinate, align and optimize  
27 service delivery of relevant programs state wide. Such plan may include,  
28 but need not be limited to, (A) the targeted use of Temporary Assistance  
29 for Needy Families block grant funds, to the extent permissible under  
30 federal law, to support two-generational programming; (B) state  
31 incentives for private entities that develop such two-generational  
32 programming; (C) streamlined resource, practice and data sharing among  
33 and between agencies that serve families involved in the initiative in order  
34 to best serve such families; and (D) the development and assessment of  
35 two-generational programming outcomes; and

36 (4) Partnerships between state and national philanthropic  
37 organizations, as available, to provide support, technical assistance,  
38 guidance and best practices to the participating communities in the  
39 initiative and the advisory council established pursuant to subsection (d)  
40 of this section.

41 (c) The initiative shall foster the comprehensive two-generational  
42 service delivery approach for early care and education and workforce  
43 readiness in learning communities that may include, but need not be  
44 limited to, New Haven, Hartford, East Hartford, West Hartford, Norwalk,  
45 Meriden, Windham, Enfield, Waterbury and Bridgeport. The initiative  
46 shall be informed by members of low-income households within these  
47 communities and foster a peer-to-peer exchange and technical assistance

48 in best practices that shall be shared with the advisory council established  
49 pursuant to subsection (d) of this section. The staff of the Commission on  
50 Women, Children and Seniors shall serve as the organizing and  
51 administrative staff to the learning communities.

52 (d) A Two-Generational Advisory Council shall be established as part  
53 of the initiative to advise the state on how to foster family economic self-  
54 sufficiency in low-income households through a comprehensive two-  
55 generational service delivery approach for early care and education and  
56 workforce readiness. The council shall consist of one member of the  
57 General Assembly appointed by the speaker of the House of  
58 Representatives, who shall serve as a cochairperson; one member of the  
59 Senate appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who shall  
60 serve as a cochairperson; one member representing the interests of  
61 business or trade organizations appointed by the majority leader of the  
62 Senate; one member with expertise on issues concerning health and  
63 mental health appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
64 Representatives; one member on issues concerning children and families  
65 appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; one member of the  
66 General Assembly appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
67 Representatives; a member of a low-income household selected by the  
68 Commission on Women, Children and Seniors; representatives of  
69 nonprofit and philanthropic organizations and scholars who are experts in  
70 two-generational programs and policies; and other business and academic  
71 professionals as needed to achieve goals for two-generational systems  
72 planning, evaluations and outcomes selected by the cochairpersons. The  
73 Commissioners of Social Services, Early Childhood, Education, Housing,  
74 Transportation, Public Health and Correction and the Labor  
75 Commissioner, or each commissioner's designee; and the Chief Court  
76 Administrator, or the Chief Court Administrator's designee, shall serve as  
77 ex-officio members of the advisory council. The staff of the Commission  
78 on Women, Children and Seniors shall serve as the organizing and  
79 administrative staff of the advisory council.

80 (e) Not later than September 1, 2018, the Two-Generational Advisory  
81 Council shall consult with the Office of the Attorney General to develop a

82 uniform approach to facilitate data sharing in accordance with state and  
83 federal law among partner agencies in the two-generational initiative  
84 pursuant to subparagraph (C) of subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of this  
85 section.

86 [(e)] (f) Not later than December 31, 2018, the advisory council shall  
87 [submit a] report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the  
88 joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
89 matters relating to education, housing, human services, labor, public  
90 health, transportation and appropriations and the budgets of state  
91 agencies that includes: (1) The challenges and opportunities in working  
92 with a parent and child concurrently in a two-generational service  
93 delivery model; (2) recommendations to improve systems, policy, culture,  
94 program, budget or communications issues among agencies and service  
95 providers on the local and state levels to achieve two-generational  
96 outcomes; [and] (3) recommendations on the elimination of barriers to  
97 promote two-generational success; and (4) recommendations concerning  
98 improved data sharing across two-generational initiative partner agencies  
99 developed pursuant to subsection (e) of this section.

100 Sec. 2. Section 17b-90 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
101 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

102 (a) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with  
103 chapter 54, necessary to enable him to carry out the programs the  
104 Department of Social Services is designated to administer pursuant to  
105 section 17b-2, including any regulations necessary for receiving grants  
106 from the federal government to this state if the absence of any such  
107 regulation would result in the loss of such grants and regulations  
108 governing the custody and use of the records, papers, files and  
109 communications concerning persons applying for or receiving assistance  
110 under said sections. When names and addresses of recipients of such  
111 assistance are required by law to be furnished to or held by any other  
112 government agency, such agency shall adopt regulations to prevent the  
113 publication of lists thereof or their use for purposes not directly connected  
114 with the administration of said programs.

115 (b) No person shall, except for purposes directly connected with the  
116 administration of programs of the Department of Social Services and in  
117 accordance with the regulations of the commissioner, solicit, disclose,  
118 receive or make use of, or authorize, knowingly permit, participate in or  
119 acquiesce in the use of, any list of the names of, or any information  
120 concerning, persons applying for or receiving assistance from the  
121 Department of Social Services or persons participating in a program  
122 administered by said department, directly or indirectly derived from the  
123 records, papers, files or communications of the state or its subdivisions or  
124 agencies, or acquired in the course of the performance of official duties.  
125 The Commissioner of Social Services shall disclose (1) to any authorized  
126 representative of the Labor Commissioner such information directly  
127 related to unemployment compensation, administered pursuant to  
128 chapter 567 or information necessary for implementation of sections 17b-  
129 112l, as amended by this act, 17b-688b, 17b-688c and 17b-688h and section  
130 122 of public act 97-2 of the June 18 special session, (2) to any authorized  
131 representative of the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction  
132 Services any information necessary for the implementation and operation  
133 of the basic needs supplement program, (3) to any authorized  
134 representative of the Commissioner of Administrative Services or the  
135 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection such  
136 information as the Commissioner of Social Services determines is directly  
137 related to and necessary for the Department of Administrative Services or  
138 the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection for purposes  
139 of performing their functions of collecting social services recoveries and  
140 overpayments or amounts due as support in social services cases,  
141 investigating social services fraud or locating absent parents of public  
142 assistance recipients, (4) to any authorized representative of the  
143 Commissioner of Children and Families necessary information concerning  
144 a child or the immediate family of a child receiving services from the  
145 Department of Social Services, including safety net services, if (A) the  
146 Commissioner of Children and Families or the Commissioner of Social  
147 Services has determined that imminent danger to such child's health,  
148 safety or welfare exists to target the services of the family services  
149 programs administered by the Department of Children and Families, or

150 (B) the Commissioner of Children and Families requires access to the  
151 federal Parent Locator Service established pursuant to [88 Stat. 2353  
152 (1975),] 42 USC 653 in order to identify a parent or putative parent of a  
153 child, (5) to a town official or other contractor or authorized representative  
154 of the Labor Commissioner such information concerning an applicant for  
155 or a recipient of assistance under state-administered general assistance  
156 deemed necessary by the Commissioner of Social Services and the Labor  
157 Commissioner to carry out their respective responsibilities to serve such  
158 persons under the programs administered by the Labor Department that  
159 are designed to serve applicants for or recipients of state-administered  
160 general assistance, (6) to any authorized representative of the  
161 Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services for the purposes  
162 of the behavioral health managed care program established by section  
163 17a-453, (7) to any authorized representative of the Commissioner of Early  
164 Childhood to carry out his or her respective responsibilities under the  
165 two-generational academic achievement and workforce readiness  
166 initiative established pursuant to section 17b-112l, as amended by this act,  
167 and programs that regulate child care services or youth camps, (8) to a  
168 health insurance provider, in IV-D support cases, as defined in  
169 subdivision (13) of subsection (b) of section 46b-231, information  
170 concerning a child and the custodial parent of such child that is necessary  
171 to enroll such child in a health insurance plan available through such  
172 provider when the noncustodial parent of such child is under court order  
173 to provide health insurance coverage but is unable to provide such  
174 information, provided the Commissioner of Social Services determines,  
175 after providing prior notice of the disclosure to such custodial parent and  
176 an opportunity for such parent to object, that such disclosure is in the best  
177 interests of the child, (9) to any authorized representative of the  
178 Department of Correction, in IV-D support cases, as defined in  
179 subdivision (13) of subsection (b) of section 46b-231, information  
180 concerning noncustodial parents that is necessary to identify inmates or  
181 parolees with IV-D support cases who may benefit from Department of  
182 Correction educational, training, skill building, work or rehabilitation  
183 programming that will significantly increase an inmate's or parolee's  
184 ability to fulfill such inmate's support obligation, (10) to any authorized

185 representative of the Judicial Branch, in IV-D support cases, as defined in  
186 subdivision (13) of subsection (b) of section 46b-231, information  
187 concerning noncustodial parents that is necessary to: (A) Identify  
188 noncustodial parents with IV-D support cases who may benefit from  
189 educational, training, skill building, work or rehabilitation programming  
190 that will significantly increase such parent's ability to fulfill such parent's  
191 support obligation, (B) assist in the administration of the Title IV-D child  
192 support program, or (C) assist in the identification of cases involving  
193 family violence, (11) to any authorized representative of the State  
194 Treasurer, in IV-D support cases, as defined in subdivision (13) of  
195 subsection (b) of section 46b-231, information that is necessary to identify  
196 child support obligors who owe overdue child support prior to the  
197 Treasurer's payment of such obligors' claim for any property unclaimed or  
198 presumed abandoned under part III of chapter 32, or (12) to any  
199 authorized representative of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
200 Management any information necessary for the implementation and  
201 operation of the renters rebate program established by section 12-170d. No  
202 such representative shall disclose any information obtained pursuant to  
203 this section, except as specified in this section. Any applicant for assistance  
204 provided through said department shall be notified that, if and when such  
205 applicant receives benefits, the department will be providing law  
206 enforcement officials with the address of such applicant upon the request  
207 of any such official pursuant to section 17b-16a.

208 (c) In IV-D support cases, as defined in subdivision (13) of subsection  
209 (b) of section 46b-231, in addition to the prohibitions of subsection (b) of  
210 this section, no information shall be released concerning the whereabouts  
211 of one party to another party (1) against whom a protective order, a  
212 restraining order or a standing criminal protective order with respect to  
213 the former party is in effect, or (2) if the department has reason to believe  
214 that the release of the information may result in physical or emotional  
215 harm to the former party.

216 (d) The Commissioner of Social Services shall provide written notice to  
217 a person applying for or receiving assistance from the Department of  
218 Social Services or a person participating in a program administered by

219 said department that such person's address and telephone number may be  
220 provided to the Department of Children and Families pursuant to  
221 subdivision [(2)] (4) of subsection (b) of this section.

222 (e) Penalties prescribed by subsection (b) of section 17b-97 shall apply  
223 to violations of this section.

224 Sec. 3. Subsection (b) of section 10-500 of the 2018 supplement to the  
225 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
226 (*Effective from passage*):

227 (b) The office shall be responsible for:

228 (1) The delivery of services to young children and their families to  
229 ensure optimal health, safety and learning for each young child, including,  
230 but not limited to, coordinating agency efforts and data sharing in the  
231 two-generational initiative established pursuant to section 17b-112l, as  
232 amended by this act;

233 (2) Developing and implementing the early childhood information  
234 system, in accordance with the provisions of section 10-501;

235 (3) Developing and reporting on the early childhood accountability  
236 plan, in accordance with the provisions of section 10-503;

237 (4) Implementing a communications strategy for outreach to families,  
238 service providers and policymakers;

239 (5) [Not later than September 1, 2014, beginning] Beginning a state-  
240 wide longitudinal evaluation of the school readiness program examining  
241 the educational progress of children from prekindergarten programs to  
242 grade four, inclusive;

243 (6) Developing, coordinating and supporting public and private  
244 partnerships to aid early childhood initiatives;

245 (7) Developing a state-wide developmentally appropriate kindergarten  
246 entrance inventory that measures a child's level of preparedness for



247 kindergarten, but shall not be used as a measurement tool for program  
248 accountability;

249 (8) Creating a unified set of reporting requirements for the purpose of  
250 collecting the data elements necessary to perform quality assessments and  
251 longitudinal analysis;

252 (9) Comparing and analyzing data collected pursuant to reporting  
253 requirements created under subdivision (8) of this subsection with the  
254 data collected in the state-wide public school information system,  
255 pursuant to section 10-10a, for population-level analysis of children and  
256 families;

257 (10) Continually monitoring and evaluating all early care and education  
258 and child development programs and services, focusing on program  
259 outcomes in satisfying the health, safety, developmental and educational  
260 needs of all children, while retaining distinct separation between quality  
261 improvement services and licensing services for child care centers, group  
262 child care homes and family child care homes;

263 (11) Coordinating home visitation services across programs for young  
264 children;

265 (12) Providing information and technical assistance to persons seeking  
266 early care and education and child development programs and services;

267 (13) Assisting state agencies and municipalities in obtaining available  
268 federal funding for early care and education and child development  
269 programs and services;

270 (14) Providing technical assistance to providers of early care and  
271 education programs and services to obtain licensing and improve  
272 program quality;

273 (15) Establishing a quality rating and improvement system developed  
274 by the office that covers home-based, center-based and school-based early  
275 child care and learning;

276 (16) Maintaining an accreditation facilitation initiative to assist early  
277 childhood care and education program and service providers in achieving  
278 national standards and program improvement;

279 (17) Consulting with the Early Childhood Cabinet, established  
280 pursuant to section 10-16z, and the Head Start advisory committee,  
281 established pursuant to section 10-16n;

282 (18) Ensuring a coordinated and comprehensive state-wide system of  
283 professional development for providers and staff of early care and  
284 education and child development programs and services;

285 (19) Providing families with opportunities for choice in services  
286 including quality child care and community-based family-centered  
287 services;

288 (20) Integrating early childhood care and education and special  
289 education services;

290 (21) Promoting universal access to early childhood care and education;

291 (22) Ensuring nonduplication of monitoring and evaluation;

292 (23) Performing any other activities that will assist in the provision of  
293 early care and education and child development programs and services;

294 (24) Developing early learning and development standards to be used  
295 by early care and education providers; and

296 (25) Developing and implementing a performance-based evaluation  
297 system to evaluate licensed child care centers, in accordance with the  
298 provisions of section 17b-749f.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	17b-112l
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	17b-90
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	10-500(b)

***Statement of Purpose:***

To facilitate the free flow of information between partner agencies in the two-generational academic achievement and workforce development initiative.

*[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.]*