



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 437

February Session, 2018



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2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof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
8 sector agencies and the private sector to support early childhood care
9 and education, health and workforce readiness and self-sufficiency
10 across two generations in the same household. Households may
11 include, but need not be limited to, mothers, fathers, noncustodial
12 parents and other primary caregivers.

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

17 (1) Improvements to the coordination and delivery of early learning
18 programs, adult education, child care, housing, job training,

19 transportation, financial literacy and other related support services,
20 including, but not limited to, health and mental health services, offered
21 at one location, wherever possible;

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

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

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

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

51 advisory council established pursuant to subsection (d) of this section.
52 The staff of the Commission on Women, Children and Seniors shall
53 serve as the organizing and administrative staff to the learning
54 communities.

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

84 (e) Not later than September 1, 2018, the Two-Generational
85 Advisory Council shall consult with the Office of the Attorney
86 General, the Office of Policy and Management and the Connecticut
87 Preschool through Twenty and Workforce Information Network,
88 established pursuant to section 10a-57g, to develop a uniform
89 approach among partner agencies in the two-generational initiative to
90 facilitate data sharing in accordance with state and federal law
91 pursuant to subparagraph (C) of subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of
92 this section.

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

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

110 (a) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with
111 chapter 54, necessary to enable him to carry out the programs the
112 Department of Social Services is designated to administer pursuant to
113 section 17b-2, including any regulations necessary for receiving grants
114 from the federal government to this state if the absence of any such
115 regulation would result in the loss of such grants and regulations
116 governing the custody and use of the records, papers, files and

117 communications concerning persons applying for or receiving
118 assistance under said sections. When names and addresses of
119 recipients of such assistance are required by law to be furnished to or
120 held by any other government agency, such agency shall adopt
121 regulations to prevent the publication of lists thereof or their use for
122 purposes not directly connected with the administration of said
123 programs.

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

151 investigating social services fraud or locating absent parents of public
152 assistance recipients, (4) to any authorized representative of the
153 Commissioner of Children and Families necessary information
154 concerning a child or the immediate family of a child receiving services
155 from the Department of Social Services, including safety net services, if
156 (A) the Commissioner of Children and Families or the Commissioner
157 of Social Services has determined that imminent danger to such child's
158 health, safety or welfare exists to target the services of the family
159 services programs administered by the Department of Children and
160 Families, or (B) the Commissioner of Children and Families requires
161 access to the federal Parent Locator Service established pursuant to [88
162 Stat. 2353 (1975),] 42 USC 653 in order to identify a parent or putative
163 parent of a child, (5) to a town official or other contractor or authorized
164 representative of the Labor Commissioner such information
165 concerning an applicant for or a recipient of assistance under state-
166 administered general assistance deemed necessary by the
167 Commissioner of Social Services and the Labor Commissioner to carry
168 out their respective responsibilities to serve such persons under the
169 programs administered by the Labor Department that are designed to
170 serve applicants for or recipients of state-administered general
171 assistance, (6) to any authorized representative of the Commissioner of
172 Mental Health and Addiction Services for the purposes of the
173 behavioral health managed care program established by section 17a-
174 453, (7) to any authorized representative of the Commissioner of Early
175 Childhood to carry out his or her respective responsibilities under the
176 two-generational academic achievement and workforce readiness
177 initiative established pursuant to section 17b-112l, as amended by this
178 act, and programs that regulate child care services or youth camps, (8)
179 to a health insurance provider, in IV-D support cases, as defined in
180 subdivision (13) of subsection (b) of section 46b-231, information
181 concerning a child and the custodial parent of such child that is
182 necessary to enroll such child in a health insurance plan available
183 through such provider when the noncustodial parent of such child is
184 under court order to provide health insurance coverage but is unable
185 to provide such information, provided the Commissioner of Social

186 Services determines, after providing prior notice of the disclosure to
187 such custodial parent and an opportunity for such parent to object,
188 that such disclosure is in the best interests of the child, (9) to any
189 authorized representative of the Department of Correction, in IV-D
190 support cases, as defined in subdivision (13) of subsection (b) of
191 section 46b-231, information concerning noncustodial parents that is
192 necessary to identify inmates or parolees with IV-D support cases who
193 may benefit from Department of Correction educational, training, skill
194 building, work or rehabilitation programming that will significantly
195 increase an inmate's or parolee's ability to fulfill such inmate's support
196 obligation, (10) to any authorized representative of the Judicial Branch,
197 in IV-D support cases, as defined in subdivision (13) of subsection (b)
198 of section 46b-231, information concerning noncustodial parents that is
199 necessary to: (A) Identify noncustodial parents with IV-D support
200 cases who may benefit from educational, training, skill building, work
201 or rehabilitation programming that will significantly increase such
202 parent's ability to fulfill such parent's support obligation, (B) assist in
203 the administration of the Title IV-D child support program, or (C)
204 assist in the identification of cases involving family violence, (11) to
205 any authorized representative of the State Treasurer, in IV-D support
206 cases, as defined in subdivision (13) of subsection (b) of section 46b-
207 231, information that is necessary to identify child support obligors
208 who owe overdue child support prior to the Treasurer's payment of
209 such obligors' claim for any property unclaimed or presumed
210 abandoned under part III of chapter 32, or (12) to any authorized
211 representative of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management
212 any information necessary for the implementation and operation of the
213 renters rebate program established by section 12-170d. No such
214 representative shall disclose any information obtained pursuant to this
215 section, except as specified in this section. Any applicant for assistance
216 provided through said department shall be notified that, if and when
217 such applicant receives benefits, the department will be providing law
218 enforcement officials with the address of such applicant upon the
219 request of any such official pursuant to section 17b-16a.

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

228 (d) The Commissioner of Social Services shall provide written notice
229 to a person applying for or receiving assistance from the Department
230 of Social Services or a person participating in a program administered
231 by said department that such person's address and telephone number
232 may be provided to the Department of Children and Families pursuant
233 to subdivision [(2)] (4) of subsection (b) of this section.

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

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

239 (b) The office shall be responsible for:

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

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

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

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

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

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

257 (7) Developing a state-wide developmentally appropriate
258 kindergarten entrance inventory that measures a child's level of
259 preparedness for kindergarten, but shall not be used as a measurement
260 tool for program accountability;

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

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

269 (10) Continually monitoring and evaluating all early care and
270 education and child development programs and services, focusing on
271 program outcomes in satisfying the health, safety, developmental and
272 educational needs of all children, while retaining distinct separation
273 between quality improvement services and licensing services for child
274 care centers, group child care homes and family child care homes;

275 (11) Coordinating home visitation services across programs for
276 young children;

277 (12) Providing information and technical assistance to persons

278 seeking early care and education and child development programs and
279 services;

280 (13) Assisting state agencies and municipalities in obtaining
281 available federal funding for early care and education and child
282 development programs and services;

283 (14) Providing technical assistance to providers of early care and
284 education programs and services to obtain licensing and improve
285 program quality;

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

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

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

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

298 (19) Providing families with opportunities for choice in services
299 including quality child care and community-based family-centered
300 services;

301 (20) Integrating early childhood care and education and special
302 education services;

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

305 (22) Ensuring nonduplication of monitoring and evaluation;

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

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

311 (25) Developing and implementing a performance-based evaluation
312 system to evaluate licensed child care centers, in accordance with the
313 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)

HS *Joint Favorable Subst.*