



**Substitute House Bill No. 5257**

**Public Act No. 18-96**

**AN ACT CONCERNING REPORTS OF ABUSE OR NEGLECT OF PERSONS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY OR AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER.**

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

Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 46a-11b of the 2018 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2018*):

(a) Any physician or surgeon licensed under the provisions of chapter 370, any resident physician or intern in any hospital in this state, whether or not so licensed, any registered nurse, any person paid for caring for persons in any facility and any licensed practical nurse, medical examiner, dental hygienist, dentist, occupational therapist, optometrist, chiropractor, psychologist, podiatrist, social worker, school teacher, school principal, school guidance counselor, school paraprofessional, licensed behavior analyst, mental health professional, physician assistant, licensed or certified substance abuse counselor, licensed marital and family therapist, speech and language pathologist, clergyman, police officer, pharmacist, physical therapist, licensed professional counselor or sexual assault counselor or domestic violence counselor, as defined in section 52-146k, who has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that any person with intellectual disability

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or any person who receives services from the Department of Social Services' Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services has been abused or neglected shall, as soon as practicable but not later than ~~[seventy-two]~~ forty-eight hours after such person has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a person with intellectual disability or any person who receives services from the Department of Social Services' Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services has been abused or neglected, report such information or cause a report to be made in any reasonable manner to the commissioner, ~~[. Such]~~ or the commissioner's designee. An unsuccessful attempt to make an initial report to the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, on a weekend, holiday or after normal business hours shall not be construed as a violation of this section if reasonable attempts are made by a person required to report under this subsection to reach the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, as soon as practicable after the initial attempt. The initial report shall be followed up by a written report not later than five calendar days after the initial report was made. Any person required to report under this subsection who fails to make such report shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars. For purposes of this subsection, "reasonable manner" and "reasonable attempts" mean efforts that include, but are not limited to, efforts to reach the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, by phone, in person or by electronic mail.

Approved June 6, 2018