Bill No.: SB-1080
Title: AN ACT CONCERNING A TWO-GENERATIONAL INITIATIVE.
Vote Date: 3/26/2019
Vote Action: Joint Favorable
PH Date: 3/21/2019
File No.: 

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SPONSORS OF BILL:
Human Services Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:
Senate Bill 1080 deals with a two-generational initiative which would promote family economic success through the establishment of a cabinet designed to help coordinate services across the entire family.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:
Kathleen Brennan, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Social Services: the Department is in support of this legislation. This bill removes the Department from the existing Two-Generational Advisory Council and places them on the newly created Two-Generational Family Economic Success Cabinet.

Rosa Rada, 2Gen Legislative Fellow, Commission on Women, Children and Seniors and Equity and Opportunity: The Commission considers 2Gen to be one of the most effective approaches to disrupting cycles of intergenerational poverty, promoting systems change in government, and advancing economic well-being for the entire state. This year’s legislation would allow for the Attorney General’s Office to encourage legal data sharing within and between agencies.

Beth Bye, Commissioner, Office of Early Childhood; OEC is in support of this legislation. This bill reaffirms the state’s commitment of connecting systems to better address the needs of the whole family. A two-generational approach recognizes that the health and well-being of the caregiver is critical to the well-being and success of the child.
Melissa McCaw, Secretary, Office of Policy and Management; The administration is supportive of the goals of a purposeful body to foster family economic self-sufficiency in low income households through a comprehensive two-generational service delivery approach, but does not support the statutory of two entities working independently to do so. They recommend either a new cabinet or a new board, but not both. They also advocate for an end date to the legislation as they cannot speak for the interest and ability of a future administration to participate willingly in such a cabinet.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Kate Parr, Research Professor, UCONN’s School of Social Work; is in support of this legislation as it continues to build infrastructure needed for systems to work across silos and take a whole-family approach to policy-making. The creation of an executive family economic success cabinet that has a focus of removing institutional barriers will help facilitate many of the changes needed to embrace a two-generational approach.

Hartford Foundation for Public Giving; is in support of this legislation and emphasizes that children are best able to learn and grow when their families are healthy, self-sufficient, and thriving; parents are best able to work and support their families when their children are safe, well-cared for and learning and this approach helps support both ends of a family.

Karen Siegel, Connecticut Voices for Children; is in support of this legislation. She feels as though the-generational Advisory Board will facilitate the interagency collaboration necessary to support family economic security, workforce preparedness, and health while promoting dignity and independence.

Allison Blake, Chief Executive Officer, Child and Family Agency of Southeastern Connecticut; is in support of this legislation which would create the vision and articulate the path forward for two-generational state policy and system reforms which should involve an intentional focus on the whole family.

Merrill Gay, Executive Director, Connecticut Early Childhood Alliance; is in support of this legislation.

Stephan Palmer, Youth on Fire, Inc.; is in support of this legislation as a 2Gen parent leader.

Veronica Rosario, Parent Member of the Two-Generational Interagency Working Group; is in support of this legislation.

Janine McMahon, Parent Leader; is in support of this legislation.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

No sources of opposition were submitted.

Reported by: Kayleigh Royston

Date: 03/28/2019