AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF ADDITIONAL MANDATED REPORTERS, THE DURATION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT INVESTIGATIONS AND THE REPEAL OF CERTAIN REPORTING REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.

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

Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 17a-101 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2019):

(b) The following persons shall be mandated reporters: (1) Any physician or surgeon licensed under the provisions of chapter 370, (2) any resident physician or intern in any hospital in this state, whether or not so licensed, (3) any registered nurse, (4) any licensed practical nurse, (5) any medical examiner, (6) any dentist, (7) any dental hygienist, (8) any psychologist, (9) any school employee, as defined in section 53a-65, (10) any social worker, (11) any person who holds or is issued a coaching permit by the State Board of Education, is a coach of intramural or interscholastic athletics and is eighteen years of age or older, (12) any individual who is employed as a coach or director of...
youth athletics and is eighteen years of age or older, (13) any individual who is employed as a coach or director of a private youth sports organization, league or team and is eighteen years of age or older, (14) any paid administrator, faculty, staff, athletic director, athletic coach or athletic trainer employed by a public or private institution of higher education who is eighteen years of age or older, excluding student employees, (15) any police officer, (16) any juvenile or adult probation officer, (17) any juvenile or adult parole officer, (18) any member of the clergy, (19) any pharmacist, (20) any physical therapist, (21) any optometrist, (22) any chiropractor, (23) any podiatrist, (24) any mental health professional, (25) any physician assistant, (26) any person who is a licensed or certified emergency medical services provider, (27) any person who is a licensed or certified alcohol and drug counselor, (28) any person who is a licensed marital and family therapist, (29) any person who is a sexual assault counselor or a domestic violence counselor, as defined in section 52-146k, (30) any person who is a licensed professional counselor, (31) any person who is a licensed foster parent, (32) any person paid to care for a child in any public or private facility, child care center, group child care home or family child care home licensed by the state, (33) any employee of the Department of Children and Families or any person who, in the performance of such person's duties, has regular contact with and provides services to or on behalf of children pursuant to a contract with or credential issued by the Department of Children and Families, (34) any employee of the Department of Public Health, (35) any employee of the Office of Early Childhood who is responsible for the licensing of child care centers, group child care homes, family child care homes or youth camps, (36) any paid youth camp director or assistant director, (37) the Child Advocate and any employee of the Office of the Child Advocate, (38) any person who is a licensed behavior analyst, [and] (39) any family relations counselor, family relations counselor trainee or family services supervisor employed by the Judicial Department, (40) any victim services supervisor employed by the Office of Victim Services within the Judicial Department, and (41) any employee of a juvenile justice program operated by or
pursuant to a contract with the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Department.

Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 17a-101g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2019):

(a) Upon receiving a report of child abuse or neglect, as provided in sections 17a-101a to 17a-101c, inclusive, or section 17a-103, in which the alleged perpetrator is (1) a person responsible for such child's health, welfare or care, (2) a person given access to such child by such responsible person, or (3) a person entrusted with the care of a child, the Commissioner of Children and Families, or the commissioner's designee, shall cause the report to be classified and evaluated immediately. If the report contains sufficient information to warrant an investigation, the commissioner shall make the commissioner's best efforts to commence an investigation of a report concerning an imminent risk of physical harm to a child or other emergency within two hours of receipt of the report and shall commence an investigation of all other reports within seventy-two hours of receipt of the report. A report classified by the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, as lower risk may be referred for family assessment and services pursuant to subsection (g) of this section. Any such report may thereafter be referred for standard child protective services if safety concerns for the child become evident. A report referred for standard child protective services may be referred for family assessment and services at any time if the department determines there is a lower risk to the child. If the alleged perpetrator is a school employee, as defined in section 53a-65, or is employed by an institution or facility licensed or approved by the state to provide care for children, the department shall notify the Department of Education or the state agency that has issued such license or approval to the institution or facility of the report and the commencement of an investigation by the Commissioner of Children and Families. The department shall complete any such investigation not later than [forty-five calendar] thirty-three business days after the date of receipt of the report. If the
report is a report of child abuse or neglect in which the alleged
perpetrator is not a person specified in subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of this
subsection, the Commissioner of Children and Families shall refer the
report to the appropriate local law enforcement authority for the town
in which the child resides or in which the alleged abuse or neglect
occurred.

Sec. 3. Sections 17a-62 and 17a-103c of the general statutes are
repealed. (Effective July 1, 2019)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following
sections:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Effect Date</th>
<th>Repealer Section</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sec. 1</td>
<td>July 1, 2019</td>
<td>17a-101(b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sec. 2</td>
<td>July 1, 2019</td>
<td>17a-101g(a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sec. 3</td>
<td>July 1, 2019</td>
<td>Repealer section</td>
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**Statement of Purpose:**

To (1) include as mandated reporters (A) persons who have regular
contact with children and provide services to or on behalf of children
pursuant to a contract with or credential issued by the Department of
Children and Families, (B) victims services supervisors employed by
the Judicial Department, and (C) employees of the juvenile justice
program operated by or pursuant to a contract with the Court Support
Services Division of the Judicial Department, (2) require the
completion of investigations of child abuse and neglect not later than
thirty-three business days after receipt of a report, and (3) repeal (A)
reporting requirements concerning certain children and youths in the
custody of the Department of Children and Families, and (B) written
notification requirements concerning reports of abuse and neglect.

[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.]