



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

Raised Bill No. 929

LCO No. 4026



Referred to Committee on COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

Introduced by:
(KID)

***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:

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 17a-101 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2019*):

4 (b) The following persons shall be mandated reporters: (1) Any
5 physician or surgeon licensed under the provisions of chapter 370, (2)
6 any resident physician or intern in any hospital in this state, whether
7 or not so licensed, (3) any registered nurse, (4) any licensed practical
8 nurse, (5) any medical examiner, (6) any dentist, (7) any dental
9 hygienist, (8) any psychologist, (9) any school employee, as defined in
10 section 53a-65, (10) any social worker, (11) any person who holds or is
11 issued a coaching permit by the State Board of Education, is a coach of
12 intramural or interscholastic athletics and is eighteen years of age or
13 older, (12) any individual who is employed as a coach or director of

14 youth athletics and is eighteen years of age or older, (13) any
15 individual who is employed as a coach or director of a private youth
16 sports organization, league or team and is eighteen years of age or
17 older, (14) any paid administrator, faculty, staff, athletic director,
18 athletic coach or athletic trainer employed by a public or private
19 institution of higher education who is eighteen years of age or older,
20 excluding student employees, (15) any police officer, (16) any juvenile
21 or adult probation officer, (17) any juvenile or adult parole officer, (18)
22 any member of the clergy, (19) any pharmacist, (20) any physical
23 therapist, (21) any optometrist, (22) any chiropractor, (23) any
24 podiatrist, (24) any mental health professional, (25) any physician
25 assistant, (26) any person who is a licensed or certified emergency
26 medical services provider, (27) any person who is a licensed or
27 certified alcohol and drug counselor, (28) any person who is a licensed
28 marital and family therapist, (29) any person who is a sexual assault
29 counselor or a domestic violence counselor, as defined in section 52-
30 146k, (30) any person who is a licensed professional counselor, (31) any
31 person who is a licensed foster parent, (32) any person paid to care for
32 a child in any public or private facility, child care center, group child
33 care home or family child care home licensed by the state, (33) any
34 employee of the Department of Children and Families or any person
35 who, in the performance of such person's duties, has regular contact
36 with and provides services to or on behalf of children pursuant to a
37 contract with or credential issued by the Department of Children and
38 Families, (34) any employee of the Department of Public Health, (35)
39 any employee of the Office of Early Childhood who is responsible for
40 the licensing of child care centers, group child care homes, family child
41 care homes or youth camps, (36) any paid youth camp director or
42 assistant director, (37) the Child Advocate and any employee of the
43 Office of the Child Advocate, (38) any person who is a licensed
44 behavior analyst, [and] (39) any family relations counselor, family
45 relations counselor trainee or family services supervisor employed by
46 the Judicial Department, (40) any victim services supervisor employed
47 by the Office of Victim Services within the Judicial Department, and
48 (41) any employee of a juvenile justice program operated by or

49 pursuant to a contract with the Court Support Services Division of the
50 Judicial Department.

51 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 17a-101g of the general statutes is
52 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
53 *1, 2019*):

54 (a) Upon receiving a report of child abuse or neglect, as provided in
55 sections 17a-101a to 17a-101c, inclusive, or section 17a-103, in which
56 the alleged perpetrator is (1) a person responsible for such child's
57 health, welfare or care, (2) a person given access to such child by such
58 responsible person, or (3) a person entrusted with the care of a child,
59 the Commissioner of Children and Families, or the commissioner's
60 designee, shall cause the report to be classified and evaluated
61 immediately. If the report contains sufficient information to warrant an
62 investigation, the commissioner shall make the commissioner's best
63 efforts to commence an investigation of a report concerning an
64 imminent risk of physical harm to a child or other emergency within
65 two hours of receipt of the report and shall commence an investigation
66 of all other reports within seventy-two hours of receipt of the report. A
67 report classified by the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee,
68 as lower risk may be referred for family assessment and services
69 pursuant to subsection (g) of this section. Any such report may
70 thereafter be referred for standard child protective services if safety
71 concerns for the child become evident. A report referred for standard
72 child protective services may be referred for family assessment and
73 services at any time if the department determines there is a lower risk
74 to the child. If the alleged perpetrator is a school employee, as defined
75 in section 53a-65, or is employed by an institution or facility licensed or
76 approved by the state to provide care for children, the department
77 shall notify the Department of Education or the state agency that has
78 issued such license or approval to the institution or facility of the
79 report and the commencement of an investigation by the
80 Commissioner of Children and Families. The department shall
81 complete any such investigation not later than [forty-five calendar]
82 thirty-three business days after the date of receipt of the report. If the

83 report is a report of child abuse or neglect in which the alleged
84 perpetrator is not a person specified in subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of this
85 subsection, the Commissioner of Children and Families shall refer the
86 report to the appropriate local law enforcement authority for the town
87 in which the child resides or in which the alleged abuse or neglect
88 occurred.

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

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	17a-101(b)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	17a-101g(a)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	Repealer section

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.]