AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF CAMERA, COMPUTER 
AND CELLULAR MOBILE TELEPHONE REPAIR PERSONNEL AS 
MANDATED REPORTERS.

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

Section 1. Section 17a-101 of the general statutes is repealed and the 
following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective October 1, 2020):

(a) The public policy of this state is: To protect children whose 
health and welfare may be adversely affected through injury and 
neglect; to strengthen the family and to make the home safe for 
children by enhancing the parental capacity for good child care; to 
provide a temporary or permanent nurturing and safe environment for 
children when necessary; and for these purposes to require the 
reporting of suspected child abuse or neglect, investigation of such 
reports by a social agency, and provision of services, where needed, to 
such child and family.

(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
proposed substitute bill no. 7002

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22 youth athletics and is eighteen years of age or older, (13) any
23 individual who is employed as a coach or director of a private youth
24 sports organization, league or team and is eighteen years of age or
25 older, (14) any paid administrator, faculty, staff, athletic director,
26 athletic coach or athletic trainer employed by a public or private
27 institution of higher education who is eighteen years of age or older,
28 excluding student employees, (15) any police officer, (16) any juvenile
29 or adult probation officer, (17) any juvenile or adult parole officer, (18)
30 any member of the clergy, (19) any pharmacist, (20) any physical
31 therapist, (21) any optometrist, (22) any chiropractor, (23) any
32 podiatrist, (24) any mental health professional, (25) any physician
33 assistant, (26) any person who is a licensed or certified emergency
34 medical services provider, (27) any person who is a licensed or
35 certified alcohol and drug counselor, (28) any person who is a licensed
36 marital and family therapist, (29) any person who is a sexual assault
37 counselor or a domestic violence counselor, as defined in section 52-
38 146k, (30) any person who is a licensed professional counselor, (31) any
39 person who is a licensed foster parent, (32) any person paid to care for
40 a child in any public or private facility, child care center, group child
41 care home or family child care home licensed by the state, (33) any
42 employee of the Department of Children and Families, (34) any
43 employee of the Department of Public Health, (35) any employee of the
44 Office of Early Childhood who is responsible for the licensing of child
45 care centers, group child care homes, family child care homes or youth
46 camps, (36) any paid youth camp director or assistant director, (37) the
47 Child Advocate and any employee of the Office of the Child Advocate,
48 (38) any person who is a licensed behavior analyst, [and] (39) any
49 family relations counselor, family relations counselor trainee or family
50 services supervisor employed by the Judicial Department, and (40) any
51 person who is employed to repair a camera, computer, as defined in
52 section 53-451, cellular mobile telephone or other mobile electronic
53 device, as defined in section 14-296aa, and is eighteen years of age or
54 older.

(c) The Commissioner of Children and Families shall develop an
56 educational training program and refresher training program for the
accurate and prompt identification and reporting of child abuse and
neglect. Such training program and refresher training program shall be
made available to all persons mandated to report child abuse and
neglect at various times and locations throughout the state as
determined by the Commissioner of Children and Families. Such
training program and refresher training program shall be provided in
accordance with the provisions of subsection (g) of section 17a-101i to
each school employee, as defined in section 53a-65, within available
appropriations.

(d) On or before October 1, 2011, the Department of Children and
Families, in consultation with the Department of Education, shall
develop a model mandated reporting policy for use by local and
regional boards of education. Such policy shall state applicable state
law regarding mandated reporting and any relevant information that
may assist school districts in the performance of mandated reporting.
Such policy shall include, but not be limited to, the following
information: (1) Those persons employed by the local or regional board
of education who are required pursuant to this section to be mandated
reporters, (2) the type of information that is to be reported, (3) the time
frame for both written and verbal mandated reports, (4) a statement
that the school district may conduct its own investigation into an
allegation of abuse or neglect by a school employee, provided such
investigation does not impede an investigation by the Department of
Children and Families, and (5) a statement that retaliation against
mandated reporters is prohibited. Such policy shall be updated and
revised as necessary.

Sec. 2. Section 17a-101a of the general statutes is repealed and the
following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective October 1, 2020):

(a) (1) Any mandated reporter, as described in section 17a-101, who
in the ordinary course of such person's employment or profession has
reasonable cause to suspect or believe that any child under the age of
eighteen years (A) has been abused or neglected, as described in
section 46b-120, (B) has had nonaccidental physical injury, or injury
which is at variance with the history given of such injury, inflicted
upon such child, or (C) is placed at imminent risk of serious harm, or
(2) any school employee, as defined in section 53a-65, who in the
ordinary course of such person's employment or profession has
reasonable cause to suspect or believe that any person who is being
educated by the Technical Education and Career System or a local or
regional board of education, other than as part of an adult education
program, is a victim under the provisions of section 53a-70, 53a-70a,
53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b or 53a-73a, and the perpetrator is a school
employee shall report or cause a report to be made in accordance with
the provisions of sections 17a-101b to 17a-101d, inclusive.

(b) (1) [Any] Except as provided in subdivision (4) of this
subsection, any person required to report under the provisions of this
section who fails to make such report or fails to make such report
within the time period prescribed in sections 17a-101b to 17a-101d,
inclusive, and section 17a-103 shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor,
except that such person shall be guilty of a class E felony if (A) such
violation is a subsequent violation, (B) such violation was wilful or
intentional or due to gross negligence, or (C) such person had actual
knowledge that (i) a child was abused or neglected, as described in
section 46b-120, or (ii) a person was a victim described in subdivision
(2) of subsection (a) of this section.

(2) Any person who intentionally and unreasonably interferes with
or prevents the making of a report pursuant to this section, or attempts
or conspires to do so, shall be guilty of a class D felony. The provisions
of this subdivision shall not apply to any child under the age of
eighteen years or any person who is being educated by the Technical
Education and Career System or a local or regional board of education,
other than as part of an adult education program.

(3) Any person found guilty under the provisions of this subsection
shall be required to participate in an educational and training
program. The program may be provided by one or more private
organizations approved by the commissioner, provided the entire cost
of the program shall be paid from fees charged to the participants, the amount of which shall be subject to the approval of the commissioner.

(4) Any mandated reporter described in subdivision (40) of subsection (b) of section 17a-101, as amended by this act, who makes a report pursuant to 18 USC 2258A in lieu of making a report under the provisions of this section, shall not be liable under subdivision (1) of this subsection.

(c) The Commissioner of Children and Families, or the commissioner's designee, shall promptly notify the Chief State's Attorney when there is reason to believe that any such person has failed to make a report in accordance with this section.

(d) For purposes of this section and section 17a-101b, a mandated reporter's suspicion or belief may be based on factors including, but not limited to, observations, allegations, facts or statements by a child, victim, as described in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section, or third party. Such suspicion or belief does not require certainty or probable cause.

Sec. 3. (Effective from passage) Not later than April 1, 2020, the Secretary of the State shall notify each domestic corporation required to file an annual report, pursuant to section 33-953 of the general statutes, that on and after October 1, 2020, any person who is employed to repair a camera, computer, as defined in section 53-451 of the general statutes, cellular mobile telephone or other mobile electronic device, as defined in section 14-296aa of the general statutes, and is eighteen years of age or older, is a mandated reporter pursuant to section 17a-101 of the general statutes, as amended by this act. Such notification may be provided by electronic mail.

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

| Section 1 | October 1, 2020 | 17a-101 |

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<th>October 1, 2020</th>
<th>17a-101a</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sec. 2</td>
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