



General Assembly

January Session, 2021

***Raised Bill No. 872***

LCO No. 2957



Referred to Committee on COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

Introduced by:  
(KID)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REVISIONS TO THE STATUTES CONCERNING CHILDREN.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (f) of section 46b-127 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
3 *2021*):

4 (f) The transfer of a child to a Department of Correction facility shall  
5 be limited as provided in subsection (e) of this section and said  
6 subsection shall not be construed to permit the transfer of or otherwise  
7 reduce or eliminate any other population of juveniles in detention or  
8 confinement within the Judicial Department. [or the Department of  
9 Children and Families.]

10 Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 17a-3 of the general statutes is  
11 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
12 *2021*):

13 (b) [(1) The department, with the assistance of the State Advisory

14 Council on Children and Families, and in consultation with  
15 representatives of the children and families served by the department,  
16 providers of services to children and families, advocates, and others  
17 interested in the well-being of children and families in this state, shall  
18 develop and regularly update a single, comprehensive strategic plan for  
19 meeting the needs of children and families served by the department. In  
20 developing and updating the strategic plan, the department shall  
21 identify and define agency goals and indicators of progress, including  
22 benchmarks, in achieving such goals. The strategic plan shall include,  
23 but not be limited to: (A) The department's mission statement; (B) the  
24 expected results for the department and each of its mandated areas of  
25 responsibility; (C) a schedule of action steps and a time frame for  
26 achieving such results and fulfilling the department's mission that  
27 includes strategies for working with other state agencies to leverage  
28 resources and coordinate service delivery; (D) strategies, informed by  
29 data on referrals, substantiations, removal, placements and retention, by  
30 which the department shall identify racial and ethnic disparities within  
31 child welfare practice and work to eliminate such disparities; (E)  
32 priorities for services and estimates of the funding and other resources  
33 necessary to carry them out; (F) standards for programs and services  
34 that are based on research-based best practices, when available; and (G)  
35 relevant measures of performance.

36 (2) The department shall begin the strategic planning process on July  
37 1, 2009. The department shall hold regional meetings on the plan to  
38 ensure public input and shall post the plan and the plan's updates and  
39 progress reports on the department's web site. The department shall  
40 submit the strategic plan to the State Advisory Council on Children and  
41 Families for review and comment prior to its final submission to the  
42 General Assembly and the Governor. On or before July 1, 2010, the  
43 department shall submit the strategic plan, in accordance with section  
44 11-4a, to the General Assembly and the Governor.

45 (3) The commissioner shall track and report on progress in achieving  
46 the strategic plan's goals not later than October 1, 2010, and quarterly  
47 thereafter, to said State Advisory Council. The commissioner shall

48 submit a status report on progress in achieving the results in the  
49 strategic plan, in accordance with section 11-4a, not later than July 1,  
50 2011, and annually thereafter to the General Assembly, the joint  
51 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
52 matters relating to children and the Governor.] Not later than July 1,  
53 2021, the Commissioner of Children and Families shall submit, in  
54 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing  
55 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
56 relating to children and appropriations and the budgets of the state  
57 agencies and to the State Advisory Council for Children and Families  
58 the following reports that the commissioner most recently submitted to  
59 the Administration for Children and Families pursuant to federal law:  
60 (1) The Child and Family Services Plan, (2) the Annual Progress and  
61 Services Report, (3) the Final Report of the Child and Family Services  
62 Review, and (4) any Program Improvement Plan. Thereafter, the  
63 commissioner shall submit, in accordance with the provisions of section  
64 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having  
65 cognizance of matters relating to children and appropriations and the  
66 budgets of the state agencies and to the State Advisory Council for  
67 Children and Families said reports not later than thirty days after  
68 submission to the Administration for Children and Families.

69 Sec. 3. Subsection (c) of section 17a-4 of the general statutes is  
70 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
71 *2021*):

72 (c) The duties of the council shall be to: (1) Recommend to the  
73 commissioner programs, legislation or other matters which will  
74 improve services for children and youths, including behavioral health  
75 services; (2) annually review and advise the commissioner regarding the  
76 proposed budget; (3) interpret to the community at large the policies,  
77 duties and programs of the department; (4) issue any reports it deems  
78 necessary to the Governor and the Commissioner of Children and  
79 Families; (5) [assist in the development of and] review and comment on  
80 the [strategic plan developed by the department pursuant to] reports  
81 described in subsection (b) of section 17a-3, as amended by this act; (6)

82 [receive on a quarterly basis from the commissioner a status report on  
83 the department's progress in carrying out the strategic plan; (7)]  
84 independently monitor the department's progress in achieving its goals  
85 as expressed in [the strategic plan] such reports; and [(8)] (7) offer  
86 assistance and provide an outside perspective to the department so that  
87 it may be able to achieve the goals expressed in [the strategic plan] such  
88 reports.

89 Sec. 4. Section 17a-22bb of the general statutes is repealed and the  
90 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

91 (a) [(1)] The Commissioner of Children and Families, in consultation  
92 with representatives of the children and families served by the  
93 department, including children at increased risk of involvement with  
94 the juvenile justice system, providers of mental, emotional or behavioral  
95 health services for such children and families, advocates, and others  
96 interested in the well-being of children and families in this state, shall  
97 develop a comprehensive implementation plan, across agency and  
98 policy areas, for meeting the mental, emotional and behavioral health  
99 needs of all children in the state, and preventing or reducing the long-  
100 term negative impact of mental, emotional and behavioral health issues  
101 on children. In developing the implementation plan, the department  
102 shall include, at a minimum, the following strategies to prevent or  
103 reduce the long-term negative impact of mental, emotional and  
104 behavioral health issues on children:

105 [(A)] (1) Employing prevention-focused techniques, with an  
106 emphasis on early identification and intervention;

107 [(B)] (2) Ensuring access to developmentally-appropriate services;

108 [(C)] (3) Offering comprehensive care within a continuum of services;

109 [(D)] (4) Engaging communities, families and youths in the planning,  
110 delivery and evaluation of mental, emotional and behavioral health care  
111 services;

112 [(E)] (5) Being sensitive to diversity by reflecting awareness of race,  
113 culture, religion, language and ability;

114 [(F)] (6) Establishing results-based accountability measures to track  
115 progress towards the goals and objectives outlined in this section,  
116 sections 17a-22cc, 17a-22dd and 17a-248h and section 7 of public act 13-  
117 178;

118 [(G)] (7) Applying data-informed quality assurance strategies to  
119 address mental, emotional and behavioral health issues in children;

120 [(H)] (8) Improving the integration of school and community-based  
121 mental health services;

122 [(I)] (9) Enhancing early interventions, consumer input and public  
123 information and accountability by [(i)] (A) in collaboration with the  
124 Department of Public Health, increasing family and youth engagement  
125 in medical homes; [(ii)] (B) in collaboration with the Department of  
126 Social Services, increasing awareness of the 2-1-1 Infoline program; and  
127 [(iii)] (C) in collaboration with each program that addresses the mental,  
128 emotional or behavioral health of children within the state, insofar as  
129 they receive public funds from the state, increasing the collection of data  
130 on the results of each program, including information on issues related  
131 to response times for treatment, provider availability and access to  
132 treatment options; and

133 [(J)] (10) Identifying and addressing any increased risk of  
134 involvement in the juvenile and criminal justice system attributable to  
135 unmet mental, emotional and behavioral health needs of children.

136 [(2) Not later than April 15, 2014, the commissioner shall submit and  
137 present a status report on the progress of the implementation plan, in  
138 accordance with section 11-4a, to the Governor and the joint standing  
139 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
140 relating to children and appropriations.

141 (3) On or before October 1, 2014, the commissioner shall submit and

142 present the implementation plan, in accordance with section 11-4a, to  
143 the Governor and the joint standing committees of the General  
144 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children and  
145 appropriations.

146 (4) On or before October 1, 2015, and biennially thereafter through  
147 and including 2019, the department shall, in collaboration with the  
148 Department of Education, Department of Social Services, Department of  
149 Developmental Services, Office of Early Childhood, Department of  
150 Public Health and Court Support Services Division of the Judicial  
151 Branch, submit and present progress reports on the status of  
152 implementation, and any data-driven recommendations to alter or  
153 augment the implementation in accordance with section 11-4a, to the  
154 Governor and the joint standing committees of the General Assembly  
155 having cognizance of matters relating to children and appropriations.]

156 (b) Emergency mobile psychiatric service providers shall collaborate  
157 with community-based mental health care agencies, school-based health  
158 centers and the contracting authority for each local or regional board of  
159 education throughout the state, utilizing a variety of methods,  
160 including, but not limited to, memoranda of understanding, policy and  
161 protocols regarding referrals and outreach and liaison between the  
162 respective entities. These methods shall be designed to (1) improve  
163 coordination and communication in order to enable such entities to  
164 promptly identify and refer children with mental, emotional or  
165 behavioral health issues to the appropriate treatment program, and (2)  
166 plan for any appropriate follow-up with the child and family.

167 (c) Local law enforcement agencies and local and regional boards of  
168 education that employ or engage school resource officers shall,  
169 provided federal funds are available, train school resource officers in  
170 nationally recognized best practices to prevent students with mental  
171 health issues from being victimized or disproportionately referred to the  
172 juvenile justice system as a result of their mental health issues.

173 (d) The Department of Children and Families, in collaboration with

174 agencies that provide training for mental health care providers in urban,  
175 suburban and rural areas, shall provide phased-in, ongoing training for  
176 mental health care providers in evidence-based and trauma-informed  
177 interventions and practices.

178 (e) The state shall seek existing public or private reimbursement for  
179 (1) mental, emotional and behavioral health care services delivered in  
180 the home and in elementary and secondary schools, and (2) mental,  
181 emotional and behavioral health care services offered through the  
182 Department of Social Services pursuant to the federal Early and Periodic  
183 Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment Program under 42 USC 1396d.

184 [(f) On or before October 1, 2017, the Department of Children and  
185 Families, in collaboration with the Judicial Branch and the Department  
186 of Correction, shall submit a plan to prevent or reduce the negative  
187 impact of mental, emotional and behavioral health issues on children  
188 and youth twenty years of age or younger who are held in secure  
189 detention or correctional confinement, in accordance with section 11-4a,  
190 to the Governor and the joint standing committees of the General  
191 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children and  
192 appropriations.]

193 [(g)] (f) On or before October 1, 2017, and annually thereafter, the  
194 Commissioner of Correction shall compile records regarding the  
195 frequency and use of physical restraint and seclusion, as defined in  
196 section 46a-150, on children and youth twenty years of age or younger  
197 who are in the custody of the commissioner at the John R. Manson Youth  
198 Institution, Cheshire, and shall submit a report summarizing such  
199 records, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint  
200 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
201 matters relating to children. Such report shall address the prior year and  
202 shall indicate, at a minimum, the frequency that (1) physical restraint  
203 was used as (A) an emergency intervention, and (B) a nonemergency  
204 intervention, and (2) restricted housing or other types of administrative  
205 segregation or seclusion were used at such facility.

206 [(h) On or before October 1, 2018, the Department of Children and  
207 Families, in collaboration with the Children's Mental, Emotional and  
208 Behavioral Health Plan Implementation Advisory Board, established  
209 pursuant to section 17a-22f, shall submit recommendations for  
210 addressing any unmet mental, emotional and behavioral health needs  
211 of children that are attributed to an increased risk of involvement in the  
212 juvenile and criminal justice systems, in accordance with section 11-4a,  
213 to the Governor and the joint standing committees of the General  
214 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children and  
215 appropriations.]

216 Sec. 5. Subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of subsection (k) of section  
217 46b-129 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is  
218 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

219 (B) (i) If a child is at least twelve years of age, the child's permanency  
220 plan, and any revision to such plan, shall be developed in consultation  
221 with the child. In developing or revising such plan, the child may  
222 consult up to two individuals participating in the department's case  
223 plan regarding such child, neither of whom shall be the foster parent or  
224 caseworker of such child. One individual so selected by such child may  
225 be designated as the child's advisor for purposes of developing or  
226 revising the permanency plan. Regardless of the child's age, the  
227 commissioner shall provide not less than five days' advance written  
228 notice of any permanency team meeting concerning the child's  
229 permanency plan to an attorney or guardian ad litem appointed to  
230 represent the child pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

231 (ii) If a child is at least twelve years of age, the commissioner shall  
232 notify the parent or guardian, foster parent and child of any  
233 administrative case review regarding such child's commitment not less  
234 than five days prior to such review and shall make a reasonable effort  
235 to schedule such review at a time and location that allows the parent or  
236 guardian, foster parent and child to attend.

237 (iii) If a child is at least twelve years of age, such child shall, whenever



238 possible, identify not more than three adults with whom such child has  
239 a significant relationship and who may serve as a permanency resource.  
240 The identity of such adults shall be recorded in the case plan of such  
241 child.

242 [(iv) Not later than January 1, 2016, and annually thereafter, the  
243 commissioner shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions  
244 of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General  
245 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children and the  
246 judiciary, on the number of case plans in which children have identified  
247 adults with whom they have a significant relationship and who may  
248 serve as a permanency resource.]

249 Sec. 6. Section 17a-93 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
250 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

251 As used in sections 17a-90 to 17a-121a, inclusive, [and] sections 17a-  
252 145 to 17a-153, inclusive, and sections 7 and 8 of this act:

253 (1) "Child" means any person under eighteen years of age, except as  
254 otherwise specified, or any person under twenty-one years of age who  
255 is in full-time attendance in a secondary school, a technical school, a  
256 college or a state-accredited job training program;

257 (2) "Parent" means natural or adoptive parent;

258 (3) "Adoption" means the establishment by court order of the legal  
259 relationship of parent and child;

260 (4) "Guardianship" means guardianship, unless otherwise specified,  
261 of the person of a minor and refers to the obligation of care and control,  
262 the right to custody and the duty and authority to make major decisions  
263 affecting such minor's welfare, including, but not limited to, consent  
264 determinations regarding marriage, enlistment in the armed forces and  
265 major medical, psychiatric or surgical treatment;

266 (5) "Termination of parental rights" means the complete severance by  
267 court order of the legal relationship, with all its rights and

268 responsibilities, between the child and the child's parent or parents so  
269 that the child is free for adoption except it shall not affect the right of  
270 inheritance of such child or the religious affiliation of such child;

271 (6) "Statutory parent" means the Commissioner of Children and  
272 Families or that child-placing agency appointed by the court for the  
273 purpose of giving a minor child or minor children in adoption;

274 (7) "Child-placing agency" means any agency within or without the  
275 state of Connecticut licensed or approved by the Commissioner of  
276 Children and Families in accordance with sections 17a-149 and 17a-151,  
277 and in accordance with such standards which shall be established by  
278 regulations of the Department of Children and Families;

279 (8) "Child care facility" means a congregate residential setting  
280 licensed by the Department of Children and Families for the out-of-  
281 home placement of (A) children or youths under eighteen years of age,  
282 or (B) any person under twenty-one years of age who is in full-time  
283 attendance in a secondary school, a technical school, a college or state  
284 accredited job training program or is currently homeless or at risk of  
285 homelessness, as defined in section 17a-484a;

286 (9) "Protective supervision" means a status created by court order  
287 following adjudication of neglect whereby a child's place of abode is not  
288 changed but assistance directed at correcting the neglect is provided at  
289 the request of the court through the Department of Children and  
290 Families or such other social agency as the court may specify;

291 (10) "Receiving home" means a facility operated by the Department  
292 of Children and Families to receive and temporarily care for children in  
293 the guardianship or care of the commissioner;

294 (11) "Protective services" means public welfare services provided  
295 after complaints of abuse, neglect or abandonment, but in the absence  
296 of an adjudication or assumption of jurisdiction by a court;

297 (12) "Person responsible for the health, welfare or care of a child or

298 youth" means a child's or a youth's parent, guardian or foster parent; an  
299 employee of a public or private residential home, agency or institution  
300 or other person legally responsible in a residential setting; or any staff  
301 person providing out-of-home care, such as the provision of child care  
302 services, as described in section 19a-77, in a child care center, group  
303 child care home or family child care home;

304 (13) "Foster family" means a person or persons, licensed by the  
305 Department of Children and Families or approved by a licensed child-  
306 placing agency, for the care of a child or children in a private home;

307 (14) "Prospective adoptive family" means a person or persons,  
308 licensed by the Department of Children and Families or approved by a  
309 licensed child-placing agency, who is awaiting the placement of, or who  
310 has a child or children placed in their home for the purposes of  
311 adoption; [and]

312 (15) "Person entrusted with the care of a child or youth" means a  
313 person given access to a child or youth by a person responsible for the  
314 health, welfare or care of a child or youth for the purpose of providing  
315 education, child care, counseling, spiritual guidance, coaching, training,  
316 instruction, tutoring or mentoring of such child or youth;

317 (16) "Qualified residential treatment program" has the same meaning  
318 as provided in Section 472(k)(4) of the Social Security Act, as amended  
319 from time to time; and

320 (17) "Qualified individual" has the same meaning as provided in  
321 Section 475A(c)(1)(D) of the Social Security Act, as amended from time  
322 to time.

323 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Children  
324 and Families shall adopt regulations in accordance with the provisions  
325 of chapter 54 of the general statutes establishing standards for qualified  
326 residential treatment programs and qualified individuals. Such  
327 standards shall include, but not be limited to, (1) staffing at such  
328 treatment programs, (2) the care and treatment of children cared for or

329 boarded in such treatment programs, (3) training and qualifications  
330 required for a qualified individual, and (4) documentation  
331 requirements. The commissioner may implement policies and  
332 procedures consistent with the provisions of this section while the  
333 commissioner in the process of adopting such regulations, provided the  
334 commissioner shall publish notice of intention to adopt regulations on  
335 the eRegulations System not later than twenty days after the  
336 implementation of such policies and procedures. Any such policies and  
337 procedures shall be valid until such final regulations are effective.

338       Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section,  
339 "family" or "family member" means a person related to a child by birth,  
340 marriage or other legal means, or a fictive kin caregiver, as defined in  
341 section 17a-114 of the general statutes.

342       (b) On and after July 1, 2021, or upon approval by the federal  
343 Administration for Children and Families of the Connecticut Family  
344 First Prevention Plan developed by the Department of Children and  
345 Families, whichever is first, a child in the custody of the Commissioner  
346 of Children and Families pursuant to section 46b-129 of the general  
347 statutes, as amended by this act, who is placed in a qualified residential  
348 treatment program, shall, not later than thirty days after such  
349 placement, be assessed by a qualified individual designated by the  
350 commissioner in accordance with the provisions of this section. Such  
351 qualified individual shall (1) assess the strengths and needs of the child  
352 using an age-appropriate, evidence-based, validated, functional  
353 assessment tool approved by the Secretary of Health and Human  
354 Services, (2) determine whether the needs of the child can be met by  
355 family members or through placement in a foster family, and, if such  
356 needs cannot be met, identify a setting that would provide the most  
357 effective and appropriate level of care for the child in the least restrictive  
358 environment and be consistent with the goals for the child as specified  
359 in the permanency plan for the child, and (3) develop a list of child-  
360 specific short-term and long-term mental and behavioral health goals.  
361 A qualified individual shall work in conjunction with the child's family  
362 permanency planning team while conducting an assessment under this

363 section.

364 (c) If the qualified individual conducting an assessment under this  
365 section determines that a child should not be placed with family  
366 members or in a foster family, the qualified individual shall specify in  
367 writing (1) why the needs of the child cannot be met by the child's family  
368 or in a foster family, provided a shortage or lack of availability of foster  
369 family homes shall not be an acceptable reason for a determination that  
370 the child's needs cannot be met in a foster family, (2) why placement in  
371 the qualified residential treatment program will provide the child with  
372 the most effective and appropriate level of care in the least restrictive  
373 environment, and (3) how such placement is consistent with the goals  
374 specified in the permanency plan for the child. Such written findings  
375 shall be submitted to the commissioner.

376 (d) (1) On and after July 1, 2021, or upon approval by the federal  
377 Administration for Children and Families of the Connecticut Family  
378 First Prevention Plan developed by the Department of Children and  
379 Families, whichever is first, the Commissioner of Children and Families,  
380 not later than thirty-five days after the placement of a child who is in the  
381 custody of the commissioner pursuant to section 46b-129 of the general  
382 statutes, as amended by this act, in a qualified residential treatment  
383 program, shall file a motion with the Superior Court that has venue over  
384 such matter for review of the written assessment required pursuant to  
385 subsection (c) of this section, unless such child has been discharged from  
386 the qualified residential treatment program.

387 (2) Not later than fifteen days after a motion for review is filed  
388 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, the court shall (A) review  
389 the findings from the assessment of the child and the determination  
390 made pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, and the written  
391 assessment required pursuant to subsection (c) of this subsection; and  
392 (B) for the purpose of allowing the Commissioner of Children and  
393 Families to receive foster care maintenance payments pursuant to Title  
394 IV-E of the Social Security Act, as amended from time to time, determine  
395 whether the needs of the child can be met through placement with a

396 foster family and, if not, whether placement of the child in the qualified  
397 residential treatment program provides the most effective and  
398 appropriate level of care for the child in the least restrictive environment  
399 and that such placement is consistent with the goals specified in the  
400 permanency plan for the child.

401 (e) Following the court's approval or disapproval pursuant to  
402 subsection (d) of this section, the Commissioner of Children and  
403 Families shall submit evidence to the court at any hearing held with  
404 respect to a child that remains placed in a qualified residential treatment  
405 program, (1) demonstrating that (A) ongoing assessment of the  
406 strengths and needs of the child continues to support the determination  
407 that the needs of the child cannot be met through placement in a foster  
408 family, (B) the placement in the qualified residential treatment program  
409 provides the most effective and appropriate level of care for the child in  
410 the least restrictive environment, and (C) the placement is consistent  
411 with the goals specified in the permanency plan for the child; (2)  
412 documenting the specific treatment or service needs that will be met for  
413 the child in the placement and the length of time the child is expected to  
414 need such treatment or services; and (3) documenting efforts made by  
415 the commissioner to prepare the child to return home or to be placed  
416 with a family member, a legal guardian, an adoptive parent or in a foster  
417 family.

418 Sec. 9. Subsection (a) of section 17a-4 of the general statutes is  
419 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
420 *1, 2021*):

421 (a) There shall be a State Advisory Council on Children and Families  
422 which shall consist of [~~nineteen~~] twenty members as follows: (1)  
423 [~~Thirteen~~] Fourteen members appointed by the Governor, including two  
424 persons who are child care professionals, two persons eighteen to  
425 twenty-five years of age, inclusive, served by the Department of  
426 Children and Families, one child psychiatrist licensed to practice  
427 medicine in this state, [~~and~~] one health care professional who has  
428 expertise in children's health and is licensed in the state, one attorney

429 who has expertise in legal issues related to children and youth and seven  
 430 persons who shall be representative of young persons, parents and  
 431 others interested in the delivery of services to children and youths,  
 432 including child protection, behavioral health and prevention services, at  
 433 least four of whom shall be parents, foster parents or family members of  
 434 children who have received, or are receiving, behavioral health services  
 435 or child welfare services; and (2) six members representing the regional  
 436 advisory councils established pursuant to section 17a-30, appointed one  
 437 each by the members of each council. [On and after October 1, 2014, no]  
 438 Not more than half the members of the council shall be persons who  
 439 receive income from a private practice or any public or private agency  
 440 that delivers mental health, substance abuse, child abuse prevention and  
 441 treatment or child welfare services. Members of the council shall serve  
 442 without compensation, except for necessary expenses incurred in the  
 443 performance of their duties. The Department of Children and Families  
 444 shall provide the council with funding to facilitate the participation of  
 445 those members representing families and youth, as well as for other  
 446 administrative support services. Members shall serve on the council for  
 447 terms of two years each and no member shall serve for more than three  
 448 consecutive terms. The commissioner shall be an ex-officio member of  
 449 the council without vote and shall attend its meetings. Any member  
 450 who fails to attend three consecutive meetings or fifty per cent of all  
 451 meetings during any calendar year shall be deemed to have resigned.  
 452 The council shall elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson to act in the  
 453 chairperson's absence.

454       Sec. 10. Section 17a-63 of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*  
 455 *from passage*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	46b-127(f)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	17a-3(b)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	17a-4(c)
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	17a-22bb
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	46b-129(k)(1)(B)

Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	17a-93
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 9	<i>October 1, 2021</i>	17a-4(a)
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>	Repealer section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To make minor revisions to the statutes of the Department of Children and Families, to consolidate the reporting requirements of the department and to add a member to the State Advisory Council on Children and Families.

*[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.]*