



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 47

February Session, 2022

House Bill No. 5228

House of Representatives, March 21, 2022

The Committee on Human Services reported through REP. ABERCROMBIE of the 83rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE CHAIRPERSONS OF THE AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER ADVISORY COUNCIL.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 17a-215d of the 2022 supplement
2 to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

4 (b) The council shall have three chairpersons [, one of whom shall be
5 the Commissioner of Social Services, or the commissioner's designee,
6 and two of whom] who shall be elected by the members of the council,
7 [and shall be] provided not less than two of the persons elected as
8 chairpersons by the members of the council shall be: (1) A person with
9 autism spectrum disorder appointed pursuant to subdivision (10) of
10 subsection (a) of this section, (2) a parent or guardian of a child with
11 autism spectrum disorder appointed pursuant to subdivision (11) of
12 subsection (a) of this section, or (3) a parent or guardian of an adult with
13 autism spectrum disorder appointed pursuant to subdivision (12) of
14 subsection (a) of this section. The council shall make rules for the

15 conduct of its affairs. The council shall meet not less than four times per
16 year and at such other times as requested by the chairpersons. Council
17 members shall serve without compensation.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2022	17a-215d(b)

HS *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

The bill, which makes changes to the selection of the chairpersons of the Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council, has no fiscal impact.

The Out Years**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 5228*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE CHAIRPERSONS OF THE AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER ADVISORY COUNCIL.*****SUMMARY**

This bill removes the Department of Social Services (DSS) Commissioner, or her designee, as an ex-officio co-chair of the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Advisory Council (see BACKGROUND). It instead requires all three chairpersons to be elected by and from the council's members, provided at least two chairs must be a: (1) person with ASD, (2) parent or guardian of a child with ASD, or (3) parent or guardian of an adult with ASD.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2022

BACKGROUND***Autism Spectrum Disorder Council***

By law, the council consists of 25 members, including persons with the disorder, their parents or guardians, advocates, and service providers. The council must advise DSS on policies and programs for people with ASD, services provided by the department's Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services, and implementation of the autism feasibility study's recommendations. It may also recommend policy and program changes to the DSS commissioner (CGS § 17a-215d).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 20 Nay 0 (03/08/2022)