



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 559

February Session, 2024

Substitute House Bill No. 5454

House of Representatives, April 18, 2024

The Committee on Appropriations reported through REP. WALKER of the 93rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR YOUNG CHILDREN, THEIR CAREGIVERS, EXPECTANT MOTHERS AND PREGNANT PERSONS.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of Social
2 Services, in consultation with the Commissioners of Early Childhood,
3 Children and Families and Mental Health and Addiction Services, shall
4 create a strategic plan to maximize federal and state resources for mental
5 health services for children six years old and younger, their caregivers,
6 expectant mothers and pregnant persons. The plan shall (1) augment an
7 existing intensive, evidence-based program offered at the homes of
8 children five years old and younger, and (2) to the extent permissible
9 under federal law, utilize (A) funds from existing programs for such
10 services, including, but not limited to, the state medical assistance
11 program and the temporary family assistance program, authorized
12 under section 17b-112 of the general statutes, and (B) federal grants
13 administered by the Departments of Social Services and Mental Health
14 and Addiction Services.

15 (b) Not later than October 1, 2024, the Commissioner of Social
16 Services shall file a report on the plan, in accordance with the provisions
17 of section 11-4a of the general statutes, with the joint standing
18 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
19 relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, children,
20 human services and public health. The report shall include existing
21 funding identified that could immediately support such mental health
22 services and recommendations for necessary appropriations to expand
23 such services for children up to the age of six, their caregivers, expectant
24 mothers and pregnant persons.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Subsec. (a)(2), subparagraph designators were added for clarity.

HS	<i>Joint Favorable C/R</i>	APP
APP	<i>Joint Favorable Subst.</i>	

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 requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) to develop a strategic plan to maximize resources for mental health services for certain populations, is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact as DSS and consulting agencies have the expertise necessary to meet the requirements of the bill.

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

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5454

AN ACT CONCERNING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR YOUNG CHILDREN, THEIR CAREGIVERS, EXPECTANT MOTHERS AND PREGNANT PERSONS.

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference - APP
Yea 14 Nay 7 (03/19/2024)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 50 Nay 1 (04/04/2024)