



General Assembly
February Session, 2024

Substitute Bill No. 5454



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:
(HS)

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>	