

House of Representatives, April 2, 1998. The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through REP. BYSIEWICZ, 100th DIST., Chairman of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE FAMILY SUPPORT COUNCIL.

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

1 Subsection (a) of section 17a-219c of the
2 general statutes is repealed and the following is
3 substituted in lieu thereof:

4 (a) There is established a Family Support
5 Council to assist the Department of Mental
6 Retardation and other state agencies that
7 administer or fund family support services to act
8 in concert and within available appropriations, to
9 (1) establish a comprehensive, coordinated system
10 of family support services, (2) use existing state
11 and other resources efficiently and effectively as
12 appropriate for such services, (3) identify and
13 address, within available appropriations, services
14 that are needed for families of children with
15 disabilities, and (4) promote state-wide
16 availability of such services. The council shall
17 consist of [twenty-four] TWENTY-SEVEN voting
18 members including the Commissioners of Public
19 Health, Mental Retardation, Children and Families,
20 Education, Social Services or their designees, THE
21 CHILD ADVOCATE, the executive director of the
22 Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with
23 Disabilities, the chair of the Birth-to-Three

24 Council, as established pursuant to sections
25 17a-248, 17a-248b to 17a-248g, inclusive, 38a-490a
26 and 38a-516c, the executive director of the
27 Commission on Children, and family members of, OR
28 INDIVIDUALS WHO ADVOCATE FOR, children with
29 disabilities. The family members OR INDIVIDUALS
30 WHO ADVOCATE FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES shall
31 comprise two-thirds of the council [,] and shall
32 be appointed as follows: Six by the Governor, two
33 by the president pro tempore of the Senate, two by
34 the majority leader of the Senate, one by the
35 minority leader of the Senate, two by the speaker
36 of the House of Representatives, two by the
37 majority leader of the House of Representatives
38 and one by the minority leader of the House of
39 Representatives. The initial appointments to the
40 council shall be made on or before September 1,
41 1994. Members shall be appointed for a term of
42 four years. Members shall be limited to two
43 consecutive terms. The council shall meet at least
44 quarterly and shall select its own chairperson.
45 The initial meeting of the council shall be
46 convened before October 1, 1994. Council members
47 shall serve without compensation but shall be
48 reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred. The
49 costs of administering the council shall be within
50 available appropriations in accordance with
51 sections 17a-219a to 17a-219c, inclusive.

52 PH COMMITTEE VOTE: YEA 22 NAY 0 JF C/R GAE
53 GAE COMMITTEE VOTE: YEA 17 NAY 0 JF

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"THE FOLLOWING FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND BILL ANALYSIS ARE PREPARED FOR THE BENEFIT OF 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 HOUSE THEREOF FOR ANY PURPOSE."

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT - BILL NUMBER HB 5016

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| STATE IMPACT | None, see explanation below |
| MUNICIPAL IMPACT | None |
| STATE AGENCY(S) | Department of Mental Retardation and Office of the Child Advocate |

EXPLANATION OF ESTIMATES:

This bill increases the membership on the Family Support Council by adding the Child Advocate. It is anticipated that the Child Advocate will perform council responsibilities within the normal budgetary resources of the Office of Child Advocate. In addition, this bill expands the definition of certain council members to include individuals who advocate for children with disabilities. The Department of Mental Retardation will not incur additional costs as a result of passage of this bill.

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OLR BILL ANALYSIS

HB 5016

AN ACT CONCERNING THE FAMILY SUPPORT COUNCIL

SUMMARY: This bill increases membership of the Family Support Council from 24 to 27 members. It adds the child advocate and amends current membership to allow for individuals who advocate for children with disabilities. Current law only includes "family members" of children with disabilities. Family members or individuals that advocate for children with

disabilities must make up two-thirds of the council.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 1998

BACKGROUND

Family Support Council

The Family Support Council assists the Department of Mental Retardation and other state agencies that administer or fund family support services to act together and within available appropriations to (1) establish a comprehensive, coordinated system of family support services; (2) use existing state and other resources efficiently and effectively as appropriate; (3) identify and address services needed; and (4) promote statewide availability of services.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference
Yea 22 Nay 0

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Report
Yea 17 Nay 0