



# Department of Children and Families LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

January 28, 2019

Update 2019-1

## WELCOME TO DCF LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Welcome to the first edition of the DCF Legislative Update for the 2019 session of the General Assembly. The legislative session began on Wednesday, January 9th. Updates will be issued periodically during the legislative session and will provide timely notice of bills, meetings and hearings of interest to the Department.

## DEADLINES – 2019 SESSION

**Deadline for Favorable Reports.** The following are the deadlines for committees to vote to favorably report bills:

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Children	March 12
Education	April 1
Human Services	March 28
Judiciary	April 12
Appropriations	May 3

**Governor’s Budget Address on February 20th:** Since a new administration took office in January, the Governor and OPM have a two week extension to deliver the administration’s budget proposal.

**Adjournment.** The General Assembly Adjourns on June 6th at midnight.

## BILLS OF INTEREST

DCF submitted four bills to the Children Committee this week. The bills are:

**1. Protection of Child Protective Services Workers**

The proposal establishes a criminal offense for threatening a child protective services worker when it is related to the victims’ official duties.

**2. Use of Epinephrine Auto-Injectors at the DCF Wilderness School**

This proposal authorizes Wilderness School employees who fulfill certain training requirements to administer epinephrine by an EpiPen for emergency first aid purposes.

**3. Revisions to Certain Statutes of DCF**

This omnibus proposal contains three sections:

- i. Section 1 adds DCF providers, who have regular contact with children, and employees of juvenile justice programs to the list of mandated reporters.

- ii. Section 2 changes the amount of time to complete Intakes from 45 calendar days to 33 business days.
- iii. Section 3 repeals obsolete reporting requirements.

**4. Failure to Report Suspected Child Abuse or Neglect**

This proposal restructures statutes related to failure to report suspect child abuse or neglect by making § 17a-101o the primary statute for failure to report and applicable to all mandated reporters.

LCO has steadily released proposed bills since the start of session. Rather than list them in this report, the department’s bill tracking report is attached to the transmission email. As additional relevant bills get drafted and raised, they will be added to the report. Raised bills of significant interest will be included in further legislative updates, along with public hearing dates.

**LEGISLATIVE LEADERS – 2019 SESSION**

Senator Martin Looney (D) – *Senate President Pro Tempore*  
 Senator Bob Duff (D) – *Senate Majority Leader*  
 Representative Joe Aresimowicz (D) – *Speaker of the House*  
 Representative Matthew Ritter (D) – *House Majority Leader*  
 Senator Len Fasano (R) – *Senate Minority Leader*  
 Representative Themis Klarides (R) – *House Minority Leader*

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS – 2019 SESSION**

**COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN**

[www.cga.ct.gov/kid/](http://www.cga.ct.gov/kid/)

*Cognizance of all matters relating to (A) the Department of Children and Families, including institutions under its jurisdiction, and (B) children.*

**Chairs:** Sen. Mary Abrams (D), Rep. Liz Linehan (D)  
**Vice-Chairs:** Sen. Marilyn Moore (D), Rep. Robin Comey (D)  
**Ranking Members:** Sen. Kevin Kelly (R), Rep. Robin Green (R)  
**Members:**

Rep. Pat Boyd (D)	Rep. John Hampton (D)	Rep. Gary Turco (D)
Sen. Christine Cohen (D)	Rep. Rick Hayes (R)	Rep. Pat Wilson Pheanious (D)
Rep. Stephanie Cummings (R)	Rep. Noreen Kokoruda (R)	

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

[www.cga.ct.gov/app/](http://www.cga.ct.gov/app/)

*Cognizance of all matters relating to appropriations and the operating budgets and all matters relating to state employees' salaries, benefits and retirement, teachers' retirement, veterans' pensions and collective bargaining agreements and arbitration awards for state employees.*

**Chairs:** Sen. Cathy Osten (D), Rep. Toni Walker (D)  
**Vice-Chairs:** Sen. Joan Hartley (D), Rep. Michael DiMassa (D), Rep. Maria Horn (D)  
**Ranking Members:** Sen. Paul Formica (R), Rep. Gail Lavielle (R)

**Members:**

Rep. Cathy Abercrombie (D)	Rep. Jillian Gilchrest (D)	Rep. Robyn Porter (D)
Sen. Mary Abrams (D)	Rep. Minnie Gonzalez (D)	Rep. Geraldo Reyes (D)
Rep. Andre Baker (D)	Rep. Gregg Haddad (D)	Rep. Christopher Rosario (D)
Rep. Whit Betts (R)	Rep. Carol Hall (R)	Rep. Kate Rotella (D)
Rep. Mitch Bolinsky (R)	Rep. Susan Johnson (D)	Rep. Kevin Ryan (D)
Rep. Dennis Bradley (D)	Rep. Noreen Kokoruda (R)	Rep. Ezequiel Santiago (D)
Rep. Juan Candelaria (D)	Sen. Julie Kushner (D)	Rep. Bill Simanski (R)
Rep. Jay Case (R)	Sen. Matt Lesser (D)	Rep. Travis Simms (D)
Rep. Jeffrey Currey (D)	Rep. Gale Mastrofrancesco (R)	Sen. Heather Somers (R)
Rep. Lucy Dathan (D)	Rep. Kathleen McCarty (R)	Rep. Peter Tercyak (D)
Rep. Anne Dauphinais (R)	Sen. Craig Miner (R)	Rep. David Wilson (R)
Rep. Pat Dillon (D)	Rep. Cara Christine Pavalock-	Sen. Gary Winfield (R)
Sen. Mae Flexer (D)	D'Amato (R)	Rep. Tami Zawitskowski (R)
Rep. Mike France (R)	Rep. Chris Perone (D)	Rep. Lezlye Zupkus (R)
Rep. Bobby Gibson (D)	Rep. William Petit (R)	

**JUDICIARY COMMITTEE**[www.cga.ct.gov/jud/](http://www.cga.ct.gov/jud/)

*Cognizance of all matters relating to (A) the Judicial Department, the Department of Correction and the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, (B) courts, judicial procedures, criminal law, probate courts, probation, parole, wills, estates, adoption, divorce, bankruptcy, escheat, law libraries, deeds, mortgages, conveyancing, preservation of land records and other public documents, the law of business organizations, uniform laws, validations, authorizations to sue and to appeal, claims against the state, (C) all (i) judicial nominations, (ii) nominations of workers' compensation commissioners, and (iii) nominations of members of the Board of Pardons and Paroles, and (D) all bills carrying civil penalties that exceed the sum of, or that may exceed in the aggregate, five thousand dollars.*

**Chairs:** Sen. Gary Winfield (D), Rep. Steve Stafstrom (D)**Vice-Chairs:** Sen. Alexandra Bergstein (D), Rep. Matt Blumenthal (D)**Ranking Members:** Sen. John Kissel (R), Rep. Rosa Rebimbas (R)**Members:**

Rep. Bradley Dennis (D)	Sen. Mae Flexer (D)	Rep. Ben McGorty (R)
Rep. Christie Carpino (R)	Rep. Dan Fox (D)	Rep. Pat Miller (D)
Rep. Julio Concepcion (D)	Rep. Bob Godfrey (D)	Rep. Tom O'Dea (R)
Sen. Dan Champagne (R)	Sen. Will Haskell (D)	Rep. Arthur O'Neill (R)
Rep. Christine Conley (D)	Rep. Maria Horn (D)	Rep. Christine Palm (D)
Rep. Stephanie Cummings (R)	Rep. Stephen Harding (R)	Rep. Robyn Porter (D)
Rep. Jeffrey Currey (D)	Rep. Leslee Hill (R)	Rep. Emmett Riley (D)
Rep. Patricia Dillon (D)	Rep. David Labriola (R)	Sen. Rob Sampson (R)
Rep. Michael DiMassa (D)	Sen. Matt Lesser (D)	Rep. Richard Smith (R)
Rep. Doug Dubitsky (R)	Rep. Geoff Luxenberg (D)	Rep. Toni Walker (D)
Rep. Craig Fishbein (R)	Sen. Douglas McCrory (D)	Rep. Philip Young (D)

## UPCOMING MEETINGS AND HEARINGS

Mon., Jan. 28 - 1:00 PM	CT Children's Behavioral Health Plan Implementation Advisory Board Meeting	Room 1D
Tues., Jan. 29 - 10:30 AM	Human Services Committee Meeting	Room 2B
Wed., Jan. 30 - 12:00 PM	Senate and House Session to Confirm Judges	Capitol
Thurs., Jan. 31 - 9:00 AM	CJPAC Meeting	Room 1C
Thurs. Jan. 31 - 10:30 AM	Human Services Committee Meeting	Room 2A

New additions in **Bold**

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## GENERAL ASSEMBLY WEBSITE

For complete legislative information, visit the Connecticut General Assembly's website at - [www.cga.ct.gov](http://www.cga.ct.gov)

**For additional information regarding legislative matters, contact Vincent Russo, DCF Legislative Program Director at 860-550-6329 or 860-461-6689.**