



Department of Children and Families

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

March 11, 2019

Update 2019-5

BILLS OF INTEREST

HB-7233 AN ACT PROMOTING EFFICIENCY IN STATE BENEFIT PROGRAMS.

To reduce fraud and inefficiency in state benefit programs by requiring agencies to share information on fraudulent claims and best cost-efficient practices.

HB-7276 AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN GROUP CHILD CARE AND FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES.

To (1) protect licensed group child care homes and family child care homes from certain zoning regulations, (2) require the Office of Early Childhood to inspect group child care homes for evident sources of lead poisoning prior to issuing a license for such home, (3) prohibit landlords and homeowners associations from imposing certain restrictions on the operation of licensed group child care homes and family child care homes, and (4) provide for certain protections of such landlords and homeowners associations with regard to tenants and owners operating such homes.

HB-7292 AN ACT CONCERNING SOCIAL WORKER TITLE PROTECTION.

To require any person who uses the title "social worker" to be properly licensed.

HB-7332 AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE WELFARE OF REPEAT JUVENILE OFFENDERS AND THEIR VICTIMS.

To require the automatic transfer to criminal court of a case of a juvenile charged with larceny involving theft of a motor vehicle when the juvenile has at least four prior adjudications or convictions for a felony and to change the factors a court must consider when determining whether to transfer a case involving a juvenile charged with certain felonies.

HB-7342 AN ACT CONCERNING A MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCE FOR INJURY OR RISK OF INJURY OF A CHILD.

To protect children by creating a mandatory sentence of thirty consecutive days of imprisonment for injury or risk of injury to a child.

SB-929 AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF ADDITIONAL MANDATED REPORTERS, THE DURATION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT INVESTIGATIONS AND THE REPEAL OF CERTAIN REPORTING REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.

To (1) include as mandated reporters (A) persons who have regular contact with children and provide services to or on behalf of children pursuant to a contract with or credential issued by the Department of Children and Families, (B) victims services supervisors employed by the Judicial Department, and (C) employees of the juvenile justice program operated by or pursuant to a contract with the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Department, (2) require the completion of investigations of child abuse and neglect not later than thirty-three business days after receipt of a report, and (3) repeal (A) reporting requirements concerning certain children and youths in the custody of the Department of Children and Families, and (B) written notification requirements concerning reports of abuse and neglect.

SB-931 AN ACT CONCERNING PAYMENTS TO CHILD CARE PROVIDERS.

To require Care4Kids program payments to be at least equal to the seventy-fifth percentile of the market cost of child care; to require that any increase in funding to child care centers and

school readiness program providers are to be used for increasing educator salaries; and to reestablish school readiness grant rates in the general statutes and to increase such rates.
SB-933 AN ACT EXPANDING ELIGIBILITY FOR CERTAIN FAMILIES IN THE CARE4KIDS PROGRAM.
To expand the eligibility of the Care4Kids program to include families with a gross income of up to seventy-five per cent of the state-wide median income and require advance notice of expanded program eligibility.

SB-934 AN ACT EXPANDING ELIGIBILITY IN THE CARE4KIDS PROGRAM TO PARENTS ENROLLED IN OTHER TYPES OF SCHOOL.

To expand eligibility in the Care4Kids program to parents who are enrolled in school, in addition to high school, and require advance notice of expanded program eligibility.

SB-936 AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD.

To implement the recommendations of the Office of Early Childhood.

SB-938 AN ACT CONCERNING STATE AGENCY COMPLIANCE WITH PROBATE COURT ORDERS.

To require each state agency to follow any order, denial or decree of a Probate Court that is applicable to a determination made by the state agency, and clarify that a state agency has standing to appeal any such order, denial or decree to the Superior Court with respect to such order's applicability to the state agency's determination.

SB-939 AN ACT CONCERNING PSYCHIATRIC COMMITMENT EVALUATIONS.

To: (1) Reduce the number of physician evaluations required by the Probate Court when a petition for involuntary commitment to a psychiatric hospital is filed; and (2) provide statutory immunity for the court-appointed psychiatrist who conducts such evaluation.

SB-944 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROVISION OF SERVICES TO CHILDREN BY OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS.

To change the Medicaid reimbursement methodology for occupational therapists and to require certain screening tools be used to assess children involved in substantiated cases of abuse and neglect.

SB-958 AN ACT CONCERNING DISENGAGED YOUTH.

To create a pilot program to provide academic and other social support to disengaged youth.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND HEARINGS

Tues., Mar. 12 - 12:00 AM	Committee of Children Committee Meeting (JF Deadline)	Room 1B
Wed., Mar. 13 - 10:00 AM	Commission on Women, Children & Seniors	Room 2A
Wed., Mar. 13 - 11:30 AM	Senate and House Session	Capitol
Thurs., Mar. 14 - 10:00 AM	Human Services Committee Public Hearing	Room 2A
Thurs., Mar. 14 - 11:00 AM	Judicial and Corrections Subcommittee Work Session	Room 1B
Fri., Mar. 15 - 10:00 AM	Human Services Subcommittee Work Session	Room 1B
Mon., Mar, 18 - 11:00 AM	Human Services Subcommittee Work Session (DCF)	Room 1B

GENERAL ASSEMBLY WEBSITE

For complete legislative information, visit the Connecticut General Assembly's website at - 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.