

[Connecticut Public Act 18-111](#)

An Act Concerning the Recommendations of the Department of Children and Families

Effective 7/1/18

This legislation amends our broad statutory mandate to include the focus we have placed on racial justice across the work of DCF. The act requires DCF to take steps to address racial and ethnic disparities within child welfare practices by adopting strategies, establishing a data reporting system, working to eliminate disparities, and annually reporting to the Children's Committee.

Existing law requires DCF, with the assistance of the State Advisory Council on Children and Families and in consultation with certain other stakeholders, to develop and regularly update a strategic plan to meet the needs of children and families the department serves. Under PA 18-111, the plan must include strategies DCF must use to identify racial and ethnic disparities within child welfare practices and work to eliminate those disparities. The strategies must be informed by data on referrals, abuse and neglect substantiations, removals, placements, and retention.