



General Assembly
January Session, 2025

Substitute Bill No. 6951



AN ACT CONCERNING CHILDREN'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) The Transforming Children's
2 Behavioral Health Policy and Planning Committee, established
3 pursuant to section 2-137 of the general statutes, shall conduct a study
4 concerning existing behavioral health services for children and
5 anticipated demand for such services in the future. Such study shall
6 include, but not be limited to, (1) the rates of utilization of the following
7 providers of behavioral health services for children: (A) The United Way
8 of Connecticut 2-1-1 Infoline program, (B) 9-8-8 National Suicide
9 Prevention Lifeline, (C) mobile crisis intervention services, urgent crisis
10 centers, as defined in section 19a-179f of the general statutes, (D)
11 subacute crisis stabilization centers, and (E) hospital emergency
12 departments, (2) outreach and marketing strategies utilized by the
13 service providers listed in subdivision (1) of this subsection, (3) common
14 sources of patient referrals to such service providers, (4) the allocation
15 of state and other financial resources to such service providers, and (5)
16 the anticipated demand for behavioral health services for children into
17 the future.

18 (b) Not later than January 1, 2026, the Transforming Children's
19 Behavioral Health Policy and Planning Committee shall submit a report,
20 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,

21 to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having
22 cognizance of matters relating to developmental services, public health
23 and children. Such report shall include an analysis of (1) data collected
24 in conducting the study required pursuant to subsection (a) of this
25 section, and (2) recommendations to improve the delivery of behavioral
26 health services for children and meet anticipated demand for such
27 services into the future.

28 Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) The Transforming Children's
29 Behavioral Health Policy and Planning Committee established pursuant
30 to section 2-137 of the general statutes, shall in collaboration with (1) a
31 state-wide association of school-based health centers, develop a survey
32 for administration at such centers that is designed to obtain information
33 from such centers concerning existing data collection practices and the
34 anticipated challenges and opportunities presented by the
35 implementation of more comprehensive data collection systems at such
36 centers, and (2) the Commissioner of Public Health, develop appropriate
37 reporting requirements for school-based health centers to determine
38 and respond to the needs of such centers. The committee may contract
39 with a consultant to develop the survey required pursuant to this
40 subsection.

41 (b) Not later than January 1, 2026, the Transforming Children's
42 Behavioral Health Policy and Planning Committee shall submit a report,
43 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,
44 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
45 cognizance of matters relating to public health. Such report shall
46 include, but need not be limited to, the survey and reporting
47 requirements developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

48 Sec. 3. (*Effective from passage*) The sum of eight million six hundred
49 thousand dollars is appropriated to the Department of Children and
50 Families from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026,
51 for mobile crisis intervention services.

52 Sec. 4. (*Effective from passage*) The sum of eight million six hundred

53 thousand dollars is appropriated to the Department of Children and
54 Families from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027,
55 for mobile crisis intervention services.

| | | |
|---|---------------------|-------------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | <i>July 1, 2025</i> | New section |
| Sec. 2 | <i>July 1, 2025</i> | New section |
| Sec. 3 | <i>from passage</i> | New section |
| Sec. 4 | <i>from passage</i> | New section |

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1(a), "following providers of behavioral health services for children:" was inserted, subparagraph designators (A) to (E), inclusive, were inserted and "for such services" was deleted for clarity, and in Section 2(a), "from such centers" was inserted for clarity and "school-based health centers" was changed to "such centers" for consistency with standard drafting conventions.

KID *Joint Favorable Subst.-LCO C/R* ***APP***