



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Raised Bill No. 1213

LCO No. 3631



Referred to Committee on COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

Introduced by:
(KID)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONERS'
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REVISIONS TO STATUTES RELATING TO
CHILDREN.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 17a-4 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
3 *2025*):

4 (b) The council shall meet quarterly, and more often upon the call of
5 the chair or a majority of the members. The council's meetings shall be
6 held at locations that facilitate participation by members of the public,
7 and its agenda and minutes shall be posted on the department's Internet
8 web site. A majority of the members in office, but not less than six
9 members, shall constitute a quorum. The council shall have complete
10 access to all records of the institutions and facilities of the department
11 in furtherance of its duties, while at all times protecting the right of
12 privacy of all individuals involved, as provided in section 17a-28, as
13 amended by this act.

14 Sec. 2. Subdivision (1) of subsection (j) of section 17a-28 of the general

15 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
16 (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

17 (j) (1) Any person or individual aggrieved by a violation of subsection
18 (b) or (d) of this section, subsections (f) to (h), inclusive, of this section
19 or subsection (k) of this section, or a person's authorized representative,
20 may seek judicial relief in the manner prescribed in section 52-146j.

21 Sec. 3. Subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of section 17a-114 of the
22 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
23 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

24 (4) Any such relative or fictive kin caregiver who accepts placement
25 of a child shall be subject to licensure by the commissioner, pursuant to
26 regulations adopted by the commissioner in accordance with the
27 provisions of chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this section or
28 approval by a child-placing agency licensed pursuant to section 17a-149.
29 The commissioner may grant a waiver from such regulations, including
30 any standard regarding separate bedrooms or room-sharing
31 arrangements, for a child placed with a relative or fictive kin caregiver,
32 on a case-by-case basis, if such placement is otherwise in the best
33 interests of such child, provided no procedure or standard that is safety-
34 related may be so waived. The commissioner shall document, in writing,
35 the reason for granting any waiver from such regulations.

36 Sec. 4. Subdivision (5) of subsection (j) of section 46b-129 of the
37 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
38 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

39 (5) The commissioner shall be the guardian of such child or youth for
40 the duration of the commitment, provided the child or youth has not
41 reached the age of eighteen years, or until another guardian has been
42 legally appointed, and in like manner, upon such vesting of the care of
43 such child or youth, such other public or private agency or individual
44 shall be the guardian of such child or youth until such child or youth
45 has reached the age of eighteen years or, in the case of a child or youth

46 in full-time attendance in a secondary school, a technical education and
47 career school, a college or a state-accredited job training program, until
48 such child or youth has reached the age of twenty-one years or until
49 another guardian has been legally appointed. The commissioner may
50 place any child or youth so committed to the commissioner in a suitable
51 foster home or in the home of a fictive kin caregiver, relative caregiver,
52 or in a licensed child-caring institution or in the care and custody of any
53 accredited, licensed or approved child-caring agency, within or without
54 the state, provided a child shall not be placed outside the state except
55 for good cause and unless the [parents] parent or guardian of such child
56 are notified in advance of such placement and given an opportunity to
57 be heard, or in a receiving home maintained and operated by the
58 commissioner. When placing such child or youth, the commissioner
59 shall provide written notification of the placement, including the name,
60 address and other relevant contact information relating to the
61 placement, to any attorney or guardian ad litem appointed to represent
62 the child or youth pursuant to subsection (c) of this section. The
63 commissioner shall provide written notification to such attorney or
64 guardian ad litem of any change in placement of such child or youth,
65 including a hospitalization or respite placement, and if the child or
66 youth absconds from care. The commissioner shall provide such written
67 notification not later than ten business days prior to the date of change
68 of placement in a nonemergency situation, or not later than two business
69 days following the date of a change of placement in an emergency
70 situation. In placing such child or youth, the commissioner shall, if
71 possible, select a home, agency, institution or person of like religious
72 faith to that of a parent of such child or youth, if such faith is known or
73 may be ascertained by reasonable inquiry, provided such home
74 conforms to the standards of the commissioner and the commissioner
75 shall, when placing siblings, if possible, place such children together. At
76 least ten days prior to transferring a child or youth to a second or
77 subsequent placement, the commissioner shall give written notice to
78 such child or youth and such child's or youth's attorney of said
79 commissioner's intention to make such transfer, unless an emergency or

80 risk to such child's or youth's well-being necessitates the immediate
81 transfer of such child or youth and renders such notice impossible.
82 Upon the issuance of an order committing the child or youth to the
83 commissioner, or not later than sixty days after the issuance of such
84 order, the court shall determine whether the department made
85 reasonable efforts to keep the child or youth with his or her [parents]
86 parent or guardian prior to the issuance of such order and, if such efforts
87 were not made, whether such reasonable efforts were not possible,
88 taking into consideration the child's or youth's best interests, including
89 the child's or youth's health and safety.

90 Sec. 5. Subsection (r) of section 46b-129 of the general statutes is
91 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
92 *2025*):

93 (r) The provisions of section 17a-152, regarding placement of a child
94 or youth from another state, and section 17a-175, regarding the
95 Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children, shall apply to
96 placements pursuant to this section. In any proceeding under this
97 section involving the placement of a child or youth in another state
98 where the provisions of section 17a-175 are applicable, the court shall,
99 before ordering or approving such placement, state for the record the
100 court's finding concerning compliance with the provisions of section
101 17a-175. The court's statement shall include, but not be limited to: (1) A
102 finding that the state has received notice in writing from the receiving
103 state, in accordance with subsection (d) of Article III of section 17a-175,
104 indicating that the proposed placement does not appear contrary to the
105 interests of the child or youth, (2) the court has reviewed such notice, (3)
106 whether or not an interstate compact study or other home study has
107 been completed by the receiving state, and (4) if such a study has been
108 completed, whether the conclusions reached by the receiving state as a
109 result of such study support the placement.

110 Sec. 6. Subsection (v) of section 46b-129 of the general statutes is
111 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*

112 2025):

113 (v) In any proceeding to review, modify, terminate or extend an order
 114 of protective supervision, the Department of Children and Families
 115 shall file with the court information concerning (1) whether the
 116 department has received or obtained the most up-to-date information
 117 concerning the child's medical, dental, developmental, educational and
 118 treatment needs from any relevant service providers; (2) whether the
 119 child has received services recommended by any such providers and a
 120 description of any concerns identified by such providers; (3) a
 121 description of (A) any new report alleging abuse or neglect pertaining
 122 to the child or a parent or guardian of the child received pursuant to
 123 section 17a-103a, (B) whether such report resulted in an investigation,
 124 and (C) the findings of any such investigation; (4) any new criminal
 125 charges pending against any such parent or guardian; and (5) for any
 126 child under three years of age, whether the child was screened for
 127 developmental and social-emotional delays pursuant to section 17a-
 128 106e, whether any such delays were identified and, if so, whether the
 129 child was referred to the birth-to-three program pursuant to said
 130 section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	July 1, 2025	17a-4(b)
Sec. 2	July 1, 2025	17a-28(j)(1)
Sec. 3	July 1, 2025	17a-114(c)(4)
Sec. 4	July 1, 2025	46b-129(j)(5)
Sec. 5	July 1, 2025	46b-129(r)
Sec. 6	July 1, 2025	46b-129(v)

Statement of Purpose:

To make minor and technical changes to statutes relating to children.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]