



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2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  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15 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  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22 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  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	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	17a-4(b)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	17a-28(j)(1)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	17a-114(c)(4)
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	46b-129(j)(5)
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	46b-129(r)
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	46b-129(v)

***KID***      *Joint Favorable*