



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 118

February Session, 2026

Substitute Senate Bill No. 6

Senate, March 23, 2026

The Committee on Children reported through SEN. MAHER, C. of the 26th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING SUPPORTS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026, and applicable to taxable years*
2 *commencing on or after January 1, 2026*) (a) As used in this section:

3 (1) "Child" means an individual who is under seventeen years of age;

4 (2) "Eligible taxpayer" means a resident of this state who is subject to
5 the tax under chapter 229 of the general statutes; and

6 (3) "Resident of this state" has the same meaning as provided in
7 subsection (a) of section 12-701 of the general statutes.

8 (b) For taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2026, any
9 eligible taxpayer shall be allowed a credit against the tax imposed by
10 chapter 229 of the general statutes, other than the liability imposed
11 under section 12-707 of the general statutes, for each dependent child of
12 the taxpayer, up to a maximum of three children. The amount of such
13 credit shall be six hundred dollars per child, provided such amount

14 shall be reduced ten per cent for every one thousand dollars, or fraction
15 thereof, of federal adjusted gross income over (1) one hundred thousand
16 dollars for an individual who files a return under the federal income tax
17 as an unmarried individual or a married individual filing separately, (2)
18 one hundred sixty thousand dollars for an individual who files a return
19 under the federal income tax as a head of household, and (3) two
20 hundred thousand dollars for individuals who file a return under the
21 federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly or as a surviving
22 spouse. If the amount of the credit allowed pursuant to this subsection
23 exceeds the eligible taxpayer's liability for the tax imposed by chapter
24 229 of the general statutes, the Commissioner of Revenue Services shall
25 treat such excess as an overpayment and, except as provided under
26 section 12-739 or 12-742 of the general statutes, refund the amount of
27 such excess, without interest, to the eligible taxpayer.

28 (c) For the purposes of this section, the tax liability of an individual
29 taxpayer shall be calculated without regard to the credit allowed under
30 section 12-704e of the general statutes.

31 Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2026*) Notwithstanding the provisions of
32 sections 10-215, 10-215a and 10-266w of the general statutes, for the
33 fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, each eligible school district shall (1)
34 provide school breakfasts and school lunches to all students at no charge
35 to such students, and (2) be eligible to receive a grant from the
36 Department of Education for such school breakfasts and school lunches.
37 As used in this section, "eligible school district" means a local or regional
38 board of education, state or local charter school or an interdistrict
39 magnet school operator that (A) is participating in the federal School
40 Breakfast Program or the National Lunch Program, as the case may be,
41 and (B) is not implementing the Community Eligibility Provision; and
42 "Community Eligibility Provision" means the federal meal
43 reimbursement program administered by the United States Department
44 of Agriculture, as set forth in 7 CFR 245.9, as amended from time to time.

45 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) No person who is convicted
46 on or after October 1, 2026, of a violation of sections 53-20 to 53-21a,

47 inclusive, section 53-23, 53a-70c, subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of
48 section 53a-86, section 53a-90a, sections 53a-196 to 53a-196f, inclusive, or
49 section 53a-196i of the general statutes shall share a primary residence
50 with a minor child, as defined in section 17a-106f of the general statutes,
51 unless such person is the biological parent of such minor child, or the
52 adoptive parent of such minor child and such adoption was finalized
53 prior to such conviction.

54 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) Not later than one week
55 following the release from a correctional facility of a person convicted
56 of and incarcerated for a violation of section 53-20, 53-21, 53-23, 53a-70c,
57 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 53a-86, section 53a-90a,
58 sections 53a-196 to 53a-196f, inclusive, or section 53a-196i of the general
59 statutes, the Commissioner of Correction shall notify the Commissioner
60 of Children and Families of the residential address to which such person
61 was released and the violations for which such person was convicted
62 and incarcerated.

63 (b) Not later than one week after receiving a notification pursuant to
64 subsection (a) of this section, the Commissioner of Children and
65 Families shall determine if the residential address provided in said
66 notification is the address of the primary residence of a child who is the
67 subject of an order for protective supervision, as defined in section 17a-
68 93 of the general statutes, or receiving protective services, as defined in
69 section 17a-93 of the general statutes. If the commissioner determines a
70 child who is the subject of such an order or receiving such services
71 resides at such address, the commissioner shall immediately (1) notify
72 the department's social worker assigned to such case of such person's
73 release to such address and the violations for which such person was
74 convicted and incarcerated, and (2) include a copy of such notification
75 in such child's case file.

76 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) (a) Any local or regional board of
77 education that receives a withdrawal form from a parent or person
78 having control of a child who is withdrawing such child from the public
79 schools in accordance with the provisions of section 10-184 of the

80 general statutes shall notify the Commissioner of Education of such
81 withdrawal not later than two business days following receipt of such
82 withdrawal form.

83 (b) Not later than two business days following receipt of a notification
84 from a local or regional board of education under subsection (a) of this
85 section that a child has been withdrawn from the public schools, the
86 Commissioner of Education shall notify the Commissioner of Children
87 and Families of such withdrawal.

88 (c) Upon receipt of a notification from the Commissioner of
89 Education under subsection (b) of this section that a child has been
90 withdrawn from the public schools, the Commissioner of Children and
91 Families shall, as soon as practicable, determine if such child is the
92 subject of an order for protective supervision, as defined in section 17a-
93 93 of the general statutes, or receiving protective services, as defined in
94 section 17a-93 of the general statutes. If such child is the subject of such
95 an order or receiving such services, the Commissioner of Children and
96 Families shall include a notation of such withdrawal in such child's case
97 file for informational purposes. If such child is not the subject of such an
98 order or receiving such services, the Commissioner of Children and
99 Families shall immediately destroy all information received by the
100 commissioner related to such child and such notification.

101 Sec. 6. Section 10a-57g of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
102 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
103 *October 1, 2026*):

104 (a) As used in this section:

105 (1) ["Preschool through Twenty and Workforce Information
106 Network" or "P20 WIN"] "Data Link Connecticut" or "DataLinkCT"
107 means a state integrated data system utilized for the purpose of
108 matching and integrating data of state agencies and other organizations
109 to inform policy and practice for education, workforce and supportive
110 service efforts.

111 (2) "Participating agency" means the Connecticut State Colleges and
112 Universities, Department of Education, Labor Department, the Office of
113 Early Childhood, The University of Connecticut, the Connecticut
114 Conference of Independent Colleges and any entity that has executed
115 an enterprise memorandum of understanding for participation in [the
116 P20 WIN] DataLinkCT and has been approved for participation
117 pursuant to the terms of the enterprise memorandum of understanding.

118 (3) "Enterprise memorandum of understanding" means a
119 foundational multiparty agreement that sets forth the details of how
120 data is shared and the respective legal rights and responsibilities of each
121 party within the data sharing process.

122 (b) There is established [a Preschool through Twenty and Workforce
123 Information Network] Data Link Connecticut. The executive board of
124 [the P20 WIN] DataLinkCT, established pursuant to subsection (d) of
125 this section, shall establish processes and structures governing the
126 secure sharing of data across participating agencies.

127 (c) The Office of Policy and Management shall serve as the
128 administrator for [P20 WIN] DataLinkCT to support the executive board
129 and data governing board, develop procedures for secure sharing and
130 analysis of data and provide program management to support the
131 continued operation and maintenance of [P20 WIN] DataLinkCT, in
132 accordance with the state data plan and data sharing efforts specified in
133 sections 4-67n and 4-67p.

134 (d) [The P20 WIN] DataLinkCT shall be governed by an executive
135 board that shall provide oversight of such network. Said executive
136 board shall include, but need not be limited to, the chief executive officer
137 of each participating agency, or their respective designees, the Chief
138 Workforce Officer, or the officer's designee, and the Secretary of the
139 Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's designee. The duties
140 of the executive board shall be to:

141 (1) Advance a vision for [the P20 WIN including] DataLinkCT that
142 includes a prioritized research agenda with support from the Office of

143 Policy and Management.

144 (2) Convene as needed to respond to issues from the data governing
145 board.

146 (3) Identify and work to secure resources necessary to sustain [P20
147 WIN] DataLinkCT funding.

148 (4) Support system implementation, maintenance and improvement
149 by advocating for [the P20 WIN] DataLinkCT in regard to policy,
150 legislation and resources.

151 (5) Advocate for and support the state's vision for [the P20 WIN]
152 DataLinkCT.

153 (6) Establish a data governing board to establish and implement
154 policies related to cross-agency data management, including, but not
155 limited to, data confidentiality and security in alignment with the vision
156 for [the P20 WIN] DataLinkCT and any applicable law. In establishing
157 such policies, the data governing board shall consult with the Office of
158 Policy and Management, in accordance with the provisions of sections
159 4-67n and 4-67p and other applicable statutes and policies.

160 (e) The executive board established pursuant to this section may
161 appoint advisory committees to make recommendations on data
162 stewardship, data system expansion and processes, and such other areas
163 that will advance the work of [the P20 WIN] DataLinkCT.

164 (f) (1) Each regional workforce development board established under
165 section 31-3k shall regularly submit data to [the P20 WIN] DataLinkCT
166 to report on the performance and outcomes achieved by the state's
167 workforce system, including, but not limited to, workforce training and
168 development programs that receive federal and state funds or grants.
169 Not later than September 1, 2025, the Chief Workforce Officer shall, in
170 consultation with the Labor Commissioner, the Chief Data Officer and
171 the regional workforce development boards, establish standards for the
172 submission of data by regional workforce development boards
173 specifying the data to be submitted and the form and manner in which

174 to submit such data.

175 (2) On or before January 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the Chief
176 Workforce Officer may, in consultation with the Chief Data Officer and
177 the Labor Commissioner, submit to the administrator of [the P20 WIN]
178 DataLinkCT a request for data and analysis of such data for the
179 purposes of assessing performance and outcomes of the state's
180 workforce system. Such data and analysis request shall be completed by
181 the administrator of [the P20 WIN] DataLinkCT not later than August
182 15, 2022, and annually thereafter.

183 (g) Not later than October 1, 2025, and annually thereafter, each
184 constituent unit of the state system of higher education, as defined in
185 section 10a-1, and such constituent unit's central or system office, if any,
186 shall submit, in a manner that complies with the requirements of the
187 Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 USC 1232g, as amended
188 from time to time, data to [the P20 WIN] DataLinkCT to report on the
189 outcomes of postsecondary education and workforce development
190 programs operated by such constituent unit. Not later than September
191 1, 2025, the Chief Data Officer shall specify the form and manner in
192 which to submit such data. Any report produced from such data shall
193 be in aggregated form and, consistent with any other provision of state
194 or federal law, shall not include any personally identifiable information
195 of students or participants in such programs.

196 Sec. 7. Subsection (c) of section 4-124w of the 2026 supplement to the
197 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
198 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

199 (c) The Chief Workforce Officer may call upon any office,
200 department, board, commission, public institution of higher education
201 or other agency of the state to supply such reports, information, data
202 and assistance as may be reasonable, necessary and appropriate in order
203 to carry out the Chief Workforce Officer's or the Office of Workforce
204 Strategy's duties and requirements. Each officer or employee of such
205 office, department, board, commission, public institution of higher
206 education or other agency of the state shall furnish such reports,

207 information, data and assistance as requested by the Chief Workforce
208 Officer, to the extent permitted under state and federal law. Any request
209 for data from a participating agency in [P20 WIN] DataLinkCT,
210 established pursuant to section 10a-57g, as amended by this act, shall be
211 submitted through [P20 WIN] DataLinkCT in accordance with the
212 policies and procedures established by [P20 WIN] DataLinkCT.

213 Sec. 8. Subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 10-15o of the 2026
214 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
215 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

216 (2) Compile and analyze data on students and young people, through
217 available data systems, including, but not limited to, [the Connecticut
218 Preschool through Twenty and Workforce Information Network] Data
219 Link Connecticut, established pursuant to section 10a-57g, as amended
220 by this act;

221 Sec. 9. Subdivision (19) of subsection (b) of section 12-15 of the 2026
222 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
223 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

224 (19) To the extent allowable under federal law, return information to
225 another state agency or to support a data request submitted through
226 [P20 WIN] DataLinkCT, established in section 10a-57g, as amended by
227 this act, in accordance with the policies and procedures of [P20 WIN]
228 DataLinkCT for the purposes of evaluation or research, provided the
229 recipient of such data enters into a data sharing agreement pursuant to
230 section 4-67aa if such recipient is not a state agency;

231 Sec. 10. Subsection (e) of section 17b-112l of the 2026 supplement to
232 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
233 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

234 (e) Not later than July 1, 2020, pursuant to the advisory authority
235 established in section 3-125, the Office of the Attorney General, in
236 consultation with the Two-Generational Advisory Board, the Secretary
237 of the Office of Policy and Management, the Chief Data Officer

238 appointed pursuant to section 4-67p and [the Preschool through Twenty
 239 and Workforce Information Network] Data Link Connecticut,
 240 established pursuant to section 10a-57g, as amended by this act, shall
 241 develop a uniform interagency data sharing protocol to remove legal
 242 barriers to promote cross-agency and cross-sector collaboration under
 243 this section to the fullest extent permitted under state and federal laws.

244 Sec. 11. Section 22 of public act 24-45 is repealed and the following is
 245 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

246 Not later than [January 1, 2025] July 1, 2027, and [annually] biennially
 247 thereafter, the executive board of [the Connecticut Preschool Through
 248 Twenty and Workforce Information Network] Data Link Connecticut,
 249 established pursuant to section 10a-57g of the general statutes, as
 250 amended by this act, shall submit [an annual] a report on disconnected
 251 youth. In developing such report, the executive board shall use the data
 252 model established through the data sharing agreement 0043 regarding
 253 Research on Disengaged and Disconnected Youth in Connecticut. The
 254 executive board shall submit such report to the joint standing
 255 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
 256 relating to education, children, the judiciary, labor, human services,
 257 public health and appropriations, in accordance with the provisions of
 258 section 11-4a of the general statutes. As used in this section,
 259 "disconnected youth" has the same meaning as provided in section 21 of
 260 [this act] public act 24-45.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2026, and applicable to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	10a-57g

Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	4-124w(c)
Sec. 8	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	10-15o(b)(2)
Sec. 9	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	12-15(b)(19)
Sec. 10	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	17b-112l(e)
Sec. 11	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	PA 24-45, Sec. 22

KID *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Department of Revenue Services	GF - Revenue Loss	316 million	316 million
Department of Revenue Services	GF - Cost	Up to 75,000	None
Education, Dept.	GF - Cost	64.5 million	None
Education, Dept.	FF - Potential Revenue Loss	Potential Significant	Potential Significant
Children & Families, Dept.	GF - Potential Cost	23,400	23,400

Note: GF=General Fund; FF=Federal Funds

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill establishes a refundable personal income tax credit for filers with dependent children, provides universal school meals at no cost to students in FY 27, and makes other changes, resulting in the fiscal impacts described below.

Section 1 establishes a refundable personal income tax credit of up to \$600 per dependent child, for up to three children at maximum per filer, depending on income eligibility. This results in a (1) General Fund revenue loss of approximately \$316 million annually beginning in FY 27 and (2) one-time cost of up to \$75,000 to the Department of Revenue Services in FY 27 associated with programming updates to the CTax tax administration system and myconneCT online portal.

Section 2 results in a one-time cost to the State Department of (SDE)

of approximately \$64.5 million in FY 27. It requires all schools and school districts to offer breakfast and lunch at no charge to students if those schools or districts (1) are participating in the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program and (2) are not participating in the Community Eligibility Provision program (through which students receive meals at no charge). The bill requires SDE to provide a grant to eligible schools and districts to offset the cost of offering meals at no charge.

The bill does not prescribe a formula for the grant. The above indicated cost assumes the grant would ensure that schools and districts are reimbursed for all meals at the federal free meal reimbursement rate. Costs will vary based on federal school meal reimbursement rates and the number of school meals served. If demand for school meals increases as a result of this provision, the above indicated costs could increase correspondingly.

Sections 3 and 4 prohibit individuals convicted of certain crimes from living with a minor child and require the Department of Correction to notify the Department of Children and Families (DCF) when they are released from incarceration, resulting in no fiscal impact. Subsequent potential case actions require minimal changes in workload that can be absorbed by current DCF staff.

Section 5 requires local and regional boards of education to notify the Department of Education (SDE) when a child is withdrawn from public school and SDE must then notify DCF of the withdrawal, starting in FY 27. Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), SDE is prohibited from sharing certain confidential student data. The requirement to notify DCF may be a violation of federal law which could potentially result in a significant loss of federal funding to SDE.

Upon SDE notification, DCF must check if the child has an open case file and note the withdrawal, resulting in a potential cost to DCF of \$23,400 in FY 27 (and annually thereafter) to hire a Careline processing technician (0.5 FTE) that would support any increase in case search

volume associated with the bill's requirements.¹

Sections 6 through 11 rename P20 WIN to DataLink CT and require their executive board to report on disconnected youth biennially (compared to annually under current law) beginning July 1, 2027, resulting in no fiscal impact.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to fluctuation in the number of eligible children covered by the tax credit.

¹ Up to 2,000 students are withdrawn from public school every year.

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 6

AN ACT CONCERNING SUPPORTS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.

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For FY 27, requires all non-CEP-participating school districts in a federal school meals program to provide free school breakfasts and lunches to students; creates a new State Department of Education (SDE) grant to provide funding for the meals

§§ 3 & 4 — RESIDENCE RESTRICTIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS ON PEOPLE CONVICTED OF CERTAIN CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN

Generally, prohibits people who are convicted of certain crimes from living with a minor child and requires notification to DCF when people convicted of these crimes are released from incarceration

§ 5 — NOTIFICATION TO SDE AND DCF OF CHILD WITHDRAWN FROM PUBLIC SCHOOL

Notification to state agencies when a child is withdrawn from public school; determination if the child is subject to protective supervision or services

§§ 6-11 — P20 WIN DATA SYSTEM

Changes the name of the P20 WIN data system to “DataLinkCT” and makes the executive board’s reports on disconnected youth due every two years, rather than every year

COMMENT

SUMMARY

This bill makes unrelated changes regarding taxes (creating a child tax credit), school meals, withdrawing from public schools (homeschooling), people convicted of certain crimes against children, and the P20 WIN data system, as described in the section-by-section analysis below.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026, except as noted below.

§ 1 — CHILD TAX CREDIT

Establishes a refundable state child tax credit against the personal income tax for resident taxpayers with qualifying incomes; credit equals \$600 per child for up to three children but phases out as taxpayer income increases above specified thresholds

Starting with the 2026 tax year, the bill establishes a refundable state child tax credit (CTC) against the personal income tax (but not the withholding tax) for resident taxpayers with qualifying incomes. The CTC is \$600 per dependent child for up to three children (age 16 or younger), but the credit phases out at 10% intervals as taxpayer federal adjusted gross income (AGI) increases above specified income levels, which vary by filing status.

The table below shows, for each filing status, the income level at which taxpayers (1) qualify for the maximum CTC and (2) no longer qualify for it. The state earned income tax credit must be disregarded in calculating a taxpayer's tax liability for the CTC.

Table: CTC Qualifying Income Levels by Filing Status

<i>Filing Status</i>	<i>Maximum CTC (Federal AGI ≤)</i>	<i>No Credit (Federal AGI >)</i>
Single or Married Filing Separately	\$100,000	\$109,000
Head of Household	160,000	169,000
Joint Filers or Surviving Spouses	200,000	209,000

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026, and applicable to tax years starting on or after January 1, 2026.

§ 2 — FREE SCHOOL BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

For FY 27, requires all non-CEP-participating school districts in a federal school meals program to provide free school breakfasts and lunches to students; creates a new State Department of Education (SDE) grant to provide funding for the meals

For FY 27, the bill requires eligible school districts to provide all students with school breakfasts and lunches at no charge and makes these districts eligible for a grant from SDE for these costs.

Under the bill, “eligible school districts” are local and regional boards of education, state and local charter schools, and interdistrict magnet school operators that (1) participate in the federal School Breakfast Program or the National Lunch Program and (2) do not participate in the federal Community Eligibility Program (CEP; see *Background – Community Eligibility Program (CEP)*). It is unclear how this provision would apply to a school district where some, but not all, of its schools participate in CEP.

Relatedly, for eligible school districts, the bill waives the existing law’s requirement on school districts participating in the federal school lunch and breakfast, or other school feeding, programs for FY 27.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

Background — Community Eligibility Program (CEP)

The federal Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 created CEP, which allows eligible schools to serve free breakfast and lunch to all students without collecting applications from individual households (P.L. 111-296, § 104, codified as 7 C.F.R. § 245.9(f)). Instead, schools that adopt CEP are reimbursed using a formula based on their percentage of enrolled students who are categorically eligible for free meals because they participate in other specific means-tested programs, such as SNAP and TANF. Broadly speaking, schools or districts may use CEP if at least 25% of their enrolled students are categorically eligible.

Within a school district, all schools, a group of schools, or an individual school may participate in CEP if eligible. Eligible schools and school districts must submit required documentation to their state education agency (in Connecticut, this is SDE).

§§ 3 & 4 — RESIDENCE RESTRICTIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS ON PEOPLE CONVICTED OF CERTAIN CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN

Generally, prohibits people who are convicted of certain crimes from living with a minor child and requires notification to DCF when people convicted of these crimes are released from incarceration

Primary Residence With a Minor Child Prohibition

The bill prohibits any person convicted, on or after October 1, 2026, of certain crimes against children from sharing a primary residence with a minor child, unless the person is the child's biological or adoptive parent, if the adoption was finalized before the conviction. The table below lists the 15 crimes for which the prohibition applies and provides a high-level summary for each. A minor child is a person under 18 years old.

(This provision may be unconstitutional as it does not include a due process or appeals procedure, see COMMENT – *No Due Process for Significant Penalty.*)

Table: Crimes Triggering Prohibition Against Living With a Minor Child*

Crime	CGS §	Description
Cruelty to persons	53-20	When a person intentionally tortures, torments, or unlawfully punishes another person or deprives them of necessary food, clothing, shelter, or physical care
Injury or risk of injury to, or impairing morals of, children; sale of children	53-21	When a person (1) causes or allows a child under age 16 to be placed in a situation where the child's life or limb is endangered or morals are likely to be impaired, (2) has sexual or indecent contact with the child's intimate parts, or (3) sells or buys permanent custody of the child
Leaving child unsupervised in public accommodation or a motor vehicle; failure to report disappearance of a child	53-21a	When a parent, guardian, or person supervising a child under age 12 knowingly (1) leaves the child unsupervised in a public place or vehicle for a period of time that presents a substantial risk to the child's health or safety or (2) fails to report a child's disappearance to law enforcement
Abandonment of child under the age of six years	53-23	When a person having charge of a child under age six leaves the child in any place, with intent to abandon the child
Aggravated sexual assault of a minor	53a-70c	When any person commits certain crimes (for example, sexual assault) against a child under 13 and the crime is compounded by certain factors (for example, the victim was

Crime	CGS §	Description
		kidnapped, illegally restrained, or stalked or the accused has been convicted of a violent sexual assault before)
Promoting prostitution of a person less than 18 years old in the first degree	53a-86(a)(2)	When a person knowingly advances or profits from the prostitution of a person under age 18
Enticing a minor	53a-90a	When a person uses an interactive computer service (such as the internet) to knowingly persuade, induce, entice, or coerce any someone who is under aged 18, or the person reasonably believes to be under 18, to engage in prostitution or unlawful sexual activity
Obscenity as to minors	53a-196	When a person knowingly promotes to a minor, for money, any material or performance that is obscene for minors
Employing a minor in an obscene performance	53a-196a	When a person employs a minor or allows a minor to be employed to promote any material or performance that is obscene for minors, regardless of whether the minor receives any consideration (is paid)
Promoting a minor in an obscene performance	53a-196b	When a person knowingly promotes any material or performance that employs a minor, whether or not the minor receives consideration, and the material or performance is obscene for minors
Importing child sexual abuse material	53a-196c	When a person knowingly imports or causes to be imported into the state three or more visual depictions of child sexual abuse material (often called child pornography)
Possessing child sexual abuse material in the first degree	53a-196d	When a person knowingly possesses (1) 50 or more images of child sexual abuse material, (2) one or more images of child sexual abuse material depicting the infliction or threatened infliction of serious injury, or (3) a series of images or a video depicting either multiple children engaging in sexually explicit conduct or more than one act of explicit conduct by one or more children
Possessing child sexual abuse material in the second degree	53a-196e	When a person knowingly possesses (1) between 20 and 49 images of child sexual abuse material or (2) a series of images or a video depicting a single act of sexually explicit conduct by one child
Possessing child sexual abuse material in the third degree	53a-196f	When a person knowingly possesses (1) fewer than 20 images of child sexual abuse material or (2) a series of images or a video

<i>Crime</i>	<i>CGS §</i>	<i>Description</i>
		depicting a single act of sexually explicit conduct by one child
Commercial sexual exploitation of a minor	53a-196i	When a person knowingly buys advertising space for an advertisement for a commercial sex act that includes a depiction of a minor

*Except for biological parents or adoptive parents if the adoption was finalized before the conviction

DCF Notification Upon Release From Prison

The bill also requires that, when someone convicted of a crime in the table above (except for those under CGS § 53-21a, described above) is released from incarceration, the correction commissioner must notify the Department of Children and Families (DCF) commissioner. She must give this notice within one week after the person is released and it must include the (1) residential address to which the person was released and (2) crime for which the person was incarcerated.

Within one week after receiving this notification, the bill requires the DCF commissioner to check if the address in the notice is the primary residence of a child who is under a protective supervision order or receiving protective services, as described below. If it is, she must immediately (1) notify the child's DCF social worker of the person's release to the address and the crime that led to the incarceration and (2) include a copy of the notice in the child's case file.

(While the bill requires the child's social worker to be notified of the residence of the person released from the correctional facility under the circumstances above, it is silent on what steps, if any, DCF or the social worker must take after receiving the notification.)

By law, a protective supervision order means a court determined a child was neglected, but DCF or another social agency is, at the court's request, helping correct the neglect while the child remains in the home. "Protective services" means public welfare services provided to a family following a complaint of abuse, neglect, or abandonment, but where there is no ruling on the complaint (CGS § 17a-93).

§ 5 — NOTIFICATION TO SDE AND DCF OF CHILD WITHDRAWN FROM PUBLIC SCHOOL

Notification to state agencies when a child is withdrawn from public school; determination if the child is subject to protective supervision or services

The bill requires local and regional boards of education to notify the education commissioner when a parent or other authorized person submits a form to withdraw a child from public school, as existing law allows. The board must notify the commissioner within two business days after receiving the form.

Within two business days after receiving the board's notice, the bill requires the education commissioner to notify the DCF commissioner of the withdrawal. (This requirement may be a violation of the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which generally makes student information confidential and only allows its release to another agency if a parent consents or one of the act's exceptions applies, see COMMENT — *Potential FERPA Violation.*)

State law allows a parent or other authorized person to withdraw their child as long as they can show the child is elsewhere receiving equivalent instruction in the studies taught in public schools. In practice this is done either by homeschooling or attending private school. (State law does not require parents to notify the school district of the intent to homeschool, but the agency recommends notification and many families do notify the school district.)

After she receives notice that a child was withdrawn from the public schools, the DCF commissioner must, as soon as she reasonably can, check if the child is under a protective supervision order or receiving protective services. If the child is, she must note the withdrawal in the child's case file for informational purposes. If the child is not, the commissioner must immediately destroy all the information she received on the child and the notice.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

§§ 6-11 — P20 WIN DATA SYSTEM

Changes the name of the P20 WIN data system to “DataLinkCT” and makes the executive board’s reports on disconnected youth due every two years, rather than every year

Program Name Change (§§ 6-10)

The bill changes the name of the P20 WIN program (Preschool through Twenty and Workforce Information Network) to “Data Link Connecticut” (or “DataLinkCT”) in five statutes without otherwise changing the law. The program is a state data system used to match and integrate data from certain labor- and education-related state agencies, colleges and universities, and other organizations to inform policy and practice for education, workforce, and supportive service efforts.

Disconnected Youth Report (§ 11)

The bill requires the P20 WIN (renamed DataLinkCT under the bill, see above) executive board to report on disconnected youth biennially (every two years) rather than annually, as current law requires. It makes the first biennial report due by July 1, 2027. Under existing law, unchanged by the bill, the reports must go to the Appropriations, Children, Education, Human Services, Judiciary, Labor and Public Employees, and Public Health committees.

For the reports, a “disconnected youth” is someone age 14-26 who is (1) an at-risk student (see below) or (2) not enrolled in high school and (a) does not have a high school diploma or its equivalent; (b) has a diploma or equivalent but is unemployed and not enrolled in an adult education program, college, or a workforce training or certification program, including an apprenticeship, or otherwise pursuing postsecondary education; or (c) is incarcerated.

COMMENT

No Due Process for Significant Penalty

The U.S. Constitution’s Fourteenth Amendment provides that no state may “deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law.” The amendment’s due process clause guarantees procedural due process, meaning that government actors must follow certain procedures before they may deprive a person of a protected life, liberty, or property interest.

The bill creates a new penalty for people convicted of specified crimes by prohibiting them from residing in a home with a minor child unless they are the child's parent or adoptive parent. However, the bill does not include the elements typically required for due process, for example, a notice provision, a process for government actors to follow, a hearing, the right to counsel, or any ability for the person to appeal this provision.

Potential FERPA Violation

Generally, FERPA requires schools, school districts, and federally funded institutions to keep personally identifying information (PII) in a student's records confidential unless (1) the parents (of students younger than age 18) or students age 18 or older consent to disclose it or (2) one of the legal exceptions to the confidentiality requirement applies (20 U.S.C. § 1232g). Examples of PII include a student's name, date of birth, and personal identifier (34 C.F.R. § 99.3).

The FERPA exceptions that allow PII to be shared include program evaluation and research, cases of a health or safety emergency, or due to a court order or subpoena. The bill requires SDE to transmit student information to DCF, which does not appear to match any of the existing exceptions (34 C.F.R. 99.30 and 31).

RELATED BILL

P20 WIN Data System

sSB 311, favorably reported by the Education Committee also includes provisions changing the name of the P20 WIN data system to DataLinkCT.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Committee on Children

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 11 Nay 6 (03/05/2026)