



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

***Raised Bill No. 5159***

LCO No. 468



Referred to Committee on COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

Introduced by:  
(KID)

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE  
RESPONSIVENESS OF STATE AGENCIES TO ISSUES CONCERNING  
CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE.***

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force  
2 to study the responsiveness of state agencies to issues concerning child  
3 sexual abuse. The task force shall undertake an examination of state  
4 agency policies and practices relating to and impacting children in order  
5 to identify opportunities to detect, mitigate, prevent and effectively  
6 respond to such abuse.

7 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

8 (1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,  
9 who is an attorney admitted to the bar of this state with expertise in  
10 child welfare;

11 (2) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who is  
12 a psychologist licensed pursuant to chapter 383 of the general statutes  
13 with expertise in the treatment of children who have suffered from child

14 sexual abuse;

15 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
16 Representatives, who is a clinical social worker licensed pursuant to  
17 chapter 383b of the general statutes with expertise in identifying child  
18 sexual abuse;

19 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who is a  
20 physician licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the general statutes with  
21 expertise in pediatric medicine;

22 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
23 Representatives, who is a representative of a state-wide organization  
24 dedicated to the prevention of sexual violence;

25 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who is a  
26 representative of a children's advocacy center, as defined in section 17a-  
27 106a of the general statutes;

28 (7) The Commissioner of Children and Families, or the  
29 commissioner's designee;

30 (8) The Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's  
31 designee;

32 (9) The Commissioner of Developmental Services, or the  
33 commissioner's designee;

34 (10) The Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services, or  
35 the commissioner's designee;

36 (11) The Chief Court Administrator, or the administrator's designee;

37 (12) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee;

38 (13) The executive director of the Commission on Women, Children,  
39 Seniors, Equity and Opportunity, or the executive director's designee;  
40 and

41 (14) The Child Advocate, or the advocate's designee.

42 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),  
43 (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member  
44 of the General Assembly.

45 (d) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later  
46 than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall  
47 be filled by the appointing authority.

48 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro  
49 tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force from  
50 among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule  
51 the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty  
52 days after the effective date of this section.

53 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the  
54 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children  
55 shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

56 (g) Not later than January 1, 2025, the task force shall submit a report  
57 on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of  
58 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children,  
59 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.  
60 Such recommendations shall include, but need not be limited to, any  
61 legislative recommendations and recommendations for changes to the  
62 policies or procedures of any state agency that would aid such agency  
63 in the detection, mitigation, prevention and effective response to child  
64 sexual abuse. The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits  
65 such report or January 1, 2025, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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***Statement of Purpose:***

To establish a task force to study the responsiveness of state agencies to issues concerning child sexual abuse.

*[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.]*