



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

**Substitute Bill No. 5194**



**AN ACT REQUIRING A STUDY OF COMMUNITY-BASED  
BEREAVEMENT AND GRIEF COUNSELING ORGANIZATIONS AND  
SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.**

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commission on Women,  
2 Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity, established pursuant to  
3 section 2-127 of the general statutes, shall, in collaboration with the  
4 Social and Emotional Learning and School Climate Advisory  
5 Collaborative, established pursuant to section 10-222q of the general  
6 statutes, and one or more community-based bereavement and grief  
7 counseling resource centers serving children and families, conduct a  
8 study of community-based bereavement and grief counseling  
9 organizations and services for children and families to determine the  
10 (1) extent and availability of such organizations and services state-  
11 wide, and (2) feasibility of and recommendations for implementation  
12 of a state-wide program for the delivery of such services at no cost to  
13 participants. Such recommendations shall include, but need not be  
14 limited to, the types of services the program should provide, eligibility  
15 criteria for children and families to access such services, the optimal  
16 geographic distribution of such services and opportunities to utilize  
17 gifts, grants or donations from private sources and any available  
18 federal funding to fund such program in whole or in part.

19 (b) Not later than January 1, 2024, the Commission on Women,

20 Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity shall submit a report, in  
21 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,  
22 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having  
23 cognizance of matters relating to children. Such report shall include  
24 the findings of the study conducted pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
25 section and any legislative recommendations for the implementation of  
26 a state-wide program for the delivery of bereavement and grief  
27 counseling services for children and families.

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

**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

In Subsec. (a), "program shall provide" was changed to "program should provide" and in Subsec. (b) "and legislative" was changed to "and any legislative" for clarity.

**KID**      *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*