



General Assembly

**Amendment**

January Session, 2011

LCO No. 7217

**\*SB0110607217SD0\***

Offered by:

SEN. BYE, 5<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. COOK, 65<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. STILLMAN, 20<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. LYDDY, 106<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. FLEISCHMANN, 18<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. SANCHEZ, 25<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. ABERCROMBIE, 83<sup>rd</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 1106

File No. 437

Cal. No. 256

**"AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY EDUCATION AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING PROCESS FOR FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDERS."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2011*) (a) On and after July 1, 2013,  
4 there shall be a coordinated system of early care and education and  
5 child development. The coordinated system of early care and  
6 education and child development shall consist of comprehensive and  
7 aligned policies, responsibilities, practices and services for young  
8 children and their families, including prenatal care and care for  
9 children from birth to eight years of age, inclusive, to ensure optimal  
10 health, safety and learning for each child, and that are in accordance  
11 with the plan developed by the planning director pursuant to section 2  
12 of this act.

13 (b) The coordinated system of early care and education and child

14 development shall (1) create a unified set of reporting requirements for  
15 the programs described in subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 2  
16 of this act, for the purpose of collecting the data elements necessary to  
17 perform quality assessments and longitudinal analysis; (2) compare  
18 and analyze the data collected pursuant to reporting requirements  
19 created under subdivision (1) of this subsection with the data collected  
20 in the state-wide public school information system, pursuant to section  
21 10-10a of the general statutes, for population-level analysis of children  
22 and families; (3) develop and update appropriate early learning  
23 standards and assessment tools for children from birth to five years of  
24 age, inclusive, that are age and developmentally appropriate and that  
25 are aligned with existing learning standards as of July 1, 2013, and  
26 assessment tools for students in grades kindergarten to twelve,  
27 inclusive; (4) continually monitor and evaluate all early childhood  
28 education and child care programs and services, focusing on program  
29 outcomes in satisfying the health, safety, developmental and  
30 educational needs of all children; (5) develop indicators that assess  
31 strategies designed to strengthen the family through parental  
32 involvement in a child's development and education, including  
33 children with special needs; (6) increase the availability of early  
34 childhood education and child care programs and services and  
35 encourage the providers of such programs and services to work  
36 together to create multiple options that allow families to participate in  
37 programs that serve the particular needs of each family; (7) provide  
38 information and technical assistance to persons seeking early  
39 childhood education and child care programs and services; (8) assist  
40 state agencies and municipalities in obtaining available federal  
41 funding for early childhood education and child care programs and  
42 services; (9) provide technical assistance and consultation to licensed  
43 providers of early childhood education and child care programs and  
44 services and assist any potential provider of such programs and  
45 services in obtaining the necessary licensure and certification; (10)  
46 create, implement and maintain a quality rating and improvement  
47 system that covers home-based, center-based and school-based early  
48 child care and learning; (11) maintain a system of accreditation

49 facilitation to assist early childhood education and child care programs  
50 and services in achieving national standards and program  
51 improvement; (12) create partnerships between state agencies and  
52 philanthropic organizations to assist in the implementation of the  
53 coordinated system of early care and education and child  
54 development; (13) align the system's policy and program goals with  
55 those of the Early Childhood Education Cabinet, pursuant to section  
56 10-16z of the general statutes, and the Head Start advisory committee,  
57 pursuant to section 10-16n of the general statutes; (14) ensure a  
58 coordinated and comprehensive state-wide system of professional  
59 development for providers of early childhood education and child care  
60 programs and services; (15) develop family-centered services that  
61 assist families in their communities; (16) provide families with  
62 opportunities for choice in services including quality child care; (17)  
63 integrate early childhood education and special education services;  
64 (18) emphasize targeted research-based interventions; (19) organize  
65 services into a coherent system; (20) coordinate a comprehensive and  
66 accessible delivery system for early childhood education and child care  
67 services; (21) focus on performance measures to ensure that services  
68 are accountable, effective and accessible to the consumer; (22) promote  
69 universal access to early childhood care and education; (23) ensure  
70 nonduplication of monitoring and evaluation; (24) encourage, promote  
71 and coordinate funding for the establishment and administration of  
72 local and regional early childhood councils that implement local and  
73 regional birth-to-eight systems; and (25) perform any other activities  
74 that will assist in the provision of early childhood education and child  
75 care programs and services.

76 (c) The coordinated system of early care and education and child  
77 development shall collaborate with local and regional early childhood  
78 councils to implement the coordinated system of early care and  
79 education and child development at the local level. Such early  
80 childhood councils shall: (1) Develop and implement a comprehensive  
81 plan for an early childhood system for the community served by such  
82 early childhood council, (2) develop policy and program planning, (3)

83 encourage community participation by emphasizing substantial  
84 parental involvement, (4) collect, analyze and evaluate data with a  
85 focus on program and service outcomes, (5) allocate resources, and (6)  
86 perform any other functions that will assist in the provision of early  
87 childhood programs and services. Such early childhood councils may  
88 enter into memoranda of agreement with the local or regional school  
89 readiness council, described in section 10-16r of the general statutes, of  
90 the town or region served by such early childhood council to perform  
91 the duties and functions of a school readiness council, in accordance  
92 with the provisions of said section 10-16r, or if no such local or  
93 regional school readiness council exists for the town or region of such  
94 early childhood council, perform the duties and functions of a school  
95 readiness council, in accordance with the provisions of section 10-16r  
96 of the general statutes.

97 (d) The coordinated system of early care and education and child  
98 development may enter into memoranda of agreement with and accept  
99 donations from nonprofit and philanthropic organizations to  
100 accomplish the purposes of this section.

101 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2011*) (a) On or before July 15, 2011,  
102 the Governor shall appoint, in consultation with the Early Childhood  
103 Education Cabinet, established under section 10-16z of the general  
104 statutes, a planning director for the planning and development of the  
105 coordinated system of early care and education and child development  
106 described in section 1 of this act, provided such appointment is made  
107 within available appropriations or funded by donations from private  
108 sources or federal funds to cover the costs of carrying out the  
109 provisions of this section. The planning director shall be within the  
110 Office of Policy and Management.

111 (b) (1) The planning director shall develop a plan for the  
112 coordinated system of early care and education and child  
113 development. Such plan shall consolidate existing early childhood  
114 education and child care programs and services serving children from  
115 birth to eight years of age, inclusive, into a coordinated system that

116 attempts to (A) reduce the academic achievement gap, (B) increase  
117 participation in early childhood education programs, (C) increase  
118 parent engagement, family literacy and parenting skills, (D) increase  
119 oral language development, (E) increase social competence, (F)  
120 decrease special education placements, and (G) support parents and  
121 guardians of young children to find employment and to remain  
122 employed and encourage such parents and guardians to attend work  
123 training programs. Consolidation may include, but not be limited to,  
124 school readiness programs, Head Start programs, the family resource  
125 center program, established pursuant to section 10-4o of the general  
126 statutes, child care facilities, licensing and services described in section  
127 8-210 of the general statutes, the birth-to-three program, established  
128 pursuant to section 17a-248 of the general statutes, professional  
129 development activities relating to early childhood education and any  
130 other relevant early childhood programs and services.

131 (2) In developing such plan, the planning director shall (A) consider  
132 opportunities for consolidation between and within agencies to reduce  
133 redundancy and to improve the focus on positive outcomes for  
134 children and families; (B) seek areas of consolidation between and  
135 within agencies; (C) provide for the creation of memoranda of  
136 agreement between the coordinated system of early care and education  
137 and child development and nonprofit and philanthropic organizations;  
138 (D) identify opportunities to align services and meet the holistic needs  
139 of children and families; (E) implement an accountability framework to  
140 measure program and services outcomes; (F) identify common  
141 requirements for funding from various sources and identify waiver  
142 provisions related to such requirements that can be used to improve  
143 service delivery in the state; (G) identify barriers under state or federal  
144 law that inhibit effective consolidation of functions or utilization of  
145 interagency agreements; (H) consult with qualified local and regional  
146 planning groups; and (I) focus the memoranda of agreement to  
147 relevant program areas, such as, maternal and child health, literacy,  
148 family support, financial planning and early care and education.

149 (c) For purposes of the development of the plan for the coordinated

150 system of early care and education and child development, the  
151 planning director may enter into memoranda of agreement with and  
152 accept donations from nonprofit and philanthropic organizations.

153 (d) The Departments of Education, Social Services, Public Health,  
154 Children and Families, Developmental Services and Higher Education  
155 shall assist the planning director in the planning and development of  
156 the plan for the coordinated system of early care and education and  
157 child development.

158 (e) (1) On and after October 1, 2011, until July 1, 2013, the planning  
159 director shall report quarterly to the Early Childhood Education  
160 Cabinet. Such report may include, but not be limited to, (A)  
161 recommendations regarding the consolidation of agencies to improve  
162 coordination within the coordinated system of early care and  
163 education and child development, (B) suggestions regarding how  
164 federal, state and local resources can be combined to maximize  
165 efficiencies in the system and outcomes for children and families, (C)  
166 suggestions to improve the manner in which state and local early  
167 childhood education initiatives are coordinated so as to provide  
168 holistic, affordable, high quality early education for young children,  
169 (D) recommendations for improvements to the coordinated system of  
170 early care and education and child development, and (E) assurances  
171 that the provisions of section 8-210 of the general statutes are being  
172 preserved in the planning and development of the coordinated system  
173 of early care and education and child development.

174 (2) On and after January 1, 2012, until July 1, 2013, the planning  
175 director shall semiannually report to the joint standing committees of  
176 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
177 appropriations, human services and education, in accordance with the  
178 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. Such report may  
179 include, but not be limited to, (A) recommendations regarding the  
180 consolidation of agencies to improve coordination within the  
181 coordinated system of early care and education and child  
182 development, (B) suggestions regarding how federal, state and local

183 resources can be combined to maximize efficiencies in the system and  
 184 outcomes for children and families, (C) suggestions to improve the  
 185 manner in which state and local early childhood education initiatives  
 186 are coordinated so as to provide holistic, high quality early education  
 187 for young children, (D) recommendations for improvements to the  
 188 coordinated system of early care and education and child  
 189 development, and (E) assurances that the provisions of section 8-210 of  
 190 the general statutes are being preserved in the planning and  
 191 development of the coordinated system of early care and education  
 192 and child development.

193 (3) On or before January 30, 2013, the planning director shall report  
 194 to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having  
 195 cognizance of matters relating to appropriations, human services and  
 196 education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the  
 197 general statutes. Such report shall include recommendations as to  
 198 which department shall be the lead agency and where the staff of the  
 199 coordinated system of early care and education and child development  
 200 will be located.

201 Sec. 3. (*Effective July 1, 2011*) For purposes of the planning and  
 202 development of the coordinated system of early care and education  
 203 and child development, the Early Childhood Education Cabinet,  
 204 pursuant to section 10-16z of the general statutes, the director of the  
 205 Connecticut Head Start Collaboration Office and the Head Start  
 206 advisory committee, pursuant to section 10-16n of the general statutes,  
 207 and the Accreditation Facilitation Project of Connecticut Charts-A-  
 208 Course shall be based in the Department of Education, and may work  
 209 with nonprofit and philanthropic organizations."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	New section