



General Assembly

January Session, 2015

Raised Bill No. 6675

LCO No. 3044



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:
(HS)

***AN ACT CONCERNING A DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
LIAISON TO MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 17b-3 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2015*):

4 (a) The Commissioner of Social Services shall administer all law
5 under the jurisdiction of the Department of Social Services. The
6 commissioner shall have the power and duty to do the following: (1)
7 Administer, coordinate and direct the operation of the department; (2)
8 adopt and enforce such regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, as
9 are necessary to implement the purposes of the department as
10 established by statute; (3) establish rules for the internal operation and
11 administration of the department; (4) establish and develop programs
12 and administer services to achieve the purposes of the department as
13 established by statute; (5) contract for facilities, services and programs
14 to implement the purposes of the department as established by statute;
15 (6) process applications and requests for services promptly; (7) with

16 the approval of the Comptroller and in accordance with such
17 procedures as may be specified by the Comptroller, make payments to
18 providers of services for individuals who are eligible for benefits from
19 the department as appropriate; (8) make no duplicate awards for items
20 of assistance once granted, except for replacement of lost or stolen
21 checks on which payment has been stopped; (9) promote economic
22 self-sufficiency where appropriate in the department's programs,
23 policies, practices and staff interactions with recipients; (10) act as
24 advocate for the need of more comprehensive and coordinated
25 programs for persons served by the department; (11) plan services and
26 programs for persons served by the department; (12) coordinate
27 outreach activities by public and private agencies assisting persons
28 served by the department; (13) consult and cooperate with area and
29 private planning agencies; (14) advise and inform municipal officials
30 and officials of social service agencies about social service programs
31 and collect and disseminate information pertaining thereto, including
32 information about federal, state, municipal and private assistance
33 programs and services; (15) encourage and facilitate effective
34 communication and coordination among federal, state, municipal and
35 private agencies; (16) inquire into the utilization of state and federal
36 government resources which offer solutions to problems of the
37 delivery of social services; (17) conduct, encourage and maintain
38 research and studies relating to social services development; (18)
39 prepare, review and encourage model comprehensive social service
40 programs; (19) maintain an inventory of data and information and act
41 as a clearing house and referral agency for information on state and
42 federal programs and services; and (20) conduct, encourage and
43 maintain research and studies and advise municipal officials and
44 officials of social service agencies about forms of intergovernmental
45 cooperation and coordination between public and private agencies
46 designed to advance social service programs. The commissioner may
47 require notice of the submission of all applications by municipalities,
48 any agency thereof, and social service agencies, for federal and state
49 financial assistance to carry out social services. The commissioner shall

50 establish state-wide and regional advisory councils and shall appoint a
51 liaison to municipal officials to address social services concerns.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	17b-3(a)

Statement of Purpose:

To require the Department of Social Services to appoint a liaison to municipal officials to address social services concerns.