



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2015

LCO No. 7942



Offered by:

SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.
SEN. DUFF, 25th Dist.
SEN. COLEMAN, 2nd Dist.
SEN. DOYLE, 9th Dist.

SEN. SLOSSBERG, 14th Dist.
SEN. GERRATANA, 6th Dist.
SEN. BARTOLOMEO, 13th Dist.
REP. URBAN, 43rd Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 303

File No. 147

Cal. No. 148

***"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE
STATE-WIDE RESPONSE TO FAMILY VIOLENCE."***

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

3 "Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force
4 to study the state-wide response to minors exposed to family violence.
5 Such study shall include, but not be limited to, (1) an examination of
6 existing policies and procedures used by the Department of Children
7 and Families, the Department of Mental Health and Addiction
8 Services, health care professionals, law enforcement, guardians ad
9 litem, attorneys for minor children and the Judicial Branch for minors
10 who are exposed to family violence, and (2) the development of a state-
11 wide model policy for use by (A) the Department of Children and
12 Families, including organizations with which it contracts services; (B)

13 the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, including
14 organizations with which it contracts services; (C) health care
15 professionals; (D) guardians ad litem; (E) attorneys for minor children;
16 (F) law enforcement; and (G) the Judicial Branch, when responding to
17 minors who are exposed to family violence.

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

19 (1) The Commissioner of Children and Families, or the
20 commissioner's designee;

21 (2) The Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services, or
22 the commissioner's designee;

23 (3) The Commissioner of Early Childhood, or the commissioner's
24 designee;

25 (4) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection,
26 or the commissioner's designee;

27 (5) The Child Advocate, or the Child Advocate's designee;

28 (6) The Chief Public Defender, or the Chief Public Defender's
29 designee;

30 (7) The Chief State's Attorney, or the Chief State's Attorney's
31 designee;

32 (8) A chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General
33 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children, or the
34 chairperson's designee;

35 (9) A chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General
36 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services, or
37 the chairperson's designee;

38 (10) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one
39 of whom shall represent the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic

40 Violence and one of whom shall be an attorney licensed to practice law
41 in Connecticut;

42 (11) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
43 one of whom shall represent the Connecticut Children's Medical
44 Center and one of whom shall represent a multidisciplinary team
45 established pursuant to section 17a-106a of the general statutes;

46 (12) Two appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, one of
47 whom shall represent the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association and
48 one of whom shall be an adult victim of domestic violence;

49 (13) Two appointed by the majority leader of the House of
50 Representatives, one of whom shall represent a designated child
51 advocacy center and one of whom shall be a medical doctor
52 specializing in the care of children exposed to family violence;

53 (14) Two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, one of
54 whom shall be a currently appointed guardian ad litem and one of
55 whom shall be a psychiatrist or psychologist specializing in the mental
56 health care of children exposed to family violence;

57 (15) Two appointed by the minority leader of the House of
58 Representatives, one of whom shall be a youth victim exposed to
59 family violence and one of whom shall be a currently appointed
60 attorney for the minor child;

61 (16) Two appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall serve as the
62 executive director of a domestic violence organization and one of
63 whom shall be a health care provider specializing in early childhood
64 development; and

65 (17) Two appointed by the Chief Court Administrator, one of whom
66 shall be a judge of the Superior Court assigned to hear family matters
67 and one of whom shall represent the Judicial Branch Court Support
68 Services Division.

69 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivisions (8)
70 to (15), inclusive, of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of
71 the General Assembly.

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

75 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president
76 pro tempore of the Senate shall select two chairpersons of the task
77 force from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons
78 shall schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held
79 not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

80 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
81 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human
82 services shall serve as the administrative staff of the task force.

83 (g) Not later than January 15, 2016, the task force shall submit a
84 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
85 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
86 relating to human services and children, in accordance with the
87 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force shall
88 terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 15, 2016,
89 whichever is later."

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