



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 23

January Session, 2021

Substitute House Bill No. 6320

House of Representatives, March 9, 2021

The Committee on Human Services reported through REP. ABERCROMBIE of the 83rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER ADVISORY COUNCIL.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 17a-215d of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
3 *2021*):

4 (b) The council shall have [~~two~~] three chairpersons, one of whom
5 shall be the Commissioner of Social Services, or the commissioner's
6 designee, and [~~one~~] two of whom shall be elected by the members of the
7 council and shall be: (1) A person with autism spectrum disorder
8 appointed pursuant to subdivision (10) of subsection (a) of this section,
9 (2) a parent or guardian of a child with autism spectrum disorder
10 appointed pursuant to subdivision (11) of subsection (a) of this section,
11 or (3) a parent or guardian of an adult with autism spectrum disorder
12 appointed pursuant to subdivision (12) of subsection (a) of this section.
13 The council shall make rules for the conduct of its affairs. The council

14 shall meet not less than four times per year and at such other times as
 15 requested by the chairpersons. Council members shall serve without
 16 compensation.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2021	17a-215d(b)

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1(b), "up to" was deleted for clarity and consistency with the other provisions in the subsection.

HS *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill makes changes to the membership of the advisory council which has no fiscal impact.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 6320*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER ADVISORY COUNCIL.*****SUMMARY**

This bill (1) adds a third chairperson to the Autism Spectrum Disorder council (see BACKGROUND), to be elected by council members, and (2) requires both elected chairs to be chosen from the six appointed council members who are either individuals with autism or parents or guardians of individuals with autism.

Under current law, the council has two chairpersons, one of whom is elected from the members at large. Under existing law, the other chairperson is the Department of Social Services (DSS) commissioner, or her designee.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2021

BACKGROUND***Autism Spectrum Disorder Council***

By law, the Autism Spectrum Disorder Council consists of 25 members, including persons with the disorder, their parents or guardians, advocates, and service providers. The council must advise DSS on policies and programs for people with autism spectrum disorder, services provided by the department's Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services, and implementing the autism feasibility study's recommendations. It may also recommend policy and program changes to the DSS commissioner.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 19 Nay 0 (02/23/2021)