



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

**Committee Bill No. 5194**

LCO No. 5177



Referred to Committee on COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

Introduced by:  
(KID)

***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 (1)  
10 extent and availability of such organizations and services state-wide,  
11 and (2) feasibility of and recommendations for implementation of a  
12 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 shall 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 federal  
18 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 the  
24 findings of the study conducted pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
25 section and legislative recommendations for the implementation of a  
26 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 Purpose:**

To require the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity to conduct a study of community-based bereavement and grief counseling organizations and services for children and families and make recommendations for the implementation of a state-wide program for the delivery of such services.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*

Co-Sponsors: REP. MCCARTY K., 38th Dist.; REP. CHEESEMAN, 37th Dist.

H.B. 5194