



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 155

January Session, 2025

House Bill No. 6186

House of Representatives, March 20, 2025

The Committee on Children reported through REP. PARIS of the 145th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAL RECORDS PERTAINING TO PRENATAL CARE AND MANDATED REPORTS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 17a-101d of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3 All reports required pursuant to sections 17a-101a to 17a-101c,
4 inclusive, and section 17a-103, shall contain, if known: (1) The names
5 and addresses of the child and his or her parents or other person
6 responsible for his or her care; (2) the age of the child; (3) the gender of
7 the child; (4) the nature and extent of the child's injury or injuries,
8 maltreatment or neglect; (5) the approximate date and time the injury or
9 injuries, maltreatment or neglect occurred; (6) information concerning
10 any previous injury or injuries to, or maltreatment or neglect of, the
11 child or his or her siblings; (7) the circumstances in which the injury or
12 injuries, maltreatment or neglect came to be known to the reporter; (8)
13 the name of the person or persons suspected to be responsible for
14 causing such injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect; (9) the reasons

15 such person or persons are suspected of causing such injury or injuries,
16 maltreatment or neglect; (10) any information concerning any prior
17 cases in which such person or persons have been suspected of causing
18 an injury, maltreatment or neglect of a child; and (11) whatever action,
19 if any, was taken to treat, provide shelter or otherwise assist the child.
20 For purposes of this section, "child" includes any victim described in
21 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 17a-101a. A reporter shall not
22 include in any such report any medical record pertaining to prenatal
23 care received by the mother of the child who is the subject of such report.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2025	17a-101d

KID *Joint Favorable*

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, which would prohibit the inclusion of any medical record pertaining to prenatal care received by the mother of a child in a report of suspected child abuse or neglect made by a mandated reporter, results in no fiscal impact.

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 6186*****AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAL RECORDS PERTAINING TO
PRENATAL CARE AND MANDATED REPORTS.*****SUMMARY**

This bill prohibits a mandated reporter of suspected child abuse or neglect from including the mother's prenatal care-related medical records in the report. (It is unclear whether mandated reporters would be able to, or required to, report abuse or neglect of another of their patient's children if they were alerted to that abuse or neglect in the context of prenatal care.)

Under existing law, reports of mandated reporters of child abuse or neglect must include, among other things and if known, (1) the child's name, age, gender, and address; (2) the name(s) and address(es) of the child's parent(s) or guardian(s); (3) details on the suspected injuries, maltreatment, or neglect; and (4) what actions were taken to assist the child.

The law, unchanged by the bill, generally gives civil and criminal liability protection to a mandated reporter who provides, in good faith, professional medical intervention or assistance in a child abuse or neglect proceeding, including disclosing relevant medical records or other information (CGS § 17a-101e).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

BACKGROUND***Mandated Reporters of Child Abuse or Neglect***

By law, people in specified professions or occupations that have contact with children or whose primary focus is children are required to report suspected child abuse or neglect to the Department of Children

and Families (DCF) or a law enforcement agency.

A mandated reporter must file a report when, in the ordinary course of their employment or profession, they have reasonable cause to suspect that a child (1) has been abused or neglected, (2) is placed in imminent risk of serious harm, or (3) suffered a nonaccidental physical injury or injury that varies from its given history. These reports must be filed as soon as practicable but no later than 12 hours after they have reasonable cause to make the report (and for oral reports, they must follow up with a written report to DCF within 48 hours).

Mandated Reporters Caring for High-Risk Newborns

Under existing law, certain licensed healthcare providers (e.g., physicians, physician assistants, and nurse midwives) involved in the delivery or care of a newborn who exhibits physical, neurological, or behavioral symptoms consistent with prenatal substance exposure, associated withdrawal symptoms, or fetal alcohol spectrum disorder must notify DCF of the newborn’s condition in addition to any other applicable reporting requirements (CGS § 17a-102a).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Committee on Children

Joint Favorable

Yea 17 Nay 0 (03/06/2025)