General Assembly **Substitute Bill No. 6951**

January Session, 2025

HB06951KIDAPP031025

AN ACT CONCERNING CHILDREN'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES.

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

Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) The Transforming Children's Behavioral Health Policy and Planning Committee, established pursuant to section 2-137 of the general statutes, shall conduct a study concerning existing behavioral health services for children and anticipated demand for such services in the future. Such study shall include, but not be limited to, (1) the rates of utilization of the following providers of behavioral health services for children: (A) The United Way of Connecticut 2-1-1 Infoline program, (B) 9-8-8 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, (C) mobile crisis intervention services, urgent crisis centers, as defined in section 19a-179f of the general statutes, (D) subacute crisis stabilization centers, and (E) hospital emergency departments, (2) outreach and marketing strategies utilized by the service providers listed in subdivision (1) of this subsection, (3) common sources of patient referrals to such service providers, (4) the allocation of state and other financial resources to such service providers, and (5) the anticipated demand for behavioral health services for children into the future.

(b) Not later than January 1, 2026, the Transforming Children's Behavioral Health Policy and Planning Committee shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,

to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to developmental services, public health and children. Such report shall include an analysis of (1) data collected in conducting the study required pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, and (2) recommendations to improve the delivery of behavioral health services for children and meet anticipated demand for such services into the future.

Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) The Transforming Children's Behavioral Health Policy and Planning Committee established pursuant to section 2-137 of the general statutes, shall in collaboration with (1) a state-wide association of school-based health centers, develop a survey for administration at such centers that is designed to obtain information from such centers concerning existing data collection practices and the anticipated challenges and opportunities presented by the implementation of more comprehensive data collection systems at such centers, and (2) the Commissioner of Public Health, develop appropriate reporting requirements for school-based health centers to determine and respond to the needs of such centers. The committee may contract with a consultant to develop the survey required pursuant to this subsection.

(b) Not later than January 1, 2026, the Transforming Children's Behavioral Health Policy and Planning Committee shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to, the survey and reporting requirements developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. 3. (*Effective from passage*) The sum of eight million six hundred thousand dollars is appropriated to the Department of Children and Families from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, for mobile crisis intervention services.

Sec. 4. (*Effective from passage*) The sum of eight million six hundred

thousand dollars is appropriated to the Department of Children and Families from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, for mobile crisis intervention services.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	*July 1, 2025*	New section
Sec. 2	*July 1, 2025*	New section
Sec. 3	*from passage*	New section
Sec. 4	*from passage*	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:
In Section 1(a), "following providers of behavioral health services for children:" was inserted, subparagraph designators (A) to (E), inclusive, were inserted and "for such services" was deleted for clarity, and in Section 2(a), "from such centers" was inserted for clarity and "school-based health centers" was changed to "such centers" for consistency with standard drafting conventions.

KID *Joint Favorable Subst.-LCO C/R* APP