



Department of Children and Families

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

March 19, 2021

Update 2021-10

A lot of activity has occurred over the last two weeks at the legislature affecting children's issues. DCF presented before the Appropriations Committee on March 5th and met with the Human Services Budget Subcommittee on March 15th to answer several questions about our budget. Also, the Committee on Children voted out several bills before their deadline on March 16th, amending many of them before the final vote.

[DCF Budget Hearings](#)

Materials from the budget hearings are available on the Appropriations Committee website. It includes Commissioner Dorantes' testimony from March 5th and then our answers and back up documents for the March 15th work session. Those can be found by clicking the following link:

[Commissioner Dorantes testimony from March 5th](#)

[DCF Human Services Subcommittee Q & A](#)

- [Attachment A](#)
- [Attachment B1](#)
- [Attachment B2](#)
- [Attachment C](#)
- [Attachment D](#)

[Committee on Children](#)

The Committee on Children completed their work for the session on March 16th (known as their JF deadline). They have voted several bills out of committee the last 2 weeks. I have links to the committee meeting agendas here:

[KID Committee Agenda March 11](#)

DCF's agency bill was voted out unanimously on March 11th

[KID Committee Agenda March 15](#)

Several bills were amended during the meetings. If you are tracking a particular bill, I suggest you look to see if the language has been changed. The JFS language (or amended language) of the bills can be found here:

[KID Committee Proposed JFS Language](#)

PUBLIC HEARING INFORMATION

The Appropriations Committee held a public hearing on the DCF portion of the Governor's proposed budget on March 3rd. All the testimony from that hearing can be found here: [DCF Budget Testimony](#)

The testimony concerning DCF are all marked with "DCF" after the name of the person testifying.

NEW BILLS OF INTEREST

HB-6612	AN ACT CONCERNING PROTECTIONS FOR FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES AND THE ZONING ENABLING ACT.
HB-6620	AN ACT CONCERNING THE RIGHT TO READ AND ADDRESSING OPPORTUNITY GAPS AND EQUITY IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.
HB-6637	AN ACT CONCERNING STATE-WIDE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR DEAF, DEAF-BLIND AND HARD OF HEARING PERSONS.
HB-6657	AN ACT CONCERNING HUMAN TRAFFICKING.
SB-1019	AN ACT CONCERNING THE BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES, ERASURE OF CRIMINAL RECORDS FOR CERTAIN MISDEMEANOR AND FELONY OFFENSES, PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION BASED ON ERASED CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION AND CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONNECTICUT SENTENCING COMMISSION WITH RESPECT TO MISDEMEANOR SENTENCES.
SB-1060	AN ACT CONCERNING COURT PROCEEDINGS INVOLVING ALLEGATIONS OF COERCIVE CONTROL OCCURRING BETWEEN FAMILY OR HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS.
SB-1069	AN ACT CONCERNING FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION.
SB-1071	AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AUDITORS OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.
SB-1073	AN ACT CONCERNING EQUITY AND OPPORTUNITY IN STATE GOVERNMENT.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND HEARINGS

There are several events occurring next week and items on the CGA calendar are changing rapidly. Please follow the link to the General Assembly homepage below and scroll down to the calendar for a complete list of meetings and agendas. The General Assembly's Bulletin lists all the upcoming committee meetings and public hearings. You can review it here: [The Bulletin](#)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY WEBSITE

For complete legislative information, visit the Connecticut General Assembly's website at - www.cga.ct.gov

For additional information regarding legislative matters, contact Vincent Russo, DCF Legislative Program Director at 860-461-6689.
