



Substitute House Bill No. 6510

Public Act No. 21-116

AN ACT REQUIRING THE PROVISION OF INFORMATION CONCERNING CHILDREN'S BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES IN HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS AND SCHOOLS.

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

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) (1) Not later than December 1, 2021, the Department of Children and Families, in consultation with the Behavioral Health Partnership Oversight Council established pursuant to section 17a-22j of the general statutes, the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, the Department of Public Health and the Youth Suicide Advisory Board established pursuant to section 17a-52 of the general statutes, shall develop documents concerning behavioral and mental health evaluation and treatment resources available to children in each mental health region designated pursuant to section 17a-478 of the general statutes.

(2) Such documents shall contain, but need not be limited to, contact information for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and a list of (A) providers of such resources, including, but not limited to, mobile crisis intervention services, (B) the physical location of each provider, if applicable, (C) the types of services offered by each provider, and (D) contact information for each provider.

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(3) The Behavioral Health Partnership Oversight Council shall make such documents available on its Internet web site and distribute such documents electronically to each hospital licensed pursuant to chapter 368v of the general statutes that has an emergency department and each local and regional board of education.

(b) On and after January 1, 2022, upon the discharge of any child from the emergency department of a hospital licensed pursuant to chapter 368v of the general statutes, such department shall provide the parent or guardian of such child a copy of the document developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section that pertains to the mental health region in which the (1) department is located, and (2) child resides, if different, provided such child resides in this state. Such copies shall be provided (A) (i) in printed form, or (ii) through such child's patient chart in the electronic health record system, as defined in section 19a-904c of the general statutes, maintained by such hospital, provided such patient chart was created prior to the date of such child's discharge, and (B) by electronic mail to the electronic mail address of such parent or guardian, at such parent or guardian's election.

(c) Not later than December 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the Department of Children and Families shall review the documents developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and update such documents as necessary. If such documents are updated, the Department of Children and Families shall provide such updated documents to the Behavioral Health Partnership Oversight Council, and the council shall distribute and make such updated documents available in the manner described in subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) Not later than January 1, 2022, each local and regional board of education shall make available on such board's Internet web site the document developed by the Department of Children and Families pursuant to subsection (a) of

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section 1 of this act, concerning behavioral and mental health evaluation and treatment resources available to children in the mental health region in which such board is located.

(b) On and after January 1, 2022, each local and regional board of education shall distribute the document described in subsection (a) of this section (1) to any student taking a course in health and safety, and (2) at least semiannually, in September and May, to the parents and guardians of each student in the school district.

Approved July 6, 2021