

General Assembly

January Session, 2019

## Raised Bill No. 1113

Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY

Introduced by: (JUD)

## AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONNECTICUT SENTENCING COMMISSION WITH RESPECT TO THE SEXUAL OFFENDER REGISTRY, PETITIONS TO TERMINATE PARENTAL RIGHTS OF INCARCERATED PARENTS AND SENTENCE REVIEW.

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

Section 1. Section 54-250 of the general statutes is repealed and the
 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

3 For the purposes of <u>this section, sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of this act</u>,

4 section 13 of this act, sections 17 to 20, inclusive, of this act, and

5 sections 54-102g and [54-250] <u>54-251</u> to 54-258a, inclusive, as amended

6 <u>by this act</u>:

7 (1) "Conviction" means a judgment entered by a court upon a plea of
8 guilty, a plea of nolo contendere or a finding of guilty by a jury or the
9 court notwithstanding any pending appeal or habeas corpus
10 proceeding arising from such judgment.

11 (2) "Criminal offense against a victim who is a minor" means (A) a

12 violation of subdivision (2) of section 53-21 of the general statutes in 13 effect prior to October 1, 2000, subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of 14 section 53-21, subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 53a-70, 15 subdivision (1), (4), (8) or (10) or subparagraph (B) of subdivision (9) of 16 subsection (a) of section 53a-71, subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of 17 section 53a-72a, subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 53a-86, 18 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 53a-87, section 53a-90a, 53a-19 196a, 53a-196b, 53a-196c, 53a-196d, 53a-196e or 53a-196f, (B) a violation 20 of subparagraph (A) of subdivision (9) of subsection (a) of section 53a-21 71 or section 53a-92, 53a-92a, 53a-94, 53a-94a, 53a-95, 53a-96 or 53a-186, 22 provided the court makes a finding that, at the time of the offense, the 23 victim was under eighteen years of age, (C) a violation of any of the 24 offenses specified in subparagraph (A) or (B) of this subdivision for 25 which a person is criminally liable under section 53a-8, 53a-48 or 53a-26 49, or (D) a violation of any predecessor statute to any offense specified 27 in subparagraph (A), (B) or (C) of this subdivision the essential 28 elements of which are substantially the same as said offense.

29 (3) "Highest-risk offender" means an offender who has been
30 assessed and determined by a placement panel of the Sexual Offender
31 Registration Board under section 2 of this act to pose a high risk to
32 reoffend sexually or violently.

[(3)] (4) "Identifying factors" means fingerprints, a photographic image, and a description of any other identifying characteristics as may be required by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection. The commissioner shall also require a sample of the registrant's blood or other biological sample be taken for DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) analysis, unless such sample has been previously obtained in accordance with section 54-102g.

40 (5) "Law enforcement agency registry" means the registry for which
 41 registration is required pursuant to section 3 of this act.

42 <u>(6) "Lowest-risk offender" means an offender who has been assessed</u> 43 and determined by a placement panel of the Sexual Offender 44 <u>Registration Board under section 2 of this act to pose a low risk to</u>
45 <u>reoffend sexually or violently.</u>

[(4)] (7) "Mental abnormality" means a congenital or acquired condition of a person that affects the emotional or volitional capacity of the person in a manner that predisposes that person to the commission of criminal sexual acts to a degree that makes the person a menace to the health and safety of other persons.

51 (8) "Moderate-risk offender" means an offender who has been
52 assessed and determined by a placement panel of the Sexual Offender
53 Registration Board under section 2 of this act to pose a moderate risk
54 to reoffend sexually or violently.

[(5)] (9) "Nonviolent sexual offense" means (A) a violation of section
53a-73a or subdivision (2), (3) or (4) of subsection (a) of section 53a189a, or (B) a violation of any of the offenses specified in subparagraph
(A) of this subdivision for which a person is criminally liable under
section 53a-8, 53a-48 or 53a-49.

[(6)] (10) "Not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect" means a
finding by a court or jury of not guilty by reason of mental disease or
defect pursuant to section 53a-13 notwithstanding any pending appeal
or habeas corpus proceeding arising from such finding.

[(7)] (11) "Personality disorder" means a condition as defined in the
most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental
Disorders, published by the American Psychiatric Association.

67 (12) "Public registry" means the registry for which registration is
 68 required pursuant to section 4 of this act.

[(8)] (13) "Registrant" means a person required to register under
section 2 of this act, or section 54-251, as amended by this act, 54-252,
as amended by this act, 54-253, as amended by this act, or 54-254, as
amended by this act.

<sup>73 [(9)] (&</sup>lt;u>14)</u> "Registry" means a central record system in this state, any

other state or the federal government that receives, maintains and disseminates information on persons convicted or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect of criminal offenses against victims who are minors, nonviolent sexual offenses, sexually violent offenses and felonies found by the sentencing court to have been committed for a sexual purpose.

80 [(10)] (15) "Release into the community" means, with respect to a 81 conviction or a finding of not guilty by reason of mental disease or 82 defect of a criminal offense against a victim who is a minor, a 83 nonviolent sexual offense, a sexually violent offense or a felony found 84 by the sentencing court to have been committed for a sexual purpose, 85 (A) any release by a court after such conviction or finding of not guilty 86 by reason of mental disease or defect, a sentence of probation or any 87 other sentence under section 53a-28 that does not result in the 88 offender's immediate placement in the custody of the Commissioner of 89 Correction; (B) release from a correctional facility at the discretion of 90 the Board of Pardons and Paroles, by the Department of Correction to 91 a program authorized by section 18-100c or upon completion of the 92 maximum term or terms of the offender's sentence or sentences, or to 93 the supervision of the Court Support Services Division in accordance 94 with the terms of the offender's sentence; or (C) temporary leave to an 95 approved residence by the Psychiatric Security Review Board pursuant to section 17a-587, conditional release from a hospital for mental illness 96 97 or a facility for persons with intellectual disability by the Psychiatric 98 Security Review Board pursuant to section 17a-588, or release upon 99 termination of commitment to the Psychiatric Security Review Board.

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(16) "Sexual offender" means a person convicted of a sexual offense.

101 (17) "Sexual offense" means any criminal offense against a victim
 102 who is a minor or felony committed for a sexual purpose, nonviolent
 103 sexual offense or sexually violent offense.

[(11)] (<u>18)</u> "Sexually violent offense" means (A) a violation of section
53a-70, except subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of said section, 53a-70a,

106 53a-70b, 53a-71, except subdivision (1), (4), (8) or (10) or subparagraph 107 (B) of subdivision (9) of subsection (a) of said section or subparagraph 108 (A) of subdivision (9) of subsection (a) of said section if the court makes a finding that, at the time of the offense, the victim was under 109 110 eighteen years of age, 53a-72a, except subdivision (2) of subsection (a) 111 of said section, or 53a-72b, or of section 53a-92 or 53a-92a, provided the 112 court makes a finding that the offense was committed with intent to 113 sexually violate or abuse the victim, (B) a violation of any of the 114 offenses specified in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision for which a 115 person is criminally liable under section 53a-8, 53a-48 or 53a-49, or (C) 116 a violation of any predecessor statute to any of the offenses specified in 117 subparagraph (A) or (B) of this subdivision the essential elements of 118 which are substantially the same as said offense.

[(12)] (19) "Sexual purpose" means that a purpose of the defendant in committing the felony was to engage in sexual contact or sexual intercourse with another person without that person's consent. A sexual purpose need not be the sole purpose of the commission of the felony. The sexual purpose may arise at any time in the course of the commission of the felony.

[(13)] (20) "Employed" or "carries on a vocation" means employment that is full-time or part-time for more than fourteen days, or for a total period of time of more than thirty days during any calendar year, whether financially compensated, volunteered or for the purpose of government or educational benefit.

[(14)] (<u>21</u>) "Student" means a person who is enrolled on a full-time
or part-time basis, in any public or private educational institution,
including any secondary school, trade or professional institution or
institution of higher learning.

Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2019*) (a) There is established a
Sexual Offender Registration Board within the Department of
Correction, for administrative purposes only. The Sexual Offender
Registration Board shall consist of nine members, including a part-time

138 chairperson and eight part-time members compensated on a per diem 139 basis. The Governor shall appoint the chairperson and all members of 140 the board. The members of the board shall include: (1) Two persons 141 with substantial experience in providing sexual assault victims with 142 victim advocacy services; (2) three persons recommended by the Chief 143 Court Administrator, who have at least five years of experience in the 144 assessment of sexual offenders and meet the criteria for clinical 145 membership in an organization in this state (A) that provides 146 evaluations and treatment to persons with problem sexual behaviors, 147 or (B) dedicated to preventing sexual abuse; and (3) three persons 148 recommended by the Chief Court Administrator, who have at least 149 five years of experience in sexual offender management and 150 supervision and who have received training in evidence-based 151 supervision of sexual offenders. The chairperson of the board shall be 152 qualified by education, experience, or training, in sexual offender 153 management, supervision or treatment, and may sit in place of any 154 member of the board on hearings.

(b) The term of each of the appointed members of the board shall be coterminus with the term of the Governor, or until a successor is chosen, whichever is later. Any vacancy in the membership of the board shall be filled for the unexpired term of such member by the Governor.

(c) The compensation for the chairperson, the executive director,
and the board members shall be an amount as the Commissioner of
Administrative Services determines, subject to the provisions of section
4-40 of the general statutes.

(d) The members of the board shall be reimbursed for necessary
expenses incurred in the performance of such duties. The chairperson,
or in the chairperson's absence, a member designated by the
chairperson, shall be present at all meetings of the board.

(e) The chairperson of the board shall appoint an executive director.The executive director shall oversee the administration of the agency

and, at the discretion of the chairperson, shall: (1) Direct and supervise
all administrative affairs of the board; (2) prepare the budget and
annual operation plan for the agency; (3) assign staff to perform
administrative reviews; (4) organize hearing calendars; (5) implement
a uniform case filing and processing system; and (6) create programs
for staff and board member development, training and education.

(f) The board shall adopt policies and procedures, in accordancewith chapter 54 of the general statutes, concerning placement hearings.

(g) If any member, other than the chairperson, is temporarily unable
to perform his or her duties, the Governor, at the request of the board,
may appoint a qualified person to serve as a temporary member
during such period of inability.

(h) The chairperson of the board shall: (1) Adopt an annual budget
and plan of operation; (2) adopt such rules as deemed necessary for the
internal affairs of the board; and (3) submit an annual report to the
Governor and General Assembly.

186 (i) The chairperson of the Sexual Offender Registration Board shall 187 appoint placement panels from the board's members. Each such panel 188 shall have at least three persons, including one each as described in 189 subdivisions (1) to (3), inclusive, of subsection (a) of this section. Each 190 placement panel shall determine whether (1) a person convicted of a 191 sexual offense on or after July 1, 2020, shall register on the public 192 registry pursuant to section 54-257 of the general statutes, as amended 193 by this act, or the law enforcement agency registry pursuant to section 194 13 of this act, and for how long such offender shall maintain such 195 registration, or (2) whether a person convicted of a sexual offense on or 196 after July 1, 2020, may be reclassified from the public registry to the 197 law enforcement agency registry or from the law enforcement agency 198 registry to the public registry.

(j) A placement panel shall assess each sexual offender and
determine whether the offender is lowest risk, moderate risk or highest
risk. In making such a risk classification, said board shall use scoring

from validated actuarial risk assessment instruments, with the exception of moderate risk scoring. The panel may override the risk classification based on other factors, including the nature and circumstance of the sexual offense, any other aggravating or mitigating factors, and the impact to the victim, if known, and to the community.

(k) There shall be a presumption that any sexual offender who scores (1) low on the actuarial risk assessment shall be required to register on the law enforcement agency registry, or (2) high on the actuarial risk assessment shall be required to register on the public registry.

(l) A placement panel shall direct the lowest-risk offenders, based
on an actuarial risk assessment, to register on the law enforcement
agency registry and to maintain such registration for ten years from
the date of such person's release into the community.

216 (m) (1) A placement panel shall direct the moderate-risk offenders, 217 based on an actuarial risk assessment, to register on either the public 218 registry and maintain such registration for life or the law enforcement 219 agency registry and maintain such registration for twenty years from 220 the date of such person's release into the community, based on the 221 panel's determination concerning each moderate-risk offender 222 pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection. (2) For any offender 223 who scored moderate risk on the actuarial assessment, the placement 224 panel shall determine placement on the public or law enforcement 225 agency registry by considering the actuarial assessment and certain 226 additional factors determined by a further assessment of such 227 offender's risk using a set of evidence-based criteria and a structured 228 decision-making tool, determined and developed by said board, that 229 takes into account the factors relevant to determine whether a 230 moderate-risk offender would be best placed on the public registry or 231 the law enforcement agency registry. There shall be no presumption of 232 assignment to either the public registry for life or the law enforcement 233 agency registry for twenty years.

(n) A placement panel shall direct the highest-risk offenders, based
on an actuarial risk assessment, to register on the public registry and
maintain such registration for life.

(o) A placement panel's decision to place an offender on the lawenforcement agency registry may not be appealed.

(p) A placement panel's decision to place an offender on the publicregistry may be appealed if a registrant requests a hearing before theboard.

(q) Said board shall notify each offender's victim or victims who are
known to the board, of any determination concerning such offender to
be made by said board or any panel of said board pursuant to this
section. Any such victim may provide input prior to the making of any
such determination and the board or panel, as appropriate, shall
consider such input in making any such determination.

248 Sec. 3. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2020) (a) Any person directed by the 249 Sexual Offender Registration Board or any panel of said board under 250 section 2 of this act to register on the law enforcement agency registry 251 shall, not later than three days following such person's release into the 252 community or, if such person is in the custody of the Commissioner of 253 Correction, at such time prior to release as the commissioner shall 254 direct, and whether or not such person's place of residence is in this 255 state, register such person's name, identifying factors, criminal history 256 record, residence address and electronic mail address, instant message 257 address or other similar Internet communication identifier, if any, with 258 the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, on 259 such forms and in such locations as the commissioner shall direct, and 260 shall maintain such registration for ten years from the date of such 261 person's release into the community, unless (1) directed by the Sexual 262 Offender Registration Board or a placement panel of said board to 263 maintain such registration for twenty years, or (2) otherwise directed 264 by the court pursuant to section 5 of this act, or by the Sexual Offender 265 Registration Board pursuant to section 4 or 6 of this act. Prior to

266 accepting a plea of guilty or nolo contendere from a person with 267 respect to a sexual offense, the court shall (A) inform the person that 268 the entry of a finding of guilty after acceptance of the plea will subject 269 the person to the registration requirements of this section or section 4 270 of this act, and (B) determine that the person fully understands the 271 consequences of the plea. If any person who is subject to registration 272 under this section changes such person's name, such person shall, 273 without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services 274 and Public Protection, in writing, of the new name. If any person who 275 is subject to registration under this section changes such person's 276 address, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the 277 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in 278 writing, of the new address and, if the new address is in another state, 279 such person shall also register with an appropriate agency in that state, 280 provided that state has a registration requirement for such offenders. If 281 any person who is subject to registration under this section establishes 282 or changes an electronic mail address, instant message address or 283 other similar Internet communication identifier, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services 284 285 and Public Protection, in writing, of such identifier. If any person who 286 is subject to registration under this section is employed at, carries on a 287 vocation at or is a student at a trade or professional institution or 288 institution of higher learning in this state, such person shall, without 289 undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and 290 Public Protection of such status and of any change in such status. If 291 any person who is subject to registration under this section is 292 employed in another state, carries on a vocation in another state or is a 293 student in another state, such person shall, without undue delay, 294 notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection 295 and shall also register with an appropriate agency in that state, 296 provided that state has a registration requirement for such offenders. 297 Each registrant shall complete and return forms mailed to such 298 registrant to verify such registrant's residence address and shall submit to the retaking of a photographic image upon request of the 299 300 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection. The

301 commissioner shall notify any known victim of a registrant of the 302 residential address of such registrant and any changes to such address.

303 (b) Any person subject to registration under this section who 304 violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall be guilty of 305 a class D felony, except that, if such person violates the provisions of 306 this section by failing to notify the Commissioner of Emergency 307 Services and Public Protection without undue delay of a change of 308 name, address or status or another reportable event, such person shall 309 be subject to such penalty if such failure continues for five business 310 days.

(c) At any time, a probation or parole officer or a state's attorney may request of the Sexual Offender Registration Board that an offender on the law enforcement agency registry be moved to the public registry because of the registrant's failure to meet conditions of parole or probation or new criminal activity. Said board or a placement panel of said board shall review each such request and issue a determination.

318 Sec. 4. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2020) (a) Any person required under 319 section 2 of this act to register on the public registry shall, not later 320 than three days following such person's release into the community or, 321 if such person is in the custody of the Commissioner of Correction, at 322 such time prior to release as the commissioner shall direct, and 323 whether or not such person's place of residence is in this state, register 324 such person's name, identifying factors, criminal history record, 325 residence address and electronic mail address, instant message address 326 or other similar Internet communication identifier, if any, with the 327 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, on such 328 forms and in such locations as the commissioner shall direct, and shall 329 maintain such registration for life or as otherwise directed by the court 330 under section 5 of this act, or the Sexual Offender Registration Board 331 under subsection (b) of this section or section 3 or 6 of this act. Prior to 332 accepting a plea of guilty or nolo contendere from a person with 333 respect to a sexual offense, the court shall (1) inform the person that 334 the entry of a finding of guilty after acceptance of the plea will subject 335 the person to the registration requirements of this section or section 3 336 of this act, and (2) determine that the person fully understands the 337 consequences of the plea. If any person who is subject to registration 338 under this section changes such person's name, such person shall, 339 without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services 340 and Public Protection, in writing, of the new name. If any person who 341 is subject to registration under this section changes such person's 342 address, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the 343 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in 344 writing, of the new address and, if the new address is in another state, 345 such person shall also register with an appropriate agency in that state, 346 provided that state has a registration requirement for such offenders. If 347 any person who is subject to registration under this section establishes 348 or changes an electronic mail address, instant message address or 349 other similar Internet communication identifier, such person shall, 350 without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services 351 and Public Protection, in writing, of such identifier. If any person who 352 is subject to registration under this section is employed at, carries on a 353 vocation at or is a student at a trade or professional institution or 354 institution of higher learning in this state, such person shall, without 355 undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and 356 Public Protection of such status and of any change in such status. If 357 any person who is subject to registration under this section is 358 employed in another state, carries on a vocation in another state or is a 359 student in another state, such person shall, without undue delay, 360 notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection 361 and shall also register with an appropriate agency in that state, 362 provided that state has a registration requirement for such offenders. 363 Each registrant shall complete and return forms mailed to such 364 registrant to verify such registrant's residence address and shall submit 365 to the retaking of a photographic image upon request of the 366 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection. The commissioner shall notify any known victim of a registrant of the 367 368 residential address of such registrant and any changes to such address.

369 (b) A person registered on the public registry may, after ten years on 370 such registry, petition the Sexual Offender Registration Board 371 established under section 2 of this act to be moved to the law 372 enforcement agency registry for twenty years. Any offender 373 petitioning for a change in registration requirements shall be in 374 compliance with the registry at the time of the request. A probation or 375 parole officer or a state's attorney may make a recommendation at the 376 time of the petition regarding an offender who is or has been under 377 probation or parole supervision. Said board shall review each such 378 petition and any evidence in support of or opposed to the petition and 379 issue its determination.

380 (c) Any person who files an application with the Sexual Offender 381 Registration Board established under section 2 of this act, to be 382 exempted from the registration requirements of this section and 383 instead, be made subject to the registration requirements of section 3 of 384 this act, shall, pursuant to subsection (b) of section 54-227 of the 385 general statutes, notify the Office of Victim Services and the Victim 386 Services Unit within the Department of Correction of the filing of such 387 application. The Office of Victim Services or the Victim Services Unit 388 within the Department of Correction, or both, shall, pursuant to 389 section 54-230 or 54-230a of the general statutes, notify any victim who 390 has requested notification of the filing of such application. Prior to 391 granting or denying such application, said board shall consider any information or statement provided by the victim. 392

393 (d) Any person subject to registration under this section who 394 violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall be guilty of 395 a class D felony, except that, if such person violates the provisions of 396 this section by failing to notify the Commissioner of Emergency 397 Services and Public Protection without undue delay of a change of 398 name, address or status or another reportable event, such person shall 399 be subject to such penalty if such failure continues for five business 400 days.

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Sec. 5. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2020) (a) Any person subject to

registration by the Sexual Offender Registration Board established under section 2 of this act or a panel of said board under section 3 of this act for a period of ten years may apply to the court and the court may exempt such person from the registration requirements of section 3 of this act, if the court finds that such person has been compliant with the registration requirements of section 3 of this act for a period of at least five years.

(b) Any person subject to registration by the board or a panel of the board under section 3 of this act for a period of twenty years may apply to the court and the court may exempt such person from the registration requirements of section 3 of this act, if the court finds that such person has been compliant with the registration requirements of section 3 of this act for a period of at least ten years.

(c) No person may apply for exemption from registration requirements pursuant to subsection (a), (b) or (i) of this section, if such person has been convicted of (1) any felony offense during the five-year period prior to such application, (2) any class A misdemeanor offense during the three-year period prior to such application, or (3) any misdemeanor offense during the one-year period prior to such application.

422 (d) Prior to hearing any person's application to be exempted from 423 the registration requirements of this section pursuant to subsection (a), 424 (b) or (i) of this section, the court shall notify the Office of the Chief 425 Public Defender, the appropriate state's attorney, the Victim Services 426 Unit within the Department of Correction, the Office of the Victim 427 Advocate and the Office of Victim Services within the Judicial 428 Department of such person's hearing date for such application. The 429 Office of the Chief Public Defender shall assign counsel for such 430 person pursuant to section 51-296 of the general statutes if such person 431 is indigent. The court shall order a risk assessment of such person, 432 unless the requirement is waived for good cause. The court may refer 433 such application to the Sexual Offender Registration Board established 434 pursuant to section 2 of this act for a risk assessment and a

recommendation concerning such person's application for exemption.
As part of such hearing, the court shall permit (1) such person to make
a statement on such person's behalf, (2) counsel for such person and
the state's attorney to present evidence, and (3) any victim of the crime
or crimes to make a statement or to submit a statement in writing.
Prior to granting or denying such application, the court shall consider
any information or statement provided by the victim.

442 (e) The court may order an applicant's removal from the registry if, 443 in the opinion of the court, such removal shall assist the applicant in 444 reintegration into the community and shall be consistent with public 445 safety. The court shall consider the nature of the offense and the 446 applicant's conduct since the commission of the sexual offense causing 447 such applicant to register, including (1) the applicant's history of sex 448 offender or behavioral health treatment; (2) the results of any relevant 449 risk assessments and evaluations by behavioral health professionals; 450 (3) the applicant's history of employment and education; (4) the 451 applicant's compliance with the terms of parole, probation and 452 compliance with registry requirements; and (5) any other factors 453 bearing on the applicant's reintegration into the community. The 454 applicant shall have the burden of proof by a preponderance of the 455 evidence.

456 (f) If the court orders an offender removed from the registry, the 457 court shall notify the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, the Court Support Services Division, if applicable, the 458 459 Office of Victim Services within the Judicial Branch, the Parole and 460 Community Services Division, if applicable, the Victim Services Unit 461 within the Department of Correction, and the local police department 462 or the state police troop having jurisdiction over the applicant's 463 address.

(g) The applicant and the state's attorney shall have the right toappeal the decision of the court and the decision of the court shall besubject to review for abuse of discretion.

(h) In the case of a denial of application, the applicant may reapply
pursuant to subsection (a) of this section ten years after such denial.
An applicant may request and the court may consider an earlier period
for reapplication for good cause shown.

471 (i) Any person required to register pursuant to sections 54-251, 54-472 252 and 54-254 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, who (1) 473 was convicted prior to January 1, 1998, of a sexual offense, or (2) was 474 convicted on or after January 1, 1998, of a sexual offense, and is 475 required to maintain a registration because the registration period has 476 increased due to changes in the law following such person's 477 conviction, may apply to the court to be exempted from the 478 registration requirements under sections 54-251, 54-252 and 54-254 of 479 the general statutes, as amended by this act. Such application shall be 480 subject to the provisions of subsections (c) to (h), inclusive, of this 481 section.

482 Sec. 6. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2020) Any person (1) required to 483 register pursuant to sections 54-251, 54-252 and 54-254 of the general 484 statutes, as amended by this act, (2) (A) who has been compliant with 485 the registration requirements of said sections for a period of at least 486 five years in the case of a person required to maintain such registration 487 for ten years, or (B) who has been compliant with the registration 488 requirements of said sections for a period of at least ten years in the 489 case of a person required to maintain such registration for life, and 490 who (3) is not described in subsection (i) of section 5 of this act, may 491 petition the Sexual Offender Registration Board established under 492 section 2 of this act to be moved from the public registry to the law 493 enforcement agency registry. Such petition shall be subject to the same 494 criteria as an application for exemption under section 5 of this act. If 495 said board grants such petition, the petitioner shall register on the law 496 enforcement agency registry and maintain such registry for the 497 remaining period of time such person was to maintain such registry 498 pursuant to section 54-251, 54-252 or 54-254 of the general statutes, as 499 amended by this act. No such person may apply for exemption from 500 the registration requirements of the law enforcement agency

501 registration.

502 Sec. 7. Section 54-251 of the general statutes is repealed and the 503 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2020*):

504 (a) [Any] Except as provided in section 5 or 6 of this act, any person 505 who, prior to July 1, 2020, has been convicted or found not guilty by 506 reason of mental disease or defect of a criminal offense against a victim 507 who is a minor or a nonviolent sexual offense, and is released into the 508 community on or after October 1, 1998, shall, within three days 509 following such release or, if such person is in the custody of the Commissioner of Correction, at such time prior to release as the 510 511 commissioner shall direct, and whether or not such person's place of 512 residence is in this state, register such person's name, identifying 513 factors, criminal history record, residence address and electronic mail 514 address, instant message address or other similar Internet 515 communication identifier, if any, with the Commissioner of Emergency 516 Services and Public Protection, on such forms and in such locations as 517 the commissioner shall direct, and shall maintain such registration for 518 ten years from the date of such person's release into the community, 519 except that any person who has one or more prior convictions of any 520 such offense or who is convicted of a violation of subdivision (2) of 521 subsection (a) of section 53a-70 shall maintain such registration for life. 522 Prior to accepting a plea of guilty or nolo contendere from a person 523 with respect to a criminal offense against a victim who is a minor or a 524 nonviolent sexual offense, the court shall (1) inform the person that the 525 entry of a finding of guilty after acceptance of the plea will subject the 526 person to the registration requirements of this section, and (2) 527 determine that the person fully understands the consequences of the 528 plea. If any person who is subject to registration under this section 529 changes such person's name, such person shall, without undue delay, 530 notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection 531 in writing of the new name. If any person who is subject to registration 532 under this section changes such person's address, such person shall, 533 without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services 534 and Public Protection in writing of the new address and, if the new

535 address is in another state, such person shall also register with an 536 appropriate agency in that state, provided that state has a registration requirement for such offenders. If any person who is subject to 537 538 registration under this section establishes or changes an electronic mail 539 address, instant message address or other similar Internet 540 communication identifier, such person shall, without undue delay, 541 notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection 542 in writing of such identifier. If any person who is subject to registration 543 under this section is employed at, carries on a vocation at or is a 544 student at a trade or professional institution or institution of higher 545 learning in this state, such person shall, without undue delay, notify 546 the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection of 547 such status and of any change in such status. If any person who is 548 subject to registration under this section is employed in another state, 549 carries on a vocation in another state or is a student in another state, 550 such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of 551 Emergency Services and Public Protection and shall also register with 552 an appropriate agency in that state, provided that state has a 553 registration requirement for such offenders. During such period of 554 registration, each registrant shall complete and return forms mailed to 555 such registrant to verify such registrant's residence address and shall 556 submit to the retaking of a photographic image upon request of the 557 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the court may exempt any person who has been convicted or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect of a violation of subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 53a-71 from the registration requirements of this section if the court finds that such person was under nineteen years of age at the time of the offense and that registration is not required for public safety.

565 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, 566 the court may exempt any person who has been convicted or found 567 not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect of a violation of 568 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 53a-73a or subdivision (2), (3) or (4) of subsection (a) of section 53a-189a, from the registration
requirements of this section if the court finds that registration is not
required for public safety.

572 (d) Any person who files an application with the court to be 573 exempted from the registration requirements of this section pursuant 574 to subsection (b) or (c) of this section shall, pursuant to subsection (b) 575 of section 54-227, notify the Office of Victim Services and the Victim 576 Services Unit within the Department of Correction of the filing of such 577 application. The Office of Victim Services or the Victim Services Unit 578 within the Department of Correction, or both, shall, pursuant to 579 section 54-230 or 54-230a, notify any victim who has requested 580 notification of the filing of such application. Prior to granting or 581 denying such application, the court shall consider any information or 582 statement provided by the victim.

(e) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall be guilty of a class D felony, except that, if such person violates the provisions of this section by failing to notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection without undue delay of a change of name, address or status or another reportable event, such person shall be subject to such penalty if such failure continues for five business days.

590 Sec. 8. Section 54-252 of the general statutes is repealed and the 591 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2020*):

592 (a) [Any] Except as provided in section 5 or 6 of this act, any person 593 who, prior to July 1, 2020, has been convicted or found not guilty by 594 reason of mental disease or defect of a sexually violent offense, and (1) 595 is released into the community on or after October 1, 1988, and prior to 596 October 1, 1998, and resides in this state, shall, on October 1, 1998, or 597 within three days of residing in this state, whichever is later, or (2) is 598 released into the community on or after October 1, 1998, shall, within 599 three days following such release or, if such person is in the custody of 600 the Commissioner of Correction, at such time prior to release as the

commissioner shall direct, register such person's name, identifying 601 602 factors and criminal history record, documentation of any treatment 603 received by such person for mental abnormality or personality 604 disorder, and such person's residence address and electronic mail 605 instant message address or other similar Internet address. 606 communication identifier, if any, with the Commissioner of Emergency 607 Services and Public Protection on such forms and in such locations as 608 said commissioner shall direct, and shall maintain such registration for 609 life. Prior to accepting a plea of guilty or nolo contendere from a 610 person with respect to a sexually violent offense, the court shall (A) 611 inform the person that the entry of a finding of guilty after acceptance 612 of the plea will subject the person to the registration requirements of 613 this section, and (B) determine that the person fully understands the 614 consequences of the plea. If any person who is subject to registration 615 under this section changes such person's name, such person shall, 616 without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services 617 and Public Protection in writing of the new name. If any person who is 618 subject to registration under this section changes such person's address, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the 619 620 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in writing 621 of the new address and, if the new address is in another state, such 622 person shall also register with an appropriate agency in that state, 623 provided that state has a registration requirement for such offenders. If 624 any person who is subject to registration under this section establishes 625 or changes an electronic mail address, instant message address or 626 other similar Internet communication identifier, such person shall, 627 without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services 628 and Public Protection in writing of such identifier. If any person who is 629 subject to registration under this section is employed at, carries on a 630 vocation at or is a student at a trade or professional institution or 631 institution of higher learning in this state, such person shall, without 632 undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and 633 Public Protection of such status and of any change in such status. If 634 any person who is subject to registration under this section is 635 employed in another state, carries on a vocation in another state or is a

student in another state, such person shall, without undue delay, 636 637 notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection 638 and shall also register with an appropriate agency in that state, 639 provided that state has a registration requirement for such offenders. 640 During such period of registration, each registrant shall complete and 641 return forms mailed to such registrant to verify such registrant's 642 residence address and shall submit to the retaking of a photographic 643 image upon request of the Commissioner of Emergency Services and 644 Public Protection.

645 (b) Any person who has been subject to the registration 646 requirements of section 54-102r of the general statutes, revised to 647 January 1, 1997, as amended by section 1 of public act 97-183, shall, not 648 later than three working days after October 1, 1998, register under this 649 section and thereafter comply with the provisions of sections 54-102g 650 and 54-250 to 54-258a, inclusive, as amended by this act, except that 651 any person who was convicted or found not guilty by reason of mental 652 disease or defect of an offense that is classified as a criminal offense 653 against a victim who is a minor under subdivision (2) of section 54-250, 654 as amended by this act, and that is subject to a ten-year period of 655 registration under section 54-251, as amended by this act, shall 656 maintain such registration for ten years from the date of such person's 657 release into the community.

658 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this 659 section, during the initial registration period following October 1, 1998, 660 the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection may 661 phase in completion of the registration procedure for persons released 662 into the community prior to said date over the first three months 663 following said date, and no such person shall be prosecuted for failure 664 to register under this section during those three months provided such 665 person complies with the directives of said commissioner regarding 666 registration procedures.

667 (d) Any person who violates the provisions of this section shall be 668 guilty of a class D felony, except that, if such person violates the 669 provisions of this section by failing to notify the Commissioner of 670 Emergency Services and Public Protection without undue delay of a 671 change of name, address or status or another reportable event, such 672 person shall be subject to such penalty if such failure continues for five 673 business days.

674 Sec. 9. Section 54-253 of the general statutes is repealed and the 675 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2020*):

676 (a) [Any] Except as provided in section 5 or 6 of this act, any person 677 who, prior to July 1, 2020, has been convicted or found not guilty by 678 reason of mental disease or defect in any other state, in a federal or 679 military court or in any foreign jurisdiction of any crime (1) the 680 essential elements of which are substantially the same as any of the 681 crimes specified in subdivisions (2), [(5)] (9) and [(11)] (18) of section 682 54-250, as amended by this act, or (2) which requires registration as a 683 sexual offender in such other state or in the federal or military system, 684 and who resides in this state on and after October 1, 1998, shall, 685 without undue delay upon residing in this state, register with the 686 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in the 687 same manner as if such person had been convicted or found not guilty 688 by reason of mental disease or defect of such crime in this state, except 689 that the commissioner shall maintain such registration until such 690 person is released from the registration requirement in such other 691 state, federal or military system or foreign jurisdiction.

692 (b) If any person who is subject to registration under this section 693 changes such person's name, such person shall, without undue delay, 694 notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection 695 in writing of the new name. If any person who is subject to registration 696 under this section changes such person's address, such person shall, 697 without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services 698 and Public Protection in writing of the new address and, if the new 699 address is in another state, such person shall also register with an 700 appropriate agency in that state, provided that state has a registration 701 requirement for such offenders. If any person who is subject to

702 registration under this section establishes or changes an electronic mail 703 instant message address or other address, similar Internet 704 communication identifier, such person shall, without undue delay, 705 notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in writing of such identifier. If any person who is subject to registration 706 707 under this section is employed at, carries on a vocation at or is a 708 student at a trade or professional institution or institution of higher 709 learning in this state, such person shall, without undue delay, notify 710 the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection of 711 such status and of any change in such status. If any person who is 712 subject to registration under this section is employed in another state, 713 carries on a vocation in another state or is a student in another state, 714 such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of 715 Emergency Services and Public Protection and shall also register with 716 an appropriate agency in that state, provided that state has a 717 registration requirement for such offenders. During such period of 718 registration, each registrant shall complete and return forms mailed to 719 such registrant to verify such registrant's residence address and shall submit to the retaking of a photographic image upon request of the 720 721 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection.

722 (c) Any person not a resident of this state who is registered as a 723 sexual offender under the laws of any other state and who is employed 724 in this state, carries on a vocation in this state or is a student in this 725 state, shall, without undue delay after the commencement of such 726 employment, vocation or education in this state, register such person's 727 name, identifying factors and criminal history record, locations visited 728 on a recurring basis, and such person's residence address, if any, in this state, residence address in such person's home state and electronic mail 729 730 address, instant message address or other similar Internet 731 communication identifier, if any, with the Commissioner of Emergency 732 Services and Public Protection on such forms and in such locations as 733 said commissioner shall direct and shall maintain such registration 734 until such employment, vocation or education terminates or until such 735 person is released from registration as a sexual offender in such other

state. If such person terminates such person's employment, vocation or
education in this state, changes such person's address in this state or
establishes or changes an electronic mail address, instant message
address or other similar Internet communication identifier such person
shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency
Services and Public Protection in writing of such termination, new
address or identifier.

(d) Any person not a resident of this state who is registered as a
sexual offender under the laws of any other state and who travels in
this state on a recurring basis for periods of less than five days shall
notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection
of such person's temporary residence in this state and of a telephone
number at which such person may be contacted.

749 (e) Any person who violates the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a class D felony, except that, if such person violates the 750 751 provisions of this section by failing to register with the Commissioner 752 of Emergency Services and Public Protection without undue delay or 753 notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection 754 without undue delay of a change of name, address or status or another 755 reportable event, such person shall be subject to such penalty if such 756 failure continues for five business days.

Sec. 10. Section 54-254 of the general statutes is repealed and the
following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2020*):

759 (a) [Any] Except as provided in section 5 or 6 of this act, any person 760 who, prior to July 1, 2020, has been convicted or found not guilty by 761 reason of mental disease or defect in this state on or after October 1, 762 1998, of any felony that the court finds was committed for a sexual 763 purpose, may be required by the court upon release into the 764 community or, if such person is in the custody of the Commissioner of 765 Correction, at such time prior to release as the commissioner shall 766 direct to register such person's name, identifying factors, criminal 767 history record, residence address and electronic mail address, instant

768 message address or other similar Internet communication identifier, if 769 any, with the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public 770 Protection, on such forms and in such locations as the commissioner 771 shall direct, and to maintain such registration for ten years from the 772 date of such person's release into the community. If the court finds that 773 a person has committed a felony for a sexual purpose and intends to 774 require such person to register under this section, prior to accepting a 775 plea of guilty or nolo contendere from such person with respect to 776 such felony, the court shall (1) inform the person that the entry of a 777 finding of guilty after acceptance of the plea will subject the person to 778 the registration requirements of this section, and (2) determine that the 779 person fully understands the consequences of the plea. If any person 780 who is subject to registration under this section changes such person's 781 such person shall, without undue delay, notify the name, 782 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in writing 783 of the new name. If any person who is subject to registration under this 784 section changes such person's address, such person shall, without 785 undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and 786 Public Protection in writing of the new address and, if the new address 787 is in another state, such person shall also register with an appropriate 788 agency in that state, provided that state has a registration requirement 789 for such offenders. If any person who is subject to registration under 790 this section establishes or changes an electronic mail address, instant 791 message address or other similar Internet communication identifier, 792 such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of 793 Emergency Services and Public Protection in writing of such identifier. 794 If any person who is subject to registration under this section is 795 employed at, carries on a vocation at or is a student at a trade or professional institution or institution of higher learning in this state, 796 797 such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of 798 Emergency Services and Public Protection of such status and of any 799 change in such status. If any person who is subject to registration 800 under this section is employed in another state, carries on a vocation in 801 another state or is a student in another state, such person shall, without 802 undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection and shall also register with an appropriate agency in that state, provided that state has a registration requirement for such offenders. During such period of registration, each registrant shall complete and return forms mailed to such registrant to verify such registrant's residence address and shall submit to the retaking of a photographic image upon request of the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection.

(b) Any person who violates the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a class D felony, except that, if such person violates the provisions of this section by failing to notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection without undue delay of a change of name, address or status or another reportable event, such person shall be subject to such penalty if such failure continues for five business days.

817 Sec. 11. Section 54-255 of the general statutes is repealed and the 818 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2020*):

819 (a) Upon the conviction or finding of not guilty by reason of mental 820 disease or defect of any person prior to July 1, 2020, for a violation of 821 section 53a-70b, the court may order the Department of Emergency 822 Services and Public Protection to restrict the dissemination of the 823 registration information to law enforcement purposes only and to not 824 make such information available for public access, provided the court 825 finds that dissemination of the registration information is not required 826 for public safety and that publication of the registration information 827 would be likely to reveal the identity of the victim within the 828 community where the victim resides. The court shall remove the 829 restriction on the dissemination of such registration information if, at 830 any time, the court finds that public safety requires that such person's 831 registration information be made available to the public or that a 832 change of circumstances makes publication of such registration 833 information no longer likely to reveal the identity of the victim within 834 the community where the victim resides. Prior to ordering or 835 removing the restriction on the dissemination of such person's

registration information, the court shall consider any information orstatements provided by the victim.

838 (b) Upon the conviction or finding of not guilty by reason of mental 839 disease or defect of any person prior to July 1, 2020, of a criminal 840 offense against a victim who is a minor, a nonviolent sexual offense or 841 a sexually violent offense, where the victim of such offense was, at the 842 time of the offense, under eighteen years of age and related to such 843 person within any of the degrees of kindred specified in section 46b-21, 844 the court may order the Department of Emergency Services and Public 845 Protection to restrict the dissemination of the registration information 846 to law enforcement purposes only and to not make such information 847 available for public access, provided the court finds that dissemination 848 of the registration information is not required for public safety and that 849 publication of the registration information would be likely to reveal 850 the identity of the victim within the community where the victim 851 resides. The court shall remove the restriction on the dissemination of 852 such registration information if, at any time, it finds that public safety 853 requires that such person's registration information be made available 854 to the public or that a change in circumstances makes publication of 855 the registration information no longer likely to reveal the identity of 856 the victim within the community where the victim resides.

857 (c) Any person who: (1) Has been convicted or found not guilty by 858 reason of mental disease or defect of a violation of subdivision (1) of 859 subsection (a) of section 53a-71 between October 1, 1988, and June 30, 860 1999, and was under nineteen years of age at the time of the offense; (2) 861 has been convicted or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or 862 defect of a violation of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 53a-73a between October 1, 1988, and June 30, 1999; (3) has been convicted 863 864 or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect of a criminal 865 offense against a victim who is a minor, a nonviolent sexual offense or 866 a sexually violent offense, between October 1, 1988, and June 30, 1999, 867 where the victim of such offense was, at the time of the offense, under 868 eighteen years of age and related to such person within any of the 869 degrees of kindred specified in section 46b-21; (4) has been convicted

870 or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect of a violation 871 of section 53a-70b between October 1, 1988, and June 30, 1999; or (5) 872 has been convicted or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or 873 defect of any crime between October 1, 1988, and September 30, 1998, 874 which requires registration under sections 54-250 to 54-258a, inclusive, 875 as amended by this act, and (A) served no jail or prison time as a result 876 of such conviction or finding of not guilty by reason of mental disease 877 or defect, (B) has not been subsequently convicted or found not guilty 878 by reason of mental disease or defect of any crime which would 879 require registration under sections 54-250 to 54-258a, inclusive, as 880 amended by this act, and (C) has registered with the Department of 881 Emergency Services and Public Protection in accordance with sections 882 54-250 to 54-258a, inclusive; as amended by this act, may petition the 883 court to order the Department of Emergency Services and Public 884 Protection to restrict the dissemination of the registration information 885 to law enforcement purposes only and to not make such information 886 available for public access. Any person who files such a petition shall, 887 pursuant to subsection (b) of section 54-227, notify the Office of Victim 888 Services and the Victim Services Unit within the Department of 889 Correction of the filing of such petition. The Office of Victim Services 890 or the Victim Services Unit within the Department of Correction, or 891 both, shall, pursuant to section 54-230 or 54-230a, notify any victim 892 who has requested notification pursuant to subsection (b) of section 54-893 228 of the filing of such petition. Prior to granting or denying such 894 petition, the court shall consider any information or statements 895 provided by the victim. The court may order the Department of 896 Emergency Services and Public Protection to restrict the dissemination 897 of the registration information to law enforcement purposes only and 898 to not make such information available for public access, provided the 899 court finds that dissemination of the registration information is not 900 required for public safety.

901 Sec. 12. Section 54-256 of the general statutes is repealed and the 902 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

903 (a) Any court, the Commissioner of Correction or the Psychiatric

904 Security Review Board, prior to releasing into the community any 905 person convicted or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or 906 defect of a criminal offense against a victim who is a minor, a 907 nonviolent sexual offense, a sexually violent offense or a felony found 908 by the sentencing court to have been committed for a sexual purpose, 909 except a person being released unconditionally at the conclusion of 910 such person's sentence or commitment, shall require as a condition of 911 such release that such person complete the registration procedure 912 established by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public 913 Protection under [sections] section 3 or 4 of this act, or sections 54-251, 914 as amended by this act, 54-252, as amended by this act, and 54-254, as 915 amended by this act. The court, the Commissioner of Correction or the 916 Psychiatric Security Review Board, as the case may be, shall provide 917 the person with a written summary of the person's obligations under 918 sections 54-102g and 54-250 to 54-258a, inclusive, as amended by this 919 act, and transmit the completed registration package to the 920 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection who shall 921 enter the information into the registry established under section 13 of 922 this act or section 54-257, as amended by this act. If a court transmits 923 the completed registration package to the Commissioner of Emergency 924 Services and Public Protection with respect to a person released by the 925 court, such package need not include identifying factors for such 926 person. In the case of a person being released unconditionally who 927 declines to complete the registration package through the court or the 928 releasing agency, the court or agency shall: (1) Except with respect to 929 information that is not available to the public pursuant to court order, 930 rule of court or any provision of the general statutes, provide to the 931 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection the 932 person's name, date of release into the community, anticipated 933 residence address, if known, and criminal history record, any known 934 treatment history of such person, any electronic mail address, instant 935 message address or other similar Internet communication identifier for 936 such person, if known, and any other relevant information; (2) inform 937 the person that such person has an obligation to register within three 938 days with the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public

939 Protection for a period [of ten years] of time to be determined by the 940 board following the date of such person's release or for life, as the case 941 may be, that if such person changes such person's address such person 942 shall within five days register the new address in writing with the 943 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection and, if the 944 new address is in another state or if such person is employed in 945 another state, carries on a vocation in another state or is a student in 946 another state, such person shall also register with an appropriate 947 agency in that state, provided that state has a registration requirement 948 for such offenders, and that if such person establishes or changes an 949 electronic mail address, instant message address or other similar 950 Internet communication identifier such person shall, within five days, 951 register such identifier with the Commissioner of Emergency Services 952 and Public Protection; (3) provide the person with a written summary 953 of the person's obligations under sections <u>3 and 4 of this act, or sections</u> 954 54-102g and 54-250 to 54-258a, inclusive, as amended by this act, as 955 explained to the person under subdivision (2) of this subsection; and 956 (4) make a specific notation on the record maintained by that agency 957 with respect to such person that the registration requirements were 958 explained to such person and that such person was provided with a 959 written summary of such person's obligations under sections <u>3 and 4 of</u> 960 this act, or sections 54-102g and 54-250 to 54-258a, inclusive, as 961 amended by this act.

962 (b) Whenever a person is convicted or found not guilty by reason of 963 mental disease or defect of an offense that will require such person to 964 register under section 3 or 4 of this act, or section 54-251, as amended 965 by this act, 54-252, as amended by this act, or 54-254, as amended by 966 this act, the court shall provide to the Department of Emergency 967 Services and Public Protection a written summary of the offense that 968 includes the age and sex of any victim of the offense and a specific 969 description of the offense. Such summary shall be added to the registry 970 information made available to the public through the Internet.

971 Sec. 13. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2020*) (a) The Department of 972 Emergency Services and Public Protection shall establish and maintain 973 a law enforcement agency registry of all persons required to register 974 on such registry under section 3 of this act. Such registry shall not be a 975 public document and shall be released only to law enforcement 976 agencies, except as otherwise provided in this section or section 3 of 977 this act. The department shall, in cooperation with the Office of the 978 Chief Court Administrator, the Department of Correction and the 979 Psychiatric Security Review Board, develop appropriate forms for use 980 by agencies and individuals to report registration information, 981 including changes of address. Upon receipt of registration information, 982 the department shall enter the information into the registry and notify 983 the local police department or state police troop having jurisdiction 984 where the registrant resides or plans to reside. If a registrant notifies 985 the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection that such 986 registrant is employed at, carries on a vocation at or is a student at a 987 trade or professional institution or institution of higher learning in this 988 state, the department shall notify the law enforcement agency with 989 jurisdiction over such institution.

990 (b) The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection 991 may suspend the registration of any person registered on the law 992 enforcement agency registration while such person is incarcerated, 993 under civil commitment or residing outside this state. During the 994 period that such registration is under suspension, the department is 995 not required to verify the address of the registrant pursuant to 996 subsection (c) of this section and may withdraw the registration 997 information from public access. Upon the release of the registrant from 998 incarceration or civil commitment or resumption of residency in this 999 state by the registrant, the department shall reinstate the registration, 1000 redistribute the registration information in accordance with subsection 1001 (a) of this section and resume verifying the address of the registrant in 1002 accordance with subsection (c) of this section. Suspension of registration shall not affect the date of expiration of the registration 1003 1004 obligation of the registrant under section 3 of this act.

1005 (c) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the 1006 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall verify 1007 the address of each registrant by mailing a nonforwardable verification 1008 form to the registrant at the registrant's last reported address. Such 1009 form shall require the registrant to sign a statement that the registrant 1010 continues to reside at the registrant's last reported address and return 1011 the form by mail by a date which is ten days after the date such form 1012 was mailed to the registrant. The form shall contain a statement that 1013 failure to return the form or providing false information is a violation 1014 of section 3 of this act. Each person required to register on the law 1015 enforcement agency registration shall have such person's address 1016 verified in such manner annually in the case of a person who has to 1017 maintain such registration for ten years or semiannually in the case of 1018 a person who has to maintain such registration for twenty years. In the 1019 event that a registrant fails to return the address verification form, the 1020 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall notify 1021 the local police department or the state police troop having jurisdiction 1022 over the registrant's last reported address, and that agency may apply 1023 for a warrant to be issued for the registrant's arrest under section 3 of 1024 this act. The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection 1025 shall not verify the address of registrants whose last reported address 1026 was outside this state.

(d) The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection
shall include in the registry the most recent photographic image of
each registrant taken by the department, the Department of Correction,
a law enforcement agency or the Court Support Services Division of
the Judicial Department and shall retake the photographic image of
each registrant at least once every five years.

(e) Whenever the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public
Protection receives notice from a Superior Court pursuant to section
52-11 of the general statutes or a probate court pursuant to section 45a99 of the general statutes that such court has ordered the change of
name of a person, and the department determines that such person is
listed in the registry, the department shall revise such person's
registration information accordingly.

1040 (f) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection 1041 shall develop a protocol for the notification of other state agencies, the Judicial Department and local police departments whenever a person 1042 1043 listed in the registry changes such person's name and notifies the 1044 commissioner of the new name pursuant to section 3 of this act or 1045 whenever the commissioner determines, pursuant to subsection (e) of 1046 this section, that a person listed in the registry has changed such 1047 person's name.

1048 Sec. 14. Section 54-257 of the general statutes is repealed and the 1049 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2020*):

1050 (a) The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall, not later than January 1, 1999, establish and maintain a public 1051 1052 registry of all persons required to register on the public registry under 1053 section 4 of this 4 of this act and under sections 54-251, as amended by 1054 this act, 54-252, as amended by this act, 54-253, as amended by this act, 1055 and 54-254, as amended by this act. The department shall, in 1056 cooperation with the Office of the Chief Court Administrator, the 1057 Department of Correction and the Psychiatric Security Review Board, 1058 develop appropriate forms for use by agencies and individuals to 1059 report registration information, including changes of address. Upon 1060 receipt of registration information, the department shall enter the 1061 information into the registry and notify the local police department or 1062 state police troop having jurisdiction where the registrant resides or 1063 plans to reside. If a registrant notifies the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection that such registrant is employed at, 1064 1065 carries on a vocation at or is a student at a trade or professional 1066 institution or institution of higher learning in this state, the department 1067 shall notify the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over such 1068 institution. If a registrant reports a residence in another state, the 1069 department shall notify the state police agency of that state or such 1070 other agency in that state that maintains registry information, if 1071 known. The department shall also transmit all registration information, 1072 conviction data, photographic images and fingerprints to the Federal 1073 Bureau of Investigation in such form as said bureau shall require for

1074 inclusion in a national registry.

1075 (b) The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection 1076 may suspend the registration of any person registered under section 4 1077 of this act or section 54-251, as amended by this act, 54-252, as amended by this act, 54-253, as amended by this act, or 54-254, as 1078 1079 amended by this act, while such person is incarcerated, under civil 1080 commitment or residing outside this state. During the period that such 1081 registration is under suspension, the department is not required to 1082 verify the address of the registrant pursuant to subsection (c) of this 1083 section and may withdraw the registration information from public 1084 access. Upon the release of the registrant from incarceration or civil 1085 commitment or resumption of residency in this state by the registrant, 1086 the department shall reinstate the registration, redistribute the 1087 registration information in accordance with subsection (a) of this 1088 section and resume verifying the address of the registrant in 1089 accordance with subsection (c) of this section. Suspension of 1090 registration shall not affect the date of expiration of the registration obligation of the registrant under section 4 of this act or section 54-251, 1091 1092 as amended by this act, 54-252, as amended by this act, or 54-253, as 1093 amended by this act.

1094 (c) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the 1095 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall verify 1096 the address of each registrant by mailing a nonforwardable verification 1097 form to the registrant at the registrant's last reported address. Such 1098 form shall require the registrant to sign a statement that the registrant 1099 continues to reside at the registrant's last reported address and return 1100 the form by mail by a date which is ten days after the date such form 1101 was mailed to the registrant. The form shall contain a statement that 1102 failure to return the form or providing false information is a violation 1103 of section 4 of this act or section 54-251, as amended by this act, 1104 54-252, as amended by this act, 54-253, as amended by this act, or 1105 54-254, as amended by this act, as the case may be. Each person 1106 required to register under section 4 of this act or section 54-251, as 1107 amended by this act, 54-252, as amended by this act, 54-253, as 1108 amended by this act, or 54-254, as amended by this act, shall have such 1109 person's address verified in such manner every ninety days after such 1110 person's initial registration date. The Department of Emergency 1111 Services and Public Protection shall annually conduct an in-person 1112 verification of the registrant's reported address. Such in-person 1113 address verification may be conducted by the Department of 1114 Emergency Services and Public Protection or a municipal police 1115 department. In the event that a registrant fails to return the address 1116 verification form, the Department of Emergency Services and Public 1117 Protection shall notify the local police department or the state police 1118 troop having jurisdiction over the registrant's last reported address, 1119 and that agency [shall] may apply for a warrant to be issued for the 1120 registrant's arrest under section 4 of this act or section 54-251, as 1121 amended by this act, 54-252, as amended by this act, 54-253, as 1122 amended by this act, or 54-254, as amended by this act, as the case may 1123 be. The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall 1124 not verify the address of registrants whose last reported address was 1125 outside this state.

(d) The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection
shall include in the registry the most recent photographic image of
each registrant taken by the department, the Department of Correction,
a law enforcement agency or the Court Support Services Division of
the Judicial Department and shall retake the photographic image of
each registrant at least once every five years.

(e) Whenever the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public
Protection receives notice from a superior court pursuant to section 5211 or a probate court pursuant to section 45a-99 that such court has
ordered the change of name of a person, and the department
determines that such person is listed in the registry, the department
shall revise such person's registration information accordingly.

(f) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protectionshall develop a protocol for the notification of other state agencies, theJudicial Department and local police departments whenever a person

1141 listed in the registry changes such person's name and notifies the 1142 commissioner of the new name pursuant to section <u>3 of this act or</u> 1143 <u>section 54-251, as amended by this act,</u> 54-252, <u>as amended by this act,</u> 1144 54-253, <u>as amended by this act</u>, or 54-254, <u>as amended by this act</u>, or 1145 whenever the commissioner determines pursuant to subsection (e) of 1146 this section that a person listed in the registry has changed such 1147 person's name.

1148 Sec. 15. Section 54-258 of the general statutes is repealed and the 1149 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

1150 (a) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of the general statutes, 1151 except subdivisions (3), (4) and (5) of this subsection, the public 1152 registry under section 54-257, as amended by this act, maintained by 1153 the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall be a 1154 public record and shall be accessible to the public during normal 1155 business hours. The Department of Emergency Services and Public 1156 Protection shall make registry information available to the public 1157 through the Internet. Not less than once per calendar quarter, the 1158 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall issue 1159 notices to all print and electronic media in the state regarding the 1160 availability and means of accessing the registry. Each local police 1161 department and each state police troop shall keep a record of all 1162 registration information transmitted to it by the Department of 1163 Emergency Services and Public Protection, and shall make such 1164 information accessible to the public during normal business hours.

1165 (2) (A) Any state agency, the Judicial Department, any state police 1166 troop or any local police department may, at its discretion, notify any 1167 government agency, private organization or individual of registration 1168 information when such agency, said department, such troop or such 1169 local police department, as the case may be, believes such notification 1170 is necessary to protect the public or any individual in any jurisdiction 1171 from any person who is subject to public registration under section 4 of 1172 this act or section 54-251, as amended by this act, 54-252, as amended 1173 by this act, 54-253, as amended by this act, or 54-254, as amended by 1174 <u>this act</u>.

1175 (B) (i) Whenever a registrant is released into the community, or 1176 whenever a registrant changes such registrant's address and notifies 1177 the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection of such 1178 change pursuant to section 4 of this act or section 54-251, as amended 1179 by this act, 54-252, as amended by this act, 54-253, as amended by this 1180 act, or 54-254, as amended by this act, the Department of Emergency 1181 Services and Public Protection shall, by electronic mail, notify the 1182 superintendent of schools for the school district in which the registrant 1183 resides, or plans to reside, of such release or new address, and provide 1184 such superintendent with the same registry information for such 1185 registrant that the department makes available to the public through 1186 the Internet under subdivision (1) of this subsection.

1187 (ii) Whenever a registrant is released into the community, or 1188 whenever a registrant changes such registrant's address and notifies 1189 the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection of such 1190 change pursuant to section <u>4 of this act or section</u> 54-251, 54-252, 54-253 1191 or 54-254, as amended by this act, the Department of Emergency 1192 Services and Public Protection shall, by electronic mail, notify the chief 1193 executive officer of the municipality in which the registrant resides, or 1194 plans to reside, of such release or new address, and provide such chief 1195 executive officer with the same registry information for such registrant 1196 that the department makes available to the public through the Internet 1197 under subdivision (1) of this subsection.

1198 (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of 1199 this subsection, state agencies, the Judicial Department, state police 1200 troops and local police departments shall not disclose the identity of 1201 any victim of a crime committed by a registrant or treatment 1202 information provided to the registry pursuant to sections 54-102g and 1203 54-250 to 54-258a, inclusive, as amended by this act, except to 1204 government agencies for bona fide law enforcement or security 1205 purposes.

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection, registration information the dissemination of which has been restricted by court order pursuant to section 54-255<u>, as</u> <u>amended by this act</u>, and which is not otherwise subject to disclosure, shall not be a public record and shall be released only for law enforcement purposes until such restriction is removed by the court pursuant to said section.

1213 (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of 1214 this subsection, a registrant's electronic mail address, instant message 1215 address or other similar Internet communication identifier shall not be 1216 a public record, except that the Department of Emergency Services and 1217 Public Protection may release such identifier for law enforcement or 1218 security purposes in accordance with regulations adopted by the 1219 department. The department shall adopt regulations in accordance 1220 with chapter 54 to specify the circumstances under which and the 1221 persons to whom such identifiers may be released including, but not limited to, providers of electronic communication service or remote 1222 1223 computing service, as those terms are defined in section 54-260b, as 1224 amended by this act, and operators of Internet web sites, and the 1225 procedure therefor.

1226 (6) When any registrant completes the registrant's term of 1227 registration or is otherwise released from the obligation to register 1228 under section 4 of this act or section 54-251, as amended by this act, 54-1229 252, as amended by this act, 54-253, as amended by this act, or 54-254, 1230 as amended by this act, the Department of Emergency Services and 1231 Public Protection shall notify any state police troop or local police 1232 department having jurisdiction over the registrant's last reported 1233 residence address that the person is no longer a registrant, and the 1234 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, state police 1235 troop and local police department shall remove the registrant's name 1236 and information from the registry.

(b) Neither the state nor any political subdivision of the state norany officer or employee thereof, shall be held civilly liable to any

registrant by reason of disclosure of any information regarding the registrant that is released or disclosed in accordance with subsection (a) of this section. The state and any political subdivision of the state and, except in cases of wanton, reckless or malicious conduct, any officer or employee thereof, shall be immune from liability for good faith conduct in carrying out the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section.

1246 Sec. 16. Section 54-260b of the general statutes is repealed and the 1247 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

1248 (a) For the purposes of this section:

(1) "Basic subscriber information" means: (A) Name, (B) address, (C)
age or date of birth, (D) electronic mail address, instant message
address or other similar Internet communication identifier, and (E)
subscriber number or identity, including any assigned Internet
protocol address;

1254 (2) "Electronic communication" means "electronic communication"1255 as defined in 18 USC 2510, as amended from time to time;

(3) "Electronic communication service" means "electronic
communication service" as defined in 18 USC 2510, as amended from
time to time;

(4) "Registrant" means a person required to register under section <u>3</u>
<u>or 4 of this act or section</u> 54-251, <u>as amended by this act</u>, 54-252, <u>as</u>
<u>amended by this act</u>, 54-253, <u>as amended by this act</u>, or 54-254, <u>as</u>
amended by this act; and

(5) "Remote computing service" means "remote computing service"as defined in section 18 USC 2711, as amended from time to time.

(b) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection
shall designate a sworn law enforcement officer to serve as liaison
between the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection
and providers of electronic communication services or remote

1269 computing services to facilitate the exchange of non-personally-1270 identifiable information concerning registrants.

1271 (c) Whenever such designated law enforcement officer ascertains 1272 from such exchange of non-personally-identifiable information that 1273 there are subscribers, customers or users of such providers who are 1274 registrants, such officer shall initiate a criminal investigation to 1275 determine if such registrants are in violation of the registration 1276 requirements of section 3 or 4 of this act or section 54-251, as amended by this act, 54-252, as amended by this act, 54-253, as amended by this 1277 1278 act, or 54-254, as amended by this act, or of the terms and conditions of 1279 their parole or probation by virtue of being subscribers, customers or 1280 users of such providers.

1281 (d) Such designated law enforcement officer may request an ex 1282 parte order from a judge of the Superior Court to compel a provider of 1283 electronic communication service or remote computing service to 1284 disclose basic subscriber information pertaining to subscribers, 1285 customers or users who have been identified by such provider to be 1286 registrants. The judge shall grant such order if the law enforcement 1287 officer offers specific and articulable facts showing that there are 1288 reasonable grounds to believe that the basic subscriber information 1289 sought is relevant and material to the ongoing criminal investigation. 1290 The order shall state upon its face the case number assigned to such 1291 investigation, the date and time of issuance and the name of the judge 1292 authorizing the order. The law enforcement officer shall have any ex 1293 parte order issued pursuant to this subsection signed by the 1294 authorizing judge within forty-eight hours or not later than the next 1295 business day, whichever is earlier.

(e) A provider of electronic communication service or remote
computing service shall disclose basic subscriber information to such
designated law enforcement officer when an order is issued pursuant
to subsection (d) of this section.

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(f) A provider of electronic communication service or remote

computing service that provides information in good faith pursuant to
an order issued pursuant to subsection (d) of this section shall be
afforded the legal protections provided under 18 USC 3124, as
amended from time to time, with regard to such actions.

1305 Sec. 17. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2019) The Judicial Branch shall, 1306 in collaboration with the Department of Emergency Services and 1307 Public Protection, report annually to the joint standing committee of 1308 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the 1309 judiciary in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the 1310 general statutes. Such report shall (1) provide the number of sexual 1311 assault cases presented in the Superior Court, detail any initial charge, 1312 plea, conviction and sentence and indicate whether the defendant was 1313 a registrant at the time of the offense, and (2) include registry data that 1314 pertains to any such conviction and registration terms.

Sec. 18. (Effective October 1, 2019) Not later than February 1, 2020, the 1315 1316 Sexual Offender Registration Board established under section 2 of this 1317 act, shall report to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary in 1318 1319 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes 1320 indicating said board's preparedness to begin not later than July 1, 1321 2020, the classifications, processing and matters set forth in sections 2 1322 to 6, inclusive, of this act, sections 54-251 to 54-258, inclusive, of the 1323 general statutes, as amended by this act, section 13 of this act and 1324 sections 17 to 20, inclusive, of this act.

1325 Sec. 19 (Effective October 1, 2019) Not later than January 1, 2021, the 1326 Connecticut Sentencing Commission, established under section 54-300 1327 of the general statutes, shall report to the joint standing committee of 1328 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the 1329 judiciary in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the 1330 general statutes on the implementation of sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of 1331 this act, sections 54-251 to 54-258, inclusive, of the general statutes, as 1332 amended by this act, section 13 of this act and sections 17 to 20, 1333 inclusive, of this act. The Connecticut Sentencing Commission may

consult with the Connecticut Alliance to End Sexual Violence or any
similar entity and the Department of Emergency Services and Public
Protection as part of the development of such report.

Sec. 20. (*Effective October 1, 2019*) The Sexual Offender Registration Board established under section 2 of this act shall seek to expand the notification provided to the victim or victims through the Judicial Branch's CT SAVIN victim notification service to include sex offender supervision classification and sexual offender registry status.

1342 Sec. 21. Section 17a-111a of the general statutes is repealed and the 1343 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

1344 (a) The Commissioner of Children and Families shall file a petition 1345 to terminate parental rights pursuant to section 17a-112, as amended 1346 by this act, if (1) the child has been in the custody of the commissioner 1347 for at least fifteen consecutive months, or at least fifteen months during 1348 the twenty-two months, immediately preceding the filing of such 1349 petition; (2) the child has been abandoned as defined in subsection (j) 1350 of section 17a-112; or (3) a court of competent jurisdiction has found 1351 that (A) the parent has killed, through deliberate, nonaccidental act, a 1352 sibling of the child or has requested, commanded, importuned, 1353 attempted, conspired or solicited to commit the killing of the child or a 1354 sibling of the child; or (B) the parent has assaulted the child or a sibling 1355 of a child, through deliberate, nonaccidental act, and such assault 1356 resulted in serious bodily injury to such child.

1357 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, 1358 the commissioner is not required to file a petition to terminate parental 1359 rights in such cases if the commissioner determines that: (1) The child 1360 has been placed under the care of a relative of such child; (2) there is a 1361 compelling reason to believe that filing such petition is not in the best interests of the child; or (3) the parent has not been offered the services 1362 1363 contained in the permanency plan to reunify the parent with the child 1364 or such services were not available or reasonably accessible, unless a 1365 court has determined that efforts to reunify the parent with the child

## 1366 are not required.

1367	(c) For purposes of this section, a compelling reason to believe that a
1368	petition to terminate the parental rights of an incarcerated parent is not
1369	in the best interests of the child may include: (1) Such parent's
1370	maintenance of a meaningful role in the child's life; (2) such parent's
1371	incarceration is the primary reason why the child has been in foster
1372	care for at least fifteen consecutive months, or at least fifteen months
1373	during the twenty-two months, immediately preceding the filing of
1374	such petition; and (3) there is no other applicable ground except for
1375	that described under subdivision (2) of this subsection for filing such
1376	petition. The commissioner's assessment of whether an incarcerated
1377	parent maintains a meaningful role in the child's life may include
1378	consideration of the following factors: (A) The parent's expressions or
1379	acts of concerns for the child, such as letters, telephone calls, visits and
1380	other forms of communication with the child; (B) the parent's efforts to
1381	communicate and work with the commissioner or other individuals for
1382	the purpose of complying with the case plan developed pursuant to
1383	section 17a-15, as amended by this act, and repairing, maintaining or
1384	building the relationship between the parent and child; (C) a positive
1385	response by the parent to the reasonable efforts of the commissioner;
1386	(D) information provided by individuals or agencies in a reasonable
1387	position to assist the commissioner in making such an assessment,
1388	including, but not limited to, the parent's attorney, Department of
1389	Correction personnel, mental health care providers or other
1390	individuals providing services to the parent; (E) limitations on the
1391	parent's ability to access family support programs, therapeutic
1392	services, opportunities for visitation with the child and telephone and
1393	mail services; (F) the parent's inability to participate in case plan
1394	review meetings held in accordance with section 17a-15, as amended
1395	by this act, and difficulty participating meaningfully in court
1396	proceedings concerning such child; and (G) whether the continued
1397	involvement of the parent in the child's life is in the child's best
1398	interests.

<sup>1399</sup> Sec. 22. Subsection (k) of section 17a-112 of the general statutes is

repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*October 1, 2019):

1402 (k) Except in the case where termination of parental rights is based 1403 on consent, in determining whether to terminate parental rights under 1404 this section, the court shall consider and shall make written findings 1405 regarding: (1) The timeliness, nature and extent of services offered, 1406 provided and made available to the parent and the child by an agency 1407 to facilitate the reunion of the child with the parent; (2) whether the 1408 Department of Children and Families has made reasonable efforts to 1409 reunite the family pursuant to the federal Adoption and Safe Families 1410 Act of 1997, as amended from time to time; (3) the terms of any 1411 applicable court order entered into and agreed upon by any individual 1412 or agency and the parent, and the extent to which all parties have 1413 fulfilled their obligations under such order; (4) the feelings and 1414 emotional ties of the child with respect to the child's parents, any 1415 guardian of such child's person and any person who has exercised 1416 physical care, custody or control of the child for at least one year and 1417 with whom the child has developed significant emotional ties; (5) the 1418 age of the child; (6) the efforts the parent has made to adjust such 1419 parent's circumstances, conduct, or conditions to make it in the best 1420 interest of the child to return such child home in the foreseeable future, 1421 including, but not limited to, (A) the extent to which the parent has 1422 maintained contact with the child as part of an effort to reunite the 1423 child with the parent, provided the court may give weight to incidental 1424 visitations, communications or contributions, and (B) the maintenance 1425 of regular contact or communication with the guardian or other 1426 custodian of the child; [and] (7) the extent to which a parent has been 1427 prevented from maintaining a meaningful relationship with the child 1428 by the unreasonable act or conduct of the other parent of the child, or 1429 the unreasonable act of any other person or by the economic 1430 circumstances of the parent; and (8) if a parent is incarcerated, (A) 1431 whether the parent has maintained a meaningful role in the child's life as evaluated under the conditions provided in subsection (c) of section 1432 17a-111a, as amended by this act, and (B) any delays or barriers that 1433

the parent may have experienced in keeping the Department of
Children and Families apprised of his or her location and in accessing
visitation or other contact with the child.

1437 Sec. 23. Section 46b-129 of the general statutes is repealed and the 1438 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

1439 (a) Any selectman, town manager, or town, city or borough welfare department, any probation officer, or the Commissioner of Social 1440 1441 Services, the Commissioner of Children and Families or any child-1442 caring institution or agency approved by the Commissioner of 1443 Children and Families, a child or such child's representative or 1444 attorney or a foster parent of a child, having information that a child or 1445 youth is neglected, uncared for or abused may file with the Superior 1446 Court that has venue over such matter a verified petition plainly 1447 stating such facts as bring the child or youth within the jurisdiction of 1448 the court as neglected, uncared for or abused within the meaning of 1449 section 46b-120, the name, date of birth, sex and residence of the child 1450 or youth, the name and residence of such child's parents or guardian, 1451 and praying for appropriate action by the court in conformity with the 1452 provisions of this chapter. Upon the filing of such a petition, except as 1453 otherwise provided in subsection (k) of section 17a-112, as amended by 1454 this act, the court shall cause a summons to be issued requiring the 1455 parent or parents or the guardian of the child or youth to appear in 1456 court at the time and place named, which summons shall be served not 1457 less than fourteen days before the date of the hearing in the manner 1458 prescribed by section 46b-128, and the court shall further give notice to 1459 the petitioner and to the Commissioner of Children and Families of the 1460 time and place when the petition is to be heard not less than fourteen 1461 days prior to the hearing in question.

(b) If it appears from the specific allegations of the petition and other verified affirmations of fact accompanying the petition and application, or subsequent thereto, that there is reasonable cause to believe that (1) the child or youth is suffering from serious physical illness or serious physical injury or is in immediate physical danger 1467 from the child's or youth's surroundings, and (2) as a result of said conditions, the child's or youth's safety is endangered and immediate 1468 1469 removal from such surroundings is necessary to ensure the child's or 1470 youth's safety, the court shall either (A) issue an order to the parents or 1471 other person having responsibility for the care of the child or youth to 1472 appear at such time as the court may designate to determine whether 1473 the court should vest the child's or youth's temporary care and custody 1474 in a person related to the child or youth by blood or marriage or in 1475 some other person or suitable agency pending disposition of the 1476 petition, or (B) issue an order ex parte vesting the child's or youth's 1477 temporary care and custody in a person related to the child or youth by blood or marriage or in some other person or suitable agency. A 1478 1479 preliminary hearing on any ex parte custody order or order to appear 1480 issued by the court shall be held not later than ten days after the 1481 issuance of such order. The service of such orders may be made by any 1482 officer authorized by law to serve process, or by any probation officer 1483 appointed in accordance with section 46b-123, investigator from the 1484 Department of Administrative Services, state or local police officer or 1485 indifferent person. Such orders shall include a conspicuous notice to 1486 the respondent written in clear and simple language containing at least 1487 the following information: (i) That the order contains allegations that 1488 conditions in the home have endangered the safety and welfare of the 1489 child or youth; (ii) that a hearing will be held on the date on the form; 1490 (iii) that the hearing is the opportunity to present the parents' position 1491 concerning the alleged facts; (iv) that an attorney will be appointed for 1492 parents who cannot afford an attorney; (v) that such parents may 1493 apply for a court-appointed attorney by going in person to the court 1494 address on the form and are advised to go as soon as possible in order 1495 for the attorney to prepare for the hearing; (vi) that such parents, or a 1496 person having responsibility for the care and custody of the child or 1497 youth, may request the Commissioner of Children and Families to 1498 investigate placing the child or youth with a person related to the child 1499 or youth by blood or marriage who might serve as a licensed foster 1500 parent or temporary custodian for such child or youth. The 1501 commissioner shall investigate any relative or relatives proposed to 1502 serve as a licensed foster parent or temporary custodian for such child 1503 or youth prior to the preliminary hearing and provide a preliminary 1504 report to the court at such hearing as to such relative's or relatives' 1505 suitability and any potential barriers to licensing such relative or 1506 relatives as a foster parent or parents or granting temporary custody of 1507 such child or youth to such relative or relatives; and (vii) that if such 1508 parents have any questions concerning the case or appointment of 1509 counsel, any such parent is advised to go to the court or call the clerk's 1510 office at the court as soon as possible. Upon application for appointed 1511 counsel, the court shall promptly determine eligibility and, if the 1512 respondent is eligible, promptly appoint counsel. The expense for any 1513 temporary care and custody shall be paid by the town in which such 1514 child or youth is at the time residing, and such town shall be 1515 reimbursed for such expense by the town found liable for the child's or 1516 youth's support, except that where a state agency has filed a petition 1517 pursuant to the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the agency 1518 shall pay such expense. The agency shall give primary consideration to 1519 placing the child or youth in the town where such child or youth 1520 resides. The agency shall file in writing with the clerk of the court the 1521 reasons for placing the child or youth in a particular placement outside 1522 the town where the child or youth resides, including the use of any 1523 services available to and reasonably accessible by an incarcerated 1524 parent or guardian of such child or youth at the facility where such 1525 parent or guardian is confined. Upon issuance of an ex parte order, the 1526 court shall provide to the commissioner and the parent or guardian 1527 specific steps necessary for each to take to address the ex parte order 1528 for the parent or guardian to retain or regain custody of the child or 1529 youth. Upon the issuance of such order, or not later than sixty days 1530 after the issuance of such order, the court shall make a determination 1531 whether the Department of Children and Families made reasonable 1532 efforts to keep the child or youth with his or her parents or guardian 1533 prior to the issuance of such order and, if such efforts were not made, 1534 whether such reasonable efforts were not possible, taking into consideration the child's or youth's best interests, including the child's 1535 1536 or youth's health and safety. Any person or agency in which the

temporary care and custody of a child or youth is vested under this
section shall have the following rights and duties regarding the child
or youth: (I) The obligation of care and control; (II) the authority to
make decisions regarding emergency medical, psychological,
psychiatric or surgical treatment; and (III) such other rights and duties
that the court having jurisdiction may order.

1543 (c) The preliminary hearing on the order of temporary custody or 1544 order to appear or the first hearing on a petition filed pursuant to 1545 subsection (a) of this section shall be held in order for the court to:

(1) Advise the parent or guardian of the allegations contained in all
petitions and applications that are the subject of the hearing and the
parent's or guardian's right to counsel pursuant to subsection (b) of
section 46b-135;

(2) Ensure that an attorney, and where appropriate, a separate
guardian ad litem has been appointed to represent the child or youth
in accordance with subsection (b) of section 51-296a and sections 46b129a and 46b-136;

(3) Upon request, appoint an attorney to represent the respondent
when the respondent is unable to afford representation, in accordance
with subsection (b) of section 51-296a;

(4) Advise the parent or guardian of the right to a hearing on the
petitions and applications, to be held not later than ten days after the
date of the preliminary hearing if the hearing is pursuant to an order of
temporary custody or an order to show cause;

1561 (5) Accept a plea regarding the truth of the allegations;

(6) Make any interim orders, including visitation orders, that the court determines are in the best interests of the child or youth. The court, after a hearing pursuant to this subsection, shall order specific steps the commissioner and the parent or guardian shall take for the parent or guardian to regain or to retain custody of the child or youth, 1567 including the use of any services available to and reasonably accessible
1568 by an incarcerated parent or guardian of such child or youth at the
1569 facility where such parent or guardian is confined;

(7) Take steps to determine the identity of the father of the child or
youth, including, if necessary, inquiring of the mother of the child or
youth, under oath, as to the identity and address of any person who
might be the father of the child or youth and ordering genetic testing,
and order service of the petition and notice of the hearing date, if any,
to be made upon him;

1576 (8) If the person named as the father appears and admits that he is 1577 the father, provide him and the mother with the notices that comply 1578 with section 17b-27 and provide them with the opportunity to sign a 1579 paternity acknowledgment and affirmation on forms that comply with 1580 section 17b-27. Such documents shall be executed and filed in 1581 accordance with chapter 815y and a copy delivered to the clerk of the 1582 superior court for juvenile matters. The clerk of the superior court for 1583 juvenile matters shall send the original paternity acknowledgment and 1584 affirmation to the Department of Public Health for filing in the 1585 paternity registry maintained under section 19a-42a, and shall 1586 maintain a copy of the paternity acknowledgment and affirmation in 1587 the court file;

1588 (9) If the person named as a father appears and denies that he is the father of the child or youth, order genetic testing to determine 1589 1590 paternity in accordance with section 46b-168. If the results of the 1591 genetic tests indicate a ninety-nine per cent or greater probability that 1592 the person named as father is the father of the child or youth, such 1593 results shall constitute a rebuttable presumption that the person 1594 named as father is the father of the child or youth, provided the court 1595 finds evidence that sexual intercourse occurred between the mother 1596 and the person named as father during the period of time in which the 1597 child was conceived. If the court finds such rebuttable presumption, 1598 the court may issue judgment adjudicating paternity after providing 1599 the father an opportunity for a hearing. The clerk of the court shall

1600 send a certified copy of any judgment adjudicating paternity to the 1601 Department of Public Health for filing in the paternity registry 1602 maintained under section 19a-42a. If the results of the genetic tests 1603 indicate that the person named as father is not the biological father of 1604 the child or youth, the court shall enter a judgment that he is not the 1605 father and the court shall remove him from the case and afford him no 1606 further standing in the case or in any subsequent proceeding regarding 1607 the child or youth;

(10) Identify any person or persons related to the child or youth by
blood or marriage residing in this state who might serve as licensed
foster parents or temporary custodians and order the Commissioner of
Children and Families to investigate and report to the court, not later
than thirty days after the preliminary hearing, the appropriateness of
placing the child or youth with such relative or relatives; and

1614 (11) In accordance with the provisions of the Interstate Compact on 1615 the Placement of Children pursuant to section 17a-175, identify any 1616 person or persons related to the child or youth by blood or marriage 1617 residing out of state who might serve as licensed foster parents or 1618 temporary custodians, and order the Commissioner of Children and 1619 Families to investigate and determine, within a reasonable time, the 1620 appropriateness of placing the child or youth with such relative or 1621 relatives.

1622 (d) (1) (A) If not later than thirty days after the preliminary hearing, 1623 or within a reasonable time when a relative resides out of state, the 1624 Commissioner of Children and Families determines that there is not a 1625 suitable person related to the child or youth by blood or marriage who 1626 can be licensed as a foster parent or serve as a temporary custodian, 1627 and the court has not granted temporary custody to a person related to 1628 the child or youth by blood or marriage, any person related to the child 1629 or youth by blood or marriage may file, not later than ninety days after 1630 the date of the preliminary hearing, a motion to intervene for the 1631 limited purpose of moving for temporary custody of such child or 1632 youth. If a motion to intervene is timely filed, the court shall grant 1633 such motion except for good cause shown.

(B) Any person related to a child or youth may file a motion to
intervene for purposes of seeking temporary custody of a child or
youth more than ninety days after the date of the preliminary hearing.
The granting of such motion shall be solely in the court's discretion,
except that such motion shall be granted absent good cause shown
whenever the child's or youth's most recent placement has been
disrupted or is about to be disrupted.

1641 (C) A relative shall appear in person, with or without counsel, and 1642 shall not be entitled to court appointed counsel or the assignment of 1643 counsel by the office of Chief Public Defender, except as provided in 1644 section 46b-136.

1645 (2) Upon the granting of intervenor status to such relative of the 1646 child or youth, the court shall issue an order directing the 1647 Commissioner of Children and Families to conduct an assessment of 1648 such relative and to file a written report with the court not later than 1649 forty days after such order, unless such relative resides out of state, in 1650 which case the assessment shall be ordered and requested in 1651 accordance with the provisions of the Interstate Compact on the 1652 Placement of Children, pursuant to section 17a-175. The court may also 1653 request such relative to release such relative's medical records, 1654 including any psychiatric or psychological records and may order such 1655 relative to submit to a physical or mental examination. The expenses 1656 incurred for such physical or mental examination shall be paid as costs 1657 of commitment are paid. Upon receipt of the assessment, the court 1658 shall schedule a hearing on such relative's motion for temporary 1659 custody not later than fifteen days after the receipt of the assessment. If 1660 the Commissioner of Children and Families, the child's or youth's 1661 attorney or guardian ad litem, or the parent or guardian objects to the 1662 vesting of temporary custody in such relative, the agency or person 1663 objecting at such hearing shall be required to prove by a fair 1664 preponderance of the evidence that granting temporary custody of the 1665 child or youth to such relative would not be in the best interests of 1666 such child or youth.

1667 (3) If the court grants such relative temporary custody during the 1668 period of such temporary custody, such relative shall be subject to 1669 orders of the court, including, but not limited to, providing for the care 1670 and supervision of such child or youth and cooperating with the 1671 Commissioner of Children and Families in the implementation of 1672 treatment and permanency plans and services for such child or youth. 1673 The court may, on motion of any party or the court's own motion, after 1674 notice and a hearing, terminate such relative's intervenor status if such 1675 relative's participation in the case is no longer warranted or necessary.

1676 (4) Any person related to a child or youth may file a motion to 1677 intervene for purposes of seeking guardianship of a child or youth 1678 more than ninety days after the date of the preliminary hearing. The 1679 granting of such motion to intervene shall be solely in the court's 1680 discretion, except that such motion shall be granted absent good cause 1681 shown whenever the child's or youth's most recent placement has been 1682 disrupted or is about to be disrupted. The court may, in the court's 1683 discretion, order the Commissioner of Children and Families to 1684 conduct an assessment of such relative granted intervenor status 1685 pursuant to this subdivision.

1686 (5) Any relative granted intervenor status pursuant to this 1687 subsection shall not be entitled to court-appointed counsel or 1688 representation by Division of Public Defender Services assigned 1689 counsel, except as provided in section 46b-136.

(e) If any parent or guardian fails, after service of such order, toappear at the preliminary hearing, the court may enter or sustain anorder of temporary custody.

(f) Upon request, or upon its own motion, the court shall schedule a hearing on the order for temporary custody or the order to appear to be held not later than ten days after the date of the preliminary hearing. Such hearing shall be held on consecutive days except for compelling circumstances or at the request of the parent or guardian. 1698 (g) At a contested hearing on the order for temporary custody or 1699 order to appear, credible hearsay evidence regarding statements of the 1700 child or youth made to a mandated reporter or to a parent may be 1701 offered by the parties and admitted by the court upon a finding that 1702 the statement is reliable and trustworthy and that admission of such 1703 statement is reasonably necessary. A signed statement executed by a 1704 mandated reporter under oath may be admitted by the court without 1705 the need for the mandated reporter to appear and testify unless called 1706 by a respondent or the child, provided the statement: (1) Was provided 1707 at the preliminary hearing and promptly upon request to any counsel 1708 appearing after the preliminary hearing; (2) reasonably describes the 1709 qualifications of the reporter and the nature of his contact with the 1710 child; and (3) contains only the direct observations of the reporter, and 1711 statements made to the reporter that would be admissible if the 1712 reporter were to testify to them in court and any opinions reasonably 1713 based thereupon. If a respondent or the child gives notice at the 1714 preliminary hearing that he intends to cross-examine the reporter, the 1715 person filing the petition shall make the reporter available for such 1716 examination at the contested hearing.

1717 (h) If any parent or guardian fails, after due notice of the hearing 1718 scheduled pursuant to subsection (g) of this section and without good 1719 cause, to appear at the scheduled date for a contested hearing on the 1720 order of temporary custody or order to appear, the court may enter or 1721 sustain an order of temporary custody.

1722 (i) When a petition is filed in said court for the commitment of a 1723 child or youth, the Commissioner of Children and Families shall make 1724 a thorough investigation of the case and shall cause to be made a 1725 thorough physical and mental examination of the child or youth if 1726 requested by the court. The court after hearing may also order a 1727 thorough physical or mental examination, or both, of a parent or 1728 guardian whose competency or ability to care for a child or youth 1729 before the court is at issue. The expenses incurred in making such 1730 physical and mental examinations shall be paid as costs of 1731 commitment are paid.

1732 (j) (1) For the purposes of this subsection and subsection (k) of this 1733 section, (A) "permanent legal guardianship" means a permanent 1734 guardianship, as defined in section 45a-604, and (B) "caregiver" means 1735 (i) a fictive kin caregiver, as defined in section 17a-114, who is caring 1736 for a child, (ii) a relative caregiver, as defined in section 17a-126, who is 1737 caring for a child, or (iii) a person who is licensed or approved to 1738 provide foster care pursuant to section 17a-114, who is caring for a 1739 child.

1740 (2) Upon finding and adjudging that any child or youth is uncared 1741 for, neglected or abused the court may (A) commit such child or youth 1742 to the Commissioner of Children and Families, and such commitment 1743 shall remain in effect until further order of the court, except that such 1744 commitment may be revoked or parental rights terminated at any time 1745 by the court; (B) vest such child's or youth's legal guardianship in any 1746 private or public agency that is permitted by law to care for neglected, 1747 uncared for or abused children or youths or with any other person or 1748 persons found to be suitable and worthy of such responsibility by the 1749 court, including, but not limited to, any relative of such child or youth 1750 by blood or marriage; (C) vest such child's or youth's permanent legal 1751 guardianship in any person or persons found to be suitable and 1752 worthy of such responsibility by the court, including, but not limited 1753 to, any relative of such child or youth by blood or marriage in 1754 accordance with the requirements set forth in subdivision (5) of this 1755 subsection; or (D) place the child or youth in the custody of the parent 1756 or guardian with protective supervision by the Commissioner of 1757 Children and Families subject to conditions established by the court.

1758 (3) If the court determines that the commitment should be revoked 1759 and the child's or youth's legal guardianship or permanent legal 1760 guardianship should vest in someone other than the respondent 1761 parent, parents or former guardian, or if parental rights are terminated 1762 at any time, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that an award of legal guardianship or permanent legal guardianship upon revocation 1763 1764 to, or adoption upon termination of parental rights by, any caregiver 1765 or person or who is, pursuant to an order of the court, the temporary

1766 custodian of the child or youth at the time of the revocation or 1767 termination, shall be in the best interests of the child or youth and that 1768 such caregiver is a suitable and worthy person to assume legal 1769 guardianship or permanent legal guardianship upon revocation or to 1770 adopt such child or youth upon termination of parental rights. The 1771 presumption may be rebutted by a preponderance of the evidence that 1772 an award of legal guardianship or permanent legal guardianship to, or 1773 an adoption by, such caregiver would not be in the child's or youth's 1774 best interests and such caregiver is not a suitable and worthy person. 1775 The court shall order specific steps that the parent must take to 1776 facilitate the return of the child or youth to the custody of such parent.

1777 (4) The commissioner shall be the guardian of such child or youth 1778 for the duration of the commitment, provided the child or youth has 1779 not reached the age of eighteen years, or until another guardian has 1780 been legally appointed, and in like manner, upon such vesting of the 1781 care of such child or youth, such other public or private agency or 1782 individual shall be the guardian of such child or youth until such child 1783 or youth has reached the age of eighteen years or, in the case of a child 1784 or youth in full-time attendance in a secondary school, a technical 1785 education and career school, a college or a state-accredited job training 1786 program, until such child or youth has reached the age of twenty-one 1787 years or until another guardian has been legally appointed. The 1788 commissioner may place any child or youth so committed to the 1789 commissioner in a suitable foster home or in the home of a fictive kin 1790 caregiver, relative caregiver, or in a licensed child-caring institution or 1791 in the care and custody of any accredited, licensed or approved child-1792 caring agency, within or without the state, provided a child shall not 1793 be placed outside the state except for good cause and unless the 1794 parents or guardian of such child are notified in advance of such 1795 placement and given an opportunity to be heard, or in a receiving 1796 home maintained and operated by the commissioner. When placing 1797 such child or youth, the commissioner shall provide written 1798 notification of the placement, including the name, address and other 1799 relevant contact information relating to the placement, to any attorney 1800 or guardian ad litem appointed to represent the child or youth 1801 pursuant to subsection (c) of this section. The commissioner shall provide written notification to such attorney or guardian ad litem of 1802 1803 any change in placement of such child or youth, including a 1804 hospitalization or respite placement, and if the child or youth absconds 1805 from care. The commissioner shall provide such written notification 1806 not later than ten business days prior to the date of change of 1807 placement in a nonemergency situation, or not later than two business days following the date of a change of placement in an emergency 1808 1809 situation. In placing such child or youth, the commissioner shall, if 1810 possible, select a home, agency, institution or person of like religious 1811 faith to that of a parent of such child or youth, if such faith is known or 1812 may be ascertained by reasonable inquiry, provided such home 1813 conforms to the standards of the commissioner and the commissioner 1814 shall, when placing siblings, if possible, place such children together. 1815 At least ten days prior to transferring a child or youth to a second or 1816 subsequent placement, the commissioner shall give written notice to 1817 such child or youth and such child or youth's attorney of said 1818 commissioner's intention to make such transfer, unless an emergency 1819 or risk to such child or youth's well-being necessitates the immediate 1820 transfer of such child and renders such notice impossible. Upon the 1821 issuance of an order committing the child or youth to the 1822 commissioner, or not later than sixty days after the issuance of such 1823 order, the court shall determine whether the department made 1824 reasonable efforts to keep the child or youth with his or her parents or 1825 guardian prior to the issuance of such order and, if such efforts were 1826 not made, whether such reasonable efforts were not possible, taking 1827 into consideration the child's or youth's best interests, including the 1828 child's or youth's health and safety.

(5) A youth who is committed to the commissioner pursuant to this
subsection and has reached eighteen years of age may remain in the
care of the commissioner, by consent of the youth and provided the
youth has not reached the age of twenty-one years of age, if the youth
is (A) enrolled in a full-time approved secondary education program

1834 or an approved program leading to an equivalent credential; (B) 1835 enrolled full time in an institution which provides postsecondary or 1836 vocational education; or (C) participating full time in a program or 1837 activity approved by said commissioner that is designed to promote or 1838 remove barriers to employment. The commissioner, in his or her 1839 discretion, may waive the provision of full-time enrollment or 1840 participation based on compelling circumstances. Not more than one 1841 hundred twenty days after the youth's eighteenth birthday, the 1842 department shall file a motion in the superior court for juvenile 1843 matters that had jurisdiction over the youth's case prior to the youth's 1844 eighteenth birthday for a determination as to whether continuation in 1845 care is in the youth's best interest and, if so, whether there is an 1846 appropriate permanency plan. The court, in its discretion, may hold a 1847 hearing on said motion.

(6) Prior to issuing an order for permanent legal guardianship, the 1848 1849 court shall provide notice to each parent that the parent may not file a 1850 motion to terminate the permanent legal guardianship, or the court 1851 shall indicate on the record why such notice could not be provided, 1852 and the court shall find by clear and convincing evidence that the 1853 permanent legal guardianship is in the best interests of the child or 1854 youth and that the following have been proven by clear and 1855 convincing evidence:

(A) One of the statutory grounds for termination of parental rights
exists, as set forth in subsection (j) of section 17a-112, or the parents
have voluntarily consented to the establishment of the permanent legal
guardianship;

1860 (B) Adoption of the child or youth is not possible or appropriate;

(C) (i) If the child or youth is at least twelve years of age, such child
or youth consents to the proposed permanent legal guardianship, or
(ii) if the child is under twelve years of age, the proposed permanent
legal guardian is: (I) A relative, (II) a caregiver, or (III) already serving
as the permanent legal guardian of at least one of the child's siblings, if

1866 any;

1867 (D) The child or youth has resided with the proposed permanent 1868 legal guardian for at least a year; and

(E) The proposed permanent legal guardian is (i) a suitable and
worthy person, and (ii) committed to remaining the permanent legal
guardian and assuming the right and responsibilities for the child or
youth until the child or youth attains the age of majority.

1873 (7) An order of permanent legal guardianship may be reopened and 1874 modified and the permanent legal guardian removed upon the filing 1875 of a motion with the court, provided it is proven by a fair 1876 preponderance of the evidence that the permanent legal guardian is no 1877 longer suitable and worthy. A parent may not file a motion to 1878 terminate a permanent legal guardianship. If, after a hearing, the court 1879 terminates a permanent legal guardianship, the court, in appointing a 1880 successor legal guardian or permanent legal guardian for the child or 1881 youth shall do so in accordance with this subsection.

1882 (k) (1) (A) Nine months after placement of the child or youth in the 1883 care and custody of the commissioner pursuant to a voluntary 1884 placement agreement, or removal of a child or youth pursuant to 1885 section 17a-101g or an order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction, whichever is earlier, the commissioner shall file a motion 1886 1887 for review of a permanency plan if the child or youth has not reached 1888 his or her eighteenth birthday. Nine months after a permanency plan 1889 has been approved by the court pursuant to this subsection or 1890 subdivision (5) of subsection (j) of this section, the commissioner shall 1891 file a motion for review of the permanency plan. Any party seeking to 1892 oppose the commissioner's permanency plan, including a relative of a 1893 child or youth by blood or marriage who has intervened pursuant to 1894 subsection (d) of this section and is licensed as a foster parent for such 1895 child or youth or is vested with such child's or youth's temporary 1896 custody by order of the court, shall file a motion in opposition not later 1897 than thirty days after the filing of the commissioner's motion for 1898 review of the permanency plan, which motion shall include the reason 1899 therefor. A permanency hearing on any motion for review of the 1900 permanency plan shall be held not later than ninety days after the 1901 filing of such motion. The court shall hold evidentiary hearings in 1902 connection with any contested motion for review of the permanency 1903 plan and credible hearsay evidence regarding any party's compliance 1904 with specific steps ordered by the court shall be admissible at such 1905 evidentiary hearings. The commissioner shall have the burden of 1906 proving that the proposed permanency plan is in the best interests of 1907 the child or youth. After the initial permanency hearing, subsequent 1908 permanency hearings shall be held not less frequently than every 1909 twelve months while the child or youth remains in the custody of the 1910 Commissioner of Children and Families or, if the youth is over 1911 eighteen years of age, while the youth remains in voluntary placement 1912 with the department. The court shall provide notice to the child or 1913 youth, the parent or guardian of such child or youth, and any 1914 intervenor of the time and place of the court hearing on any such 1915 motion not less than fourteen days prior to such hearing.

1916 (B) (i) If a child is at least twelve years of age, the child's 1917 permanency plan, and any revision to such plan, shall be developed in 1918 consultation with the child. In developing or revising such plan, the 1919 child may consult up to two individuals participating in the 1920 department's case plan regarding such child, neither of whom shall be the foster parent or caseworker of such child. One individual so 1921 1922 selected by such child may be designated as the child's advisor for 1923 purposes of developing or revising the permanency plan. Regardless 1924 of the child's age, the commissioner shall provide not less than five 1925 days' advance written notice of any permanency team meeting 1926 concerning the child's permanency plan to an attorney or guardian ad 1927 litem appointed to represent the child pursuant to subsection (c) of this 1928 section.

(ii) If a child is at least twelve years of age, the commissioner shall
notify the parent or guardian, foster parent and child of any
administrative case review regarding such child's commitment not less

than five days prior to such review and shall make a reasonable effortto schedule such review at a time and location that allows the parent orguardian, foster parent and child to attend.

(iii) If a child is at least twelve years of age, such child shall,
whenever possible, identify not more than three adults with whom
such child has a significant relationship and who may serve as a
permanency resource. The identity of such adults shall be recorded in
the case plan of such child.

(iv) Not later than January 1, 2016, and annually thereafter, the
commissioner shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions
of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General
Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children and the
judiciary, on the number of case plans in which children have
identified adults with whom they have a significant relationship and
who may serve as a permanency resource.

1947 (2) At a permanency hearing held in accordance with the provisions 1948 of subdivision (1) of this subsection, the court shall approve a 1949 permanency plan that is in the best interests of the child or youth and 1950 takes into consideration the child's or youth's need for permanency. 1951 The child's or youth's health and safety shall be of paramount concern 1952 in formulating such plan. Such permanency plan may include the goal 1953 of (A) revocation of commitment and reunification of the child or 1954 youth with the parent or guardian, with or without protective 1955 supervision; (B) transfer of guardianship or permanent legal 1956 guardianship; (C) filing of termination of parental rights and adoption; 1957 or (D) for a child sixteen years of age or older, another planned 1958 permanent living arrangement ordered by the court, provided the 1959 Commissioner of Children and Families has documented a compelling 1960 reason why it would not be in the best interests of the child or youth 1961 for the permanency plan to include the goals in subparagraphs (A) to 1962 (C), inclusive, of this subdivision. Such other planned permanent 1963 living arrangement shall, whenever possible, include an adult who has 1964 a significant relationship with the child, and who is willing to be a

1965 permanency resource, and may include, but not be limited to,
1966 placement of a youth in an independent living program or long term
1967 foster care with an identified foster parent.

1968 (3) When a parent or guardian has been incarcerated, has 1969 maintained a meaningful role in the child or youth's life as evaluated 1970 under the conditions provided in subsection (c) of section 17a-111a, as 1971 amended by this act, and it is in the best interests of the child or youth, 1972 the court shall consider a permanency plan that allows such parent or 1973 guardian to maintain a relationship with the child or youth, including, 1974 but not limited to, transfer of guardianship or permanent legal 1975 guardianship.

1976 [(3)] (4) If the permanency plan for a child sixteen years of age or 1977 older includes the goal of another planned permanent living 1978 arrangement pursuant to subparagraph (D) of subdivision (2) of this 1979 subsection or subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of section 17a-111b, the 1980 department shall document for the court: (A) The manner and 1981 frequency of efforts made by the department to return the child home 1982 or to secure placement for the child with a fit and willing relative, legal 1983 guardian or adoptive parent; and (B) the steps the department has taken to ensure (i) the child's foster family home or child care 1984 1985 institution is following a reasonable and prudent parent standard, as 1986 defined in section 17a-114d; and (ii) the child has regular opportunities 1987 to engage in age appropriate and developmentally appropriate 1988 activities, as defined in section 17a-114d.

1989 [(4)] (5) At a permanency hearing held in accordance with the 1990 provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, the court shall (A) (i) 1991 ask the child or youth about his or her desired permanency outcome, 1992 or (ii) if the child or youth is unavailable to appear at such hearing, 1993 require the attorney for the child or youth to consult with the child or 1994 youth regarding the child's or youth's desired permanency outcome 1995 and report the same to the court, (B) review the status of the child or 1996 youth, (C) review the progress being made to implement the 1997 permanency plan, (D) determine a timetable for attaining the 1998 permanency plan, (E) determine the services to be provided to the 1999 parent [if the court approves a permanency plan of reunification] and 2000 the timetable for such services, including any services available to and reasonably accessible by an incarcerated parent of such child or youth 2001 2002 at the facility where such parent is confined, and (F) determine 2003 whether the commissioner has made reasonable efforts to achieve the 2004 permanency plan. As part of any consideration made under this 2005 subdivision, if a parent is incarcerated, the court shall consider (i) the 2006 services available to and reasonably accessible by the parent at the 2007 facility where the parent is confined, and (ii) visitation provided for the 2008 parent and child or youth, unless such visitation is not in the best 2009 interests of such child or youth. The court may revoke commitment if a 2010 cause for commitment no longer exists and it is in the best interests of 2011 the child or youth.

2012 [(5)] (6) If the permanency plan for a child sixteen years of age or 2013 older includes the goal of another planned permanent living 2014 arrangement pursuant to subparagraph (D) of subdivision (2) of this 2015 subsection, the court shall (A) (i) ask the child about his or her desired 2016 permanency outcome, or (ii) if the child is unavailable to appear at a 2017 permanency hearing held in accordance with the provisions of 2018 subdivision (1) of this subsection, require the attorney for the child to 2019 consult with the child regarding the child's desired permanency 2020 outcome and report the same to the court; (B) make a judicial 2021 determination that, as of the date of hearing, another planned 2022 permanent living arrangement is the best permanency plan for the 2023 child; and (C) document the compelling reasons why it is not in the 2024 best interest of the child to return home or to be placed with a fit and 2025 willing relative, legal guardian or adoptive parent.

[(6)] (7) If the court approves the permanency plan of adoption: (A) The Commissioner of Children and Families shall file a petition for termination of parental rights not later than sixty days after such approval if such petition has not previously been filed; (B) the commissioner may conduct a thorough adoption assessment and child-specific recruitment; and (C) the court may order that the child 2032 be photo-listed within thirty days if the court determines that such 2033 photo-listing is in the best interests of the child or youth. As used in 2034 this subdivision, "thorough adoption assessment" means conducting 2035 and documenting face-to-face interviews with the child or youth, 2036 foster care providers and other significant parties and "child specific 2037 recruitment" means recruiting an adoptive placement targeted to meet 2038 the individual needs of the specific child or youth, including, but not 2039 limited to, use of the media, use of photo-listing services and any other 2040 in-state or out-of-state resources that may be used to meet the specific 2041 needs of the child or youth, unless there are extenuating circumstances 2042 that indicate that such efforts are not in the best interests of the child or 2043 vouth.

2044 (1) The Commissioner of Children and Families shall pay directly to 2045 the person or persons furnishing goods or services determined by said 2046 commissioner to be necessary for the care and maintenance of such 2047 child or youth the reasonable expense thereof, payment to be made at 2048 intervals determined by said commissioner; and the Comptroller shall 2049 draw his or her order on the Treasurer, from time to time, for such part 2050 of the appropriation for care of committed children or youths as may 2051 be needed in order to enable the commissioner to make such 2052 payments. The commissioner shall include in the department's annual 2053 budget a sum estimated to be sufficient to carry out the provisions of 2054 this section. Notwithstanding that any such child or youth has income 2055 or estate, the commissioner may pay the cost of care and maintenance 2056 of such child or youth. The commissioner may bill to and collect from 2057 the person in charge of the estate of any child or youth aided under this chapter, or the payee of such child's or youth's income, the total 2058 2059 amount expended for care of such child or youth or such portion 2060 thereof as any such estate or payee is able to reimburse, provided the 2061 commissioner shall not collect from such estate or payee any 2062 reimbursement for the cost of care or other expenditures made on 2063 behalf of such child or youth from (1) the proceeds of any cause of 2064 action received by such child or youth; (2) any lottery proceeds due to 2065 such child or youth; (3) any inheritance due to such child or youth; (4)

any payment due to such child or youth from a trust other than a trust
created pursuant to 42 USC 1396p, as amended from time to time; or
(5) the decedent estate of such child or youth.

2069 (m) The commissioner, a parent or the child's attorney may file a 2070 motion to revoke a commitment, and, upon finding that cause for 2071 commitment no longer exists, and that such revocation is in the best 2072 interests of such child or youth, the court may revoke the commitment 2073 of such child or youth. No such motion shall be filed more often than 2074 once every six months.

2075 (n) If the court has ordered legal guardianship of a child or youth to 2076 be vested in a suitable and worthy person pursuant to subsection (j) of 2077 this section, the child's or youth's parent or former legal guardian may 2078 file a motion to reinstate guardianship of the child or youth in such 2079 parent or former legal guardian. Upon the filing of such a motion, the 2080 court may order the Commissioner of Children and Families to 2081 investigate the home conditions and needs of the child or youth and 2082 the home conditions of the person seeking reinstatement of 2083 guardianship, and to make a recommendation to the court. A party to 2084 a motion for reinstatement of guardianship shall not be entitled to 2085 court-appointed counsel or representation by Division of Public 2086 Defender Services assigned counsel, except as provided in section 46b-2087 136. Upon finding that the cause for the removal of guardianship no 2088 longer exists, and that reinstatement is in the best interests of the child 2089 or youth, the court may reinstate the guardianship of the parent or the 2090 former legal guardian. No such motion may be filed more often than 2091 once every six months.

(o) Upon service on the parent, guardian or other person having
control of the child or youth of any order issued by the court pursuant
to the provisions of subsections (b) and (j) of this section, the child or
youth concerned shall be surrendered to the person serving the order
who shall forthwith deliver the child or youth to the person, agency,
department or institution awarded custody in the order. Upon refusal
of the parent, guardian or other person having control of the child or

2099 youth to surrender the child or youth as provided in the order, the 2100 court may cause a warrant to be issued charging the parent, guardian 2101 or other person having control of the child or youth with contempt of 2102 court. If the person arrested is found in contempt of court, the court 2103 may order such person confined until the person complies with the 2104 order, but for not more than six months, or may fine such person not 2105 more than five hundred dollars, or both.

2106 (p) A foster parent, prospective adoptive parent or relative caregiver 2107 shall receive notice and have the right to be heard for the purposes of 2108 this section in Superior Court in any proceeding concerning a foster 2109 child living with such foster parent, prospective adoptive parent or 2110 relative caregiver. A foster parent, prospective adoptive parent or 2111 relative caregiver who has cared for a child or youth shall have the 2112 right to be heard and comment on the best interests of such child or 2113 youth in any proceeding under this section which is brought not more 2114 than one year after the last day the foster parent, prospective adoptive 2115 parent or relative caregiver provided such care.

(q) Upon motion of any sibling of any child committed to the
Department of Children and Families pursuant to this section, such
sibling shall have the right to be heard concerning visitation with, and
placement of, any such child. In awarding any visitation or modifying
any placement, the court shall be guided by the best interests of all
siblings affected by such determination.

2122 (r) The provisions of section 17a-152, regarding placement of a child 2123 from another state, and section 17a-175, regarding the Interstate 2124 Compact on the Placement of Children, shall apply to placements 2125 pursuant to this section. In any proceeding under this section 2126 involving the placement of a child or youth in another state where the 2127 provisions of section 17a-175 are applicable, the court shall, before 2128 ordering or approving such placement, state for the record the court's 2129 finding concerning compliance with the provisions of section 17a-175. 2130 The court's statement shall include, but not be limited to: (1) A finding 2131 that the state has received notice in writing from the receiving state, in

2132 accordance with subsection (d) of Article III of section 17a-175, 2133 indicating that the proposed placement does not appear contrary to the 2134 interests of the child, (2) the court has reviewed such notice, (3) 2135 whether or not an interstate compact study or other home study has 2136 been completed by the receiving state, and (4) if such a study has been 2137 completed, whether the conclusions reached by the receiving state as a 2138 result of such study support the placement.

(s) In any proceeding under this section, the Department of
Children and Families shall provide notice to each attorney of record
for each party involved in the proceeding when the department seeks
to transfer a child or youth in its care, custody or control to an out-ofstate placement.

2144 (t) If a child or youth is placed into out-of-home care by the 2145 Commissioner of Children and Families pursuant to this section, the 2146 commissioner shall include in any report the commissioner submits to 2147 the court information regarding (1) the safety and suitability of such 2148 child or youth's placement, taking into account the requirements set 2149 forth in section 17a-114; (2) such child or youth's medical, dental, 2150 developmental, educational and treatment needs; and (3) a timeline for 2151 ensuring that such needs are met. Such information shall also be 2152 submitted to the court (A) not later than ninety days after such child or 2153 youth is placed into out-of-home care; (B) if such child or youth's out-2154 of-home placement changes; and (C) if the commissioner files a 2155 permanency plan on behalf of such child or youth. The court shall 2156 consider such information in making decisions regarding such child or 2157 youth's well-being.

2158 Sec. 24. Section 17a-15 of the general statutes is repealed and the 2159 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

(a) The commissioner shall prepare and maintain a written case plan
for care, treatment and permanent placement of every child under the
commissioner's supervision, which shall include, but not be limited to,
a diagnosis of the problems of each child, the proposed plan of

2164 treatment services and temporary placement and a goal for permanent 2165 placement of the child, which may include reunification with the 2166 parent, transfer of guardianship, adoption or, for a child sixteen years 2167 of age or older, another planned permanent living arrangement. The child's health and safety shall be the paramount concern in 2168 2169 formulating the plan. If the parent is incarcerated, the proposed plan of 2170 treatment services shall include the use of services available to and 2171 reasonably accessible by the parent at the facility where the parent is 2172 confined, and provide for visitation with child, unless such visitation is 2173 not in the best interests of such child or youth.

2174 (b) The commissioner shall at least every six months, review the 2175 written case plan of each child under the commissioner's supervision 2176 for the purpose of determining whether such plan is appropriate and 2177 make any appropriate modifications to such plan. If the child is 2178 represented by an attorney or guardian ad litem, the commissioner 2179 shall notify the child's attorney or guardian ad litem in writing not less 2180 than twenty-one days prior to the date of any administrative meeting 2181 to review the plan. If a parent is unable to participate in person in 2182 such review because such parent is incarcerated at the time of the 2183 such parent may participate through the use of review, telecommunication or video communication services. 2184

2185 (c) Any child or the parent or guardian of such child aggrieved by 2186 any provision of a plan prepared under subsection (a) of this section, 2187 or by the commissioner's decision upon review under subsection (b) of 2188 this section, or any child or the parent or guardian of such child 2189 aggrieved by a refusal of any other service from the commissioner to 2190 which the child is entitled, shall be provided a hearing within thirty 2191 days following a written request for the same directed to the 2192 commissioner.

(d) Upon motion of any sibling of any child committed to the
Department of Children and Families pursuant to section 46b-129, <u>as</u>
<u>amended by this act</u>, in any pending hearing held pursuant to
subsection (c) of this section, such sibling shall have the right to be

2197 heard concerning visitation with, and placement of, any such child.

(e) Any hearing held pursuant to a request made under subsection (c) or (d) of this section shall be conducted as a contested case in accordance with chapter 54 provided: (1) A final decision shall be rendered within fifteen days following the close of evidence and filing of briefs; and (2) any appeal of a decision pursuant to section 4-183 shall be to the district of the superior court for juvenile matters, where the child is located, as established in section 46b-142.

2205 Sec. 25. Section 51-195 of the general statutes is repealed and the 2206 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

2207 Any person sentenced on one or more counts of an information to a 2208 term of imprisonment for which the total sentence of all such counts 2209 amounts to confinement for three years or more, may, within thirty 2210 days from the date such sentence was imposed or if the offender 2211 received a suspended sentence with a maximum confinement of three 2212 years or more, within thirty days of revocation of such suspended 2213 sentence, except in any case in which a different sentence could not 2214 have been imposed or in any case in which the sentence or 2215 commitment imposed resulted from the court's acceptance of a plea 2216 agreement, [or] in any case in which the sentence imposed was for a 2217 lesser term than was proposed in a plea agreement, or if the plea 2218 agreement provides that the term of imprisonment will not exceed an 2219 agreed upon maximum term but provides that the person sentenced 2220 may request a term of imprisonment lower than the agreed upon 2221 maximum term, file with the clerk of the court for the judicial district 2222 in which the judgment was rendered an application for review of the 2223 sentence by the review division. Upon imposition of sentence or at the 2224 time of revocation of such suspended sentence, the clerk shall give 2225 written notice to the person sentenced of his right to make such a 2226 request. Such notice shall include a statement that review of the 2227 sentence may result in decrease or increase of the term within the 2228 limits fixed by law. A form for making such application shall 2229 accompany the notice. The clerk shall forthwith transmit such 2230 application to the review division and shall notify the judge who 2231 imposed the sentence. Such judge may transmit to the review division 2232 a statement of his reasons for imposing the sentence, and shall transmit 2233 such a statement within seven days if requested to do so by the review 2234 division. The filing of an application for review shall not stay the 2235 execution of the sentence.

2236 Sec. 26. Section 53a-39 of the general statutes is repealed and the 2237 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

(a) At any time during the period of a [definite] sentence <u>in which a</u> defendant has been sentenced to an executed period of incarceration of three years or less, the sentencing court or judge may, after hearing and for good cause shown, reduce the sentence, order the defendant discharged, or order the defendant discharged on probation or conditional discharge for a period not to exceed that to which the defendant could have been originally sentenced.

2245 (b) At any time during the period of a [definite] sentence in which a 2246 defendant has been sentenced to an executed period of incarceration of 2247 more than three years, upon agreement of the defendant and the state's 2248 attorney to seek review of the sentence, the sentencing court or judge 2249 may, after hearing and for good cause shown, reduce the sentence, 2250 order the defendant discharged, or order the defendant discharged on 2251 probation or conditional discharge for a period not to exceed that to 2252 which the defendant could have been originally sentenced.

(c) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any portion of a
sentence imposed that is a mandatory minimum sentence for an
offense which may not be suspended or reduced by the court.

(d) At a hearing held by the sentencing court or judge under this
section, such court or judge shall permit any victim of the crime to
appear before the court or judge for the purpose of making a statement
for the record concerning whether or not the sentence of the defendant
should be reduced, the defendant should be discharged or the
defendant should be discharged on probation or conditional discharge

pursuant to subsection (a) or (b) of this section. In lieu of such
appearance, the victim may submit a written statement to the court or
judge and the court or judge shall make such statement a part of the
record at the hearing. For the purposes of this subsection, "victim"
means the victim, the legal representative of the victim or a member of
the deceased victim's immediate family.

sections:				
	0 1 1 2010			
Section 1	October 1, 2019	54-250		
Sec. 2	October 1, 2019	New section		
Sec. 3	July 1, 2020	New section		
Sec. 4	July 1, 2020	New section		
Sec. 5	July 1, 2020	New section		
Sec. 6	July 1, 2020	New section		
Sec. 7	July 1, 2020	54-251		
Sec. 8	July 1, 2020	54-252		
Sec. 9	July 1, 2020	54-253		
Sec. 10	July 1, 2020	54-254		
Sec. 11	July 1, 2020	54-255		
Sec. 12	October 1, 2019	54-256		
Sec. 13	July 1, 2020	New section		
Sec. 14	July 1, 2020	54-257		
Sec. 15	October 1, 2019	54-258		
Sec. 16	October 1, 2019	54-260b		
Sec. 17	October 1, 2019	New section		
Sec. 18	October 1, 2019	New section		
Sec. 19	October 1, 2019	New section		
Sec. 20	October 1, 2019	New section		
Sec. 21	October 1, 2019	17a-111a		
Sec. 22	October 1, 2019	17a-112(k)		
Sec. 23	October 1, 2019	46b-129		
Sec. 24	October 1, 2019	17a-15		
Sec. 25	October 1, 2019	51-195		
Sec. 26	October 1, 2019	53a-39		

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

## Statement of Purpose:

To enact the recommendations of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission with respect (1) to the sexual offender registry, (2) petitions to terminate the parental rights of incarcerated parents, and (3) sentence reviews.

[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.]