

Substitute Bill No. 1113

January Session, 2019



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 AND SENTENCE MODIFICATION.

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

- 1 Section 1. Section 54-250 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):
- For the purposes of this section, sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of this act,
- 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 by this act:
- 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
- section 53-21, subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 53a-70,
- subdivision (1), (4), (8) or (10) or subparagraph (B) of subdivision (9) of

- subsection (a) of section 53a-71, subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of 16 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.
- (3) "Highest-risk offender" means an offender who has been
   assessed and determined by a placement panel of the Sexual Offender
   Registration Board under section 2 of this act to pose a high risk to
   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 (6) "Lowest-risk offender" means an offender who has been assessed 43 and determined by a placement panel of the Sexual Offender 44 Registration Board under section 2 of this act to pose a low risk to 45 reoffend sexually or violently.
- 46 [(4)] (7) "Mental abnormality" means a congenital or acquired

- 47 condition of a person that affects the emotional or volitional capacity of
- 48 the person in a manner that predisposes that person to the commission
- 49 of criminal sexual acts to a degree that makes the person a menace to
- 50 the health and safety of other persons.
- 51 (8) "Moderate-risk offender" means an offender who has been
- 52 <u>assessed and determined by a placement panel of the Sexual Offender</u>
- Registration Board under section 2 of this act to pose a moderate risk
- 54 <u>to reoffend sexually or violently.</u>
- [(5)] (9) "Nonviolent sexual offense" means (A) a violation of section
- 56 53a-73a or subdivision (2), (3) or (4) of subsection (a) of section 53a-
- 57 189a, or (B) a violation of any of the offenses specified in subparagraph
- 58 (A) of this subdivision for which a person is criminally liable under
- 59 section 53a-8, 53a-48 or 53a-49.
- [(6)] (10) "Not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect" means a
- 61 finding by a court or jury of not guilty by reason of mental disease or
- 62 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
- 65 most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental
- 66 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
- 72 amended by this act.
- 73 [(9)] (14) "Registry" means a central record system in this state, any
- 74 other state or the federal government that receives, maintains and
- 75 disseminates information on persons convicted or found not guilty by
- 76 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.

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

- (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)] (18) "Sexually violent offense" means (A) a violation of section 53a-70, except subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of said section, 53a-70a, 53a-70b, 53a-71, except subdivision (1), (4), (8) or (10) or subparagraph (B) of subdivision (9) of subsection (a) of said section or subparagraph (A) of subdivision (9) of subsection (a) of said section if the court

80

81

82

83

84

85

86

87 88

89

90

91

92

93

94

95

96

97

98

99

109 makes a finding that, at the time of the offense, the victim was under 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)] (21) "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 chairperson and eight part-time members compensated on a per diem basis. The Governor shall appoint the chairperson and all members of the board. The members of the board shall include: (1) Two persons

119

120

121

122

123

124

125

126

127

128

129

134

135

136

137

138

139

- with substantial experience in providing sexual assault victims with victim advocacy services; (2) three persons recommended by the Chief Court Administrator, who have at least five years of experience in the assessment of sexual offenders and meet the criteria for clinical membership in an organization in this state (A) that provides evaluations and treatment to persons with problem sexual behaviors, or (B) dedicated to preventing sexual abuse; and (3) three persons recommended by the Chief Court Administrator, who have at least five years of experience in sexual offender management and supervision and who have received training in evidence-based supervision of sexual offenders. The chairperson of the board shall be qualified by education, experience, or training, in sexual offender management, supervision or treatment, and may sit in place of any 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) Each member of the board shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of the member's 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 board 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 accordance with 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.
  - (i) The chairperson of the board shall appoint placement panels from the board's members. Each such panel shall have at least three persons, including one each as described in subdivisions (1) to (3), inclusive, of subsection (a) of this section. Each placement panel shall determine whether a person convicted of a sexual offense on or after July 1, 2020, (1) shall register on the public registry pursuant to section 54-257 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or the law enforcement agency registry pursuant to section 13 of this act, and for how long such offender shall maintain such registration, or (2) may be reclassified from the public registry to the law enforcement agency registry or from the law enforcement agency registry to the public registry.
  - (j) A placement panel shall assess each sexual offender and determine whether the offender is a lowest risk offender, moderate risk offender or highest risk offender. In making such a risk classification, said board shall use scoring from validated actuarial risk assessment instruments. The panel may override the risk classification based on factors not otherwise considered as part of such assessment,

- including, but not limited to, the nature and circumstance of the sexual offense, any aggravating or mitigating factors, and the impact to the victim, if known, and to the community.
- (k) There shall be a presumption that a sexual offender whose results are (1) low on the actuarial risk assessment, shall be required to register on the law enforcement agency registry pursuant to section 3 of this act, or (2) high on the actuarial risk assessment, shall be required to register on the public registry.
- (l) A placement panel shall direct lowest-risk offenders, based on the actuarial risk assessment, to register on the law enforcement agency registry pursuant to section 3 of this act and maintain such registration for ten years from the date of such person's release into the community.
- (m) (1) A placement panel shall direct the moderate-risk offenders, based on the actuarial risk assessment, to register on either (A) the public registry and maintain such registration for life, or (B) the law enforcement agency registry pursuant to section 3 of this act and maintain such registration for twenty years from the date of such person's release into the community, based on the panel's determination concerning each moderate-risk offender pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection.
- (2) For any sexual offender whose assessment resulted in a score that is moderate on the actuarial risk assessment, the placement panel shall determine placement on the public or law enforcement agency registry by considering the actuarial risk assessment and certain additional factors determined by a further assessment of such offender's risk using a set of evidence-based criteria and a structured decision-making tool, determined and developed by said board, that takes into account the factors relevant to determine whether a moderate-risk offender would be best placed on the public registry or the law enforcement agency registry. There shall be no presumption of assignment to either the public registry for life or the law enforcement

- agency registry for twenty years in the case of a moderate-risk offender.
- 238 (n) A placement panel shall direct highest-risk offenders, based on 239 the actuarial risk assessment, to register on the public registry and 240 maintain such registration for life.
- (o) A placement panel's decision to place an offender on the law enforcement agency registry may not be appealed.
- (p) A placement panel's decision to place an offender on the public registry may be appealed if a registrant requests a hearing before the board.
  - (q) Said board shall notify each sexual 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.
  - Sec. 3. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2019) (a) On and after July 1, 2020, any person directed by the Sexual Offender Registration Board or any panel of said board under section 2 of this act to register on the law enforcement agency registry shall, not later than three days following such person's release into the community or, if such person is in the custody of the Commissioner of Correction, at such time prior to release as the commissioner shall direct, and whether or not such person's place of residence is in this state, register such person's name, identifying factors, criminal history record, residence address and electronic mail address, instant message address or other similar Internet communication identifier, if any, with the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, on such forms and in such locations as the commissioner shall direct, and shall maintain such registration for ten years from the date of such person's release into the community, unless otherwise directed by the (1) Sexual Offender

247

248

249

250

251

252

253

254

255

256

257

258

259

260

261

262

263

264

265

Registration Board or a placement panel of said board to maintain such registration for twenty years, (2) court pursuant to section 5 of this act, or (3) Sexual Offender Registration Board or a panel of said board pursuant to subsection (c) of this section. Prior to accepting a plea of guilty or nolo contendere from a person with respect to a sexual offense, the court shall (A) inform the person that the entry of a finding of guilty after acceptance of the plea will subject the person to the registration requirements of this section or section 4 of this act, and (B) determine that the person fully understands the consequences of the plea. If any person who is subject to registration under this section changes such person's name, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in writing, of the new name. If any person who is subject to registration under this section changes such person's address, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in writing, of the new address and, if the new address is in another state, such person shall also register with an appropriate agency in that state, provided that state has a registration requirement for such offenders. If any person who is subject to registration under this section 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 identifier. If any person who is subject to registration under this section is 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, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection of such status and of any change in such status. If any person who is subject to registration under this section is employed in another state, carries on a vocation in another state or is a student in another state, such person shall, without 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. Each registrant shall

267

268

269

270

271

272

273

274

275

276

277

278

279

280

281

282

283

284

285

286

287

288

289

290

291

292

293

294

295

296

297

298

299

- 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. The commissioner shall notify any known victim of a registrant of the residential address of such registrant and any changes to such address.
- 308 (b) Any person subject to registration under this section who violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall be guilty of 309 310 a class D felony, except that, if such person violates the provisions of 311 this section by failing to notify the Commissioner of Emergency 312 Services and Public Protection without undue delay of a change of 313 name, address or status or another reportable event, such person shall 314 be subject to such penalty if such failure continues for five business 315 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 as to with which registry the registrant shall register.
  - Sec. 4. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2019) (a) On and after July 1, 2020, any person directed by the Sexual Offender Registration Board or any panel of said board under section 2 of this act to register on the public registry shall, not later than three days following such person's release into the community or, if such person is in the custody of the Commissioner of Correction, at such time prior to release as the commissioner shall direct, and whether or not such person's place of residence is in this state, register such person's name, identifying factors, criminal history record, residence address and electronic mail instant message address or other similar communication identifier, if any, with the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, on such forms and in such locations as

317

318

319 320

321

322

323

324

325

326

327

328

329

330

331

332

333

the commissioner shall direct, and shall maintain such registration for life or as otherwise directed by the Sexual Offender Registration Board under subsection (b) of this section. Prior to accepting a plea of guilty or nolo contendere from a person with respect to a sexual offense, the court shall (1) inform the person that the entry of a finding of guilty after acceptance of the plea will subject the person to the registration requirements of this section or section 3 of this act, and (2) determine that the person fully understands the consequences of the plea. If any person who is subject to registration under this section changes such person's name, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in writing, of the new name. If any person who is subject to registration under this section changes such person's address, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in writing, of the new address and, if the new address is in another state, such person shall also register with an appropriate agency in that state, provided that state has a registration requirement for such offenders. If any person who is subject to registration under this section establishes or changes an electronic mail message address or other similar Internet instant communication identifier, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in writing, of such identifier. If any person who is subject to registration under this section is 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, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection of such status and of any change in such status. If any person who is subject to registration under this section is employed in another state, carries on a vocation in another state or is a student in another state, such person shall, without 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. Each registrant shall complete and return forms mailed to such registrant to verify such

335

336

337

338

339

340

341

342

343

344

345

346

347

348

349

350

351

352

353

354

355

356

357 358

359

360

361

362

363

364

365

366

367

368

- 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. The commissioner shall notify any known victim of a registrant of the residential address of such registrant and any changes to such address.
  - (b) A person registered on the public registry may, after ten years on such registry, petition the Sexual Offender Registration Board established under section 2 of this act to be moved to the law enforcement agency registry for twenty years. Any offender petitioning for a change in registration requirements shall be in compliance with the registry at the time of the request. A probation or parole officer or a state's attorney may make a recommendation at the time of the petition regarding an offender who is or has been under probation or parole supervision. Said board shall review each such petition and any evidence in support of or opposed to the petition and issue its determination.
  - (c) Any person who files an application with the Sexual Offender Registration Board established under section 2 of this act, to be exempted from the registration requirements of this section and instead, be made subject to the registration requirements of section 3 of this act, shall, pursuant to subsection (b) of section 54-227 of the general statutes, notify the Office of Victim Services and the Victim Services Unit within the Department of Correction of the filing of such application. The Office of Victim Services or the Victim Services Unit within the Department of Correction, or both, shall, pursuant to section 54-230 or 54-230a of the general statutes, notify any victim who has requested notification of the filing of such application. Prior to granting or denying such application, said board shall consider any information or statement provided by the victim.
  - (d) Any person subject to registration under this section 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.
- 407 Sec. 5. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2019) (a) On and after July 1, 2020, 408 any person subject to registration by the Sexual Offender Registration 409 Board established under section 2 of this act or a panel of said board 410 under section 3 of this act for a period of ten years may apply to the 411 court and the court may exempt such person from the registration 412 requirements of section 3 of this act, if the court finds that such person 413 has been compliant with the registration requirements of section 3 of 414 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.
- (d) Prior to hearing any person's application to be exempted from the registration requirements of this section pursuant to subsection (a), (b) or (i) of this section, the court shall notify the Office of the Chief Public Defender, the appropriate state's attorney, the Victim Services Unit within the Department of Correction, the Office of the Victim Advocate and the Office of Victim Services within the Judicial Department of such person's hearing date for such application. The

416

417

418

419

420

421

422

423

424

425

426

Office of the Chief Public Defender shall assign counsel for such person pursuant to section 51-296 of the general statutes if such person is indigent. The court shall order a risk assessment of such person, unless the requirement is waived for good cause. The court may refer such application to the Sexual Offender Registration Board established 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.

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

(f) If the court orders an offender removed from the registry, the court shall notify the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, the Court Support Services Division, if applicable, the Office of Victim Services within the Judicial Branch, the Parole and Community Services Division, if applicable, the Victim Services Unit within the Department of Correction, and the local police department

- or the state police troop having jurisdiction over the applicant's residence address.
  - (g) The applicant and the state's attorney shall have the right to appeal the decision of the court and the decision of the court shall be subject 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.
  - (i) Any person required to register pursuant to sections 54-251, 54-252 and 54-254 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, who (1) was convicted prior to January 1, 1998, of a sexual offense, or (2) was convicted on or after January 1, 1998, of a sexual offense, and is required to maintain a registration because the registration period has increased due to changes in the law following such person's conviction, may apply to the court to be exempted from the registration requirements under sections 54-251, 54-252 and 54-254 of the general statutes, as amended by this act. Such application shall be subject to the provisions of subsections (c) to (h), inclusive, of this section.
  - Sec. 6. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2019) On and after July 1, 2020, any person (1) required to register pursuant to sections 54-251, 54-252 and 54-254 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, (2) who has been compliant with the registration requirements of said sections for a period of at least (A) five years in the case of a person required to maintain such registration for ten years, or (B) ten years in the case of a person required to maintain such registration for life, and (3) who is not described in subsection (i) of section 5 of this act, may petition the Sexual Offender Registration Board established under section 2 of this act to be moved from the public registry to the law enforcement agency registry. Such petition shall be subject to the same criteria as an application for exemption under section 5 of this act. If said board

grants such petition, the petitioner shall register on the law enforcement agency registry and maintain such registry for the remaining period of time such person was to maintain such registry pursuant to section 54-251, 54-252 or 54-254 of the general statutes, as amended by this act. No such person may apply for exemption from the registration requirements of the law enforcement agency registration.

- Sec. 7. Section 54-251 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2020*):
- 509 (a) [Any] Except as provided in section 5 or 6 of this act, any person 510 who, prior to July 1, 2020, has been convicted or found not guilty by 511 reason of mental disease or defect of a criminal offense against a victim 512 who is a minor or a nonviolent sexual offense, and is released into the 513 community on or after October 1, 1998, shall, within three days 514 following such release or, if such person is in the custody of the 515 Commissioner of Correction, at such time prior to release as the 516 commissioner shall direct, and whether or not such person's place of 517 residence is in this state, register such person's name, identifying 518 factors, criminal history record, residence address and electronic mail 519 instant message address other similar address, or Internet 520 communication identifier, if any, with the Commissioner of Emergency 521 Services and Public Protection, on such forms and in such locations as 522 the commissioner shall direct, and shall maintain such registration for 523 ten years from the date of such person's release into the community, 524 except that any person who has one or more prior convictions of any 525 such offense or who is convicted of a violation of subdivision (2) of 526 subsection (a) of section 53a-70 shall maintain such registration for life. 527 Prior to accepting a plea of guilty or nolo contendere from a person 528 with respect to a criminal offense against a victim who is a minor or a 529 nonviolent sexual offense, the court shall (1) inform the person that the 530 entry of a finding of guilty after acceptance of the plea will subject the 531 person to the registration requirements of this section, and (2) 532 determine that the person fully understands the consequences of the

500

501

502

503

504

505

506

507

plea. If any person who is subject to registration under this section changes such person's name, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in writing of the new name. If any person who is subject to registration under this section changes such person's address, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in writing of the new address and, if the new address is in another state, such person shall also register with an appropriate agency in that state, provided that state has a registration requirement for such offenders. If any person who is subject to registration under this section establishes or changes an electronic mail instant message address or other similar Internet address, communication identifier, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in writing of such identifier. If any person who is subject to registration under this section is 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, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection of such status and of any change in such status. If any person who is subject to registration under this section is employed in another state, carries on a vocation in another state or is a student in another state, such person shall, without 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) 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

533

534

535

536 537

538

539

540

541

542543

544

545

546

547

548

549

550

551552

553

554

555

556

557

558

559

560

561 562

563

564

565

- 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.
- (c) 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 (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.
- (d) Any person who files an application with the court to be exempted from the registration requirements of this section pursuant to subsection (b) or (c) of this section shall, pursuant to subsection (b) of section 54-227, notify the Office of Victim Services and the Victim Services Unit within the Department of Correction of the filing of such application. The Office of Victim Services or the Victim Services Unit within the Department of Correction, or both, shall, pursuant to section 54-230 or 54-230a, notify any victim who has requested notification of the filing of such application. Prior to granting or denying such application, the court shall consider any information or 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.
- Sec. 8. Section 54-252 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1*, 2020):
  - (a) [Any] Except as provided in section 5 or 6 of this act, any person

who, prior to July 1, 2020, has been convicted or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect of a sexually violent offense, and (1) is released into the community on or after October 1, 1988, and prior to October 1, 1998, and resides in this state, shall, on October 1, 1998, or within three days of residing in this state, whichever is later, or (2) is released into the community on or after October 1, 1998, shall, within three days following such release or, if such person is in the custody of the Commissioner of Correction, at such time prior to release as the commissioner shall direct, register such person's name, identifying factors and criminal history record, documentation of any treatment received by such person for mental abnormality or personality disorder, and such person's residence address and electronic mail address, instant message address or other similar communication identifier, if any, with the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection on such forms and in such locations as said commissioner shall direct, and shall maintain such registration for life. Prior to accepting a plea of guilty or nolo contendere from a person with respect to a sexually violent offense, the court shall (A) inform the person that the entry of a finding of guilty after acceptance of the plea will subject the person to the registration requirements of this section, and (B) determine that the person fully understands the consequences of the plea. If any person who is subject to registration under this section changes such person's name, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in writing of the new name. If any person who is subject to registration under this section changes such person's address, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in writing of the new address and, if the new address is in another state, such person shall also register with an appropriate agency in that state, provided that state has a registration requirement for such offenders. If any person who is subject to registration under this section 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

598

599

600

601 602

603

604 605

606

607

608

609

610

611 612

613 614

615

616

617

618 619

620

621

622

623

624

625

626

627 628

629

630

631

and Public Protection in writing of such identifier. If any person who is subject to registration under this section is 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, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection of such status and of any change in such status. If any person who is subject to registration under this section is employed in another state, carries on a vocation in another state or is a student in another state, such person shall, without 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 has been subject to the registration requirements of section 54-102r of the general statutes, revised to January 1, 1997, as amended by section 1 of public act 97-183, shall, not later than three working days after October 1, 1998, register under this section and thereafter comply with the provisions of sections 54-102g and 54-250 to 54-258a, inclusive, as amended by this act, except that any person who was convicted or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect of an offense that is classified as a criminal offense against a victim who is a minor under subdivision (2) of section 54-250, as amended by this act, and that is subject to a ten-year period of registration under section 54-251, as amended by this act, shall maintain such registration for ten years from the date of such person's release into the community.
- (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this section, during the initial registration period following October 1, 1998, the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection may

633

634

635

636

637

638

639

640

641

642

643

644

645

646

647

648

649

650 651

652

653

654

655

656

657

658

659

660

661

662

663

664

- phase in completion of the registration procedure for persons released into the community prior to said date over the first three months following said date, and no such person shall be prosecuted for failure to register under this section during those three months provided such person complies with the directives of said commissioner regarding registration procedures.
  - (d) 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.
- Sec. 9. Section 54-253 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2020*):
  - (a) [Any] Except as provided in section 5 or 6 of this act, any person who, prior to July 1, 2020, has been convicted or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect in any other state, in a federal or military court or in any foreign jurisdiction of any crime (1) the essential elements of which are substantially the same as any of the crimes specified in subdivisions (2), [(5)] (9) and [(11)] (18) of section 54-250, as amended by this act, or (2) which requires registration as a sexual offender in such other state or in the federal or military system, and who resides in this state on and after October 1, 1998, shall, without undue delay upon residing in this state, register with the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in the same manner as if such person had been convicted or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect of such crime in this state, except that the commissioner shall maintain such registration until such person is released from the registration requirement in such other state, federal or military system or foreign jurisdiction.
  - (b) If any person who is subject to registration under this section

673

674

675 676

677

678

681

682

683

684

685

686

687

688

689

690

691

692

693

694

695

696

changes such person's name, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in writing of the new name. If any person who is subject to registration under this section changes such person's address, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in writing of the new address and, if the new address is in another state, such person shall also register with an appropriate agency in that state, provided that state has a registration requirement for such offenders. If any person who is subject to registration under this section establishes or changes an electronic mail 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 identifier. If any person who is subject to registration under this section is 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, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection of such status and of any change in such status. If any person who is subject to registration under this section is employed in another state, carries on a vocation in another state or is a student in another state, such person shall, without 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.

(c) Any person not a resident of this state who is registered as a sexual offender under the laws of any other state and who is employed in this state, carries on a vocation in this state or is a student in this state, shall, without undue delay after the commencement of such employment, vocation or education in this state, register such person's

698

699

700

701

702

703

704

705

706

707

708

709

710

711

712

713

714

715

716

717

718

719

720

721

722

723

724

725

726

727

728

729

730

name, identifying factors and criminal history record, locations visited 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 instant message address or other similar Internet communication identifier, if any, with the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection on such forms and in such locations as said commissioner shall direct and shall maintain such registration until such employment, vocation or education terminates or until such 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.
- (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 provisions of this section by failing to register with the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection without undue delay or 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.
- Sec. 10. Section 54-254 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2020*):

732

733

734

735

736

737

738

739

740

741

742

743

744

745

746

747

748

749

750

751

752

753

754

755

756 757

758

759

760

761

762

(a) [Any] Except as provided in section 5 or 6 of this act, any person who, prior to July 1, 2020, has been convicted or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect in this state on or after October 1, 1998, of any felony that the court finds was committed for a sexual purpose, may be required by the court upon release into the community or, if such person is in the custody of the Commissioner of Correction, at such time prior to release as the commissioner shall direct to register such person's name, identifying factors, criminal history record, residence address and electronic mail address, instant message address or other similar Internet communication identifier, if any, with the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, on such forms and in such locations as the commissioner shall direct, and to maintain such registration for ten years from the date of such person's release into the community. If the court finds that a person has committed a felony for a sexual purpose and intends to require such person to register under this section, prior to accepting a plea of guilty or nolo contendere from such person with respect to such felony, the court shall (1) inform the person that the entry of a finding of guilty after acceptance of the plea will subject the person to the registration requirements of this section, and (2) determine that the person fully understands the consequences of the plea. If any person who is subject to registration under this section changes such person's such person shall, without undue delay, notify Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in writing of the new name. If any person who is subject to registration under this section changes such person's address, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in writing of the new address and, if the new address is in another state, such person shall also register with an appropriate agency in that state, provided that state has a registration requirement for such offenders. If any person who is subject to registration under this section 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 identifier.

764

765

766

767 768

769

770

771

772

773

774

775

776

777

778

779

780

781

782

783

784

785

786

787

788

789

790

791

792

793

794

795

796

797

If any person who is subject to registration under this section is 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, such person shall, without undue delay, notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection of such status and of any change in such status. If any person who is subject to registration under this section is employed in another state, carries on a vocation in another state or is a student in another state, such person shall, without 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.
- Sec. 11. Section 54-255 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2020*):
  - (a) Upon the conviction or finding of not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect of any person prior to July 1, 2020, for a violation of section 53a-70b, the court may order the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection to restrict the dissemination of the registration information to law enforcement purposes only and to not make such information available for public access, provided the court finds that dissemination of the registration information is not required for public safety and that publication of the registration information

799

800

801

802

803

804

805

806

807

808

809

810

811

812

813

814

815

816

817

818

819

820

821

824

825

826

827

828

829

830

would be likely to reveal the identity of the victim within the community where the victim resides. The court shall remove the restriction on the dissemination of such registration information if, at any time, the court finds that public safety requires that such person's registration information be made available to the public or that a change of circumstances makes publication of such registration information no longer likely to reveal the identity of the victim within the community where the victim resides. Prior to ordering or removing the restriction on the dissemination of such person's registration information, the court shall consider any information or statements provided by the victim.

- (b) Upon the conviction or finding of not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect of any person prior to July 1, 2020, of a criminal offense against a victim who is a minor, a nonviolent sexual offense or a sexually violent offense, where the victim of such offense was, at the time of the offense, under eighteen years of age and related to such person within any of the degrees of kindred specified in section 46b-21, the court may order the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection to restrict the dissemination of the registration information to law enforcement purposes only and to not make such information available for public access, provided the court finds that dissemination of the registration information is not required for public safety and that publication of the registration information would be likely to reveal the identity of the victim within the community where the victim resides. The court shall remove the restriction on the dissemination of such registration information if, at any time, it finds that public safety requires that such person's registration information be made available to the public or that a change in circumstances makes publication of the registration information no longer likely to reveal the identity of the victim within the community where the victim resides.
- (c) Any person who: (1) 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 between October 1, 1988, and June 30,

832

833

834

835

836

837

838

839

840

841

842

843844

845

846

847

848

849

850

851

852

853

854

855

856

857

858

859

860

861

862

863

1999, and was under nineteen years of age at the time of the offense; (2) has been convicted or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or 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 or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect of a criminal offense against a victim who is a minor, a nonviolent sexual offense or a sexually violent offense, between October 1, 1988, and June 30, 1999, where the victim of such offense was, at the time of the offense, under eighteen years of age and related to such person within any of the degrees of kindred specified in section 46b-21; (4) has been convicted or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect of a violation of section 53a-70b between October 1, 1988, and June 30, 1999; or (5) has been convicted or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect of any crime between October 1, 1988, and September 30, 1998, which requires registration under sections 54-250 to 54-258a, inclusive, as amended by this act, and (A) served no jail or prison time as a result of such conviction or finding of not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect, (B) has not been subsequently convicted or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect of any crime which would require registration under sections 54-250 to 54-258a, inclusive, as amended by this act, and (C) has registered with the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection in accordance with sections 54-250 to 54-258a, inclusive; as amended by this act, may petition the court to order the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection to restrict the dissemination of the registration information to law enforcement purposes only and to not make such information available for public access. Any person who files such a petition shall, pursuant to subsection (b) of section 54-227, notify the Office of Victim Services and the Victim Services Unit within the Department of Correction of the filing of such petition. The Office of Victim Services or the Victim Services Unit within the Department of Correction, or both, shall, pursuant to section 54-230 or 54-230a, notify any victim who has requested notification pursuant to subsection (b) of section 54-228 of the filing of such petition. Prior to granting or denying such petition, the court shall consider any information or statements

865

866

867

868 869

870

871

872

873

874

875

876

877

878

879

880

881

882

883

884

885

886 887

888

889

890

891

892

893894

895

896

897

898

provided by the victim. The court may order the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection to restrict the dissemination of the registration information to law enforcement purposes only and to not make such information available for public access, provided the court finds that dissemination of the registration information is not required for public safety.

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

(a) Any court, the Commissioner of Correction or the Psychiatric Security Review Board, prior to releasing into the community any person convicted or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect of a criminal offense against a victim who is a minor, a nonviolent sexual offense, a sexually violent offense or a felony found by the sentencing court to have been committed for a sexual purpose, except a person being released unconditionally at the conclusion of such person's sentence or commitment, shall require as a condition of such release that such person complete the registration procedure established by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection under section 3 or 4 of this act, or sections 54-251, as amended by this act, 54-252, as amended by this act, and 54-254, as <u>amended by this act</u>. The court, the Commissioner of Correction or the Psychiatric Security Review Board, as the case may be, shall provide the person with a written summary of the person's obligations under sections 54-102g and 54-250 to 54-258a, inclusive, as amended by this act, and transmit the completed registration package to the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection who shall enter the information into the registry established under section 13 of this act or section 54-257, as amended by this act. If a court transmits the completed registration package to the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection with respect to a person released by the court, such package need not include identifying factors for such person. In the case of a person being released unconditionally who declines to complete the registration package through the court or the

906

907

908

909

910

911

912

913

914

915

916

917

918

919

920

921

922

923

924

925

926

927

928

929

930

931

releasing agency, the court or agency shall: (1) Except with respect to information that is not available to the public pursuant to court order, rule of court or any provision of the general statutes, provide to the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection the person's name, date of release into the community, anticipated residence address, if known, and criminal history record, any known treatment history of such person, any electronic mail address, instant message address or other similar Internet communication identifier for such person, if known, and any other relevant information; (2) inform the person that such person has an obligation to register within three days with the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection for a period [of ten years] of time to be determined by the board following the date of such person's release or for life, as the case may be, that if such person changes such person's address such person shall within five days register the new address in writing with the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection and, if the new address is in another state or if such person is employed in another state, carries on a vocation in another state or is a student in another state, such person shall also register with an appropriate agency in that state, provided that state has a registration requirement for such offenders, and that if such person establishes or changes an electronic mail address, instant message address or other similar Internet communication identifier such person shall, within five days, register such identifier with the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection; (3) provide the person with a written summary of the person's obligations under sections 3 and 4 of this act, or sections 54-102g and 54-250 to 54-258a, inclusive, as amended by this act, as explained to the person under subdivision (2) of this subsection; and (4) make a specific notation on the record maintained by that agency with respect to such person that the registration requirements were explained to such person and that such person was provided with a written summary of such person's obligations under sections 3 and 4 of this act, or sections 54-102g and 54-250 to 54-258a, inclusive, as amended by this act.

933

934

935

936

937

938

939

940

941

942

943

944

945

946

947

948

949

950

951

952

953

954

955

956

957

958

959

960

961

962

963

964

965

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

Sec. 13. (NEW) (Effective from passage) (a) The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall, not later than July 1, 2020, establish and maintain a law enforcement agency registry of all persons required to register on such registry under section 3 of this act. Such registry shall not be a public document and shall be released only to law enforcement agencies, except as otherwise provided in this section or section 3 of this act. The department shall, in cooperation with the Office of the Chief Court Administrator, the Department of Correction and the Psychiatric Security Review Board, develop appropriate forms for use by agencies and individuals to report registration information, including changes of address. Upon receipt of registration information, the department shall enter the information into the registry and notify the local police department or state police troop having jurisdiction where the registrant resides or plans to reside. If a registrant notifies the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection that such registrant is 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, the department shall notify the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over such institution.

(b) The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection may suspend the registration of any person registered on the law enforcement agency registration while such person is incarcerated, under civil commitment or residing outside this state. During the period that such registration is under suspension, the department is

967

968

969

970

971

972

973

974

975

976

977

978

979

980

981

982

983

984 985

986

987

988

989

990

991

992

993

994

995

996

997

998

not required to verify the address of the registrant pursuant to subsection (c) of this section and may withdraw the registration information from public access. Upon the release of the registrant from incarceration or civil commitment or resumption of residency in this state by the registrant, the department shall reinstate the registration, redistribute the registration information in accordance with subsection (a) of this section and resume verifying the address of the registrant in accordance with subsection (c) of this section. Suspension of registration shall not affect the date of expiration of the registration obligation of the registrant under section 3 of this act.

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

(d) The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection

1000

1001

1002

1003

1004

1005

1006

1007

1008

1009

1010

1011

1012

1013

1014

1015

1016

1017

1018

1019

1020

1021

1022

1023

1024

1025

1026

1027

1028

1029

1030

1031

- 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 45a-99 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.
- (f) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall develop a protocol for the notification of other state agencies, the Judicial Department and local police departments whenever a person listed in the registry changes such person's name and notifies the commissioner of the new name pursuant to section 3 of this act or whenever the commissioner determines, pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, that a person listed in the registry has changed such person's name.
- Sec. 14. Section 54-257 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2020*):
  - (a) The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall, not later than January 1, 1999, establish and maintain a <u>public</u> registry of all persons required to register <u>on the public registry under section 4 of this act and under sections 54-251, as amended by this act, 54-252, as amended by this act, 54-253, as amended by this act, and 54-254, as amended by this act. The department shall, in cooperation with the Office of the Chief Court Administrator, the Department of Correction and the Psychiatric Security Review Board, develop appropriate forms for use by agencies and individuals to report registration information, including changes of address. Upon receipt of</u>

registration information, the department shall enter the information into the registry and notify the local police department or state police troop having jurisdiction where the registrant resides or plans to reside. If a registrant notifies the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection that such registrant is 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, the department shall notify the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over such institution. If a registrant reports a residence in another state, the department shall notify the state police agency of that state or such other agency in that state that maintains registry information, if known. The department shall also transmit all registration information, conviction data, photographic images and fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in such form as said bureau shall require for inclusion in a national registry.

(b) The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection may suspend the registration of any person registered under section 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 act, or 54-254, as amended by this act, while such person is incarcerated, under civil commitment or residing outside this state. During the period that such registration is under suspension, the department is not required to verify the address of the registrant pursuant to subsection (c) of this section and may withdraw the registration information from public access. Upon the release of the registrant from incarceration or civil commitment or resumption of residency in this state by the registrant, the department shall reinstate the registration, redistribute the registration information in accordance with subsection (a) of this section and resume verifying the address of the registrant in accordance with subsection (c) of this section. Suspension of 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, as amended by this act, 54-252, as amended by this act, or 54-253, as amended by this act.

1065

1066

1067

10681069

1070

1071

1072

10731074

1075

1076

1077

1078

1079

1080

1081

1082

1083

1084

1085

1086

1087

1088

1089

1090

1091

1092

1093

1094

1095

1096

1097

(c) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall verify the address of each registrant by mailing a nonforwardable verification form to the registrant at the registrant's last reported address. Such form shall require the registrant to sign a statement that the registrant continues to reside at the registrant's last reported address and return the form by mail by a date which is ten days after the date such form was mailed to the registrant. The form shall contain a statement that failure to return the form or providing false information is a violation of section 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 act, or 54-254, as amended by this act, as the case may be. Each person required to register under section 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 act, or 54-254, as amended by this act, shall have such person's address verified in such manner every ninety days after such person's initial registration date. The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall annually conduct an in-person verification of the registrant's reported address. Such in-person address verification may be conducted by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection or a municipal police department. In the event that a registrant fails to return the address verification form, the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall notify the local police department or the state police troop having jurisdiction over the registrant's last reported address, and that agency [shall] may apply for a warrant to be issued for the registrant's arrest under section 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 act, or 54-254, as amended by this act, as the case may be. The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall not verify the address of registrants whose last reported address 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,

1099

1100

1101

1102

1103

1104

1105

1106

1107

1108

1109

1110

1111

1112

1113

1114

1115

1116

11171118

1119

1120

1121

1122

1123

1124

1125

1126

1127

1128

1129

1130

1131

- 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 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.
- 1142 (f) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection 1143 shall develop a protocol for the notification of other state agencies, the 1144 Judicial Department and local police departments whenever a person 1145 listed in the registry changes such person's name and notifies the 1146 commissioner of the new name pursuant to section 3 of this act or 1147 section 54-251, as amended by this act, 54-252, as amended by this act, 1148 54-253, as amended by this act, or 54-254, as amended by this act, or 1149 whenever the commissioner determines pursuant to subsection (e) of 1150 this section that a person listed in the registry has changed such 1151 person's name.
- Sec. 15. Section 54-258 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):
  - (a) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of the general statutes, except subdivisions (3), (4) and (5) of this subsection, the <u>public</u> registry <u>under section 54-257</u>, as amended by this act, maintained by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall be a public record and shall be accessible to the public during normal business hours. The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall make registry information available to the public through the Internet. Not less than once per calendar quarter, the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall issue notices to all print and electronic media in the state regarding the availability and means of accessing the registry. Each local police

1155

11561157

1158

1159

1160

1161

1162

1163

- department and each state police troop shall keep a record of all registration information transmitted to it by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, and shall make such information accessible to the public during normal business hours.
  - (2) (A) Any state agency, the Judicial Department, any state police troop or any local police department may, at its discretion, notify any government agency, private organization or individual of registration information when such agency, said department, such troop or such local police department, as the case may be, believes such notification is necessary to protect the public or any individual in any jurisdiction from any person who is subject to <u>public</u> registration under section <u>4 of this act or section</u> 54-251, <u>as amended by this act,</u> 54-252, <u>as amended by this act,</u> 54-253, <u>as amended by this act,</u> or 54-254, <u>as amended by this act.</u>
- 1179 (B) (i) Whenever a registrant is released into the community, or 1180 whenever a registrant changes such registrant's address and notifies 1181 the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection of such 1182 change pursuant to section 4 of this act or section 54-251, as amended 1183 by this act, 54-252, as amended by this act, 54-253, as amended by this 1184 act, or 54-254, as amended by this act, the Department of Emergency 1185 Services and Public Protection shall, by electronic mail, notify the 1186 superintendent of schools for the school district in which the registrant 1187 resides, or plans to reside, of such release or new address, and provide 1188 such superintendent with the same registry information for such 1189 registrant that the department makes available to the public through 1190 the Internet under subdivision (1) of this subsection.
  - (ii) Whenever a registrant is released into the community, or whenever a registrant changes such registrant's address and notifies the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection of such change pursuant to section <u>4 of this act or section</u> 54-251, 54-252, 54-253 or 54-254, <u>as amended by this act</u>, the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall, by electronic mail, notify the chief executive officer of the municipality in which the registrant resides, or

1170

1171

1172

1173

1174

1175

1176

1177

1178

1191

1192

1193

1194

1195

1196

- plans to reside, of such release or new address, and provide such chief executive officer with the same registry information for such registrant that the department makes available to the public through the Internet under subdivision (1) of this subsection.
- (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection, state agencies, the Judicial Department, state police troops and local police departments shall not disclose the identity of any victim of a crime committed by a registrant or treatment information provided to the registry pursuant to sections 54-102g and 54-250 to 54-258a, inclusive, as amended by this act, except to government agencies for bona fide law enforcement or security 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, as amended by this act, 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.
  - (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection, a registrant's electronic mail address, instant message address or other similar Internet communication identifier shall not be a public record, except that the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection may release such identifier for law enforcement or security purposes in accordance with regulations adopted by the department. The department shall adopt regulations in accordance with chapter 54 to specify the circumstances under which and the persons to whom such identifiers may be released including, but not limited to, providers of electronic communication service or remote computing service, as those terms are defined in section 54-260b, <u>as amended by this act</u>, and operators of Internet web sites, and the procedure therefor.

- 1230 (6) When any registrant completes the registrant's term of 1231 registration or is otherwise released from the obligation to register 1232 under section 4 of this act or section 54-251, as amended by this act, 54-1233 252, as amended by this act, 54-253, as amended by this act, or 54-254, 1234 as amended by this act, the Department of Emergency Services and 1235 Public Protection shall notify any state police troop or local police 1236 department having jurisdiction over the registrant's last reported 1237 residence address that the person is no longer a registrant, and the 1238 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, state police 1239 troop and local police department shall remove the registrant's name 1240 and information from the registry.
  - (b) Neither the state nor any political subdivision of the state nor any 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.
- Sec. 16. Section 54-260b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):
- 1252 (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;
- 1258 (2) "Electronic communication" means "electronic communication" 1259 as defined in 18 USC 2510, as amended from time to time;
- 1260 (3) "Electronic communication service" means "electronic

1242

1243

1244

1245

1246

1247

1248

- 1261 communication service" as defined in 18 USC 2510, as amended from 1262 time to time;
- (4) "Registrant" means a person required to register under section <u>3</u>
  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 act, or 54-254, as
  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 computing services to facilitate the exchange of non-personally-identifiable information concerning registrants.
    - (c) Whenever such designated law enforcement officer ascertains from such exchange of non-personally-identifiable information that there are subscribers, customers or users of such providers who are registrants, such officer shall initiate a criminal investigation to determine if such registrants are in violation of the registration 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, or 54-254, as amended by this act, or of the terms and conditions of their parole or probation by virtue of being subscribers, customers or users of such providers.
    - (d) Such designated law enforcement officer may request an ex parte order from a judge of the Superior Court to compel a provider of electronic communication service or remote computing service to disclose basic subscriber information pertaining to subscribers, customers or users who have been identified by such provider to be registrants. The judge shall grant such order if the law enforcement officer offers specific and articulable facts showing that there are

- 1292 reasonable grounds to believe that the basic subscriber information 1293 sought is relevant and material to the ongoing criminal investigation. 1294 The order shall state upon its face the case number assigned to such 1295 investigation, the date and time of issuance and the name of the judge 1296 authorizing the order. The law enforcement officer shall have any ex 1297 parte order issued pursuant to this subsection signed by the 1298 authorizing judge within forty-eight hours or not later than the next 1299 business day, whichever is earlier.
- 1300 (e) A provider of electronic communication service or remote computing service shall disclose basic subscriber information to such 1302 designated law enforcement officer when an order is issued pursuant 1303 to subsection (d) of this section.
  - (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.
  - Sec. 17. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2019) The Judicial Branch shall, in collaboration with the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, report annually to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. Such report shall (1) provide the number of sexual assault cases presented in the Superior Court, detail any initial charge, plea, conviction and sentence and indicate whether the defendant was a registrant at the time of the offense, and (2) include registry data that pertains to any such conviction and registration terms.
  - Sec. 18. (Effective October 1, 2019) Not later than February 1, 2020, the Sexual Offender Registration Board established under section 2 of this act, shall report to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes

1304

1305

1306

1307

1308

1309

1310

1311

1312

1313

1314

1315

1316

1317

1318

1319

1320

1321

1322

- 1324 indicating said board's preparedness to begin not later than July 1,
- 1325 2020, the classifications, processing and matters set forth in sections 2
- to 6, inclusive, of this act, sections 54-251 to 54-258, inclusive, of the
- 1327 general statutes, as amended by this act, section 13 of this act and
- 1328 sections 17 to 20, inclusive, of this act.
- 1329 Sec. 19. (Effective October 1, 2019) Not later than January 1, 2021, the
- 1330 Connecticut Sentencing Commission, established under section 54-300
- of the general statutes, shall report to the joint standing committee of
- the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the
- 1333 judiciary in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
- general statutes on the implementation of sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of
- this act, sections 54-251 to 54-258, inclusive, of the general statutes, as
- amended by this act, sections 13 and 20 of this act. The Connecticut
- 1337 Sentencing Commission may consult with the Connecticut Alliance to
- 1338 End Sexual Violence or any similar entity and the Department of
- 1339 Emergency Services and Public Protection as part of the development
- 1340 of such report.

- 1341 Sec. 20. (Effective October 1, 2019) The Sexual Offender Registration
- Board established under section 2 of this act shall seek to expand the
- 1343 notification provided to the victim or victims through the Judicial
- 1344 Branch's CT SAVIN victim notification service to include sex offender
- supervision classification and sexual offender registry status.
- Sec. 21. Section 17a-111a of the general statutes is repealed and the
- following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

(a) The Commissioner of Children and Families shall file a petition

- to terminate parental rights pursuant to section 17a-112, as amended
- by this act, if (1) the child has been in the custody of the commissioner
- for at least fifteen consecutive months, or at least fifteen months during
- the twenty-two months, immediately preceding the filing of such
- petition; (2) the child has been abandoned as defined in subsection (j)
- of section 17a-112; or (3) a court of competent jurisdiction has found
- that (A) the parent has killed, through deliberate, nonaccidental act, a

sibling of the child or has requested, commanded, importuned, attempted, conspired or solicited to commit the killing of the child or a sibling of the child; or (B) the parent has assaulted the child or a sibling of a child, through deliberate, nonaccidental act, and such assault resulted in serious bodily injury to such child.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the commissioner is not required to file a petition to terminate parental rights in such cases if the commissioner determines that: (1) The child has been placed under the care of a relative of such child; (2) there is a 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 contained in the permanency plan to reunify the parent with the child or such services were not available or reasonably accessible, unless a court has determined that efforts to reunify the parent with the child are not required.

(c) For purposes of this section, a compelling reason to believe that a petition to terminate the parental rights of an incarcerated parent is not in the best interests of the child may include: (1) Such parent's maintenance of a meaningful role in the child's life; (2) such parent's incarceration is the primary reason why the child has been in foster care for at least fifteen consecutive months, or at least fifteen months during the twenty-two months, immediately preceding the filing of such petition; and (3) there is no other applicable ground except for that described under subdivision (2) of this subsection for filing such petition. The commissioner's assessment of whether an incarcerated parent maintains a meaningful role in the child's life may include consideration of the following factors: (A) The parent's expressions or acts of concerns for the child, such as letters, telephone calls, visits and other forms of communication with the child; (B) the parent's efforts to (i) communicate and work with the commissioner or other individuals for the purpose of complying with the case plan developed pursuant to section 17a-15, as amended by this act, and (ii) repair, maintain or build the relationship between the parent and child; (C) a positive

1356

13571358

1359

1360

1361

1362

13631364

1365

1366

1367

1368

1369

1370

1371

1372

1373

1374

1375

1376

13771378

1379

13801381

1382

1383

1384

1385

1386

1387

1389 response by the parent to the reasonable efforts of the commissioner; 1390 (D) information provided by individuals or agencies in a reasonable 1391 position to assist the commissioner in making such an assessment, 1392 including, but not limited to, the parent's attorney, Department of 1393 Correction personnel, mental health care providers or other 1394 individuals providing services to the parent; (E) limitations on the 1395 parent's ability to access family support programs, therapeutic 1396 services, opportunities for visitation with the child and telephone and 1397 mail services; (F) the parent's (i) inability to participate in case plan 1398 review meetings held in accordance with section 17a-15, as amended 1399 by this act, and (ii) difficulty participating meaningfully in court proceedings concerning such child; and (G) whether the continued 1400 1401 involvement of the parent in the child's life is in the child's best 1402 interests.

Sec. 22. Subsection (k) of section 17a-112 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective* 1405 October 1, 2019):

(k) Except in the case where termination of parental rights is based on consent, in determining whether to terminate parental rights under this section, the court shall consider and shall make written findings regarding: (1) The timeliness, nature and extent of services offered, provided and made available to the parent and the child by an agency to facilitate the reunion of the child with the parent; (2) whether the Department of Children and Families has made reasonable efforts to reunite the family pursuant to the federal Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997, as amended from time to time; (3) the terms of any applicable court order entered into and agreed upon by any individual or agency and the parent, and the extent to which all parties have fulfilled their obligations under such order; (4) the feelings and emotional ties of the child with respect to the child's parents, any guardian of such child's person and any person who has exercised physical care, custody or control of the child for at least one year and with whom the child has developed significant emotional ties; (5) the

1406

1407

1408

1409

1410

1411

1412

1413

1414

1415

1416

1417

1418

1419

1420

age of the child; (6) the efforts the parent has made to adjust such parent's circumstances, conduct, or conditions to make it in the best interest of the child to return such child home in the foreseeable future, including, but not limited to, (A) the extent to which the parent has maintained contact with the child as part of an effort to reunite the child with the parent, provided the court may give weight to incidental visitations, communications or contributions, and (B) the maintenance of regular contact or communication with the guardian or other custodian of the child; [and] (7) the extent to which a parent has been prevented from maintaining a meaningful relationship with the child by the unreasonable act or conduct of the other parent of the child, or the unreasonable act of any other person or by the economic circumstances of the parent; and (8) if a parent is incarcerated, (A) whether the parent has maintained a meaningful role in the child's life as evaluated under the provisions of subsection (c) of section 17a-111a, as amended by this act, and (B) any delays or barriers that 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.

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

(a) Any selectman, town manager, or town, city or borough welfare department, any probation officer, or the Commissioner of Social Services, the Commissioner of Children and Families or any child-caring institution or agency approved by the Commissioner of Children and Families, a child or such child's representative or attorney or a foster parent of a child, having information that a child or youth is neglected, uncared for or abused may file with the Superior Court that has venue over such matter a verified petition plainly stating such facts as bring the child or youth within the jurisdiction of the court as neglected, uncared for or abused within the meaning of section 46b-120, the name, date of birth, sex and residence of the child or youth, the name and residence of such child's parents or guardian,

1422

1423

1424

1425

1426

1427

1428

1429

1430

1431

1432

1433

1434

1435

1436

1437

14381439

1440

1443

1444

1445

1446

1447

1448

1449

1450

1451

1452

1453

and praying for appropriate action by the court in conformity with the provisions of this chapter. Upon the filing of such a petition, except as otherwise provided in subsection (k) of section 17a-112, as amended by this act, the court shall cause a summons to be issued requiring the parent or parents or the guardian of the child or youth to appear in court at the time and place named, which summons shall be served not less than fourteen days before the date of the hearing in the manner prescribed by section 46b-128, and the court shall further give notice to the petitioner and to the Commissioner of Children and Families of the time and place when the petition is to be heard not less than fourteen 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 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 removal from such surroundings is necessary to ensure the child's or youth's safety, the court shall either (A) issue an order to the parents or other person having responsibility for the care of the child or youth to appear at such time as the court may designate to determine whether the court should vest the child's or youth's 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 pending disposition of the petition, or (B) issue an order ex parte vesting the child's or youth's 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 preliminary hearing on any ex parte custody order or order to appear issued by the court shall be held not later than ten days after the issuance of such order. The service of such orders may be made by any officer authorized by law to serve process, or by any probation officer appointed in accordance with section 46b-123, investigator from the Department of Administrative Services, state or local police officer or

1455

1456

1457

14581459

1460

1461

1462

1463

1464

1465

1466

1467

14681469

1470

1471

14721473

1474

1475

1476

1477

1478

1479

1480

1481

1482

1483

1484

1485

1486

1487

indifferent person. Such orders shall include a conspicuous notice to the respondent written in clear and simple language containing at least the following information: (i) That the order contains allegations that conditions in the home have endangered the safety and welfare of the child or youth; (ii) that a hearing will be held on the date on the form; (iii) that the hearing is the opportunity to present the parents' position concerning the alleged facts; (iv) that an attorney will be appointed for parents who cannot afford an attorney; (v) that such parents may apply for a court-appointed attorney by going in person to the court address on the form and are advised to go as soon as possible in order for the attorney to prepare for the hearing; (vi) that such parents, or a person having responsibility for the care and custody of the child or youth, may request the Commissioner of Children and Families to investigate placing the child or youth with a person related to the child or youth by blood or marriage who might serve as a licensed foster parent or temporary custodian for such child or youth. The commissioner shall investigate any relative or relatives proposed to serve as a licensed foster parent or temporary custodian for such child or youth prior to the preliminary hearing and provide a preliminary report to the court at such hearing as to such relative's or relatives' suitability and any potential barriers to licensing such relative or relatives as a foster parent or parents or granting temporary custody of such child or youth to such relative or relatives; and (vii) that if such parents have any questions concerning the case or appointment of counsel, any such parent is advised to go to the court or call the clerk's office at the court as soon as possible. Upon application for appointed counsel, the court shall promptly determine eligibility and, if the respondent is eligible, promptly appoint counsel. The expense for any temporary care and custody shall be paid by the town in which such child or youth is at the time residing, and such town shall be reimbursed for such expense by the town found liable for the child's or youth's support, except that where a state agency has filed a petition pursuant to the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the agency shall pay such expense. The agency shall give primary consideration to placing the child or youth in the town where such child or youth

1489

1490

1491

1492

1493

1494

1495

1496

1497

1498

1499

1500

15011502

1503

1504

1505

1506

1507

1508

1509

1510

1511

1512

1513

1514

1515

1516

1517

1518

15191520

1521

1522

resides. The agency shall file in writing with the clerk of the court the reasons for placing the child or youth in a particular placement outside the town where the child or youth resides, including the use of any services available to and reasonably accessible by an incarcerated parent or guardian of such child or youth at the facility where such <u>parent or guardian is confined</u>. Upon issuance of an ex parte order, the court shall provide to the commissioner and the parent or guardian specific steps necessary for each to take to address the ex parte order for the parent or guardian to retain or regain custody of the child or youth. Upon the issuance of such order, or not later than sixty days after the issuance of such order, the court shall make a determination whether the Department of Children and Families made reasonable efforts to keep the child or youth with his or her parents or guardian prior to the issuance of such order and, if such efforts were not made, whether such reasonable efforts were not possible, taking into consideration the child's or youth's best interests, including the child's 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.

- (c) The preliminary hearing on the order of temporary custody or order to appear or the first hearing on a petition filed pursuant to 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 46b-

1524

1525

1526

1527

15281529

1530

1531

1532

1533

1534

1535

1536

1537

1538

1539

1540

1541

1542

1543

1544

1545

1546

1547

1548

1549

1550

1551

1552

1553

1554

1555

1557 129a and 46b-136;

- 1558 (3) Upon request, appoint an attorney to represent the respondent 1559 when the respondent is unable to afford representation, in accordance 1560 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;
    - (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, including the use of any services available to and reasonably accessible by an incarcerated parent or guardian of such child or youth at the 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;
  - (8) If the person named as the father appears and admits that he is the father, provide him and the mother with the notices that comply with section 17b-27 and provide them with the opportunity to sign a paternity acknowledgment and affirmation on forms that comply with section 17b-27. Such documents shall be executed and filed in accordance with chapter 815y and a copy delivered to the clerk of the superior court for juvenile matters. The clerk of the superior court for juvenile matters shall send the original paternity acknowledgment and

affirmation to the Department of Public Health for filing in the paternity registry maintained under section 19a-42a, and shall maintain a copy of the paternity acknowledgment and affirmation in the court file;

- (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 paternity in accordance with section 46b-168. If the results of the genetic tests indicate a ninety-nine per cent or greater probability that the person named as father is the father of the child or youth, such results shall constitute a rebuttable presumption that the person named as father is the father of the child or youth, provided the court finds evidence that sexual intercourse occurred between the mother and the person named as father during the period of time in which the child was conceived. If the court finds such rebuttable presumption, the court may issue judgment adjudicating paternity after providing the father an opportunity for a hearing. The clerk of the court shall send a certified copy of any judgment adjudicating paternity to the Department of Public Health for filing in the paternity registry maintained under section 19a-42a. If the results of the genetic tests indicate that the person named as father is not the biological father of the child or youth, the court shall enter a judgment that he is not the father and the court shall remove him from the case and afford him no further standing in the case or in any subsequent proceeding regarding 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
- (11) In accordance with the provisions of the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children pursuant to section 17a-175, identify any person or persons related to the child or youth by blood or marriage

1588

1589

1590

1591

1592

1593

1594

1595

1596

1597

1598

1599

1600

1601

1602

1603

1604

16051606

1607

16081609

1610

1611

1612

1613

16141615

1616

1617

1618

1619

- residing out of state who might serve as licensed foster parents or temporary custodians, and order the Commissioner of Children and Families to investigate and determine, within a reasonable time, the appropriateness of placing the child or youth with such relative or relatives.
- 1626 (d) (1) (A) If not later than thirty days after the preliminary hearing, 1627 or within a reasonable time when a relative resides out of state, the 1628 Commissioner of Children and Families determines that there is not a 1629 suitable person related to the child or youth by blood or marriage who 1630 can be licensed as a foster parent or serve as a temporary custodian, 1631 and the court has not granted temporary custody to a person related to 1632 the child or youth by blood or marriage, any person related to the child 1633 or youth by blood or marriage may file, not later than ninety days after 1634 the date of the preliminary hearing, a motion to intervene for the 1635 limited purpose of moving for temporary custody of such child or 1636 youth. If a motion to intervene is timely filed, the court shall grant 1637 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.
  - (C) A relative shall appear in person, with or without counsel, and shall not be entitled to court appointed counsel or the assignment of counsel by the office of Chief Public Defender, except as provided in section 46b-136.
  - (2) Upon the granting of intervenor status to such relative of the child or youth, the court shall issue an order directing the Commissioner of Children and Families to conduct an assessment of such relative and to file a written report with the court not later than

1639

1640

1641

1642

1643

1644

1645

1646

1647

1648

1649

1650

1651

forty days after such order, unless such relative resides out of state, in which case the assessment shall be ordered and requested in accordance with the provisions of the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children, pursuant to section 17a-175. The court may also request such relative to release such relative's medical records, including any psychiatric or psychological records and may order such relative to submit to a physical or mental examination. The expenses incurred for such physical or mental examination shall be paid as costs of commitment are paid. Upon receipt of the assessment, the court shall schedule a hearing on such relative's motion for temporary custody not later than fifteen days after the receipt of the assessment. If the Commissioner of Children and Families, the child's or youth's attorney or guardian ad litem, or the parent or guardian objects to the vesting of temporary custody in such relative, the agency or person objecting at such hearing shall be required to prove by a fair preponderance of the evidence that granting temporary custody of the child or youth to such relative would not be in the best interests of such child or youth.

16531654

1655

1656

1657

1658

1659

1660

1661

1662

1663

1664

1665

16661667

16681669

1670

1671

1672

1673

1674

1675

1676

1677

1678

1679

1680

1681

1682

1683

1684

1685

LCO

- (3) If the court grants such relative temporary custody during the period of such temporary custody, such relative shall be subject to orders of the court, including, but not limited to, providing for the care and supervision of such child or youth and cooperating with the Commissioner of Children and Families in the implementation of treatment and permanency plans and services for such child or youth. The court may, on motion of any party or the court's own motion, after notice and a hearing, terminate such relative's intervenor status if such relative's participation in the case is no longer warranted or necessary.
- (4) Any person related to a child or youth may file a motion to intervene for purposes of seeking guardianship of a child or youth more than ninety days after the date of the preliminary hearing. The granting of such motion to intervene 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. The court may, in the court's discretion, order the Commissioner of Children and Families to conduct an assessment of such relative granted intervenor status pursuant to this subdivision.
  - (5) Any relative granted intervenor status pursuant to this subsection shall not be entitled to court-appointed counsel or representation by Division of Public Defender Services assigned counsel, except as provided in section 46b-136.
  - (e) If any parent or guardian fails, after service of such order, to appear at the preliminary hearing, the court may enter or sustain an order 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.
  - (g) At a contested hearing on the order for temporary custody or order to appear, credible hearsay evidence regarding statements of the child or youth made to a mandated reporter or to a parent may be offered by the parties and admitted by the court upon a finding that the statement is reliable and trustworthy and that admission of such statement is reasonably necessary. A signed statement executed by a mandated reporter under oath may be admitted by the court without the need for the mandated reporter to appear and testify unless called by a respondent or the child, provided the statement: (1) Was provided at the preliminary hearing and promptly upon request to any counsel appearing after the preliminary hearing; (2) reasonably describes the qualifications of the reporter and the nature of his contact with the child; and (3) contains only the direct observations of the reporter, and statements made to the reporter that would be admissible if the reporter were to testify to them in court and any opinions reasonably based thereupon. If a respondent or the child gives notice at the

1687

1688

1689

1690

1691

1692

1693

1694

1695

1696

1697

1698

1699

1700

1701

1702

1703

1704

1705

1706

1707

1708

1709

1710 1711

1712

1713

1714

1715

1716

- 1718 preliminary hearing that he intends to cross-examine the reporter, the 1719 person filing the petition shall make the reporter available for such 1720 examination at the contested hearing.
- 1721 (h) If any parent or guardian fails, after due notice of the hearing 1722 scheduled pursuant to subsection (g) of this section and without good 1723 cause, to appear at the scheduled date for a contested hearing on the 1724 order of temporary custody or order to appear, the court may enter or sustain an order of temporary custody.
  - (i) When a petition is filed in said court for the commitment of a child or youth, the Commissioner of Children and Families shall make a thorough investigation of the case and shall cause to be made a thorough physical and mental examination of the child or youth if requested by the court. The court after hearing may also order a thorough physical or mental examination, or both, of a parent or guardian whose competency or ability to care for a child or youth before the court is at issue. The expenses incurred in making such physical and mental examinations shall be paid as costs of commitment are paid.
  - (j) (1) For the purposes of this subsection and subsection (k) of this section, (A) "permanent legal guardianship" means a permanent guardianship, as defined in section 45a-604, and (B) "caregiver" means (i) a fictive kin caregiver, as defined in section 17a-114, who is caring for a child, (ii) a relative caregiver, as defined in section 17a-126, who is caring for a child, or (iii) a person who is licensed or approved to provide foster care pursuant to section 17a-114, who is caring for a child.
  - (2) Upon finding and adjudging that any child or youth is uncared for, neglected or abused the court may (A) commit such child or youth to the Commissioner of Children and Families, and such commitment shall remain in effect until further order of the court, except that such commitment may be revoked or parental rights terminated at any time by the court; (B) vest such child's or youth's legal guardianship in any

1726

1727

1728

1729

1730

1731

1732

1733

1734

1735

1736

1737

1738

1739

1740

1741

1742

1743

1744

1745

1746

1747

1748

private or public agency that is permitted by law to care for neglected, uncared for or abused children or youths or with any other person or persons found to be suitable and worthy of such responsibility by the court, including, but not limited to, any relative of such child or youth by blood or marriage; (C) vest such child's or youth's permanent legal guardianship in any person or persons found to be suitable and worthy of such responsibility by the court, including, but not limited to, any relative of such child or youth by blood or marriage in accordance with the requirements set forth in subdivision (5) of this subsection; or (D) place the child or youth in the custody of the parent or guardian with protective supervision by the Commissioner of Children and Families subject to conditions established by the court.

- (3) If the court determines that the commitment should be revoked and the child's or youth's legal guardianship or permanent legal guardianship should vest in someone other than the respondent parent, parents or former guardian, or if parental rights are terminated at any time, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that an award of legal guardianship or permanent legal guardianship upon revocation to, or adoption upon termination of parental rights by, any caregiver or person or who is, pursuant to an order of the court, the temporary custodian of the child or youth at the time of the revocation or termination, shall be in the best interests of the child or youth and that such caregiver is a suitable and worthy person to assume legal guardianship or permanent legal guardianship upon revocation or to adopt such child or youth upon termination of parental rights. The presumption may be rebutted by a preponderance of the evidence that an award of legal guardianship or permanent legal guardianship to, or an adoption by, such caregiver would not be in the child's or youth's best interests and such caregiver is not a suitable and worthy person. The court shall order specific steps that the parent must take to facilitate the return of the child or youth to the custody of such parent.
- (4) The commissioner shall be the guardian of such child or youth for the duration of the commitment, provided the child or youth has

1750

1751

1752

1753

1754

1755

1756

1757

1758

1759

1760

1761

1762

1763

1764

1765

1766

1767

1768

1769

1770

1771

1772

1773

1774

1775

1776

1777

1778

1779

1780

1781

not reached the age of eighteen years, or until another guardian has been legally appointed, and in like manner, upon such vesting of the care of such child or youth, such other public or private agency or individual shall be the guardian of such child or youth until such child or youth has reached the age of eighteen years or, in the case of a child or youth in full-time attendance in a secondary school, a technical education and career school, a college or a state-accredited job training program, until such child or youth has reached the age of twenty-one years or until another guardian has been legally appointed. The commissioner may place any child or youth so committed to the commissioner in a suitable foster home or in the home of a fictive kin caregiver, relative caregiver, or in a licensed child-caring institution or in the care and custody of any accredited, licensed or approved childcaring agency, within or without the state, provided a child shall not be placed outside the state except for good cause and unless the parents or guardian of such child are notified in advance of such placement and given an opportunity to be heard, or in a receiving home maintained and operated by the commissioner. When placing such child or youth, the commissioner shall provide written notification of the placement, including the name, address and other relevant contact information relating to the placement, to any attorney or guardian ad litem appointed to represent the child or youth pursuant to subsection (c) of this section. The commissioner shall provide written notification to such attorney or guardian ad litem of any change in placement of such child or youth, including a hospitalization or respite placement, and if the child or youth absconds from care. The commissioner shall provide such written notification not later than ten business days prior to the date of change of placement in a nonemergency situation, or not later than two business days following the date of a change of placement in an emergency situation. In placing such child or youth, the commissioner shall, if possible, select a home, agency, institution or person of like religious faith to that of a parent of such child or youth, if such faith is known or may be ascertained by reasonable inquiry, provided such home conforms to the standards of the commissioner and the commissioner

1783

1784

1785

1786

1787

1788

1789

1790

1791

1792

1793

1794

1795

1796

1797

1798

1799

1800

1801

1802

1803

1804

1805

1806

1807

1808

1809

1810

1811

18121813

1814

1815

1816

shall, when placing siblings, if possible, place such children together. At least ten days prior to transferring a child or youth to a second or subsequent placement, the commissioner shall give written notice to such child or youth and such child or youth's attorney of said commissioner's intention to make such transfer, unless an emergency or risk to such child or youth's well-being necessitates the immediate transfer of such child and renders such notice impossible. Upon the issuance of an order committing the child or youth to the commissioner, or not later than sixty days after the issuance of such order, the court shall determine whether the department made reasonable efforts to keep the child or youth with his or her parents or guardian prior to the issuance of such order and, if such efforts were not made, whether such reasonable efforts were not possible, taking into consideration the child's or youth's best interests, including the 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 vouth 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 or an approved program leading to an equivalent credential; (B) enrolled full time in an institution which provides postsecondary or vocational education; or (C) participating full time in a program or activity approved by said commissioner that is designed to promote or remove barriers to employment. The commissioner, in his or her discretion, may waive the provision of full-time enrollment or participation based on compelling circumstances. Not more than one hundred twenty days after the youth's eighteenth birthday, the department shall file a motion in the superior court for juvenile matters that had jurisdiction over the youth's case prior to the youth's eighteenth birthday for a determination as to whether continuation in care is in the youth's best interest and, if so, whether there is an appropriate permanency plan. The court, in its discretion, may hold a hearing on said motion.

1818 1819

1820

1821

1822

1823

1824

1825

1826

1827

1828

1829

1830

1831

1832

1833

1834

1835

1836

1837

1838

1839

1840

1841

1842

1843

1844

1845

1846

1847

1848

1849

1850

- 1852 (6) Prior to issuing an order for permanent legal guardianship, the 1853 court shall provide notice to each parent that the parent may not file a 1854 motion to terminate the permanent legal guardianship, or the court 1855 shall indicate on the record why such notice could not be provided, and the court shall find by clear and convincing evidence that the 1856 1857 permanent legal guardianship is in the best interests of the child or 1858 youth and that the following have been proven by clear and 1859 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;
  - (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 any;
  - (D) The child or youth has resided with the proposed permanent 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.
    - (7) An order of permanent legal guardianship may be reopened and modified and the permanent legal guardian removed upon the filing of a motion with the court, provided it is proven by a fair preponderance of the evidence that the permanent legal guardian is no longer suitable and worthy. A parent may not file a motion to terminate a permanent legal guardianship. If, after a hearing, the court

1871

1872

1873

1874

1875

1876

1877

1878

1879

1880

1881

terminates a permanent legal guardianship, the court, in appointing a successor legal guardian or permanent legal guardian for the child or youth shall do so in accordance with this subsection.

(k) (1) (A) Nine months after placement of the child or youth in the care and custody of the commissioner pursuant to a voluntary placement agreement, or removal of a child or youth pursuant to section 17a-101g or an order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction, whichever is earlier, the commissioner shall file a motion for review of a permanency plan if the child or youth has not reached his or her eighteenth birthday. Nine months after a permanency plan has been approved by the court pursuant to this subsection or subdivision (5) of subsection (j) of this section, the commissioner shall file a motion for review of the permanency plan. Any party seeking to oppose the commissioner's permanency plan, including a relative of a child or youth by blood or marriage who has intervened pursuant to subsection (d) of this section and is licensed as a foster parent for such child or youth or is vested with such child's or youth's temporary custody by order of the court, shall file a motion in opposition not later than thirty days after the filing of the commissioner's motion for review of the permanency plan, which motion shall include the reason therefor. A permanency hearing on any motion for review of the permanency plan shall be held not later than ninety days after the filing of such motion. The court shall hold evidentiary hearings in connection with any contested motion for review of the permanency plan and credible hearsay evidence regarding any party's compliance with specific steps ordered by the court shall be admissible at such evidentiary hearings. The commissioner shall have the burden of proving that the proposed permanency plan is in the best interests of the child or youth. After the initial permanency hearing, subsequent permanency hearings shall be held not less frequently than every twelve months while the child or youth remains in the custody of the Commissioner of Children and Families or, if the youth is over eighteen years of age, while the youth remains in voluntary placement with the department. The court shall provide notice to the child or

1883

1884

1885

1886

1887

1888

1889

1890

1891

1892

1893

1894

1895 1896

1897

1898

1899

1900

1901

1902

1903

1904

1905

1906

1907

1908

1909

1910

1911

1912

1913

1914

1915

- youth, the parent or guardian of such child or youth, and any intervenor of the time and place of the court hearing on any such motion not less than fourteen days prior to such hearing.
- 1920 (B) (i) If a child is at least twelve years of age, the child's 1921 permanency plan, and any revision to such plan, shall be developed in 1922 consultation with the child. In developing or revising such plan, the 1923 child may consult up to two individuals participating in the 1924 department's case plan regarding such child, neither of whom shall be 1925 the foster parent or caseworker of such child. One individual so 1926 selected by such child may be designated as the child's advisor for 1927 purposes of developing or revising the permanency plan. Regardless 1928 of the child's age, the commissioner shall provide not less than five 1929 days' advance written notice of any permanency team meeting 1930 concerning the child's permanency plan to an attorney or guardian ad 1931 litem appointed to represent the child pursuant to subsection (c) of this 1932 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 effort to schedule such review at a time and location that allows the parent or guardian, 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

1934

1935

1936

1937

1938

1939

1940

1941

1942

1943

1944

1945

1946

1947

identified adults with whom they have a significant relationship and who may serve as a permanency resource.

- (2) At a permanency hearing held in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, the court shall approve a permanency plan that is in the best interests of the child or youth and takes into consideration the child's or youth's need for permanency. The child's or youth's health and safety shall be of paramount concern in formulating such plan. Such permanency plan may include the goal of (A) revocation of commitment and reunification of the child or youth with the parent or guardian, with or without protective supervision; (B) transfer of guardianship or permanent legal guardianship; (C) filing of termination of parental rights and adoption; or (D) for a child sixteen years of age or older, another planned permanent living arrangement ordered by the court, provided the Commissioner of Children and Families has documented a compelling reason why it would not be in the best interests of the child or youth for the permanency plan to include the goals in subparagraphs (A) to (C), inclusive, of this subdivision. Such other planned permanent living arrangement shall, whenever possible, include an adult who has a significant relationship with the child, and who is willing to be a permanency resource, and may include, but not be limited to, placement of a youth in an independent living program or long term foster care with an identified foster parent.
- (3) When a parent or guardian has been incarcerated, has maintained a meaningful role in the child or youth's life as evaluated under the provisions of subsection (c) of section 17a-111a, as amended by this act, and it is in the best interests of the child or youth, the court shall consider a permanency plan that allows such parent or guardian to maintain a relationship with the child or youth, including, but not limited to, transfer of guardianship or permanent legal guardianship.
- [(3)] (4) If the permanency plan for a child sixteen years of age or older includes the goal of another planned permanent living arrangement pursuant to subparagraph (D) of subdivision (2) of this

1949

1950

1951

1952

1953

1954

1955

1956

1957

1958

1959

1960

1961 1962

1963

1964

1965

1966

1967

1968

1969

1970

1971

1972

19731974

1975

1976

1977

1978

1979

1980

subsection or subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of section 17a-111b, the department shall document for the court: (A) The manner and frequency of efforts made by the department to return the child home or to secure placement for the child with a fit and willing relative, legal guardian or adoptive parent; and (B) the steps the department has taken to ensure (i) the child's foster family home or child care institution is following a reasonable and prudent parent standard, as defined in section 17a-114d; and (ii) the child has regular opportunities to engage in age appropriate and developmentally appropriate activities, as defined in section 17a-114d.

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

1982 1983

1984

1985

1986

1987

1988

1989

1990

1991

1992

1993

1994

1995 1996

1997

1998

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

20072008

2009

2010

2011

2012

2013

[(5)] (6) If the permanency plan for a child sixteen years of age or older includes the goal of another planned permanent living arrangement pursuant to subparagraph (D) of subdivision (2) of this subsection, the court shall (A) (i) ask the child about his or her desired permanency outcome, or (ii) if the child is unavailable to appear at a permanency hearing held in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, require the attorney for the child to consult with the child regarding the child's desired permanency outcome and report the same to the court; (B) make a judicial determination that, as of the date of hearing, another planned permanent living arrangement is the best permanency plan for the child; and (C) document the compelling reasons why it is not in the best interest of the child to return home or to be placed with a fit and 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 be photo-listed within thirty days if the court determines that such photo-listing is in the best interests of the child or youth. As used in this subdivision, "thorough adoption assessment" means conducting and documenting face-to-face interviews with the child or youth, foster care providers and other significant parties and "child specific recruitment" means recruiting an adoptive placement targeted to meet the individual needs of the specific child or youth, including, but not limited to, use of the media, use of photo-listing services and any other in-state or out-of-state resources that may be used to meet the specific needs of the child or youth, unless there are extenuating circumstances that indicate that such efforts are not in the best interests of the child or youth.

(l) The Commissioner of Children and Families shall pay directly to

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

2022

2023

2024

2025

2026

2027

2028

2029

2030

2031

2032

2033

2034

2035

2036

2037

2038

2039

2040

2041

2042

2043

2044

2045

2046

the person or persons furnishing goods or services determined by said commissioner to be necessary for the care and maintenance of such child or youth the reasonable expense thereof, payment to be made at intervals determined by said commissioner; and the Comptroller shall draw his or her order on the Treasurer, from time to time, for such part of the appropriation for care of committed children or youths as may be needed in order to enable the commissioner to make such payments. The commissioner shall include in the department's annual budget a sum estimated to be sufficient to carry out the provisions of this section. Notwithstanding that any such child or youth has income or estate, the commissioner may pay the cost of care and maintenance of such child or youth. The commissioner may bill to and collect from 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 amount expended for care of such child or youth or such portion thereof as any such estate or payee is able to reimburse, provided the commissioner shall not collect from such estate or payee any reimbursement for the cost of care or other expenditures made on behalf of such child or youth from (1) the proceeds of any cause of action received by such child or youth; (2) any lottery proceeds due to 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.

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

(n) If the court has ordered legal guardianship of a child or youth to be vested in a suitable and worthy person pursuant to subsection (j) of this section, the child's or youth's parent or former legal guardian may

20482049

2050

2051

2052

2053

2054

2055

2056

2057

2058

2059

2060

2061

2062

2063

2064

2065

2066

2067

2068

2069

2070

2071

2072

2073

2074

2075

2076

2077

2078

2079

file a motion to reinstate guardianship of the child or youth in such parent or former legal guardian. Upon the filing of such a motion, the court may order the Commissioner of Children and Families to investigate the home conditions and needs of the child or youth and the home conditions of the person seeking reinstatement of guardianship, and to make a recommendation to the court. A party to a motion for reinstatement of guardianship shall not be entitled to court-appointed counsel or representation by Division of Public Defender Services assigned counsel, except as provided in section 46b-136. Upon finding that the cause for the removal of guardianship no longer exists, and that reinstatement is in the best interests of the child or youth, the court may reinstate the guardianship of the parent or the former legal guardian. No such motion may be filed more often than 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 youth to surrender the child or youth as provided in the order, the court may cause a warrant to be issued charging the parent, guardian or other person having control of the child or youth with contempt of court. If the person arrested is found in contempt of court, the court may order such person confined until the person complies with the order, but for not more than six months, or may fine such person not more than five hundred dollars, or both.
- (p) A foster parent, prospective adoptive parent or relative caregiver shall receive notice and have the right to be heard for the purposes of this section in Superior Court in any proceeding concerning a foster child living with such foster parent, prospective adoptive parent or relative caregiver. A foster parent, prospective adoptive parent or

relative caregiver who has cared for a child or youth shall have the right to be heard and comment on the best interests of such child or youth in any proceeding under this section which is brought not more than one year after the last day the foster parent, prospective adoptive parent or relative caregiver provided such care.

2119

2120

2121

2122

2123

2124

2125

2126

2127

2128

2129

2130

2131

2132

2133

2134

2135

2136

2137

2138

2139

2140

2141

2142

2143

2144

- (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.
- (r) The provisions of section 17a-152, regarding placement of a child from another state, and section 17a-175, regarding the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children, shall apply to placements pursuant to this section. In any proceeding under this section involving the placement of a child or youth in another state where the provisions of section 17a-175 are applicable, the court shall, before ordering or approving such placement, state for the record the court's finding concerning compliance with the provisions of section 17a-175. The court's statement shall include, but not be limited to: (1) A finding that the state has received notice in writing from the receiving state, in accordance with subsection (d) of Article III of section 17a-175, indicating that the proposed placement does not appear contrary to the interests of the child, (2) the court has reviewed such notice, (3) whether or not an interstate compact study or other home study has been completed by the receiving state, and (4) if such a study has been completed, whether the conclusions reached by the receiving state as a 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-of-state placement.

- (t) If a child or youth is placed into out-of-home care by the Commissioner of Children and Families pursuant to this section, the commissioner shall include in any report the commissioner submits to the court information regarding (1) the safety and suitability of such child or youth's placement, taking into account the requirements set forth in section 17a-114; (2) such child or youth's medical, dental, developmental, educational and treatment needs; and (3) a timeline for ensuring that such needs are met. Such information shall also be submitted to the court (A) not later than ninety days after such child or youth is placed into out-of-home care; (B) if such child or youth's out-of-home placement changes; and (C) if the commissioner files a permanency plan on behalf of such child or youth. The court shall consider such information in making decisions regarding such child or youth's well-being.
- Sec. 24. Section 17a-15 of the general statutes is repealed and the 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 treatment services and temporary placement and a goal for permanent placement of the child, which may include reunification with the parent, transfer of guardianship, adoption or, for a child sixteen years of age or older, another planned permanent living arrangement. The child's health and safety shall be the paramount concern in formulating the plan. If the parent is incarcerated, the proposed plan of treatment services shall include the use of services available to and reasonably accessible by the parent at the facility where the parent is confined, and provide for visitation with the child or youth, unless such visitation is not in the best interests of such child or youth.
  - (b) The commissioner shall at least every six months, review the written case plan of each child under the commissioner's supervision for the purpose of determining whether such plan is appropriate and

- make any appropriate modifications to such plan. If the child is represented by an attorney or guardian ad litem, the commissioner shall notify the child's attorney or guardian ad litem in writing not less than twenty-one days prior to the date of any administrative meeting to review the plan. <u>If a parent is unable to participate in person in such</u> review because such parent is incarcerated at the time of the review, such parent may participate through the use of telecommunication or video communication services.
  - (c) Any child or the parent or guardian of such child aggrieved by any provision of a plan prepared under subsection (a) of this section, or by the commissioner's decision upon review under subsection (b) of this section, or any child or the parent or guardian of such child aggrieved by a refusal of any other service from the commissioner to which the child is entitled, shall be provided a hearing within thirty days following a written request for the same directed to the commissioner.
  - (d) Upon motion of any sibling of any child committed to the Department of Children and Families pursuant to section 46b-129, as amended by this act, in any pending hearing held pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, such sibling shall have the right to be 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.
- Sec. 25. Section 51-195 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1*, 2019):
- 2210 Any person sentenced on one or more counts of an information to a

term of imprisonment for which the total sentence of all such counts amounts to confinement for three years or more, may, within thirty days from the date such sentence was imposed or if the offender received a suspended sentence with a maximum confinement of three years or more, within thirty days of revocation of such suspended sentence, except in any case in which a different sentence could not have been imposed or in any case in which the sentence or commitment imposed resulted from the court's acceptance of a plea agreement, [or] in any case in which the sentence imposed was for a lesser term than was proposed in a plea agreement, or if the plea agreement provides that the term of imprisonment will not exceed an agreed upon maximum term but provides that the person sentenced may request a term of imprisonment lower than the agreed upon maximum term, file with the clerk of the court for the judicial district in which the judgment was rendered an application for review of the sentence by the review division. Upon imposition of sentence or at the time of revocation of such suspended sentence, the clerk shall give written notice to the person sentenced of his right to make such a request. Such notice shall include a statement that review of the sentence may result in decrease or increase of the term within the limits fixed by law. A form for making such application shall accompany the notice. The clerk shall forthwith transmit such application to the review division and shall notify the judge who imposed the sentence. Such judge may transmit to the review division a statement of his reasons for imposing the sentence, and shall transmit such a statement within seven days if requested to do so by the review division. The filing of an application for review shall not stay the execution of the sentence.

- Sec. 26. Section 53a-39 of the general statutes is repealed and the 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

2211

2212

2213

2214

2215

2216

2217

2218

2219

2220

2221

2222

2223

2224

2225

2226

2227

2228

2229

2230

2231

2232

2233

2234

2235

2236

2237

2238

2239

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.

- (b) At any time during the period of a [definite] sentence <u>in which a</u> <u>defendant has been sentenced to an executed period of incarceration</u> of more than three years, upon agreement of the defendant and the state's attorney to seek review of the sentence, 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.
- (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.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2019	54-250
Sec. 2	October 1, 2019	New section
Sec. 3	October 1, 2019	New section

Sec. 4	October 1, 2019	New section
Sec. 5	October 1, 2019	New section
Sec. 6	October 1, 2019	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	from passage	New section
Sec. 14	July 1, 2020	54-257
Sec. 15	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	54-258
Sec. 16	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	54-260b
Sec. 17	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	New section
Sec. 18	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	New section
Sec. 19	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	New section
Sec. 20	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	New section
Sec. 21	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	17a-111a
Sec. 22	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	17a-112(k)
Sec. 23	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	46b-129
Sec. 24	October 1, 2019	17a-15
Sec. 25	October 1, 2019	51-195
Sec. 26	October 1, 2019	53a-39

JUD Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO

APP Joint Favorable