



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 705

February Session, 2026

Substitute Senate Bill No. 6

Senate, April 21, 2026

The Committee on Appropriations reported through SEN. OSTEN of the 19th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING SUPPORTS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026, and applicable to taxable years*
2 *commencing on or after January 1, 2026*) (a) As used in this section:

3 (1) "Child" means an individual who is under seventeen years of age;

4 (2) "Eligible taxpayer" means a resident of this state who is subject to
5 the tax under chapter 229 of the general statutes; and

6 (3) "Resident of this state" has the same meaning as provided in
7 subsection (a) of section 12-701 of the general statutes.

8 (b) For taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2026, any
9 eligible taxpayer shall be allowed a credit against the tax imposed by
10 chapter 229 of the general statutes, other than the liability imposed
11 under section 12-707 of the general statutes, for each dependent child of
12 the taxpayer, up to a maximum of three children. The amount of such
13 credit shall be six hundred dollars per child, provided such amount

14 shall be reduced ten per cent for every one thousand dollars, or fraction
15 thereof, of federal adjusted gross income over (1) one hundred thousand
16 dollars for an individual who files a return under the federal income tax
17 as an unmarried individual or a married individual filing separately, (2)
18 one hundred sixty thousand dollars for an individual who files a return
19 under the federal income tax as a head of household, and (3) two
20 hundred thousand dollars for individuals who file a return under the
21 federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly or as a surviving
22 spouse. If the amount of the credit allowed pursuant to this subsection
23 exceeds the eligible taxpayer's liability for the tax imposed by chapter
24 229 of the general statutes, the Commissioner of Revenue Services shall
25 treat such excess as an overpayment and, except as provided under
26 section 12-739 or 12-742 of the general statutes, refund the amount of
27 such excess, without interest, to the eligible taxpayer.

28 (c) For the purposes of this section, the tax liability of an individual
29 taxpayer shall be calculated without regard to the credit allowed under
30 section 12-704e of the general statutes.

31 Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2026*) Notwithstanding the provisions of
32 sections 10-215, 10-215a and 10-266w of the general statutes, for the
33 fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, each eligible school district shall (1)
34 provide (A) school breakfasts to all students at no charge to such
35 students, and (B) school lunches to all students eligible for free or
36 reduced priced lunch at no charge to such students, and (2) be entitled
37 to receive a grant from the Department of Education for such free school
38 breakfasts and school lunches. As used in this section, "eligible school
39 district" means a local or regional board of education, state or local
40 charter school or an interdistrict magnet school operator that (A) is
41 participating in the federal School Breakfast Program or the National
42 Lunch Program, as the case may be, and (B) is not implementing the
43 Community Eligibility Provision; and "Community Eligibility
44 Provision" means the federal meal reimbursement program
45 administered by the United States Department of Agriculture, as set
46 forth in 7 CFR 245.9, as amended from time to time.

47 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) No person who is convicted
48 on or after October 1, 2026, of a violation of sections 53-20 to 53-21a,
49 inclusive, section 53-23, 53a-70c, subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of
50 section 53a-86, section 53a-90a, sections 53a-196 to 53a-196f, inclusive, or
51 section 53a-196i of the general statutes shall share a primary residence
52 with a minor child, as defined in section 17a-106f of the general statutes,
53 unless such person is the biological parent of such minor child, or the
54 adoptive parent of such minor child and such adoption was finalized
55 prior to such conviction.

56 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) Not later than one week
57 following the release from a correctional facility of a person convicted
58 of and incarcerated for a violation of section 53-20, 53-21, 53-23, 53a-70c,
59 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 53a-86, section 53a-90a,
60 sections 53a-196 to 53a-196f, inclusive, or section 53a-196i of the general
61 statutes, the Commissioner of Correction shall notify the Commissioner
62 of Children and Families of the residential address to which such person
63 was released and the violations for which such person was convicted
64 and incarcerated.

65 (b) Not later than one week after receiving a notification pursuant to
66 subsection (a) of this section, the Commissioner of Children and
67 Families shall determine if the residential address provided in said
68 notification is the address of the primary residence of a child who is the
69 subject of an order for protective supervision, as defined in section 17a-
70 93 of the general statutes, or receiving protective services, as defined in
71 section 17a-93 of the general statutes. If the commissioner determines a
72 child who is the subject of such an order or receiving such services
73 resides at such address, the commissioner shall immediately (1) notify
74 the department's social worker assigned to such case of such person's
75 release to such address and the violations for which such person was
76 convicted and incarcerated, and (2) include a copy of such notification
77 in such child's case file.

78 Sec. 5. Section 10a-57g of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
79 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*

80 October 1, 2026):

81 (a) As used in this section:

82 (1) ["Preschool through Twenty and Workforce Information
83 Network" or "P20 WIN"] "Data Link Connecticut" or "DataLinkCT"
84 means a state integrated data system utilized for the purpose of
85 matching and integrating data of state agencies and other organizations
86 to inform policy and practice for education, workforce and supportive
87 service efforts.

88 (2) "Participating agency" means the Connecticut State Colleges and
89 Universities, Department of Education, Labor Department, the Office of
90 Early Childhood, The University of Connecticut, the Connecticut
91 Conference of Independent Colleges and any entity that has executed
92 an enterprise memorandum of understanding for participation in [the
93 P20 WIN] DataLinkCT and has been approved for participation
94 pursuant to the terms of the enterprise memorandum of understanding.

95 (3) "Enterprise memorandum of understanding" means a
96 foundational multiparty agreement that sets forth the details of how
97 data is shared and the respective legal rights and responsibilities of each
98 party within the data sharing process.

99 (b) There is established [a Preschool through Twenty and Workforce
100 Information Network] Data Link Connecticut. The executive board of
101 [the P20 WIN] DataLinkCT, established pursuant to subsection (d) of
102 this section, shall establish processes and structures governing the
103 secure sharing of data across participating agencies.

104 (c) The Office of Policy and Management shall serve as the
105 administrator for [P20 WIN] DataLinkCT to support the executive board
106 and data governing board, develop procedures for secure sharing and
107 analysis of data and provide program management to support the
108 continued operation and maintenance of [P20 WIN] DataLinkCT, in
109 accordance with the state data plan and data sharing efforts specified in
110 sections 4-67n and 4-67p.

111 (d) [The P20 WIN] DataLinkCT shall be governed by an executive
112 board that shall provide oversight of such network. Said executive
113 board shall include, but need not be limited to, the chief executive officer
114 of each participating agency, or their respective designees, the Chief
115 Workforce Officer, or the officer's designee, and the Secretary of the
116 Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's designee. The duties
117 of the executive board shall be to:

118 (1) Advance a vision for [the P20 WIN including] DataLinkCT that
119 includes a prioritized research agenda with support from the Office of
120 Policy and Management.

121 (2) Convene as needed to respond to issues from the data governing
122 board.

123 (3) Identify and work to secure resources necessary to sustain [P20
124 WIN] DataLinkCT funding.

125 (4) Support system implementation, maintenance and improvement
126 by advocating for [the P20 WIN] DataLinkCT in regard to policy,
127 legislation and resources.

128 (5) Advocate for and support the state's vision for [the P20 WIN]
129 DataLinkCT.

130 (6) Establish a data governing board to establish and implement
131 policies related to cross-agency data management, including, but not
132 limited to, data confidentiality and security in alignment with the vision
133 for [the P20 WIN] DataLinkCT and any applicable law. In establishing
134 such policies, the data governing board shall consult with the Office of
135 Policy and Management, in accordance with the provisions of sections
136 4-67n and 4-67p and other applicable statutes and policies.

137 (e) The executive board established pursuant to this section may
138 appoint advisory committees to make recommendations on data
139 stewardship, data system expansion and processes, and such other areas
140 that will advance the work of [the P20 WIN] DataLinkCT.

141 (f) (1) Each regional workforce development board established under
142 section 31-3k shall regularly submit data to [the P20 WIN] DataLinkCT
143 to report on the performance and outcomes achieved by the state's
144 workforce system, including, but not limited to, workforce training and
145 development programs that receive federal and state funds or grants.
146 Not later than September 1, 2025, the Chief Workforce Officer shall, in
147 consultation with the Labor Commissioner, the Chief Data Officer and
148 the regional workforce development boards, establish standards for the
149 submission of data by regional workforce development boards
150 specifying the data to be submitted and the form and manner in which
151 to submit such data.

152 (2) On or before January 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the Chief
153 Workforce Officer may, in consultation with the Chief Data Officer and
154 the Labor Commissioner, submit to the administrator of [the P20 WIN]
155 DataLinkCT a request for data and analysis of such data for the
156 purposes of assessing performance and outcomes of the state's
157 workforce system. Such data and analysis request shall be completed by
158 the administrator of [the P20 WIN] DataLinkCT not later than August
159 15, 2022, and annually thereafter.

160 (g) Not later than October 1, 2025, and annually thereafter, each
161 constituent unit of the state system of higher education, as defined in
162 section 10a-1, and such constituent unit's central or system office, if any,
163 shall submit, in a manner that complies with the requirements of the
164 Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 USC 1232g, as amended
165 from time to time, data to [the P20 WIN] DataLinkCT to report on the
166 outcomes of postsecondary education and workforce development
167 programs operated by such constituent unit. Not later than September
168 1, 2025, the Chief Data Officer shall specify the form and manner in
169 which to submit such data. Any report produced from such data shall
170 be in aggregated form and, consistent with any other provision of state
171 or federal law, shall not include any personally identifiable information
172 of students or participants in such programs.

173 Sec. 6. Subsection (c) of section 4-124w of the 2026 supplement to the

174 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
175 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

176 (c) The Chief Workforce Officer may call upon any office,
177 department, board, commission, public institution of higher education
178 or other agency of the state to supply such reports, information, data
179 and assistance as may be reasonable, necessary and appropriate in order
180 to carry out the Chief Workforce Officer's or the Office of Workforce
181 Strategy's duties and requirements. Each officer or employee of such
182 office, department, board, commission, public institution of higher
183 education or other agency of the state shall furnish such reports,
184 information, data and assistance as requested by the Chief Workforce
185 Officer, to the extent permitted under state and federal law. Any request
186 for data from a participating agency in [P20 WIN] DataLinkCT,
187 established pursuant to section 10a-57g, as amended by this act, shall be
188 submitted through [P20 WIN] DataLinkCT in accordance with the
189 policies and procedures established by [P20 WIN] DataLinkCT.

190 Sec. 7. Subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 10-15o of the 2026
191 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
192 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

193 (2) Compile and analyze data on students and young people, through
194 available data systems, including, but not limited to, [the Connecticut
195 Preschool through Twenty and Workforce Information Network] Data
196 Link Connecticut, established pursuant to section 10a-57g, as amended
197 by this act;

198 Sec. 8. Subdivision (19) of subsection (b) of section 12-15 of the 2026
199 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
200 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

201 (19) To the extent allowable under federal law, return information to
202 another state agency or to support a data request submitted through
203 [P20 WIN] DataLinkCT, established in section 10a-57g, as amended by
204 this act, in accordance with the policies and procedures of [P20 WIN]
205 DataLinkCT for the purposes of evaluation or research, provided the

206 recipient of such data enters into a data sharing agreement pursuant to
207 section 4-67aa if such recipient is not a state agency;

208 Sec. 9. Subsection (e) of section 17b-112l of the 2026 supplement to the
209 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
210 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

211 (e) Not later than July 1, 2020, pursuant to the advisory authority
212 established in section 3-125, the Office of the Attorney General, in
213 consultation with the Two-Generational Advisory Board, the Secretary
214 of the Office of Policy and Management, the Chief Data Officer
215 appointed pursuant to section 4-67p and [the Preschool through Twenty
216 and Workforce Information Network] Data Link Connecticut,
217 established pursuant to section 10a-57g, as amended by this act, shall
218 develop a uniform interagency data sharing protocol to remove legal
219 barriers to promote cross-agency and cross-sector collaboration under
220 this section to the fullest extent permitted under state and federal laws.

221 Sec. 10. Section 22 of public act 24-45 is repealed and the following is
222 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

223 Not later than [January 1, 2025] July 1, 2027, and [annually] biennially
224 thereafter, the executive board of [the Connecticut Preschool Through
225 Twenty and Workforce Information Network] Data Link Connecticut,
226 established pursuant to section 10a-57g of the general statutes, as
227 amended by this act, shall submit [an annual] a report on disconnected
228 youth. In developing such report, the executive board shall use the data
229 model established through the data sharing agreement 0043 regarding
230 Research on Disengaged and Disconnected Youth in Connecticut. The
231 executive board shall submit such report to the joint standing
232 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
233 relating to education, children, the judiciary, labor, human services,
234 public health and appropriations, in accordance with the provisions of
235 section 11-4a of the general statutes. As used in this section,
236 "disconnected youth" has the same meaning as provided in section 21 of
237 [this act] public act 24-45.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2026, and applicable to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	10a-57g
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	4-124w(c)
Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	10-15o(b)(2)
Sec. 8	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	12-15(b)(19)
Sec. 9	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	17b-112l(e)
Sec. 10	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	PA 24-45, Sec. 22

APP *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Department of Revenue Services	GF - Revenue Loss	316 million	316 million
Department of Revenue Services	GF - Cost	Up to 75,000	None
Education, Dept.	GF - Cost	12.5 million	None

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill establishes a refundable personal income tax credit for filers with dependent children and provides school meals at no cost to certain eligible students in FY 27, resulting in the fiscal impacts described below.

Section 1 establishes a refundable personal income tax credit of up to \$600 per dependent child, for up to three children at maximum per filer, depending on income eligibility. This results in a (1) General Fund revenue loss of approximately \$316 million annually beginning in FY 27 and (2) one-time cost of up to \$75,000 to the Department of Revenue Services in FY 27 associated with programming updates to the CTax tax administration system and myconneCT online portal.

Section 2 results in a one-time cost to the State Department of Education (SDE) of approximately \$12.5 million in FY 27. It requires eligible schools and school districts to offer in FY 27: (1) breakfast at no cost to all students; and (2) lunch at no cost to students eligible for

reduced price lunch. An eligible district is one that: (1) is participating in the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program; and (2) is not participating in the Community Eligibility Provision program (through which students receive meals at no charge). The bill requires SDE to provide a grant to eligible schools and districts to offset the cost of offering meals at no charge.

The bill does not prescribe a formula for the grant. The above indicated cost assumes the grant would ensure that schools and districts are reimbursed for all meals at the federal free meal reimbursement rate. Costs will vary based on federal school meal reimbursement rates and the number of school meals served. If demand for school meals increases as a result of this provision, the above indicated costs could increase correspondingly.

Sections 3 and 4 prohibit individuals convicted of certain crimes from living with a minor child and require the Department of Correction to notify the Department of Children and Families (DCF) when they are released from incarceration, resulting in no fiscal impact. Subsequent potential case actions require minimal changes in workload that can be absorbed by current DCF staff.

Sections 5 through 10 rename P20 WIN to DataLinkCT and require their executive board to report on disconnected youth biennially (compared to annually under current law), resulting in no fiscal impact.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to fluctuation in the number of eligible children covered by the tax credit.

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 6****AN ACT CONCERNING SUPPORTS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.**

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[§ 2 — FREE SCHOOL BREAKFAST AND LUNCH](#)

For FY 27, requires all non-CEP-participating school districts in a federal school meals program to offer free school breakfasts to all students and free lunches to students who are eligible for free or reduced priced lunches; creates a new SDE grant to provide funding for the meals

[§§ 3 & 4 — RESIDENCE RESTRICTIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS ON PEOPLE CONVICTED OF CERTAIN CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN](#)

Generally, prohibits people who are convicted of certain crimes from living with a minor child and requires notification to DCF when people convicted of these crimes are released from incarceration

[§§ 5-10 — P20 WIN DATA SYSTEM](#)

Changes the name of the P20 WIN data system to “DataLinkCT” and makes the executive board’s reports on disconnected youth due every two years, rather than every year

[COMMENT](#)[BACKGROUND](#)**SUMMARY**

This bill makes unrelated changes regarding taxes (creating a child tax credit), school meals, people convicted of certain crimes against children, and the P20 WIN data system, as described in the section-by-section analysis below.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026, except as noted below.

§ 1 — CHILD TAX CREDIT

Establishes a refundable state child tax credit against the personal income tax for resident taxpayers with qualifying incomes; credit equals \$600 per child for up to three children but phases out as taxpayer income increases above specified thresholds

Starting with the 2026 tax year, the bill establishes a refundable state child tax credit (CTC) against the personal income tax (but not the withholding tax) for resident taxpayers with qualifying incomes. The CTC is \$600 per dependent child for up to three children (age 16 or younger), but the credit phases out at 10% intervals as taxpayer federal adjusted gross income (AGI) increases above specified income levels, which vary by filing status.

The table below shows, for each filing status, the income level at which taxpayers (1) qualify for the maximum CTC and (2) no longer qualify for it. The state earned income tax credit must be disregarded in calculating a taxpayer's tax liability for the CTC.

Table: CTC Qualifying Income Levels by Filing Status

<i>Filing Status</i>	<i>Maximum CTC (Federal AGI ≤)</i>	<i>No Credit (Federal AGI >)</i>
Single or Married Filing Separately	\$100,000	\$109,000
Head of Household	160,000	169,000
Joint Filers or Surviving Spouses	200,000	209,000

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026, and applicable to tax years starting on or after January 1, 2026.

§ 2 — FREE SCHOOL BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

For FY 27, requires all non-CEP-participating school districts in a federal school meals program to offer free school breakfasts to all students and free lunches to students who are eligible for free or reduced priced lunches; creates a new SDE grant to provide funding for the meals

For FY 27, the bill (1) requires eligible school districts to provide all students with school breakfasts at no charge and lunch at no charge for those who are eligible for free or reduced priced lunch and (2) entitles these districts a grant from the State Department of Education (SDE) for these costs.

Under the bill, “eligible school districts” are local and regional boards of education, state and local charter schools, and interdistrict magnet school operators that (1) participate in the federal School Breakfast Program or the National Lunch Program and (2) do not participate in the federal Community Eligibility Program (CEP; see *Background – Community Eligibility Program*). It is unclear how this provision would apply to a school district where some, but not all, of its schools participate in CEP.

Relatedly, for eligible school districts, the bill waives the existing law’s requirement on school districts participating in the federal school lunch and breakfast, or other school feeding, programs for FY 27.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

Background — Community Eligibility Program

The federal Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 created CEP, which allows eligible schools to serve free breakfast and lunch to all students without collecting applications from individual households (P.L. 111-296, § 104, codified as 7 C.F.R. § 245.9(f)). Instead, schools that adopt CEP are reimbursed using a formula based on their percentage of enrolled students who are categorically eligible for free meals because they participate in other specific means-tested programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Temporary Assistance of Needy Families (TANF) program. Broadly speaking, schools or districts may use CEP if at least 25% of their enrolled students are categorically eligible.

Within a school district, all schools, a group of schools, or an individual school may participate in CEP if eligible. Eligible schools and school districts must submit required documentation to their state

education agency (in Connecticut, this is SDE).

§§ 3 & 4 — RESIDENCE RESTRICTIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS ON PEOPLE CONVICTED OF CERTAIN CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN

Generally, prohibits people who are convicted of certain crimes from living with a minor child and requires notification to DCF when people convicted of these crimes are released from incarceration

Primary Residence With a Minor Child Prohibition

The bill prohibits any person convicted, on or after October 1, 2026, of certain crimes against children from sharing a primary residence with a minor child, unless the person is the child's biological or adoptive parent and the adoption was finalized before the conviction. The table below shows the 15 crimes for which the prohibition applies and a high-level summary for each. A minor child is a person under 18 years old.

(This provision may be unconstitutional as it does not include a due process or appeals procedure, see COMMENT.)

Table: Crimes Triggering Prohibition Against Living With a Minor Child*

Crime	CGS §	Description
Cruelty to persons	53-20	When a person intentionally tortures, torments, or unlawfully punishes another person or deprives them of necessary food, clothing, shelter, or physical care
Injury or risk of injury to, or impairing morals of, children; sale of children	53-21	When a person (1) causes or allows a child under age 16 to be placed in a situation where the child's life or limb is endangered or morals are likely to be impaired, (2) has sexual or indecent contact with the child's intimate parts, or (3) sells or buys permanent custody of the child
Leaving child unsupervised in public accommodation or a motor vehicle; failure to report disappearance of a child	53-21a	When a parent, guardian, or person supervising a child under age 12 knowingly (1) leaves the child unsupervised in a public place or vehicle for a period of time that presents a substantial risk to the child's health or safety or (2) fails to report a child's disappearance to law enforcement
Abandonment of child under the age of six years	53-23	When a person having charge of a child under age six leaves the child in any place, with intent to abandon the child
Aggravated sexual assault of a minor	53a-70c	When any person commits certain crimes (for example, sexual assault) against a child

Crime	CGS §	Description
		under 13 and the crime is compounded by certain factors (for example, the victim was kidnapped, illegally restrained, or stalked, or the accused has been convicted of a violent sexual assault before)
Promoting prostitution of a person less than 18 years old in the first degree	53a-86(a)(2)	When a person knowingly advances or profits from the prostitution of a person under age 18
Enticing a minor	53a-90a	When a person uses an interactive computer service (such as the internet) to knowingly persuade, induce, entice, or coerce someone under age 18, or who the person reasonably believes to be under 18, to engage in prostitution or unlawful sexual activity
Obscenity as to minors	53a-196	When a person knowingly promotes to a minor, for money, any material or performance that is obscene for minors
Employing a minor in an obscene performance	53a-196a	When a person employs a minor or allows a minor to be employed to promote any material or performance that is obscene for minors, regardless of whether the minor receives any consideration (is paid)
Promoting a minor in an obscene performance	53a-196b	When a person knowingly promotes any material or performance that employs a minor, whether or not the minor receives consideration, and the material or performance is obscene for minors
Importing child sexual abuse material	53a-196c	When a person knowingly imports or causes to be imported into the state three or more visual depictions of child sexual abuse material (often called child pornography)
Possessing child sexual abuse material in the first degree	53a-196d	When a person knowingly possesses (1) 50 or more images of child sexual abuse material, (2) one or more images of child sexual abuse material depicting the infliction or threatened infliction of serious injury, or (3) a series of images or a video depicting either multiple children engaging in sexually explicit conduct or more than one act of explicit conduct by one or more children
Possessing child sexual abuse material in the second degree	53a-196e	When a person knowingly possesses (1) between 20 and 49 images of child sexual abuse material or (2) a series of images or a video depicting a single act of sexually explicit conduct by one child

<i>Crime</i>	<i>CGS §</i>	<i>Description</i>
Possessing child sexual abuse material in the third degree	53a-196f	When a person knowingly possesses (1) fewer than 20 images of child sexual abuse material or (2) a series of images or a video depicting a single act of sexually explicit conduct by one child
Commercial sexual exploitation of a minor	53a-196i	When a person knowingly buys advertising space for an advertisement for a commercial sex act that includes a depiction of a minor

*Except for biological parents or adoptive parents if the adoption was finalized before the conviction

DCF Notification Upon Release From Prison

Under the bill, when someone convicted of a crime in the table above (except for those under CGS § 53-21a, described above) is released from incarceration, the correction commissioner must notify the Department of Children and Families (DCF) commissioner within one week after the person is released. The notice must include the (1) residential address to which the person was released and (2) crime for which the person was incarcerated.

Within one week after receiving this notification, the bill requires the DCF commissioner to check if the address in the notice is the primary residence of a child who is under a protective supervision order or receiving protective services, as described below. If it is, she must immediately (1) notify the child's DCF social worker about the person's release to the address and the crime that led to the incarceration and (2) include a copy of the notice in the child's case file. (The bill is silent on what steps, if any, DCF or the social worker must take after receiving the notification.)

By law, a protective supervision order means a court determined a child was neglected, but DCF or another social agency is, at the court's request, helping correct the neglect while the child remains in the home. "Protective services" are public welfare services provided to a family following a complaint of abuse, neglect, or abandonment, but where there is no ruling on the complaint (CGS § 17a-93).

§§ 5-10 — P20 WIN DATA SYSTEM

Changes the name of the P20 WIN data system to “DataLinkCT” and makes the executive board’s reports on disconnected youth due every two years, rather than every year

Program Name Change (§§ 6-10)

The bill changes the name of the P20 WIN program (Preschool through Twenty and Workforce Information Network) to “Data Link Connecticut” (or “DataLinkCT”) in five statutes without otherwise changing the law. The program is a state data system used to match and integrate data from certain labor- and education-related state agencies, colleges and universities, and other organizations to inform policy and practice for education, workforce, and supportive service efforts.

Disconnected Youth Report (§ 10)

The bill requires the P20 WIN (renamed DataLinkCT) executive board to report on disconnected youth biennially (every two years) rather than annually, as current law requires. It makes the first biennial report due by July 1, 2027. Under existing law, unchanged by the bill, the reports must go to the Appropriations, Children, Education, Human Services, Judiciary, Labor and Public Employees, and Public Health committees.

For the reports, a “disconnected youth” is someone age 14-26 who is (1) an at-risk student or (2) not enrolled in high school and (a) does not have a high school diploma or its equivalent; (b) has a diploma or equivalent but is unemployed and not enrolled in an adult education program, college, or a workforce training or certification program, including an apprenticeship, or otherwise pursuing postsecondary education; or (c) is incarcerated.

COMMENT

No Due Process for Significant Penalty

Under the U.S. Constitution’s Fourteenth Amendment, no state may “deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law.” The amendment’s due process clause guarantees procedural due process, meaning that government actors must follow certain procedures before they may deprive a person of a protected life, liberty, or property interest.

The bill creates a new penalty for people convicted of specified crimes by prohibiting them from residing in a home with a minor child unless they are the child’s parent or adoptive parent. However, the bill does not include the elements typically required for due process, for example, a notice provision, a process for government actors to follow, a hearing, the right to counsel, or any ability for the person to appeal this provision.

BACKGROUND

Legislative History

The Senate referred the bill (File 118) to the Appropriations Committee, which reported a substitute that removes the provision regarding notification when a child is withdrawn from public school.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Committee on Children

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 11 Nay 6 (03/05/2026)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 46 Nay 5 (04/14/2026)