



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

Raised Bill No. 6685

LCO No. 4256



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Introduced by:
(PS)

AN ACT CONCERNING CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) For the fiscal year ending June
2 30, 2024, and each fiscal year thereafter, the Commissioner of
3 Emergency Services and Public Protection shall establish a grant
4 program to provide funding to any municipality that seeks to hold a
5 special needs day that allows children with special needs to interact
6 with public safety personnel and learn about public safety issues. Not
7 later than October 1, 2023, the Department of Emergency Services and
8 Public Protection shall post in a conspicuous place on the department's
9 Internet web site a description of the grant program, including, but not
10 limited to, eligibility criteria and the application process for the
11 program. A municipality shall apply for such grants on such forms and
12 in such manner as determined by the department.

13 Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024,
14 the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall
15 provide funding to each municipal law enforcement unit and each

16 barracks of the Division of State Police within the Department of
17 Emergency Services and Public Protection to allow at least one police
18 patrol vehicle at each such unit and barracks to be equipped with a
19 special needs sensory kit. Such kits shall include items that help
20 individuals with special needs cope with their emotions and manage
21 stress during emergencies or other interactions with police officers.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To establish a grant program to provide funding to municipalities that seek to host a special needs day for children with special needs and law enforcement personnel, and provide funding for a special needs sensory kit in certain police patrol vehicles.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]