



General Assembly

February Session, 2022

**Raised Bill No. 194**

LCO No. 1464



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:  
(HS)

**AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
TO CONTRACT WITH OTHER STATES.**

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 17b-3 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
3 *passage*):

4 (a) The Commissioner of Social Services shall administer all law  
5 under the jurisdiction of the Department of Social Services. The  
6 commissioner shall have the power and duty to do the following: (1)  
7 Administer, coordinate and direct the operation of the department; (2)  
8 adopt and enforce such regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, as  
9 are necessary to implement the purposes of the department as  
10 established by statute; (3) establish rules for the internal operation and  
11 administration of the department; (4) establish and develop programs  
12 and administer services to achieve the purposes of the department as  
13 established by statute; (5) [contract] enter into a contract, including, but  
14 not limited to, a contract with another state, for facilities, services and  
15 programs to implement the purposes of the department as established

16 by statute; (6) process applications and requests for services promptly;  
17 (7) with the approval of the Comptroller and in accordance with such  
18 procedures as may be specified by the Comptroller, make payments to  
19 providers of services for individuals who are eligible for benefits from  
20 the department as appropriate; (8) make no duplicate awards for items  
21 of assistance once granted, except for replacement of lost or stolen  
22 checks on which payment has been stopped; (9) promote economic self-  
23 sufficiency where appropriate in the department's programs, policies,  
24 practices and staff interactions with recipients; (10) act as advocate for  
25 the need of more comprehensive and coordinated programs for persons  
26 served by the department; (11) plan services and programs for persons  
27 served by the department; (12) coordinate outreach activities by public  
28 and private agencies assisting persons served by the department; (13)  
29 consult and cooperate with area and private planning agencies; (14)  
30 advise and inform municipal officials and officials of social service  
31 agencies about social service programs and collect and disseminate  
32 information pertaining thereto, including information about federal,  
33 state, municipal and private assistance programs and services; (15)  
34 encourage and facilitate effective communication and coordination  
35 among federal, state, municipal and private agencies; (16) inquire into  
36 the utilization of state and federal government resources which offer  
37 solutions to problems of the delivery of social services; (17) conduct,  
38 encourage and maintain research and studies relating to social services  
39 development; (18) prepare, review and encourage model  
40 comprehensive social service programs; (19) maintain an inventory of  
41 data and information and act as a clearing house and referral agency for  
42 information on state and federal programs and services; and (20)  
43 conduct, encourage and maintain research and studies and advise  
44 municipal officials and officials of social service agencies about forms of  
45 intergovernmental cooperation and coordination between public and  
46 private agencies designed to advance social service programs. The  
47 commissioner may require notice of the submission of all applications  
48 by municipalities, any agency thereof, and social service agencies, for  
49 federal and state financial assistance to carry out social services. The  
50 commissioner shall establish state-wide and regional advisory councils.

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

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	17b-3(a)
-----------	---------------------	----------

**HS**      *Joint Favorable*