

From: Danny Varat
To: 'derek@lewis4schools.com' <derek@lewis4schools.com>
Date: 1/24/2018 7:49:12 PM
Subject: FW: Children's Affairs Sub-Committee

From: Danny Varat
Sent: Wednesday, January 24, 2018 7:37 PM
To: Danny Varat
Cc: Catherine McNicoll
Subject: Children's Affairs Sub-Committee

Summary of Bill Portion of 1/24/2018 Children's Affairs Subcommittee

S. 794 and S.795 will not move forward. The two economic divisions that S. 794 would have moved are being moved by independent bills.

S. 805 will move forward. It was amended to add some of the elements of the other two. (I have not seen the amendment language and they only briefly discussed) From what I can gather the amended version of S. 805 creates an independent child advocacy agency with oversight of a list of agencies that include DSS, DJJ, and others. This agency would also include divisions moved from the Department of Administration OEPP including the continuum of care for emotionally disturbed children, foster care review board, and children's guardian ad litem program. The director of the child advocacy agency will be appointed by the governor with advice and consent of the senate and can be removed by the governor.

At the end - S. 805 as amended was carried over for additional testimony and possible amendments.

The Foster Care Review Board provided the Sub-Committee with amendment suggestions - not provided to the audience.

Additionally, Naomi Turpin (president of the united way though speaking personally) suggested that the sub-committee consider making the director of child advocacy independent of the governor or any single political authority. Proposed hiring and firing committee of some sort. Sub-committee is considering this suggestion.