

Tricia Long

4/11/18 Proposed Language Changes

S.261

An act relating to mitigating trauma and toxic stress during childhood by strengthening child and family resilience

Recommendation #1:

§ 3404. CHILDREN OF INCARCERATED PARENTS

The Departments for Children and Families and the Department of Corrections shall make ~~joint~~ referrals as appropriate for children of incarcerated parents to existing programs within each child's community that address childhood trauma, toxic stress, and resilience building. ~~Services shall utilize a home visiting and a multigenerational approach.~~

Recommendation #2:

Sec. 6. COORDINATED RESPONSE TO CHILDHOOD TRAUMA  
WITH JUDICIAL BRANCH

On or before January 15, 2020, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court or designee and the Agency of Human Services' Director of Prevention and Health Improvement shall jointly present an action plan to the House Committees on Health Care and on Human Services and to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare for better coordinating the Judicial and Executive Branches' approaches for preventing and mitigating childhood trauma and toxic stress and building child and family resilience, including any recommendations ~~for training needs and for legislative action. Train judges, prosecutors and defense attorneys about the alternatives to~~

the traditional justice system that are currently available. Increase use of family responsibility assessment tools to determine impacts on child(ren) prior to sentencing.

Recommendation #3:

Sec. 7. TRAUMA-INFORMED TRAINING FOR CHILD CARE

#### PROVIDERS

The Agency of Human Services' Director of Prevention and Health Improvement, in consultation with stakeholders, shall develop and implement a plan to promote access to and training on the use of trauma-informed practices that build resilience among children and students for the employees of registered and licensed family child care homes, center-based child care and preschool programs, and afterschool programs. Training shall include ongoing coaching and mentoring support for practice development. On or before January 15, 2019, the Director shall present information about the plan and its implementation to the House Committees on Health Care and on Human Services and to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare. "Trauma-informed" shall have the same meaning as in 33 V.S.A. § 3402.

Recommendation #4:

Add a new section:

#### PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

Establish a requirement for license-eligible professionals in Vermont to demonstrate competency in trauma, toxic stress and resilience in order to be granted (and renew) license to practice. This will include all licenses issued by the Office of Professional Regulation, attorneys, educators, and health providers.