CHAPTER 439

CHILDREN'S CABINET

§19131. Children's Cabinet

1. Establishment. The Children's Cabinet, referred to in this chapter as the "cabinet," is established to promote and support active, vigorous and frequent interdepartmental collaboration on children and youth policy development and program implementation supporting the provision of services for Maine families, children and youth that are planned, managed and delivered in an integrated manner to support and enhance educational opportunities, self-sufficiency, safety, economic stability, health and well-being.
[PL 2019, c. 450, §4 (AMD).]

2. Membership. The cabinet consists of the following members:

A. The Commissioner of Corrections; [PL 1999, c. 785, §3 (NEW).]

B. The Commissioner of Education; [PL 1999, c. 785, §3 (NEW).]

C. The Commissioner of Health and Human Services; [PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. A, §7 (AMD).]

D. [PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. A, §8 (RP).]

E. The Commissioner of Public Safety; [PL 2003, c. 576, §2 (AMD).]

F. The Commissioner of Labor; and [PL 2003, c. 576, §3 (NEW).]

G. At the discretion of the Governor, a member of the public, appointed by the Governor. [PL 2003, c. 576, §3 (NEW).]

[PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. A, §§7, 8 (AMD).]

3. Chair. The Governor shall appoint one of the members serving pursuant to subsection 2, paragraphs A to F to serve as chair of the cabinet. The term of the chair is one year.
[PL 2019, c. 450, §5 (AMD).]

4. Meetings. The cabinet shall meet at least 4 times per year.
[PL 2019, c. 450, §6 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1999, c. 785, §3 (NEW). PL 2001, c. 354, §3 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 576, §§1-3 (AMD). PL 2005, c. 397, §§A7,8 (AMD). PL 2019, c. 450, §§4-6 (AMD).

§19132. Duties of the cabinet

The cabinet shall collaborate to create, manage and promote coordinated policies, finances, programs and service delivery systems to support children, youth and families consistent with the purposes of this chapter. To accomplish these purposes, the cabinet shall carry out the following duties:
[PL 2019, c. 450, §7 (AMD).]

1. Regional children's cabinets. Appoint regional children's cabinets to ensure that the purposes of this chapter are implemented at the regional and local levels;
[PL 1999, c. 785, §3 (NEW).]

2. Subcommittees.
[PL 2019, c. 450, §7 (RP).]

3. Coordinated funding; collaboration. Coordinate funding, grants and budgets among the departments of the cabinet related to child, youth and family services in order to carry out the purpose

of this chapter, collaborate to share resources, remove barriers and support innovative initiatives, prevention and best practices that address health and behavioral problems in children and youth;
[PL 2019, c. 450, §7 (AMD).]

4. Data collection, planning and policy development. Determine effective data sources to allow analysis leading to integrated and innovative approaches to identified priority areas of need of the cabinet and conduct long-range planning and policy development leading to a more effective public and private service delivery system;
[PL 2019, c. 450, §7 (AMD).]

5. Coordinated service delivery.
[PL 2019, c. 450, §7 (RP).]

6. Assessment.
[PL 2019, c. 450, §7 (RP).]

7. Policy and program review. Update policies, statutes, rules and programs to ensure consistency across all departments in addressing the cabinet's priority areas;
[PL 2019, c. 450, §7 (AMD).]

8. Communication. Broadly and transparently communicate the work of the cabinet through a variety of mechanisms;
[PL 2019, c. 450, §7 (AMD).]

9. Program implementation and oversight. Initiate, implement and oversee programs, policies and services consistent with the purposes of this chapter; and
[PL 2019, c. 450, §7 (NEW).]

10. Maine Children's Cabinet Early Childhood Advisory Council. Oversee the Maine Children's Cabinet Early Childhood Advisory Council, established under section 24051, and direct a representative of the cabinet to meet at least once yearly with the Maine Children's Cabinet Early Childhood Advisory Council and consult with one or more state-designated groups representing youth issues regarding goals selected by the Maine Children's Cabinet Early Childhood Advisory Council.
[PL 2019, c. 450, §7 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1999, c. 785, §3 (NEW). PL 2019, c. 450, §7 (AMD).

§19133. Program implementation and oversight

The cabinet shall initiate, implement and oversee programs, policies and services consistent with the purposes of this chapter. [PL 2019, c. 450, §8 (AMD).]

1. Communities for Children.
[PL 2019, c. 450, §8 (RP).]

2. Effectiveness indicators.
[PL 2019, c. 450, §8 (RP).]

3. Safe homes.
[PL 2019, c. 450, §8 (RP).]

4. Civil and caring school environments.
[PL 2019, c. 450, §8 (RP).]

5. Supportive communities.
[PL 2019, c. 450, §8 (RP).]

6. Reducing suicide.
[PL 2019, c. 450, §8 (RP).]

7. Access to information and referral.
[PL 2019, c. 450, §8 (RP).]

8. Service coordination.
[PL 2019, c. 450, §8 (RP).]

9. Ensuring services.
[PL 2019, c. 450, §8 (RP).]

10. Local case review and resolution; pooled funds.
[PL 2019, c. 450, §8 (RP).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1999, c. 785, §3 (NEW). PL 2019, c. 450, §8 (AMD).

§19134. Funds

The cabinet is authorized to request, receive and pool funds from the Federal Government, any department, office or political subdivision of the State or any individual, foundation or corporation and may expend those funds for purposes that are consistent with this chapter. [PL 2019, c. 450, §9 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1999, c. 785, §3 (NEW). PL 2019, c. 450, §9 (AMD).

§19135. Annual report

The cabinet shall provide an annual report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs, the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice matters, the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. A copy of the report must be made available to the public. [PL 2005, c. 294, §14 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1999, c. 785, §3 (NEW). PL 2005, c. 294, §14 (AMD).

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