

**Alert!**

**HB5497, An Act Concerning Adoption and Subsidized Guardianship Assistance**

HB5497 is now with the Appropriations Committee for consideration. We are not predicting another public hearing at this point, but we will certainly update you if one does pop up. The Appropriation Committee has a joint favorable (JF) deadline for 4/1/08 and must find HB5497 favorable by this deadline to move on for further consideration.

**What Can You Do?**

- Contact the Appropriation Committee members with their views!
- For the Appropriation Committee's membership and contact information you can go to <http://www.cga.ct.gov/app/>.

**Background:**

HB5497 would provide a higher education tuition at an appropriate school for a child adopted through the public child welfare system in Connecticut regardless of the date the child was/is adopted. The bill would also allow the extension of a subsidy for the child until the age of 23 if the adopted child (as above) were still attending an appropriate school. The bill would also provide a higher education tuition for children in subsidized guardianship. HB5497 also includes a provision to "establish an adoption subsidy rate schedule that sets out a base amount regardless of the date the adoption was approved". To read the full text of this bill you can go to <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2008/TOB/H/2008HB-05497-R00-HB.htm>. For bill status you can go to [http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5497&which\\_year=2008](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5497&which_year=2008).

<><><><><>

**SB 159, An Act Concerning Foster Placement and Education: Please call CAFAP with your support, we would like to hear from you!**

The Connecticut Association of Foster and Adoptive Parents supports S.B. 159, An Act Concerning Foster Placement and Education and would like to hear from Foster Parents that would like to advocate for its support. We ask that you contact Wendy Sander if you are interested in supporting this bill. S.B. 159 aims to establish more school stability for foster children, allowing a foster child to stay in the school they are attending. To read the full text of this bill, you can go to <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2008/TOB/S/2008SB-00159-R00-SB.htm>. For status information on this bill you can go to [http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=159&which\\_year=2008](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=159&which_year=2008).