

## **WORKING FOR OUR CHILDREN**

## REPRESENTATIVE TAMMY EXUM

A VOICE FOR OUR KIDS AT THE STATE CAPITOL

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Scan the QR code with your smartphone to see Tammy explain this bill in detail:



State Representative Tammy Exum

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## REP. TAMMY EXUM REPORTS ON CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH BILLS

There has been a marked increase in the severity of behavioral health needs of children, believed, in part, to be exacerbated by the pandemic. The social isolation, disruption in routines, uncertainty, loss of loved ones, and other stressors have caused an increased need for mental health services for many children. Looking to fix the fractured system of mental health care for children in our state, the CT General Assembly has introduced **House Bill 5001** and **Senate Bill 2** to build a comprehensive, coordinated and sustainable behavioral health system. I have the honor and responsibility of leading the work on this very important bipartisan legislation, which:

- Expands Emergency Mobile Psychiatric Services (EMPS) to hire and train personnel, extend the geographic reach and hours of operation
- Makes CT home to more doctors and providers by appropriating funds to expand staffing for children needing mental health care
- Extends telehealth for behavioral health services

- Supports more school-based care by establishing a grant program for mental health services for children and adolescents
- Addresses the need for expanded inpatient services for children by increasing the number of available beds in hospitals
- Institutes the 9-8-8 Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Crisis Hotline



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