



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2000

LCO No. 5373

Offered by:

REP. STAPLES, 96th Dist.
REP. MATTIELLO, 65th Dist.
REP. TRUGLIA, 145th Dist.
SEN. GAFFEY, 13th Dist.
SEN. FREEDMAN, 26th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5231 File No. 525 Cal. No. 411

**"An Act Concerning A Competitive Grant Program For
Certain High School Projects."**

1 After line 8 insert the following and renumber the remaining section
2 accordingly:

3 "Sec. 2. Section 1 of substitute house bill 5737 of the current session
4 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

5 (a) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, the Commissioner of
6 Education shall provide grants, within available appropriations, to
7 local and regional boards of education that have one or more schools
8 in need of improvement on the most recent list prepared pursuant to
9 section 2 of public act 99-288. Eligible boards of education shall use
10 grant funds for costs related to the implementation of improvement
11 plans for such schools, partnership programs between such schools
12 and public libraries in the school district and actions necessary for such

13 schools to become accredited by the New England Association of
14 Schools and Colleges. An eligible board of education shall submit a
15 plan for the expenditure of grant funds, in accordance with subsection
16 (b) of this section, to the Department of Education, at such time and in
17 such manner as the commissioner prescribes.

18 (b) The plan for the expenditure of grant funds shall be approved by
19 the department, after consultation with the State Librarian for
20 purposes of the partnership programs, and shall include: (1) Methods
21 and school-based programs identified pursuant to section 2 of this act,
22 that address the specific subject areas, by grade level, in which
23 students attending the school were most deficient on the state-wide
24 mastery examinations pursuant to section 10-14n of the general
25 statutes, as amended, and (2) partnership programs with public
26 libraries in the school district that are designed to improve family
27 literacy and parent involvement. The plan may include a quality after
28 school program.

29 (c) A quality after school program shall include: (1) Criteria for
30 student participation in the program; (2) leisure activities that facilitate
31 social and cognitive development; (3) safe indoor and outdoor
32 environments; (4) trained staff skilled in child development; (5) specific
33 strategies and interventions for children with demonstrated academic
34 weaknesses to improve academic performance and reduce social
35 promotion; (6) family involvement and an assessment of
36 transportation needs for families to utilize the program; and (7)
37 program evaluation.

38 [(c)] (d) Each board of education receiving a grant pursuant to this
39 section shall set aside an amount equal to at least ten per cent of the
40 grant for partnership programs with public libraries in the school
41 district.

42 [(d)] (e) The Department of Education may retain up to one per cent
43 of the amount appropriated for purposes of this section for
44 coordination, program evaluation and administration.

45 ~~[(e)]~~ (f) No funds received pursuant to this section shall be used to
46 supplant federal, state or local funding to the local or regional board of
47 education for such schools.

48 ~~[(f)]~~ (g) Expenditure reports shall be filed with the Department of
49 Education as requested by the commissioner. School districts shall
50 refund (1) any unexpended amounts at the close of the program for
51 which the grant was awarded, and (2) any amounts not expended in
52 accordance with the approved grant application.

53 ~~[(g)]~~ (h) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, the Hartford school
54 district shall not receive grants pursuant to this section but shall use a
55 portion of the supplemental aid provided in section 35 of substitute
56 house bill 5216 of the current session to implement improvement plans
57 and partnership programs in accordance with this section."