



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 546

February Session, 2000

Substitute Senate Bill No. 285

Senate, April 12, 2000

The Committee on Appropriations reported through SEN. CRISCO of the 17th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

An Act Concerning Funding For Regional Educational Service Centers.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 10-66j of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) The State Board of Education shall encourage the formation of a
4 state-wide system of regional educational service centers and shall
5 adopt regulations with respect to standards for review and approval of
6 regional education service centers in accordance with sections 10-66a
7 and 10-66h.

8 [(b) The board of a regional educational service center may annually
9 apply to the State Board of Education for and shall thereafter receive a
10 grant in the amount of eighty-five thousand dollars.

11 (c) If in any fiscal year, the funds appropriated for purposes of
12 sections 10-66a, 10-66c, 10-66f to 10-66i, inclusive, 10-66m and this

13 section exceed the amount necessary to provide grants in accordance
 14 with subsection (b) of this section, the applicant board of a regional
 15 educational service center shall receive an additional grant in an
 16 amount equal to the product obtained by multiplying the
 17 appropriation available for the purpose of this subsection by the ratio
 18 which the sum of state aid pursuant to section 10-262h for member
 19 boards of education of the center bears to the sum of such state aid for
 20 all such boards state-wide. Each regional educational service center
 21 shall annually expend any funds appropriated in excess of three
 22 hundred twenty-five thousand dollars under this subsection to assist
 23 local and regional boards of education in implementing the
 24 educational goals and objectives specifically identified by the State
 25 Board of Education.

26 (d) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, and for each fiscal year
 27 thereafter, each regional educational service center shall be entitled to
 28 a grant in the following amount:

T1	CREC	\$263,762
T2	EDUCATION CONNECTION	90,000
T3	CES	209,393
T4	ACES	219,292
T5	LEARN	81,623
T6	EASTCONN	299,161]

29 (b) Each regional educational service center shall receive an annual
 30 grant equal to the sum of the following:

31 (1) An amount equal to fifty per cent of the total amount
 32 appropriated for purposes of this section divided by six;

33 (2) An amount equal to twenty-five per cent of such appropriation
 34 multiplied by the ratio of the number of its member boards of
 35 education to the total number of member boards of education state-
 36 wide; and

37 (3) An amount equal to twenty-five per cent of such appropriation
 38 multiplied by the ratio of the sum of state aid pursuant to section 10-
 39 262h for all of its member boards of education to the total amount of
 40 state aid pursuant to section 10-262h state-wide.

41 (c) Each regional educational service center shall annually expend at
 42 least six and one-quarter per cent of the amount received pursuant to
 43 this section to assist local and regional boards of education
 44 implementing the educational goals and objectives specifically
 45 identified by the State Board of Education.

46 (d) Within the available appropriation, no regional educational
 47 service center shall receive less aid pursuant to subsection (b) of this
 48 section than it received for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999.
 49 Amounts determined for regional educational service centers pursuant
 50 to subsection (b) of this section in excess of the amounts received for
 51 the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999, shall be reduced proportionately
 52 to implement such provision if necessary.

53 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

ED Committee Vote: Yea 31 Nay 0 JFS-LCO C/R APP
APP Committee Vote: Yea 50 Nay 0 JF

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Affected Agencies: Department of Education

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

State Impact:

This bill redistributes the \$3,297,384 appropriated to the regional education services centers in FY 01 in both versions of the budget.

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 285

AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTERS.**SUMMARY:**

This bill changes the funding for the six regional educational service centers (RESCs) from statutorily set amounts to amounts determined according to a formula. Under the bill and within available appropriations, RESCs must receive at least as much aid as they received in FY 1998-99. To implement this mandate, the bill requires aid to RESCs receiving more aid under the formula than they did in FY 1998-99 to be proportionately reduced, if necessary.

The bill requires each RESC to spend at least 6.25% of its state aid annually to help local and regional boards of education to implement educational goals and objectives identified by the State Board of Education.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2000

RESC FUNDING***Current Aid***

Under current law, each RESC receives a flat annual grant as follows:

RESC	Location	Current Grant
Capitol Region Education Council (CREC)	West Hartford	\$263,762
EDUCATION CONNECTION	Litchfield	\$90,000

RESC	Location	Current Grant
Cooperative Educational Services (CES)	Trumbull	\$209,393
Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES)	North Haven	\$219,292
LEARN	Old Lyme	\$81,623
Eastern Connecticut Regional Educational Service Center (EASTCONN)	Hampton/Willimantic	\$299,161

PROPOSED FORMULA

Under the bill, each RESC receives an annual amount equal to the sum of:

1. 50% of the total appropriation for RESCs divided by six,
2. 25% of the appropriation distributed according to the number of its member boards of education compared to the total number of RESC member boards statewide, and
3. 25% of the appropriation distributed according to the total Education Cost Sharing (ECS) aid its member boards receive compared to total statewide ECS aid.

BACKGROUND

Regional Educational Service Centers

RESCs provide a range of services for their member boards, including staff professional development activities, staff recruiting, and substitute teacher and staff criminal background check coordination. In addition, RESCs administer regional special education programs and interdistrict magnet schools and coordinate and provide

transportation for the interdistrict public school choice program.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference

Yea 31 Nay 0

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 50 Nay 0