



**AN ACT CONCERNING EYE EXAMINATIONS FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) Each local or regional board of education or  
2 similar body governing a nonpublic school shall require each child,  
3 except a child who is eligible for free or reduced price lunches  
4 pursuant to federal law and regulations, to have an eye examination  
5 before enrolling in an elementary school under its jurisdiction. If a  
6 child who is required to have an eye examination fails to obtain such  
7 an examination, the local or regional board of education may deny  
8 continued attendance in a public elementary school to such child. The  
9 examination shall include, but not be limited to, pupil evaluation,  
10 external assessment, extraocular motor evaluation, color vision  
11 evaluation, stereoacuity evaluation, refraction, binocular assessment  
12 and accommodative assessment, slit lamp evaluation, tonometry,  
13 ophthalmoscopy and visual acuity distance and near evaluation.

14 Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 10-206 of the general statutes is  
15 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

16 (b) Each local or regional board of education shall require each child  
17 to have a health assessment prior to public school enrollment. The  
18 assessment shall include: (1) A physical examination which shall  
19 include hematocrit or hemoglobin tests, height, weight and blood  
20 pressure; (2) an updating of immunizations as required under section

21 10-204a, provided a registered nurse may only update said  
22 immunizations pursuant to a written order by a physician or physician  
23 assistant, licensed pursuant to chapter 370, or an advanced practice  
24 registered nurse, licensed pursuant to chapter 378; (3) vision, except for  
25 a child who is required to have an eye examination pursuant to section  
26 1 of this act, hearing, speech and gross dental screenings; and (4) such  
27 other information, including health and developmental history, as the  
28 physician feels is necessary and appropriate. The assessment shall also  
29 include tests for tuberculosis, sickle cell anemia or Cooley's anemia  
30 and tests for lead levels in the blood where the local or regional board  
31 of education determines after consultation with the school medical  
32 advisor and the local health department, or in the case of a regional  
33 board of education, each local health department, that such tests are  
34 necessary, provided a registered nurse may only perform said tests  
35 pursuant to the written order of a physician or physician assistant,  
36 licensed pursuant to chapter 370, or an advanced practice registered  
37 nurse, licensed pursuant to chapter 378.

38 Sec. 3. Section 10-208 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
39 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

40 No provision of section 10-206, [or] 10-214 or section 1 of this act,  
41 shall be construed to require any pupil to undergo a physical or  
42 medical examination or treatment, or to be compelled to receive  
43 medical instruction, if the parent or legal guardian of such pupil or the  
44 pupil, if such pupil is an emancipated minor or is eighteen years of age  
45 or older, in writing, notifies the teacher or principal or other person in  
46 charge of such pupil that such parent or guardian or pupil objects, on  
47 religious grounds, to such physical or medical examination or  
48 treatment or medical instruction.

49 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

**ED** Joint Favorable Subst.

**PH** Joint Favorable