



**AN ACT CONCERNING A FUEL CELL PILOT PROGRAM IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.**

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

1 Section 1. (a) Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, in consultation  
2 with the Commissioner of Education, shall establish a pilot program,  
3 with funds available from the Renewable Energy Investment Fund  
4 created under subsection (c) of section 16-245n of the general statutes,  
5 as amended by this act, to evaluate the use of fuel cell technology in  
6 public schools. The program shall operate in four school districts  
7 selected by the corporation, in consultation with the commissioner,  
8 two of which shall be located in municipalities with a population forty  
9 thousand or more and two of which shall be located in municipalities  
10 with a population forty thousand or less. Two school districts shall  
11 receive fuel cell technology and two shall not receive fuel cell  
12 technology. The two school districts that do not receive the fuel cell  
13 technology shall provide baseline data which shall be used to compare  
14 the costs and benefits of fuel cell technology.

15 (b) On or before January 1, 2002, the corporation shall submit a  
16 report on the pilot program to the joint standing committee of the  
17 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce  
18 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general  
19 statutes. Such report shall include a cost benefit analysis of the  
20 application of fuel cell technology in public schools as well as

21 recommendations for legislative implementation.

22 (c) If the report determines that fuel cell technology in public  
23 schools is feasible, the school districts that did not receive fuel cell  
24 technology shall be provided with fuel cell technology.

25 Sec. 2. Subsection (c) of section 16-245n of the general statutes is  
26 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

27 (c) There is hereby created a Renewable Energy Investment Fund  
28 which shall be administered by Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated.  
29 The fund may receive any amount required by law to be deposited  
30 into the fund and may receive any federal funds as may become  
31 available to the state for renewable energy investments. Connecticut  
32 Innovations, Incorporated, may use any amount in said fund for  
33 expenditures which promote investment in renewable energy sources  
34 in accordance with a comprehensive plan developed by it to foster the  
35 growth, development and commercialization of renewable energy  
36 sources, related enterprises and stimulate demand for renewable  
37 energy and deployment of renewable energy sources which serve end  
38 use customers in this state. Such expenditures may include, but not be  
39 limited to, grants, direct or equity investments, contracts or other  
40 actions which support research, development, manufacture,  
41 commercialization, deployment and installation of renewable energy  
42 technologies, and actions which expand the expertise of individuals,  
43 businesses and lending institutions with regard to renewable energy  
44 technologies. The fund may be used for expenditures in implementing  
45 the fuel cell pilot program in public schools established in section 1 of  
46 this act.

47 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

**APP** *Joint Favorable Subst.*

**ET** *Joint Favorable*