



General Assembly

February Session, 2002

Raised Bill No. 5178

LCO No. 840

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Children

Introduced by:
(KID)

**AN ACT CONCERNING CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND CONTINUING
EDUCATION CREDITS FOR TEACHERS.**

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision (1) of subsection (l) of section 10-145b of the
2 general statutes, as amended by section 15 of public act 01-173, is
3 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
4 *1, 2002*):

5 (l) (1) For certified employees of local and regional boards of
6 education, except as provided in this subdivision, each professional
7 educator certificate shall be valid for five years and continued every
8 five years thereafter upon the successful completion of professional
9 development activities [which shall consist] consisting of not less than
10 ninety hours of continuing education, as determined by the local or
11 regional board of education in accordance with this section, or
12 documented completion of a national board certification assessment in
13 the appropriate endorsement area, during each successive five-year
14 period. (A) Such continuing education completed by certified
15 employees with an early childhood nursery through grade three or an
16 elementary endorsement who hold a position requiring such an

17 endorsement shall include at least fifteen hours of training in the
18 teaching of reading and reading readiness and assessment of reading
19 performance, including methods of teaching language skills necessary
20 for reading, reading comprehension skills, phonics and the structure of
21 the English language during each five-year period. (B) Such continuing
22 education requirement completed by certified employees with
23 elementary, middle grades or secondary academic endorsements who
24 hold a position requiring such an endorsement shall include at least
25 fifteen hours of training in the use of computers in the classroom
26 during each five-year period unless such employees are able to
27 demonstrate technology competency, in a manner determined by their
28 local or regional board of education, based on state-wide standards for
29 teacher competency in the use of technology for instructional purposes
30 adopted pursuant to section 4d-85. (C) Such continuing education
31 requirement completed by certified employees with elementary,
32 middle grades or secondary academic endorsements who hold a
33 position requiring such an endorsement shall include at least fifteen
34 hours of training in research-based child and youth development,
35 including models designed for the development of assets in children
36 and youth. (D) Such continuing education completed by (i) the
37 superintendent of schools, and (ii) employees employed in positions
38 requiring an intermediate administrator or supervisory certificate, or
39 the equivalent thereof, and whose administrative or supervisory duties
40 equal at least fifty per cent of the assigned time of such employee, shall
41 include at least fifteen hours of training in the evaluation of teachers
42 pursuant to section 10-151b during each five-year period. [(D)] (E) In
43 the case of certified employees with a bilingual education endorsement
44 who hold positions requiring such an endorsement (i) in an elementary
45 school and who do not hold an endorsement in elementary education,
46 such continuing education taken on or after July 1, 1999, shall only
47 count toward the ninety-hour requirement if it is in language arts,
48 reading and mathematics, and (ii) in a middle or secondary school and
49 who do not hold an endorsement in the subject area they teach, such
50 continuing education taken on or after July 1, 1999, shall only count

51 toward the ninety-hour requirement if it is in such subject area or
52 areas. During each five-year period in which a professional educator
53 certificate is valid, a holder of such certificate who has not completed
54 the ninety hours of continuing education required pursuant to this
55 subdivision, and who has not been employed while holding such
56 certificate by a local or regional board of education for all or part of the
57 five-year period, shall, upon application, be reissued such certificate
58 for five years minus any period of time such holder was employed
59 while holding such certificate by a local or regional board of education,
60 provided there shall be only one such reissuance during each five-year
61 period in which such certificate is valid. A certified employee of a local
62 or regional board of education who is a member of the General
63 Assembly and who has not completed the ninety hours of continuing
64 education required pursuant to this subdivision for continuation of a
65 certificate, upon application, shall be reissued a professional educator
66 certificate for a period of time equal to six months for each year the
67 employee served in the General Assembly during the previous five
68 years. Continuing education hours completed during the previous five
69 years shall be applied toward such ninety-hour requirement which
70 shall be completed during the reissuance period in order for such
71 employee to be eligible to have a certificate continued. The cost of the
72 professional development activities required under this subsection for
73 certified employees of local or regional boards of education shall be
74 shared by the state and local or regional boards of education, except
75 for those activities identified by the State Board of Education as the
76 responsibility of the certificate holder. Each local and regional board of
77 education shall make available, annually, at no cost to its certified
78 employees not fewer than eighteen hours of professional development
79 activities for continuing education credit. Such activities may be made
80 available by a board of education directly, through a regional
81 educational service center or cooperative arrangement with another
82 board of education or through arrangements with any continuing
83 education provider approved by the State Board of Education. Local
84 and regional boards of education shall grant continuing education

85 credit for professional development activities [which] that the certified
86 employees of the board of education are required to attend,
87 professional development activities offered in accordance with the
88 plan developed pursuant to subsection (b) of section 10-220a, or
89 professional development activities [which] that the board may
90 approve for any individual certified employee. Each board of
91 education shall determine the specific professional development
92 activities to be made available with the advice and assistance of the
93 teachers employed by such board, including representatives of the
94 exclusive bargaining unit for such teachers pursuant to section 10-
95 153b. The time and location for the provision of such activities shall be
96 in accordance with either an agreement between the board of
97 education and the exclusive bargaining unit pursuant to said section
98 10-153b or, in the absence of such agreement or to the extent such
99 agreement does not provide for the time and location of all such
100 activities, in accordance with a determination by the board of
101 education.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2002</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To require teachers to take fifteen hours of continuing education credits in child and youth development.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]