



General Assembly

February Session, 2002

Raised Bill No. 5500

LCO No. 1274

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 10-220a of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2002*):

4 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall provide an in-
5 service training program for its teachers, administrators and pupil
6 personnel who hold the initial educator, provisional educator or
7 professional educator certificate. Such program shall provide such
8 teachers, administrators and pupil personnel with information on (1)
9 the nature and the relationship of drugs, as defined in subdivision (17)
10 of section 21a-240, and alcohol to health and personality development,
11 and procedures for discouraging their abuse, (2) health and mental
12 health risk reduction education which includes, but need not be
13 limited to, the prevention of risk-taking behavior by children and the
14 relationship of such behavior to substance abuse, pregnancy, sexually
15 transmitted diseases, including HIV-infection and AIDS, as defined in
16 section 19a-581, violence, child abuse and youth suicide, (3) the growth

17 and development of exceptional children, including handicapped and
18 gifted and talented children and children who may require special
19 education, and methods for identifying, planning for and working
20 effectively with special needs children in a regular classroom, (4)
21 school violence prevention and conflict resolution, (5)
22 cardiopulmonary resuscitation and other emergency life saving
23 procedures, (6) computer and other information technology as applied
24 to student learning and classroom instruction, communications and
25 data management, [and] (7) the teaching of the language arts, reading
26 and reading readiness for teachers in grades kindergarten to three,
27 inclusive, and (8) second language acquisition and sheltered content
28 instructional strategies for English language learners. The State Board
29 of Education, within available appropriations and utilizing available
30 materials, shall assist and encourage local and regional boards of
31 education to include: (A) Holocaust education and awareness; (B) the
32 historical events surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (C) African-
33 American history; (D) Puerto Rican history; (E) Native American
34 history; (F) personal financial management; and (G) topics approved
35 by the state board upon the request of local or regional boards of
36 education as part of in-service training programs pursuant to this
37 subsection.

38 Sec. 2. Section 10-145a of the general statutes is amended by adding
39 subsection (f) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2002*):

40 (NEW) (f) Any candidate in a program of teacher preparation
41 leading to profession certification shall complete a course in second
42 language acquisition and sheltered content instructional strategies for
43 English language learners.

44 Sec. 3. Subsection (e) of section 10-145b of the general statutes is
45 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
46 *1, 2002*):

47 (e) In order to be eligible to obtain a provisional teaching certificate,
48 a provisional educator certificate or an initial educator certificate, each

49 person shall be required to complete a course of study in (1) special
50 education comprised of not fewer than thirty-six hours, which shall
51 include an understanding of the growth and development of
52 exceptional children, including handicapped and gifted and talented
53 children and children who may require special education, and
54 methods for identifying, planning for and working effectively with
55 special needs children in a regular classroom, and (2) second language
56 acquisition and sheltered content instructional strategies for English
57 language learners. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection,
58 [to the contrary,] each applicant for such certificates who has met all
59 requirements for certification except the completion of the course in
60 special education or the course in second language acquisition and
61 sheltered content instructional strategies for English language learners
62 shall be entitled to a certificate [(1) for a period not to exceed one year,
63 provided the applicant completed a teacher preparation program
64 either in the state prior to July 1, 1987, or outside the state, or
65 completed the necessary combination of professional experience or
66 coursework as required by the State Board of Education] (A) for a
67 period not to exceed one year, provided the applicant completed a
68 teacher preparation program outside this state or completed the
69 necessary combination of professional experience or coursework as
70 required by the State Board of Education, or completed a teacher
71 preparation program in this state (i) prior to July 1, 1987, if the
72 applicant lacks completion of the course in special education, or (ii)
73 prior to July 1, 2002, if the applicant lacks completion of the course in
74 second language acquisition and sheltered content instructional
75 strategies for English language learners, or [(2)] (B) for a period not to
76 exceed two years if the applicant applies for certification in an area for
77 which a bachelor's degree is not required.

78 Sec. 4. Subsection (e) of section 10-17f of the general statutes is
79 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
80 *1, 2002*):

81 (e) Each local and regional board of education shall hold a meeting

82 with the parents and legal guardians of eligible students to explain the
83 benefits of the language program options or other educational options
84 available in the school district, including an English language
85 immersion program. The parents and legal guardians may bring an
86 interpreter or an advisor to the meeting. If the parent or legal guardian
87 of an eligible student opts to have such student placed in a program of
88 bilingual education pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the local
89 or regional board of education shall place the child in such program.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2002</i>
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2002</i>
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2002</i>
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2002</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To require persons seeking professional educator certification to complete coursework in English as second language instruction.

[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.]