



General Assembly

**Amendment**

February Session, 2002

LCO No. 3542

\*HB0549603542HD0\*

Offered by:

REP. BEALS, 88<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. NAFIS, 27<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. BLACKWELL, 12<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. STAPLES, 96<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5496

File No. 361

Cal. No. 229

**"AN ACT CONCERNING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION."**

1 After the last section, insert the following:

2 "Sec. 8. Subsection (k) of section 10-145b of the general statutes is  
3 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
4 *1, 2002*):

5 (k) (1) Unless otherwise provided in regulations adopted under  
6 section 10-145d, in not less than three years nor more than eight years  
7 after the issuance of a provisional educator certificate pursuant to  
8 subsection (g) of this section and upon the statement of the  
9 superintendent in whose school district such certificate holder was  
10 employed, or the superintendent of a nonpublic school approved by  
11 the State Board of Education, in whose school such certificate holder  
12 was employed, that the provisional educator certificate holder and  
13 such superintendent have mutually determined or approved an

14 individual program pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (j) of this  
15 section and upon the statement of such superintendent that such  
16 certificate holder has a record of competency in the discharge of his or  
17 her duties during such provisional period, the state board upon receipt  
18 of a proper application shall issue such certificate holder a professional  
19 educator certificate. A signed recommendation from the  
20 superintendent of schools for the local or regional board of education  
21 or from the superintendent of a nonpublic school approved by the  
22 State Board of Education shall be evidence of competency. Such  
23 recommendation shall state that the person who holds or has held a  
24 provisional educator certificate has successfully completed at least  
25 three school years of satisfactory teaching for one or more local or  
26 regional boards of education or such nonpublic schools. Each applicant  
27 for a certificate pursuant to this subsection shall provide to the  
28 Department of Education, in such manner and form as prescribed by  
29 the commissioner, evidence that the applicant has successfully  
30 completed coursework pursuant to subsection (h) or (j) of this section,  
31 as appropriate.

32 (2) Upon application, a teacher from another state who has taught in  
33 such other state for a minimum of five years and is nationally board  
34 certified shall be issued a professional educator certificate with the  
35 appropriate endorsement, subject to the provisions of subsection (m) of  
36 this section relating to denial of applications for certification.

37 Sec. 9. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 10-183e of the general  
38 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
39 (*Effective July 1, 2003*):

40 (b) Any member may purchase, as provided in subsection (c) of this  
41 section, additional credited service, but [not to exceed an aggregate of  
42 one year in the case of service described in subdivision (2) of this  
43 subsection for each two years of active full-time service as a  
44 Connecticut teacher; and] not to exceed an aggregate of one year in the  
45 case of absence described in subdivision (8) of this subsection for each  
46 five years of active full-time service as a Connecticut teacher, provided

47 if any such absence exceeds thirty consecutive school months, such  
48 additional credited service shall be limited to thirty school months;  
49 and not to exceed an aggregate of ten years for all service described in  
50 this subsection, except for service described in subdivision (2) of this  
51 subsection. In no event [, however,] may any service described in this  
52 subsection be purchased if the member is receiving or is, or will  
53 become, entitled to receive a retirement benefit based upon such  
54 service from any governmental system other than the teachers'  
55 retirement system or the federal Social Security System. Additional  
56 credited service includes:

57 (1) Service as a teacher in a school for military dependents  
58 established by the United States Department of Defense;

59 (2) Service as a teacher in another state of the United States, its  
60 territories or possessions;

61 (3) Service in the armed forces of the United States in time of war, as  
62 defined in section 27-103, or service in said armed forces during the  
63 period beginning October 27, 1953, and ending January 31, 1955;

64 (4) Service in a permanent full-time position for the state;

65 (5) Service as a teacher at The University of Connecticut prior to July  
66 1, 1965;

67 (6) Service as a teacher at the Wheeler School and Library, North  
68 Stonington, prior to September 1, 1949;

69 (7) Service as a teacher at the Gilbert Home, Winsted, prior to  
70 September 1, 1948;

71 (8) Any formal leave of absence as provided in regulations adopted  
72 by the board, if the member subsequently returns to service for at least  
73 one school year;

74 (9) Service as a teacher at the American School at Hartford for the  
75 Deaf, the Connecticut Institute for the Blind or the Newington

76 Children's Hospital;

77 (10) Forty or more days of service as a substitute teacher, or the  
78 equivalent service rendered at less than half-time, in a single public  
79 school system within the state of Connecticut in any school year,  
80 provided twenty days of such service shall equal one month of  
81 credited service under subsection (a) of this section;

82 (11) Service in the armed forces of the United States, other than  
83 service described in subdivision (3) of this subsection, not to exceed  
84 thirty months;

85 (12) Service as a full-time, salaried, elected official of the state or any  
86 political subdivision of the state during the 1978 calendar year or  
87 thereafter, if such member subsequently returns to service for at least  
88 one school year;

89 (13) Service in the public schools of Connecticut as a member of the  
90 federal Teacher Corps, not to exceed two years; and

91 (14) Service in the United States Peace Corps.

92 (c) Additional credited service must be purchased (1) at the time of  
93 retirement, or (2) at the time a surviving spouse elects benefits under  
94 the provisions of subsection (d) of section 10-183h, or (3) at the time  
95 benefits commence under an optional payment form pursuant to  
96 section 10-183j. Any purchase of service shall be accomplished by the  
97 member paying to the board an amount equal to one-half of the  
98 actuarial present value or, in the case of the purchase of service  
99 described in subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section in excess of  
100 ten years, the full actuarial present value, determined according to  
101 actuarial tables adopted by the board, of the difference between the  
102 retirement benefit which the member is entitled to receive based upon  
103 his or her service apart from such purchased service and the benefit  
104 which he or she is entitled to receive including such service. Payments  
105 for additional credited service may be made in a lump sum by transfer  
106 of funds from the member's accumulated one per cent contributions

107 withheld prior to July 1, 1989, with credited interest and accumulated  
108 voluntary contributions with credited interest plus such other amounts  
109 as may be required to complete the purchase.

110 Sec. 10. Subsection (a) of section 10-183v of the general statutes is  
111 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
112 *1, 2002*):

113 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a former  
114 teacher receiving retirement benefits from the system may not be  
115 employed in a teaching position receiving compensation paid out of  
116 public money appropriated for school purposes except that such  
117 former teacher may be employed temporarily in such a position and  
118 receive no more than forty-five per cent of the [entry-level salary for  
119 the assigned subject area for such compensation] average annual  
120 salary such former teacher earned. The Commissioner of Education  
121 may waive such salary limitation, at the request of the local or regional  
122 board of education, for former teachers working in shortage areas  
123 pursuant to section 10-8b or an emergency situation as determined by  
124 the commissioner. The commissioner shall notify the board of any such  
125 waiver. Temporary employment means employment [for less than a  
126 school year] (1) under a renewable contract lasting no more than one  
127 year, and (2) for which the former teacher does not accrue credited  
128 service under the teacher retirement system. Notice of such  
129 employment shall be sent monthly to the board by the employing  
130 officials and by the retired teacher at the end of each assignment.

131 Sec. 11. Subsection (d) of section 10-145f of the general statutes is  
132 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
133 *1, 2002*):

134 (d) Any person who is first issued a certificate valid after July 1,  
135 1989, or who is reissued a certificate after July 1, 1989, shall, except as  
136 otherwise provided in this subsection, be required to achieve a  
137 satisfactory evaluation on a professional knowledge clinical  
138 assessment within two years after commencing [teaching in a public

139 school] participation in the beginning educator support and training  
140 program in order to retain the certificate. The commissioner (1) may  
141 waive the requirement that such satisfactory evaluation on a  
142 professional knowledge clinical assessment be achieved upon a  
143 determination that such assessment is not valid for the person's  
144 teaching assignment, or (2) upon a showing of good cause, may extend  
145 the time limit for the assessment [by one year] for a period of time not  
146 exceeding two years. The requirement of a clinical assessment shall not  
147 apply to any such person who has completed at least three years of  
148 successful teaching in a public school or a nonpublic school approved  
149 by the appropriate state board of education during the ten years  
150 immediately preceding the date of application or who successfully  
151 taught with a provisional teaching certificate during the year  
152 immediately preceding an application for a provisional educator  
153 certificate as an employee of a local or regional board of education or  
154 facility approved for special education by the State Board of Education.  
155 Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, [to the contrary,]  
156 the State Board of Education may reissue an initial educator certificate  
157 to a person who held such certificate and did not achieve a satisfactory  
158 evaluation on a professional knowledge clinical assessment provided  
159 the person submits evidence demonstrating significant intervening  
160 study and experience, in accordance with standards established by the  
161 State Board of Education.

162 Sec. 12. Subsection (d) of section 10-220a of the general statutes is  
163 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
164 *1, 2002*):

165 (d) The state Department of Education may fund, within available  
166 appropriations, in cooperation with one or more regional educational  
167 service centers: (1) A cooperating teacher program to train Connecticut  
168 public school teachers and certified teachers at private special  
169 education facilities approved by the Commissioner of Education and at  
170 other facilities designated by the commissioner, who participate in the  
171 supervision, training and evaluation of student teachers; (2) institutes  
172 to provide continuing education for Connecticut public school

173 educators, assessors and cooperating teachers and teacher mentors,  
174 including institutes to provide continuing education for Connecticut  
175 public school educators offered in cooperation with the Connecticut  
176 Humanities Council; and (3) a beginning teacher support and  
177 assessment program to train Connecticut public school teachers and  
178 other qualified persons approved by the Commissioner of Education  
179 and certified teachers at such private special education and other  
180 designated facilities who serve as mentors or assessors for beginning  
181 teachers and who supervise, train and assist or assess beginning  
182 teachers in their initial years in teaching and to pay stipends to  
183 assessors. Funds available under this subsection shall be paid directly  
184 to school districts for the provision of substitute teachers when  
185 cooperating teachers, teacher mentors, beginning teachers and  
186 assessors are released from regular classroom responsibilities and for  
187 the provision of professional development activities for cooperating  
188 and student teachers, teacher mentors, assessors and beginning  
189 teachers. The cooperating teacher and beginning teacher support and  
190 assessment programs shall operate in accordance with regulations  
191 which shall be adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to  
192 chapter 54. Student teachers shall be placed with trained cooperating  
193 teachers. Beginning teachers shall participate in a beginning teacher  
194 support and assessment program as made available by the board.  
195 School districts shall be responsible for providing support to beginning  
196 teachers which shall include, but not be limited to, the placement of  
197 beginning teachers with trained teacher mentors who may be full or  
198 part-time teachers in the same or a different building than the  
199 beginning teacher and provision of trained assessors to conduct  
200 assessments of beginning teachers. Cooperating teachers, teacher  
201 mentors and assessors may serve concurrently in more than one  
202 capacity and may be assigned more than one student teacher or  
203 beginning teacher in each such capacity. The assessment of each  
204 beginning teacher shall be based upon, but not limited to, data  
205 obtained from observations conducted by assessors using an  
206 assessment instrument. [Notwithstanding any regulation to the  
207 contrary, the State Board of Education may require less than six

208 observations as part of such assessment for the fiscal year ending June  
209 30, 1992, and may establish different assessment standards for use  
210 during such fiscal year. Notwithstanding any regulation to the  
211 contrary, a] A beginning teacher need not be assessed by a certified  
212 teacher who holds a certification endorsement in the same general  
213 subject area as such beginning teacher. Cooperating teachers and  
214 teacher mentors who are Connecticut public school teachers and  
215 assessors who are employed by school districts shall be selected by  
216 local and regional boards of education. Cooperating teachers and  
217 teacher mentors and assessors at such private special education and  
218 other designated facilities shall be selected by the authority responsible  
219 for the operation of such facilities. If a board of education is unable to  
220 identify a sufficient number of individuals to serve in such positions,  
221 the commissioner may select qualified persons who are not employed  
222 by the board of education to serve in such positions. Such regulations  
223 shall require primary consideration of teachers' classroom experience  
224 and recognized success as educators. The provisions of sections 10-  
225 153a to 10-153n, inclusive, as amended, shall not be applicable to the  
226 selection, placement and compensation of persons participating in the  
227 cooperating teacher and beginning teacher support and assessment  
228 programs pursuant to the provisions of this section and to the hours  
229 and duties of such persons. The State Board of Education shall protect  
230 and save harmless, in accordance with the provisions of section 10-235,  
231 any cooperating teacher, teacher mentor or assessor while serving in  
232 such capacity.

233 Sec. 13. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2002*) The Department of Higher  
234 Education shall collaborate with the Department of Education, the  
235 regional community-technical colleges and four-year institutions of  
236 higher education that offer teacher preparation programs, to design  
237 programs to allow community-technical college students who are  
238 interested in pursuing teaching careers to enter teacher preparation  
239 programs at four-year institutions upon completion of their  
240 community-technical college programs. Under the programs, a student  
241 shall be jointly accepted for admission by the community-technical

242 college and the four-year institution, provided actual admission to the  
243 four-year institution shall be subject to successful completion of the  
244 community-technical college program. The programs shall include a  
245 counseling component.

246 Sec. 14. Subsection (c) of section 10-145f of the general statutes is  
247 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
248 *1, 2002*):

249 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section and section 10-  
250 145b, as amended, the following persons shall be eligible for a  
251 nonrenewable temporary certificate: (1) A person who has resided in a  
252 state other than Connecticut during the year immediately preceding  
253 application for certification in Connecticut and meets the requirements  
254 for certification, excluding successful completion of the competency  
255 examination and subject matter assessment, if such person holds  
256 current teacher certification in a state other than Connecticut and has  
257 completed at least one year of successful teaching in another state in a  
258 public school or a nonpublic school approved by the appropriate state  
259 board of education, (2) a person who has graduated from a teacher  
260 preparation program at a college or university outside of the state and  
261 regionally accredited, and meets the requirements for certification,  
262 excluding successful completion of the competency examination and  
263 subject matter assessment, [and] (3) a person hired by a charter school  
264 after July first in any school year for a teaching position that school  
265 year, provided the person hired after said date could reasonably be  
266 expected to complete the requirements prescribed in subparagraphs  
267 (B) and (C) of subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 10-145b, by  
268 the commencement of the school year following the school year in  
269 which such person held such temporary certificate, and (4) a person  
270 hired to teach in a subject or geographic shortage area pursuant to  
271 section 10-8b who (A) has successfully completed the competency  
272 examination or has achieved a combined score of one thousand or  
273 more on a Scholastic Aptitude Test administered on or before March  
274 31, 1995, or a combined score of eleven hundred or more on a  
275 Scholastic Aptitude Test administered on or after April 1, 1995, and (B)

276 has five years of successful teaching experience in a related subject  
277 area, (i) in this state in a nonpublic school approved by the Department  
278 of Education, (ii) in another state in a public school or a nonpublic  
279 school approved by the appropriate state board of education, (iii) at a  
280 public or private institution of higher education accredited by the  
281 Department of Higher Education, or (iv) at a public or private  
282 institution of higher education in another state that is regionally  
283 accredited. The nonrenewable temporary certificate shall be valid for  
284 one year from the date it is issued. Any board of education employing  
285 a person who holds a nonrenewable temporary certificate issued  
286 pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (2) of this subsection shall  
287 provide a program to assist each such person who has not successfully  
288 completed the competency examination by January fifteenth of the  
289 school year in which such certificate was issued. Said program,  
290 developed in consultation with the [state] Department of Education,  
291 shall include academic and classroom support service components.  
292 Each such person who does not successfully complete said  
293 examination by said January fifteenth shall participate in said  
294 program.

295       Sec. 15. (*Effective from passage*) The Teachers' Retirement Board  
296 pursuant to section 10-1831 of the general statutes, as amended, shall  
297 study the feasibility and cost of establishing an optional alternate  
298 retirement system for teachers, as defined in section 10-183b of the  
299 general statutes, who are first hired on or after July 1, 2003, by any  
300 school district in this state and are employed for an average of at least  
301 one-half of each school day. The board may consider a plan similar to  
302 that developed for eligible unclassified employees of the constituent  
303 units of the state system of higher education and the central office staff  
304 of the Department of Higher Education pursuant to subsection (c) of  
305 section 5-155a of the general statutes or any other portable plan that  
306 includes matching contributions by the state. Not later than January 1,  
307 2003, the Teachers' Retirement Board shall report its findings and  
308 recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General  
309 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education."