



General Assembly

February Session, 2002

Amendment

LCO No. 5066

SB0004305066SR0

Offered by:

SEN. GENUARIO, 25th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 43

File No. 500

Cal. No. 333

**"AN ACT CONCERNING AUTHORIZATION OF STATE GRANT
COMMITMENTS FOR SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS."**

1 After section 15, insert the following:

2 "Sec. 16. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2002*) Any municipality may, by
3 resolution passed by its legislative body, and subject to the collective
4 bargaining provisions of chapter 166 of the general statutes, elect to
5 establish a retirement system for teachers employed in the public
6 schools of the municipality. The effective date of participation shall be
7 at least ninety days subsequent to the receipt by the Teachers'
8 Retirement Commission of the certified copy of such resolution. The
9 Retirement Commission shall furnish to any municipality
10 contemplating acceptance of this part, at the expense of such
11 municipality, an estimate of the probable cost to such municipality of
12 such acceptance as to any department or departments thereof. Upon
13 the request of any member of the Teachers' Retirement System eligible
14 to participate in such a municipal retirement system, the commission
15 shall refund his or her mandatory and voluntary contributions with

16 credited interest. Any municipality establishing a retirement system
17 pursuant to this section may contract with a Connecticut financial
18 institution, including, but not limited to, a bank or insurance company
19 for purposes of administration of the system.

20 Sec. 17. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2002*) In cooperation with the
21 Department of Higher Education, The University of Connecticut and
22 the Connecticut State University system shall develop and implement
23 initiatives that address Connecticut's teacher shortage areas as
24 identified by said department, and increase the enrollment and
25 graduation of minority teacher and urban school teacher candidates.
26 Initiatives shall include: (1) Expansion of admissions and graduation in
27 shortage fields by at least ten per cent for the duration of identified
28 shortages; (2) guaranteed admission programs that fully articulate
29 pathways for community college students to enter without loss of
30 credit into university teacher preparation programs in shortage areas;
31 (3) strengthening mathematics and science instruction in elementary
32 education programs, and (4) increase retention and graduation of
33 minority and urban school teacher candidates. These proposals shall
34 be implemented within existing budgetary resources. Not later than
35 January 1, 2003, and annually thereafter, the Department of Higher
36 Education shall report to the joint standing committees of the General
37 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and
38 appropriations concerning the use of higher education resources
39 dedicated to addressing the state's teacher shortage, and progress in
40 meeting the directives of this section."