



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 501**

January Session, 2003

Substitute House Bill No. 6691

*House of Representatives, April 23, 2003*

The Committee on Education reported through REP. GIANNAROS of the 21st Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT CONCERNING TECHNICAL REVISIONS TO THE EDUCATION STATUTES.**

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 10-76g of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
3 *passage*):

4 (a) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1984, and each fiscal year  
5 thereafter, in any case in which special education is being provided at  
6 a private residential institution, including the residential components  
7 of regional educational service centers, to a child for whom no local or  
8 regional board of education can be found responsible under subsection  
9 (b) of section 10-76d, the Department of Children and Families shall  
10 pay the costs of special education to such institution pursuant to its  
11 authority under sections 17a-1 to 17a-26, inclusive, 17a-28 to 17a-50,  
12 inclusive, and 17a-52. (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, and  
13 each fiscal year thereafter, any local or regional board of education

14 which provides special education and related services for any child (A)  
15 who is placed by a state agency in a private residential facility or who  
16 is placed in a facility or institution operated by the Department of  
17 Children and Families and who receives such special education at a  
18 program operated by a regional education service center or program  
19 operated by a local or regional board of education, and (B) for whom  
20 no local or regional board of education can be found responsible under  
21 subsection (b) of section 10-76d, shall be eligible to receive one  
22 hundred per cent of the reasonable costs of special education for such  
23 child as defined in the regulations of the State Board of Education. Any  
24 such board eligible for payment shall file with the [state] Department  
25 of Education, in such manner as prescribed by the Commissioner of  
26 Education, annually, on or before December first a statement of the  
27 cost of providing special education for such child, provided a board of  
28 education may submit, not later than February first, claims for  
29 additional children or costs not included in the December filing.  
30 Payment by the state for such costs shall be made to the local or  
31 regional board of education as follows: Seventy-five per cent of the  
32 cost in February and the balance in April.

33 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 10-4h of the general statutes is  
34 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
35 *passage*):

36 (a) The [state] Department of Education, in consultation with the  
37 Commission for Educational Technology, shall establish a competitive  
38 grant program, within the limit of the bond authorization for purposes  
39 of this section, to assist (1) local and regional school districts, (2)  
40 regional educational service centers, (3) cooperative arrangements  
41 among one or more boards of education, and (4) endowed academies  
42 approved pursuant to section 10-34 that are eligible for school building  
43 project grants pursuant to chapter 173, to upgrade or install wiring,  
44 including electrical wiring, cable or other distribution systems and  
45 infrastructure improvements to support telecommunications and other  
46 information transmission equipment to be used for educational  
47 purposes.

48 Sec. 3. Section 10-5a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
49 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

50 The [state] Department of Education shall, within available  
51 appropriations, assist and encourage local and regional boards of  
52 education to use and integrate educational technology in the courses  
53 required for high school graduation pursuant to section 10-221a in  
54 order to promote proficiency in the use of educational technology by  
55 each student who graduates from high school.

56 Sec. 4. Section 10-20f of the general statutes is repealed and the  
57 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

58 The [state] Department of Education may retain up to one per cent  
59 of the amount appropriated for programs established pursuant to  
60 section 10-20a for purposes of administration and coordination,  
61 technical assistance, information dissemination and program  
62 evaluation.

63 Sec. 5. Section 10-28b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
64 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

65 The [state] Department of Education shall (1) provide information  
66 and technical assistance to local and regional boards of education  
67 regarding the involvement of volunteers and other partners, including  
68 parents and representatives from business and the community, in  
69 public school programs and activities, (2) designate an employee of the  
70 department as state-wide school volunteer coordinator, and (3) not  
71 later than January 15, 1991, in consultation with the Connecticut  
72 Association of Partners in Education, Inc., develop a state plan to  
73 encourage, enhance and support the involvement of school volunteers  
74 and other partners in education and submit such plan to the joint  
75 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
76 matters relating to education. The provisions of this section shall be  
77 carried out within the limits of available appropriations.

78 Sec. 6. Subsection (a) of section 10-66n of the general statutes is

79 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
80 *passage*):

81 (a) The [state] Department of Education shall establish a grant  
82 program in each fiscal year in which funds are appropriated to identify  
83 and disseminate information regarding exemplary classroom projects.

84 Sec. 7. Subsection (h) of section 10-66bb of the general statutes is  
85 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
86 *passage*):

87 (h) The Commissioner of Education may at any time place a charter  
88 school on probation if (1) the school has failed to (A) adequately  
89 demonstrate student progress, as determined by the commissioner, (B)  
90 comply with the terms of its charter or with applicable laws and  
91 regulations, (C) achieve measurable progress in reducing racial, ethnic  
92 and economic isolation, or (D) maintain its nonsectarian status, or (2)  
93 the governing council has demonstrated an inability to provide  
94 effective leadership to oversee the operation of the charter school or  
95 has not ensured that public funds are expended prudently or in a  
96 manner required by law. If a charter school is placed on probation, the  
97 commissioner shall provide written notice to the charter school of the  
98 reasons for such placement, not later than five days after the  
99 placement, and shall require the charter school to file with the  
100 [department] Department of Education a corrective action plan  
101 acceptable to the commissioner not later than thirty-five days from the  
102 date of such placement. The charter school shall implement a  
103 corrective action plan accepted by the commissioner not later than  
104 thirty days after the date of such acceptance. The commissioner may  
105 impose any additional terms of probation on the school that the  
106 commissioner deems necessary to protect the educational or financial  
107 interests of the state. The charter school shall comply with any such  
108 additional terms not later than thirty days after the date of their  
109 imposition. The commissioner shall determine the length of time of the  
110 probationary period, which may be up to one year, provided the  
111 commissioner may extend such period, for up to one additional year, if

112 the commissioner deems it necessary. In the event that the charter  
113 school does not file or implement the corrective action plan within the  
114 required time period or does not comply with any additional terms  
115 within the required time period, the Commissioner of Education may  
116 withhold grant funds from the school until the plan is fully  
117 implemented or the school complies with the terms of probation,  
118 provided the commissioner may extend the time period for such  
119 implementation and compliance for good cause shown. Whenever a  
120 charter school is placed on probation, the commissioner shall notify the  
121 parents or guardians of students attending the school of the  
122 probationary status of the school and the reasons for such status.  
123 During the term of probation, the commissioner may require the  
124 school to file interim reports concerning any matter the commissioner  
125 deems relevant to the probationary status of the school, including  
126 financial reports or statements. No charter school on probation may  
127 increase its student enrollment or engage in the recruitment of new  
128 students without the consent of the commissioner.

129 Sec. 8. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 10-71 of the  
130 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
131 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

132 (1) The percentage of the eligible costs for adult education a local  
133 board of education shall receive, under the provisions of this section,  
134 shall be determined as follows: (A) Each town shall be ranked in  
135 descending order from one to one hundred sixty-nine according to  
136 such town's adjusted equalized net grand list per capita, as defined in  
137 section 10-261. [;] (B) [based] Based upon such ranking, a percentage of  
138 not less than zero nor more than sixty-five shall be determined for each  
139 town on a continuous scale, except that the percentage for a priority  
140 school district pursuant to section 10-266p shall not be less than  
141 twenty. Any such percentage shall be increased by seven and one-half  
142 percentage points but shall not exceed sixty-five per cent for any local  
143 board of education which provides basic adult education programs for  
144 adults at facilities operated by or within the general administrative  
145 control and supervision of the Department of Mental Health and

146 Addiction Services, provided such adults reside at such facilities. Any  
147 such percentage shall be increased by one and one-half percentage  
148 points but shall not exceed sixty-five per cent for any local board of  
149 education which served four thousand or more students who were  
150 enrolled at least twelve hours in the fiscal year two years prior to the  
151 year of the grant and whose ratio of students served in the fiscal year  
152 two years prior to the year of the grant to persons in the town who  
153 were twenty-five years of age or older and did not have a high school  
154 diploma according to the most recent federal decennial census is  
155 greater than fifteen one-hundredths. (C) Notwithstanding the  
156 provisions of subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, any local board of  
157 education which served two thousand or more students who were  
158 enrolled at least twelve hours in the fiscal year two years prior to the  
159 year of the grant shall receive a grant in the amount determined  
160 pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision or the amount  
161 obtained by multiplying the number of such students served in the  
162 fiscal year two years prior to the year of the grant by twenty-five,  
163 whichever is greater.

164 Sec. 9. Subsection (b) of section 10-71 of the general statutes is  
165 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
166 *passage*):

167 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (6) of section 10-  
168 67<sub>2</sub> [to the contrary,] a local or regional board of education or regional  
169 educational service center shall be eligible to receive an amount to be  
170 paid pursuant to the provisions of subsection (c) of this section. The  
171 amount shall equal the eligible expenditures from funds received from  
172 private sources by the local or regional board of education, regional  
173 educational service center or cooperating eligible entity multiplied by  
174 the appropriate percentage, as determined under subsection (a) of this  
175 section, provided such amount shall not exceed twenty per cent of the  
176 amount received by the local or regional board of education or  
177 regional educational service center pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
178 section for the previous fiscal year. For payments from private sources  
179 to be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to this subsection, (1) based

180 upon estimated eligible costs approved by the [state] Department of  
181 Education, the eligible expenditures from local taxes in a fiscal year  
182 shall not be less than seventy per cent of the eligible expenditures from  
183 local taxes for the previous fiscal year, and (2) the local or regional  
184 board of education, regional educational service center or cooperating  
185 eligible entity shall provide, not later than a date to be determined by  
186 the Commissioner of Education, evidence satisfactory to the  
187 commissioner of a written commitment of a payment from a private  
188 source. Evidence of actual payment shall be submitted to the  
189 commissioner not later than a date established by the commissioner.  
190 Upon receipt by a board of education or regional educational service  
191 center of state funds pursuant to this subsection attributable to  
192 expenditures of a cooperating eligible entity, the board or center shall  
193 provide for the distribution of such funds to the cooperating eligible  
194 entity for the provision of adult education programs and services  
195 pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 10-69.

196 Sec. 10. Subsection (a) of section 10-76g of the general statutes is  
197 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
198 *passage*):

199 (a) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1984, and each fiscal year  
200 thereafter, in any case in which special education is being provided at  
201 a private residential institution, including the residential components  
202 of regional educational service centers, to a child for whom no local or  
203 regional board of education can be found responsible under subsection  
204 (b) of section 10-76d, the Department of Children and Families shall  
205 pay the costs of special education to such institution pursuant to its  
206 authority under sections 17a-1 to 17a-26, inclusive, 17a-28 to 17a-50,  
207 inclusive, and 17a-52. (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, and  
208 each fiscal year thereafter, any local or regional board of education  
209 which provides special education and related services for any child (A)  
210 who is placed by a state agency in a private residential facility or who  
211 is placed in a facility or institution operated by the Department of  
212 Children and Families and who receives such special education at a  
213 program operated by a regional education service center or program

214 operated by a local or regional board of education, and (B) for whom  
215 no local or regional board of education can be found responsible under  
216 subsection (b) of section 10-76d, shall be eligible to receive one  
217 hundred per cent of the reasonable costs of special education for such  
218 child as defined in the regulations of the State Board of Education. Any  
219 such board eligible for payment shall file with the [state] Department  
220 of Education, in such manner as prescribed by the Commissioner of  
221 Education, annually, on or before December first a statement of the  
222 cost of providing special education for such child, provided a board of  
223 education may submit, not later than February first, claims for  
224 additional children or costs not included in the December filing.  
225 Payment by the state for such costs shall be made to the local or  
226 regional board of education as follows: Seventy-five per cent of the  
227 cost in February and the balance in April.

228 Sec. 11. Section 10-76h of the general statutes is repealed and the  
229 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

230 (a) (1) A parent or guardian of a child requiring special education  
231 and related services pursuant to sections 10-76a to 10-76g, inclusive, a  
232 pupil if such pupil is an emancipated minor or eighteen years of age or  
233 older requiring such services, a surrogate parent appointed pursuant  
234 to section 10-94g, or the Commissioner of Children and Families, or a  
235 designee of said commissioner, on behalf of any such child in the  
236 custody of said commissioner, may request, in writing, a hearing of the  
237 local or regional board of education or the unified school district  
238 responsible for providing such services whenever such board or  
239 district proposes or refuses to initiate or change the identification,  
240 evaluation or educational placement of or the provision of a free  
241 appropriate public education to such child or pupil, provided no issue  
242 may be raised at such hearing unless it was raised at a planning and  
243 placement team meeting for such child or pupil and provided further,  
244 nothing in this subsection shall be construed to limit the right of such  
245 parent, guardian, emancipated minor or surrogate parent to initiate a  
246 planning and placement team meeting at any time. The local or  
247 regional board of education or the unified school district shall, not later

248 than seven calendar days after receipt of a request for a hearing, notify  
249 the [state] Department of Education of such request. The local or  
250 regional board of education or the unified school district responsible  
251 for providing special education and related services for a child or pupil  
252 requiring such services under sections 10-76a to 10-76g, inclusive, may  
253 request, upon written notice to the parent or guardian of such child,  
254 the pupil if such pupil is an emancipated minor or is eighteen years of  
255 age or older, the surrogate parent appointed pursuant to section 10-  
256 94g, or the Commissioner of Children and Families, or a designee of  
257 said commissioner, on behalf of any such child or pupil in the custody  
258 of said commissioner, a hearing concerning the decision of the  
259 planning and placement team established pursuant to section 10-76d,  
260 whenever such board or district proposes or refuses to initiate or  
261 change the identification, evaluation or educational placement of or  
262 the provision of a free appropriate public education placement to such  
263 child or pupil, including, but not limited to, refusal of the parent or  
264 guardian, pupil if such pupil is an emancipated minor or is eighteen  
265 years of age or older or the surrogate parent appointed pursuant to  
266 section 10-94g, to give consent for preplacement evaluation or initial  
267 placement in special education or the withdrawal of such consent,  
268 provided no issue may be raised at such hearing unless it was raised at  
269 a planning and placement team meeting for such child or pupil and  
270 provided further, nothing in this subsection shall be construed to limit  
271 the right of such board or district to initiate a planning and placement  
272 team meeting. In the event a planning and placement team proposes  
273 private placement for a child or pupil who requires or may require  
274 special education and related services and the parent, guardian, pupil  
275 if such pupil is an emancipated minor or is eighteen years of age or  
276 older or surrogate parent appointed pursuant to section 10-94g  
277 withholds or revokes consent for such placement, the local or regional  
278 board of education shall request a hearing in accordance with this  
279 section and may request mediation pursuant to subsection (f) of this  
280 section. For purposes of this section, a "local or regional board of  
281 education or unified school district" includes any public agency which  
282 is responsible for the provision of special education and related

283 services to children requiring special education and related services.

284 (2) The request for a hearing shall contain a statement of the specific  
285 issues in dispute.

286 (3) A party shall have two years to request a hearing from the time  
287 the board of education proposed or refused to initiate or change the  
288 identification, evaluation or educational placement or the provision of  
289 a free appropriate public education placement to such child or pupil  
290 provided, if such parent, guardian, pupil or surrogate parent is not  
291 given notice of the procedural safeguards, in accordance with  
292 regulations adopted by the State Board of Education, including notice  
293 of the limitations contained in this section, such two-year limitation  
294 shall be calculated from the time notice of the safeguards is properly  
295 given.

296 (b) Upon receipt of a written request for a special education hearing  
297 made in accordance with subsection (a) of this section, the [state]  
298 Department of Education shall schedule a hearing which shall be held  
299 and the decision written and mailed within forty-five days of the  
300 receipt of the request for the hearing. An extension of the forty-five-  
301 day time limit may be granted by the hearing officer at the request of  
302 either party to the hearing.

303 (c) (1) The [state] Department of Education shall, upon receipt of a  
304 request for a special education hearing made in accordance with  
305 subsection (a) of this section, appoint an impartial hearing officer or  
306 hearing board. The [state] Department of Education shall provide  
307 training to hearing officers in administrative hearing procedures,  
308 including due process, and in the special educational needs of  
309 children. Hearing officers and members of hearing boards shall not be  
310 employees of the [state] Department of Education or any local or  
311 regional board of education, unified school district or public agency  
312 involved in the education or care of the child. A person who is paid to  
313 serve as a hearing officer is not deemed to be an employee of the [state]  
314 Department of Education. No person who participated in the previous  
315 identification, evaluation or educational placement of or the provision

316 of a free appropriate public education to the child or pupil nor any  
317 member of the board of education of the school district under review,  
318 shall be a hearing officer or a member of a hearing board.

319 (2) Both parties shall participate in a prehearing conference, at least  
320 ten days prior to the date the hearing is scheduled to commence, to  
321 resolve the issues in dispute, if possible and narrow the scope of the  
322 issues. Each party to the hearing shall disclose, not later than five  
323 business days prior to the date the hearing commences, (A)  
324 documentary evidence such party plans to present at the hearing and a  
325 list of witnesses such party plans to call at the hearing, and (B) all  
326 completed evaluations and recommendations based on the offering  
327 party's evaluations that the party intends to use at the hearing. Except  
328 for good cause shown, the hearing officer shall limit each party to such  
329 documentary evidence and witnesses as were properly disclosed and  
330 are relevant to the issues in dispute. A hearing officer may bar any  
331 party who fails to comply with the requirements concerning disclosure  
332 of evaluations and recommendations from introducing any  
333 undisclosed evaluation or recommendation at the hearing without the  
334 consent of the other party.

335 (3) The hearing officer or board shall hear testimony relevant to the  
336 issues in dispute offered by the party requesting the hearing and any  
337 other party directly involved, and may hear any additional testimony  
338 the hearing officer or board deems relevant. The hearing officer or  
339 board may require a complete and independent evaluation or  
340 prescription of educational programs by qualified persons, the cost of  
341 which shall be paid by the board of education or the unified school  
342 district. The hearing officer or board shall cause all formal sessions of  
343 the hearing and review to be recorded in order to provide a verbatim  
344 record.

345 (d) (1) The hearing officer or board shall have the authority to  
346 confirm, modify, or reject the identification, evaluation or educational  
347 placement of or the provision of a free appropriate public education to  
348 the child or pupil, to determine the appropriateness of an educational

349 placement where the parent or guardian of a child requiring special  
350 education or the pupil if such pupil is an emancipated minor or  
351 eighteen years of age or older, has placed the child or pupil in a  
352 program other than that prescribed by the planning and placement  
353 team, or to prescribe alternate special educational programs for the  
354 child or pupil. In the case where a parent or guardian, or pupil if such  
355 pupil is an emancipated minor or is eighteen years of age or older, or a  
356 surrogate parent appointed pursuant to section 10-94g, has refused  
357 consent for evaluation or placement in special education, the hearing  
358 officer or board may order special education evaluation or placement  
359 without the consent of such parent, guardian, pupil or surrogate  
360 parent except that if the parent, guardian, pupil or surrogate parent  
361 appeals such decision pursuant to subdivision (4) of this subsection,  
362 the child or pupil may not be evaluated or placed pending the  
363 disposition of the appeal. The hearing officer or board shall inform the  
364 parent or guardian, or the emancipated minor or pupil eighteen years  
365 of age or older, or the surrogate parent appointed pursuant to section  
366 10-94g, or the Commissioner of Children and Families, as the case may  
367 be, and the board of education of the school district or the unified  
368 school district of the decision in writing and mail such decision within  
369 forty-five days after receipt by the board of the request for a hearing  
370 made in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) of this section  
371 except that a hearing officer or board may grant specific extensions of  
372 such forty-five-day period in order to comply with the provisions of  
373 subsection (b) of this section. The hearing officer may include in his  
374 decision a comment on the conduct of the proceedings. The findings of  
375 fact, conclusions of law and decision shall be written without  
376 personally identifiable information concerning such child or pupil, so  
377 that such decisions may be available for public inspections pursuant to  
378 sections 4-167 and 4-180a.

379 (2) If the local or regional board of education or the unified school  
380 district responsible for providing special education for such child or  
381 pupil requiring special education does not take action on the findings  
382 or prescription of the hearing officer or board within fifteen days after  
383 receipt thereof, the State Board of Education shall take appropriate

384 action to enforce the findings or prescriptions of the hearing officer or  
385 board. Such action may include application to the Superior Court for  
386 injunctive relief to compel such local or regional board or school  
387 district to implement the findings or prescription of the hearing officer  
388 or board without the necessity of establishing irreparable harm or  
389 inadequate remedy at law.

390 (3) If the hearing officer or board upholds the local or regional board  
391 of education or the unified school district responsible for providing  
392 special education and related services for such child or pupil who  
393 requires or may require special education on the issue of evaluation or  
394 placement, such board or district may evaluate or provide such  
395 services to the child or pupil without the consent of the parent or  
396 guardian, pupil if such pupil is an emancipated minor or is eighteen  
397 years of age or older, or the surrogate parent appointed pursuant to  
398 section 10-94g, subject to an appeal pursuant to subdivision (4) of this  
399 subsection.

400 (4) Appeals from the decision of the hearing officer or board shall be  
401 taken in the manner set forth in section 4-183, except, upon application  
402 made to the court to present evidence at the hearing on such appeal,  
403 the court, after reviewing the record of the proceedings of the hearing  
404 officer or board, may grant such application if, after a hearing and the  
405 presentation of oral argument on such application, the court finds (A)  
406 that the record does not contain a complete transcript of the entire  
407 proceedings and of the evidence presented before said hearing officer  
408 or board, or (B) that the taking of evidence is necessary for the  
409 equitable disposition of the appeal, or (C) probable cause to believe  
410 that reliable, probative and substantial evidence was overlooked or  
411 ignored by the findings and conclusions of said hearing officer or  
412 board. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 4-183, such appeal  
413 shall be taken to the judicial district wherein the child or pupil resides.  
414 In the event of an appeal, upon request and at the expense of the State  
415 Board of Education, said board shall supply a copy of the transcript of  
416 the formal sessions of the hearing officer or board to the parent or  
417 guardian or the emancipated minor or pupil eighteen years of age or

418 older or surrogate parent or said commissioner and to the board of  
419 education of the school district or the unified school district.

420 (e) Hearing officers and members of the hearing board shall be paid  
421 reasonable fees and expenses as established by the State Board of  
422 Education.

423 (f) (1) In lieu of proceeding directly to a hearing, pursuant to  
424 subsection (a) of this section, the parties may agree in writing to  
425 request the Commissioner of Education to appoint a state mediator.  
426 Upon the receipt of a written request for mediation, signed by both  
427 parties, the commissioner shall appoint a mediator knowledgeable in  
428 the fields and areas significant to the review of the special educational  
429 needs of the child or pupil. The mediator shall attempt to resolve the  
430 issues in a manner which is acceptable to the parties within thirty days  
431 from the request for mediation. The mediator shall certify in writing to  
432 the [state] Department of Education and to the parties, within the  
433 thirty-day period, whether the mediation was successful or  
434 unsuccessful.

435 (2) If the dispute is not resolved through mediation, either party  
436 may proceed to a hearing.

437 Sec. 12. Section 10-76t of the general statutes is repealed and the  
438 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

439 As used in sections 10-76u to 10-76x, inclusive, "department" means  
440 the [state] Department of Education and "mental health professionals"  
441 include guidance counselors, school social workers, school  
442 psychologists, school nurses and child mental health specialists in  
443 community mental health centers and child guidance clinics.

444 Sec. 13. Subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of section 10-145f of the  
445 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
446 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

447 (3) (A) On and after July 1, 1992, any teacher who held a valid  
448 teaching certificate but whose certificate lapsed and who had

449 completed all requirements for the issuance of a new certificate  
450 pursuant to section 10-145b, except for filing an application for such  
451 certificate, prior to the date on which the lapse occurred, may file,  
452 within one year of the date on which the lapse occurred, an application  
453 with the Commissioner of Education for the issuance of such  
454 certificate. Upon the filing of such an application, the commissioner  
455 may grant such certificate and such certificate shall be retroactive to  
456 the date on which the lapse occurred, provided the commissioner finds  
457 that the lapse of the certificate occurred as a result of a hardship or  
458 extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the applicant. If such  
459 teacher has attained tenure and is reemployed by the same board of  
460 education in any equivalent unfilled position for which the person is  
461 qualified as a result of the issuance of a certificate pursuant to this  
462 subdivision, the lapse period shall not constitute a break in  
463 employment for such person reemployed and shall be used for the  
464 purpose of calculating continuous employment pursuant to section 10-  
465 151. If such teacher has not attained tenure, the time unemployed due  
466 to the lapse of a certificate shall not be counted toward tenure, except  
467 that if such teacher is reemployed by the same board of education as a  
468 result of the issuance of a certificate pursuant to this subdivision, such  
469 teacher may count the previous continuous employment immediately  
470 prior to the lapse towards tenure. Using information provided by the  
471 Teachers' Retirement Board, the [state] Department of Education shall  
472 annually notify each local or regional board of education of the name  
473 of each teacher employed by such board of education whose  
474 provisional certificate will expire during the period of twelve months  
475 following such notice. Upon receipt of such notice the superintendent  
476 of each local and regional board of education shall notify each such  
477 teacher in writing, at such teacher's last known address, that the  
478 teacher's provisional certificate will expire. (B) Notwithstanding the  
479 provisions of this subdivision to the contrary, for any teacher  
480 employed by a local or regional board of education or on authorized  
481 leave from such a board of education, during the 1987-1988 school  
482 year, (i) whose teaching certificate lapsed on or after January 15, 1988,  
483 (ii) who successfully completed the competency examination in

484 accordance with the provisions of this section subsequent to the date  
485 on which the lapse occurred, (iii) whose teaching certificate was  
486 reissued subsequent to the date on which the lapse occurred, and (iv)  
487 who was reemployed by the same board of education during the 1988-  
488 1989 school year, such lapse period shall not constitute a break in  
489 employment for such teacher and shall be used for the purpose of  
490 calculating continuous employment pursuant to section 10-151.

491 Sec. 14. Subsection (c) of section 10-145f of the general statutes is  
492 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
493 *passage*):

494 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section and section 10-  
495 145b, the following persons shall be eligible for a nonrenewable  
496 temporary certificate: (1) A person who has resided in a state other  
497 than Connecticut during the year immediately preceding application  
498 for certification in Connecticut and meets the requirements for  
499 certification, excluding successful completion of the competency  
500 examination and subject matter assessment, if such person holds  
501 current teacher certification in a state other than Connecticut and has  
502 completed at least one year of successful teaching in another state in a  
503 public school or a nonpublic school approved by the appropriate state  
504 board of education, (2) a person who has graduated from a teacher  
505 preparation program at a college or university outside of the state and  
506 regionally accredited, and meets the requirements for certification,  
507 excluding successful completion of the competency examination and  
508 subject matter assessment, and (3) a person hired by a charter school  
509 after July first in any school year for a teaching position that school  
510 year, provided the person hired after said date could reasonably be  
511 expected to complete the requirements prescribed in subparagraphs  
512 (B) and (C) of subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 10-145b, by  
513 the commencement of the school year following the school year in  
514 which such person held such temporary certificate. The nonrenewable  
515 temporary certificate shall be valid for one year from the date it is  
516 issued. Any board of education employing a person who holds a  
517 nonrenewable temporary certificate issued pursuant to the provisions

518 of subdivision (2) of this subsection shall provide a program to assist  
519 each such person who has not successfully completed the competency  
520 examination by January fifteenth of the school year in which such  
521 certificate was issued. Said program, developed in consultation with  
522 the [state] Department of Education, shall include academic and  
523 classroom support service components. Each such person who does  
524 not successfully complete said examination by said January fifteenth  
525 shall participate in said program.

526 Sec. 15. Section 10-202f of the general statutes is repealed and the  
527 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

528 (a) Consistent with the policy adopted pursuant to section 10-202e,  
529 the [state] Department of Education shall establish a student dropout  
530 prevention grant program, in each fiscal year in which funds are  
531 appropriated, to assist local and regional school districts with the  
532 greatest need in decreasing the number of students dropping out of  
533 school and increasing the state-wide graduation rate. Local and  
534 regional school districts shall use the grants to conduct needs  
535 assessments, implement or expand innovative programs, evaluate  
536 existing efforts or implement other activities specified in a project plan  
537 developed pursuant to subsection (d) of this section.

538 (b) The Commissioner of Education shall identify the eligibility  
539 criteria for participation in the program annually, on or before January  
540 fifteenth, except that in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1988, the  
541 identification shall be made on or before August fifteenth. Eligibility  
542 criteria shall include, but not be limited to, graduation rates and  
543 educational need.

544 (c) The [state] Department of Education shall identify each local or  
545 regional school district eligible to participate in the program. Such  
546 identification shall be done annually, on or before March fifteenth,  
547 except that in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1988, the identification  
548 shall be made on or before September fifteenth. Grant recipients shall  
549 be selected from those school districts so identified. Such identification  
550 shall not constitute a grant entitlement.

551 (d) School districts which have been identified pursuant to  
552 subsection (c) of this section may annually submit grant proposals to  
553 the Commissioner of Education at such time and in such manner as the  
554 commissioner prescribes. Each proposal shall be based on a three-year  
555 project plan, shall include, but not be limited to, project goals,  
556 objectives, evaluation strategies, staff assignments and a budget which  
557 shall identify local funding and other available resources for the three-  
558 year period and may include programs or services which are provided  
559 through written agreements with nonprofit organizations or private  
560 employers or programs or services which are provided to children of  
561 school age who are not attending school in order to promote their  
562 return to school.

563 (e) Within the availability of funds, the commissioner shall  
564 determine whether to authorize a grant award to a local or regional  
565 board of education upon receipt of a grant proposal pursuant to  
566 subsection (d) of this section and shall determine the amount of any  
567 such grant. Such authorization shall be made on or before September  
568 fifteenth of each fiscal year in which payment is to be made, except  
569 that in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1988, the authorization shall be  
570 made on or before November fifteenth. The amount of the award shall  
571 be based upon criteria including, but not limited to, district enrollment,  
572 relative wealth and the proposal submitted pursuant to subsection (d)  
573 of this section. Of the total amount appropriated in each fiscal year for  
574 the purposes of this section, the [state] Department of Education (1)  
575 may set aside not more than five per cent to provide administrative  
576 assistance relating to the implementation of this section, and (2) shall  
577 set aside five per cent for competitive grants for local and regional  
578 boards of education not eligible to participate in the program pursuant  
579 to subsection (c) of this section. The time-lines for identifying the  
580 eligibility criteria for such competitive grants, for identifying school  
581 districts eligible for such grants, for submitting proposals and for  
582 authorizing grant awards shall conform to the respective timelines  
583 described in this subsection and subsections (b) to (d), inclusive, of this  
584 section.

585 (f) Each local or regional board of education participating in the  
586 grant program shall prepare a financial statement of expenditures and  
587 an annual project report. The report shall describe the project activities  
588 and the degree to which the project met its goals and objectives. Such  
589 financial statements and reports shall be submitted to the department  
590 on or before September first of the fiscal year immediately following  
591 each fiscal year in which the school district participates in the grant  
592 program. On or before December thirty-first of the fiscal year  
593 following the fiscal year in which payment is received, each local or  
594 regional board of education which receives a grant pursuant to this  
595 section shall file with the commissioner a financial audit in such form  
596 as the commissioner prescribes. If the commissioner finds that any  
597 such grant is being used for purposes which are not in conformity with  
598 the purposes of this section, the commissioner may require repayment  
599 of the grant to the state. Not later than February 15, 1990, the State  
600 Board of Education shall report to the committees of the General  
601 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and  
602 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies concerning the  
603 operation and effectiveness of the program funded under this section.

604 Sec. 16. Subsections (c) and (d) of section 10-220a of the general  
605 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
606 (*Effective from passage*):

607 (c) The [state] Department of Education, in cooperation with one or  
608 more regional educational service centers, is authorized to provide  
609 institutes annually for Connecticut educators. Such institutes shall  
610 serve as model programs of professional development and shall be  
611 taught by exemplary Connecticut teachers and administrators and by  
612 other qualified individuals as selected by the [state] Department of  
613 Education. The Department of Education shall charge fees for  
614 attending such institutes provided such fees shall be based on the  
615 actual cost of such institutes.

616 (d) The [state] Department of Education may fund, within available  
617 appropriations, in cooperation with one or more regional educational

618 service centers: (1) A cooperating teacher program to train Connecticut  
619 public school teachers and certified teachers at private special  
620 education facilities approved by the Commissioner of Education and at  
621 other facilities designated by the commissioner, who participate in the  
622 supervision, training and evaluation of student teachers; (2) institutes  
623 to provide continuing education for Connecticut public school  
624 educators, assessors and cooperating teachers and teacher mentors,  
625 including institutes to provide continuing education for Connecticut  
626 public school educators offered in cooperation with the Connecticut  
627 Humanities Council; and (3) a beginning teacher support and  
628 assessment program to train Connecticut public school teachers and  
629 other qualified persons approved by the Commissioner of Education  
630 and certified teachers at such private special education and other  
631 designated facilities who serve as mentors or assessors for beginning  
632 teachers and who supervise, train and assist or assess beginning  
633 teachers in their initial years in teaching and to pay stipends to  
634 assessors. Funds available under this subsection shall be paid directly  
635 to school districts for the provision of substitute teachers when  
636 cooperating teachers, teacher mentors, beginning teachers and  
637 assessors are released from regular classroom responsibilities and for  
638 the provision of professional development activities for cooperating  
639 and student teachers, teacher mentors, assessors and beginning  
640 teachers. The cooperating teacher and beginning teacher support and  
641 assessment programs shall operate in accordance with regulations  
642 which shall be adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to  
643 chapter 54. Student teachers shall be placed with trained cooperating  
644 teachers. Beginning teachers shall participate in a beginning teacher  
645 support and assessment program as made available by the board.  
646 School districts shall be responsible for providing support to beginning  
647 teachers which shall include, but not be limited to, the placement of  
648 beginning teachers with trained teacher mentors who may be full or  
649 part-time teachers in the same or a different building than the  
650 beginning teacher and provision of trained assessors to conduct  
651 assessments of beginning teachers. Cooperating teachers, teacher  
652 mentors and assessors may serve concurrently in more than one

653 capacity and may be assigned more than one student teacher or  
654 beginning teacher in each such capacity. The assessment of each  
655 beginning teacher shall be based upon, but not limited to, data  
656 obtained from observations conducted by assessors using an  
657 assessment instrument. Notwithstanding any regulation to the  
658 contrary, the State Board of Education may require less than six  
659 observations as part of such assessment for the fiscal year ending June  
660 30, 1992, and may establish different assessment standards for use  
661 during such fiscal year. Notwithstanding any regulation to the  
662 contrary, a beginning teacher need not be assessed by a certified  
663 teacher who holds a certification endorsement in the same general  
664 subject area as such beginning teacher. Cooperating teachers and  
665 teacher mentors who are Connecticut public school teachers and  
666 assessors who are employed by school districts shall be selected by  
667 local and regional boards of education. Cooperating teachers and  
668 teacher mentors and assessors at such private special education and  
669 other designated facilities shall be selected by the authority responsible  
670 for the operation of such facilities. If a board of education is unable to  
671 identify a sufficient number of individuals to serve in such positions,  
672 the commissioner may select qualified persons who are not employed  
673 by the board of education to serve in such positions. Such regulations  
674 shall require primary consideration of teachers' classroom experience  
675 and recognized success as educators. The provisions of sections 10-  
676 153a to 10-153n, inclusive, shall not be applicable to the selection,  
677 placement and compensation of persons participating in the  
678 cooperating teacher and beginning teacher support and assessment  
679 programs pursuant to the provisions of this section and to the hours  
680 and duties of such persons. The State Board of Education shall protect  
681 and save harmless, in accordance with the provisions of section 10-235,  
682 any cooperating teacher, teacher mentor or assessor while serving in  
683 such capacity.

684       Sec. 17. Subsection (b) of section 10-221 of the general statutes is  
685 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
686 *passage*):

687 (b) Not later than July 1, 1985, each local and regional board of  
688 education shall develop, adopt and implement written policies  
689 concerning homework, attendance, promotion and retention. The  
690 [state] Department of Education shall make available model policies  
691 and guidelines to assist local and regional boards of education in  
692 meeting the responsibilities enumerated in this subsection.

693 Sec. 18. Section 10-227 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
694 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

695 Each board of education shall cause the superintendent to make  
696 returns not later than September first of each year to the Commissioner  
697 of Education of the receipts, expenditures and statistics, as prescribed  
698 by the commissioner, provided each such board may submit revisions  
699 to the returns in such form and with such documentation as required  
700 by the commissioner no later than December thirty-first of each year  
701 following the September submission. Such reports or returns required  
702 shall be made in accordance with the instructions furnished by the  
703 commissioner, shall be certified no later than December thirty-first of  
704 each year by the independent public accountant selected pursuant to  
705 section 7-392 for the purpose of auditing municipal accounts, and shall  
706 be subject to [state] Department of Education verification. If the returns  
707 and statistics and revisions called for by said commissioner are not  
708 sent on or before the days specified in this section or if the returns are  
709 not certified as required by the commissioner on or before December  
710 thirty-first, each local and regional board of education required by law  
711 to make separate returns, whose returns and statistics or revisions are  
712 delayed until after those days, shall forfeit of the total sum which is  
713 paid for such board of education from the State Treasurer an amount  
714 to be determined by the State Board of Education, which amount shall  
715 be not less than one thousand dollars nor more than ten thousand  
716 dollars. The amount so forfeited shall be withheld from a subsequent  
717 grant payment as determined by the commissioner. Notwithstanding  
718 the penalty provision of this section, the Commissioner of Education  
719 may waive said forfeiture for good cause.

720 Sec. 19. Subsection (b) of section 10-260a of the general statutes is  
721 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
722 *passage*):

723 (b) The [state] Department of Education shall submit to the Auditors  
724 of Public Accounts for review any proposed changes in the procedures  
725 manual [which] that would alter the method of calculating educational  
726 equalization grants.

727 Sec. 20. Subdivision (3) of section 10-261 of the general statutes is  
728 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
729 *passage*):

730 (3) "Net current expenditures" means total current educational  
731 expenditures, less expenditures for (A) pupil transportation; (B) capital  
732 expenditures for land, buildings, equipment otherwise supported by a  
733 state grant pursuant to chapter 173 and debt service, provided that,  
734 with respect to debt service, commencing with the fiscal year ending  
735 June 30, 1987, the principal amount of any debt incurred to pay an  
736 expense otherwise includable in net current expenditures may be  
737 included as part of net current expenditures in annual installments in  
738 accordance with a schedule approved by the [state] Department of  
739 Education based upon substantially equal principal payments over the  
740 life of the debt; (C) adult education; (D) health and welfare services for  
741 nonpublic school children; (E) all tuition received on account of  
742 nonresident pupils; (F) food services directly attributable to state and  
743 federal aid for child nutrition and to receipts derived from the  
744 operation of such services; and (G) student activities directly  
745 attributable to receipts derived from the operation of such services,  
746 except that the town of Woodstock may include as part of the current  
747 expenses of its public schools for each school year the amount  
748 expended for current expenses in that year by Woodstock Academy  
749 from income from its endowment funds upon receipt from said  
750 academy of a certified statement of such current expenses, and except  
751 that the town of Winchester may include as part of the current  
752 expenses of its public schools for each school year the amount

753 expended for current expenses in that year by The Gilbert School from  
754 income from its endowment funds upon receipt from said school of a  
755 certified statement of such current expenses.

756 Sec. 21. Subdivision (16) of section 10-262f of the general statutes is  
757 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
758 *passage*):

759 (16) "Mastery test data of record" for any examination year means  
760 the data of record on the April thirtieth subsequent to the  
761 administration of the examinations pursuant to subsections (a) and (b)  
762 of section 10-14n, except that for the examination years prior to July 1,  
763 1988, the date of the data of record shall be April 30, 1988, and  
764 provided beginning with the administration of such examinations  
765 during the 1988-1989 school year, and for each such administration  
766 thereafter, school districts may, not later than the March first following  
767 the administration of an examination, file a request with the [state]  
768 Department of Education for an adjustment of the mastery test data  
769 from such examination.

770 Sec. 22. Subdivision (20) of section 10-262f of the general statutes is  
771 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
772 *passage*):

773 (20) "Regular program expenditures" means (A) total current  
774 educational expenditures less (B) expenditures for (i) special education  
775 programs pursuant to subsection (h) of section 10-76f, (ii) pupil  
776 transportation eligible for reimbursement pursuant to section 10-266m,  
777 (iii) land and capital building expenditures, and equipment otherwise  
778 supported by a state grant pursuant to chapter 173, including debt  
779 service, provided, with respect to debt service, the principal amount of  
780 any debt incurred to pay an expense otherwise includable in regular  
781 program expenditures may be included as part of regular program  
782 expenditures in annual installments in accordance with a schedule  
783 approved by the [state] Department of Education based upon  
784 substantially equal principal payments over the life of the debt, (iv)  
785 health services for nonpublic school children, (v) adult education, (C)

786 expenditures directly attributable to (i) state grants received by or on  
787 behalf of school districts except grants for the categories of  
788 expenditures listed in subparagraphs (B)(i) to (B)(v), inclusive, of this  
789 subdivision and except grants received pursuant to section 10-262i and  
790 section 10-262c of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to  
791 January 1, 1987, and except grants received pursuant to chapter 173,  
792 (ii) federal grants received by or on behalf of school districts except for  
793 adult education and federal impact aid, and (iii) receipts from the  
794 operation of child nutrition services and student activities services, (D)  
795 expenditures of funds from private and other sources, and (E) tuition  
796 received on account of nonresident students. The town of Woodstock  
797 may include as part of the current expenses of its public schools for  
798 each school year the amount expended for current expenses in that  
799 year by Woodstock Academy from income from its endowment funds  
800 upon receipt from said academy of a certified statement of such  
801 current expenses. The town of Winchester may include as part of the  
802 current expenses of its public school for each school year the amount  
803 expended for current expenses in that year by the Gilbert School from  
804 income from its endowment funds upon receipt from said school of a  
805 certified statement of such current expenses.

806 Sec. 23. Subsection (e) of section 10-262j of the general statutes is  
807 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
808 *passage*):

809 (e) Upon a determination by the State Board of Education that a  
810 town or kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, regional school  
811 district failed in any fiscal year to meet its minimum expenditure  
812 requirement pursuant to subsection (a), (c), (d) or (f), as appropriate, of  
813 this section, the town or kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive,  
814 regional school district shall forfeit an amount equal to two times the  
815 difference between said minimum expenditure requirement and the  
816 town's or kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, regional school  
817 district's actual regular program expenditures. The amount so forfeited  
818 shall be withheld by the [state] Department of Education from the  
819 grant payable to the town in the second fiscal year immediately

820 following such failure by deducting such amount from the town's  
821 equalization aid grant payment pursuant to section 10-262i, except that  
822 in the case of a kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, regional school  
823 district, the amount so forfeited shall be withheld by the [state]  
824 Department of Education from the grants payable pursuant to said  
825 section 10-262i to the towns which are members of such regional  
826 school district. The amounts deducted from such grants to each  
827 member town shall be proportional to the number of resident students  
828 in each member town. Notwithstanding the provisions of this  
829 subsection, the State Board of Education may waive such forfeiture  
830 upon agreement with the town or kindergarten to grade twelve,  
831 inclusive, regional school district that the town or kindergarten to  
832 grade twelve, inclusive, regional school district shall exceed its  
833 minimum expenditure requirement during the fiscal year in which the  
834 forfeiture would occur by an amount not less than the amount of said  
835 forfeiture. Any additional funds expended pursuant to such an  
836 agreement shall not be included in a district's expenditures for the  
837 purpose of establishing any future minimum expenditure requirement.

838 Sec. 24. Subsection (c) of section 10-264i of the general statutes is  
839 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
840 *passage*):

841 (c) Each local and regional board of education, regional educational  
842 service center and cooperative arrangement participating in the grant  
843 program shall prepare a financial statement of expenditures which  
844 shall be submitted to the Department of Education on or before  
845 September first of the fiscal year immediately following each fiscal  
846 year in which the school district, regional educational service center or  
847 cooperative arrangement participates in the grant program. Based on  
848 such statement, any underpayment or overpayment may be calculated  
849 and adjusted by the [state] Department of Education in the grant for  
850 any subsequent year.

851 Sec. 25. Subsection (a) of section 10-266u of the general statutes is  
852 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*

853 *passage*):

854 (a) The [state] Department of Education shall retain up to two and  
855 one-half per cent of the amount appropriated for purposes of section  
856 10-266t for state-wide technical assistance, program monitoring and  
857 evaluation, and administration.

858 Sec. 26. Subsection (c) of section 10-266w of the general statutes is  
859 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
860 *passage*):

861 (c) Within the limits of available funds, the amount to which each  
862 eligible local or regional board of education is entitled for each fiscal  
863 year under this section shall be the sum of (1) three thousand dollars  
864 for each severe need school in the school district which provides a  
865 school breakfast program prorated per one hundred eighty days of the  
866 school year; and (2) ten cents per breakfast served in each severe need  
867 school. If the amount due eligible boards of education exceeds the  
868 amount of funds available, the grants calculated under subdivision (2)  
869 of this subsection shall be reduced proportionately. In each fiscal year,  
870 grants calculated under subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be paid  
871 in October, and grants calculated under subdivision (2) of this  
872 subsection shall be paid in equal installments in January and May.  
873 Based on verification of the data used to calculate such grants, any  
874 underpayment or overpayment may be calculated and adjusted by the  
875 [state] Department of Education in any subsequent year's grant.

876 Sec. 27. Subsection (a) of section 10-283 of the general statutes is  
877 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
878 *passage*):

879 (a) (1) Each town or regional school district shall be eligible to apply  
880 for and accept grants for a school building project as provided in this  
881 chapter. Any town desiring a grant for a public school building project  
882 may, by vote of its legislative body, authorize the board of education of  
883 such town to apply to the Commissioner of Education and to accept or  
884 reject such grant for the town. Any regional school board may vote to

885 authorize the supervising agent of the regional school district to apply  
886 to the Commissioner of Education for and to accept or reject such grant  
887 for the district. Applications for such grants under this chapter shall be  
888 made by the superintendent of schools of such town or regional school  
889 district on the form provided and in the manner prescribed by the  
890 Commissioner of Education. The application form shall require the  
891 superintendent of schools to affirm that the school district considered  
892 the maximization of natural light in projects for new construction and  
893 alteration or renovation of a school building. Grant applications for  
894 school building projects shall be reviewed by the Commissioner of  
895 Education on the basis of categories for building projects and  
896 standards for school construction established by the State Board of  
897 Education in accordance with this section, provided grant applications  
898 submitted for purposes of subsection (a) of section 10-65 or section 10-  
899 76e shall be reviewed annually by the commissioner on the basis of the  
900 educational needs of the applicant.

901 (2) Each school building project shall be assigned to a category on  
902 the basis of whether such project is primarily required to: (A) Create  
903 new facilities or alter existing facilities to provide for mandatory  
904 instructional programs pursuant to this chapter, for physical education  
905 facilities in compliance with Title IX of the Elementary and Secondary  
906 Education Act of 1972 where such programs or such compliance  
907 cannot be provided within existing facilities or for the correction of  
908 code violations which cannot be reasonably addressed within existing  
909 program space; (B) create new facilities or alter existing facilities to  
910 enhance mandatory instructional programs pursuant to this chapter or  
911 provide comparable facilities among schools to all students at the same  
912 grade level or levels within the school district unless such project is  
913 otherwise explicitly included in another category pursuant to this  
914 section; and (C) create new facilities or alter existing facilities to  
915 provide supportive services, provided in no event shall such  
916 supportive services include swimming pools, auditoriums, outdoor  
917 athletic facilities, tennis courts, elementary school playgrounds, site  
918 improvement or garages or storage, parking or general recreation  
919 areas. All applications submitted prior to the first day of July in any

920 year shall be reviewed promptly by the commissioner and the amount  
921 of the grant for which such project is eligible shall be estimated. The  
922 commissioner shall annually prepare a listing of all such eligible school  
923 building projects listed by category together with the amount of the  
924 estimated grants therefor and shall submit the same to the Governor  
925 and the General Assembly on or before the fifteenth day of December,  
926 except as provided in section 10-283a, with a request for authorization  
927 to enter into grant commitments. Each such listing submitted after  
928 December 1995 shall include a separate schedule of authorized projects  
929 which have changed in scope or cost to a degree determined by the  
930 commissioner. The percentage determined pursuant to section 10-285a  
931 at the time a school building project on such schedule was originally  
932 authorized shall be used for purposes of the grant for such project. The  
933 General Assembly shall annually authorize the commissioner to enter  
934 into grant commitments on behalf of the state in accordance with the  
935 commissioner's categorized listing for such projects as the General  
936 Assembly shall determine. The commissioner may not enter into any  
937 such grant commitments except pursuant to such legislative  
938 authorization. Any regional school district which assumes the  
939 responsibility for completion of a public school building project shall  
940 be eligible for a grant pursuant to subdivision (5) or (6), as the case  
941 may be, of subsection (a) of section 10-286, when such project is  
942 completed and accepted by such regional school district.

943 (3) (A) All final calculations completed by the [department]  
944 Department of Education for school building projects authorized on or  
945 after July 1, 1996, shall include a computation of the state grant for the  
946 school building project amortized on a straight line basis over a  
947 twenty-year period for school building projects with costs equal to or  
948 greater than two million dollars and over a ten-year period for school  
949 building projects with costs less than two million dollars. Any town or  
950 regional school district which abandons, sells, leases, demolishes or  
951 otherwise redirects the use of such a school building project to other  
952 than a public school use during such amortization period shall refund  
953 to the state the unamortized balance of the state grant remaining as of  
954 the date the abandonment, sale, lease, demolition or redirection occurs.

955 The amortization period for a project shall begin on the date the project  
956 was accepted as complete by the local or regional board of education.  
957 A town or regional school district required to make a refund to the  
958 state pursuant to this subdivision may request forgiveness of such  
959 refund if the building is redirected for public use. The department  
960 shall include as an addendum to the annual school construction  
961 priority list all those towns requesting forgiveness. General Assembly  
962 approval of the priority list containing such request shall constitute  
963 approval of such request. This subdivision shall not apply to projects  
964 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section or projects subject to the  
965 provisions of section 10-285c.

966 (B) Any moneys refunded to the state pursuant to subparagraph (A)  
967 of this subdivision shall be deposited in the state's tax-exempt  
968 proceeds fund and used within sixty days of repayment to pay debt  
969 service on, including redemption, defeasance or purchase of,  
970 outstanding bonds of the state the interest on which is not included in  
971 gross income pursuant to Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of  
972 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the  
973 United States, as from time to time amended.

974 Sec. 28. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 10-286 of the  
975 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
976 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

977 (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1984, and each fiscal year  
978 thereafter, in the case of a new school plant, an extension of an existing  
979 school building or projects involving the major alteration of any  
980 existing building to be used for school purposes, the eligible  
981 percentage, as determined in section 10-285a, of the result of  
982 multiplying together the number representing the highest projected  
983 enrollment, based on data acceptable to the Commissioner of  
984 Education, for such building during the eight-year period from the  
985 date a local or regional board of education files a notification of a  
986 proposed school building project with the [state] Department of  
987 Education, the number of gross square feet per pupil determined by

988 the Commissioner of Education to be adequate for the kind of  
989 educational program or programs intended, and the eligible cost of  
990 such project, divided by the gross square feet of such building, or the  
991 eligible percentage, as determined in section 10-285a, of the eligible  
992 cost of such project, whichever is less, provided, (A) any such project  
993 on which construction was started prior to July 1, 1975, shall be  
994 reimbursed under the formula in effect prior to said date, (B) any such  
995 project on which construction or payments under this chapter were  
996 started after June 30, 1975, but prior to July 31, 1983, shall be  
997 reimbursed based upon the data, submitted for each such project and  
998 accepted by the [state] Department of Education during said period,  
999 representing the number of pupils the plant was designed to  
1000 accommodate, (C) any project for which final grant calculation has  
1001 been made after June 30, 1975, but prior to July 31, 1983, shall be  
1002 reimbursed based upon such final calculation, and (D) any such project  
1003 for which estimated grant payments were begun prior to July 31, 1983,  
1004 shall be reimbursed based upon the calculation formula used in  
1005 making such estimated grant payments.

1006 Sec. 29. Subsection (d) of section 10-287 of the general statutes is  
1007 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
1008 *passage*):

1009 (d) Each town or regional school district shall submit a final grant  
1010 application to the [state] Department of Education within one year  
1011 from the date of completion and acceptance of the building project by  
1012 the town or regional school district. If a town or regional school district  
1013 fails to submit a final grant application within said period of time, the  
1014 commissioner may withhold ten per cent of the state reimbursement  
1015 for such project.

1016 Sec. 30. Section 10-291 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1017 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1018 No school building project for which state assistance is sought shall  
1019 be undertaken except according to a plan and on a site approved by  
1020 the [state] Department of Education, the town or regional board of

1021 education and by the building committee of such town or district. No  
1022 such school building project shall be undertaken at an expense  
1023 exceeding the sum which the town or regional district may  
1024 appropriate for the project. In the case of a school building project  
1025 financed in whole or in part by an energy conservation lease purchase  
1026 agreement, the expense of the project shall not exceed the sum which  
1027 the town or regional school district approved for the project. A copy of  
1028 final plans and specifications for each phase of site development and  
1029 construction of all school building projects and for each phase thereof  
1030 including site development shall be filed with the Commissioner of  
1031 Education subject to the provisions of section 10-292 before the start of  
1032 such phase of development or construction shall be begun. A town or  
1033 regional school district may commence a phase of development or  
1034 construction before completion of final plans and specifications for the  
1035 whole project provided a copy of the latest preliminary plan and cost  
1036 estimate for such project which has been approved by the town or  
1037 regional board of education and by the building committee shall be  
1038 submitted with the final plans and specifications for such phase. Any  
1039 board of education which, prior to the approval of a grant commitment  
1040 by the General Assembly, commences any portion of a school  
1041 construction project or causes any such project to be let out for bid,  
1042 shall not be eligible for a school construction grant until a grant  
1043 commitment is so approved.

1044 Sec. 31. Subsection (b) of section 10-292 of the general statutes is  
1045 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
1046 *passage*):

1047 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,  
1048 a town or regional school district may submit final plans and  
1049 specifications for oil tank replacement, roof replacement, asbestos  
1050 abatement, code violation, energy conservation, network wiring  
1051 projects or projects for which state assistance is not sought, to the local  
1052 officials having jurisdiction over such matters for review and written  
1053 approval. The total costs for an asbestos abatement, code violation,  
1054 energy conservation, or network wiring project eligible for review and

1055 approval under this subsection shall not exceed one million dollars.  
1056 Except for projects for which state assistance is not sought and projects  
1057 for which the town or regional school district is using a state contract  
1058 pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, no school building project  
1059 described in this subsection shall go out for bidding purposes prior to  
1060 the receipt and acceptance by the [state] Department of Education of  
1061 such written approval.

1062 Sec. 32. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 10-292h of the general  
1063 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
1064 (*Effective from passage*):

1065 (a) For school building projects authorized by the General Assembly  
1066 prior to July 1, 1996, and for projects pursuant to subsection (b) of  
1067 section 10-283 for which application was made prior to July 1, 1997,  
1068 any incorporated or endowed high school or academy approved by the  
1069 State Board of Education pursuant to section 10-34 may apply and be  
1070 eligible subsequently to be considered for interest subsidy grant  
1071 commitments from the state pursuant to sections 10-292c to 10-292n,  
1072 inclusive. Applications pursuant to this subsection shall be filed at  
1073 such time and on such forms as the [state] Department of Education  
1074 prescribes. The Commissioner of Education shall approve such  
1075 applications pursuant to the provisions of section 10-292f deemed  
1076 applicable by the [state] Department of Education.

1077 (b) The amount of any interest subsidy grant approved by said  
1078 commissioner under this section shall be computed pursuant to the  
1079 provisions of section 10-292i. Grant payments shall be made in  
1080 accordance with sections 10-292c to 10-292n, inclusive, as deemed  
1081 applicable by the [state] Department of Education.

1082 Sec. 33. Subsection (a) of section 10-263e of the general statutes is  
1083 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
1084 *passage*):

1085 (a) The Department of Education shall establish, within available  
1086 appropriations, a competitive safe learning grant program to assist

1087 school districts in (1) developing a school environment where children  
1088 learn in safety without fear of physical or verbal harm or intimidation,  
1089 (2) activities that encourage respect for each student, (3) decreasing  
1090 early youth aggression, (4) establishing student conflict and  
1091 intervention policies and strategies, (5) eliminating bullying behaviors  
1092 among students, (6) extending safe school environment programs to  
1093 extracurricular activities, (7) after school programs, [as described in  
1094 subsection (c) of section 10-223c,] and (8) the development of crisis and  
1095 violence prevention policies and strategies which make school  
1096 environments safe. Each local and regional board of education may  
1097 apply for a grant at such time and in such manner as the  
1098 Commissioner of Education prescribes.

1099 Sec. 34. Subsection (a) of section 10-95i of the general statutes is  
1100 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
1101 *passage*):

1102 (a) Not later than January 1, 1990, and every five years thereafter,  
1103 the State Board of Education shall adopt a long-range plan of priorities  
1104 and goals for the regional vocational-technical school system. The plan  
1105 shall address coordination with other providers of vocational,  
1106 technical or technological education or training and shall include (1) an  
1107 analysis of the activities described in subsections (b) and (c) of this  
1108 section and how such activities relate to the long-range plan of  
1109 priorities and goals, and (2) a summary of activities related to capital  
1110 improvements [, and (2)] and equipment pursuant to subsection (d) of  
1111 this section. Upon adoption of the plan, the state board shall file the  
1112 plan with the joint standing committees of the General Assembly  
1113 having cognizance of matters relating to education, finance, revenue  
1114 and bonding and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies. The  
1115 state board shall use the plan in preparing its five-year comprehensive  
1116 plan pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-4.

1117 Sec. 35. Subsection (a) of section 10-266p of the general statutes is  
1118 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
1119 *passage*):

1120 (a) The State Board of Education shall administer a priority school  
1121 district grant program to assist certain school districts to improve  
1122 student achievement and enhance educational opportunities. The  
1123 grant program shall include the priority school district portions of the  
1124 grant programs established pursuant to sections 10-16p, 10-265f, 10-  
1125 265m and 10-266t. The grant program and its component parts shall be  
1126 for school districts in (1) the eight towns in the state with the largest  
1127 population, based on the most recent federal decennial census, (2)  
1128 towns which rank for the first fiscal year of each biennium from one to  
1129 eleven when all towns are ranked in descending order from one to one  
1130 hundred sixty-nine based on the number of children under the  
1131 temporary family assistance program, as defined in subdivision (17) of  
1132 section 10-262f, plus the mastery count of the town, as defined in  
1133 subdivision [(9)] (13) of [said] section 10-262f, and (3) towns which  
1134 rank for the first fiscal year of each biennium one to eleven when all  
1135 towns are ranked in descending order from one to one hundred sixty-  
1136 nine based on the ratio of the number of children under the temporary  
1137 family assistance program as so defined to the resident students of  
1138 such town, as defined in subdivision [(19)] (22) of [said] section 10-  
1139 262f, plus the grant mastery percentage of the town, as defined in  
1140 subdivision [(8)] (12) of [said] section 10-262f. The State Board of  
1141 Education shall utilize the categorical grant program established under  
1142 this section and sections 10-266q and 10-266r and other educational  
1143 resources of the state to work cooperatively with such school districts  
1144 during any school year to improve their educational programs or to  
1145 provide early childhood education or early reading intervention  
1146 programs. The component parts of the grant shall be allocated  
1147 according to the provisions of sections 10-16p, 10-265f, 10-265m and  
1148 10-266t. Subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of section 10-276a,  
1149 the State Board of Education shall allocate one million dollars to each  
1150 of the eight towns described in subdivision (1) of this subsection and  
1151 five hundred thousand dollars to each of the towns described in  
1152 subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection, except the towns described  
1153 in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not receive any additional  
1154 allocation if they are also described in subdivision (2) or (3) of this

1155 subsection.

1156 Sec. 36. Subsection (c) of section 10-264l of the general statutes is  
1157 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
1158 *passage*):

1159 (c) (1) The maximum amount each interdistrict magnet school  
1160 program shall be eligible to receive per enrolled student shall be  
1161 determined as follows: (A) For each participating district whose  
1162 magnet school program enrollment is equal to or less than thirty per  
1163 cent of the magnet school program total enrollment, ninety per cent of  
1164 the foundation as defined in subdivision [(7)] (9) of section 10-262f; (B)  
1165 for each participating district whose magnet school program  
1166 enrollment is greater than thirty per cent but less than or equal to sixty  
1167 per cent of the magnet school program total enrollment, a percentage  
1168 between sixty and ninety per cent of said foundation that is inversely  
1169 proportional to the percentage of magnet school program students  
1170 from such district; and (C) for each participating district whose magnet  
1171 school program enrollment is greater than sixty per cent but less than  
1172 or equal to ninety per cent of the magnet school program total  
1173 enrollment, a percentage between zero and sixty per cent of said  
1174 foundation that is inversely proportional to the percentage of magnet  
1175 school program students from such district. The amounts so  
1176 determined shall be proportionately adjusted, if necessary, within the  
1177 limit of the available appropriation, and in no case shall any grant  
1178 pursuant to this section exceed the reasonable operating budget of the  
1179 magnet school program, less revenues from other sources. Any magnet  
1180 school program operating less than full-time but at least half-time shall  
1181 be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-five per cent of the grant  
1182 amount determined pursuant to this subsection.

1183 (2) For fiscal years ending June 30, 2003, and June 30, 2004, the  
1184 commissioner may, within available appropriations, provide  
1185 supplemental grants for the purposes of enhancing educational  
1186 programs in such interdistrict magnet schools as the commissioner  
1187 determines. Such grants shall be made after the commissioner has

1188 reviewed and approved the total operating budget for such schools,  
1189 including all revenue and expenditure estimates.

1190 Sec. 37. Subsection (b) of section 4d-82 of the general statutes is  
1191 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
1192 *passage*):

1193 (b) The commission shall oversee the preparation and submission of  
1194 a state-wide application to the federal Universal Service Fund to  
1195 enhance connectivity to the Connecticut Education Network, maximize  
1196 participation and grant attainment rates, and reduce overly  
1197 burdensome administrative requirements which discourage local  
1198 involvement. The commission shall prepare a feasibility report which  
1199 sets forth (1) a review of how and under what circumstances other  
1200 states have successfully submitted state-wide applications to the  
1201 Universal Service Fund, (2) an analysis of what should specifically be  
1202 incorporated into this state's application, and (3) an outline of  
1203 necessary actions to be taken by the commission for completion of a  
1204 state-wide Universal Service Fund application. The commission shall  
1205 work, in consultation with the Departments of Education and Higher  
1206 Education and the regional educational service centers, on the  
1207 feasibility report. No later than March 31, 2001, and for every  
1208 subsequent universal service funding cycle, the commission shall  
1209 submit a state-wide application for universal service funds.

1210 Sec. 38. Subsection (a) of section 10-4o of the general statutes is  
1211 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
1212 *passage*):

1213 (a) The Department of Education, in conjunction with the  
1214 Department of Social Services, shall coordinate a family resource  
1215 center program to provide comprehensive child care services, remedial  
1216 educational and literacy services, families-in-training programs and  
1217 supportive services to parents who are recipients of temporary family  
1218 assistance and other parents in need of such services. The family  
1219 resource centers shall be located in or associated with public schools,  
1220 and any family resource center established on or after July 1, 2000,

1221 shall be located in a public elementary school unless the Commissioner  
1222 of Education waives such requirement. The commissioner shall  
1223 determine the manner in which the grant recipients of such program,  
1224 such as municipalities, boards of education and child care providers  
1225 shall be selected. The family resource center shall provide: (1) Quality  
1226 full-day child care and school readiness programs for children age  
1227 three and older who are not enrolled in school and child care for  
1228 children enrolled in school up to the age of twelve for before and after  
1229 regular school hours and on a full-day basis during school holidays  
1230 and school vacation, in compliance with all state statutes and  
1231 regulations governing child day care and, in the case of the school  
1232 readiness programs, in compliance with the standards set for such  
1233 programs pursuant to section 10-16p; (2) support services to parents of  
1234 newborn infants to ascertain their needs and provide them with  
1235 referrals to other services and organizations and, if necessary,  
1236 education in parenting skills; [to such parents;] (3) support and  
1237 educational services to parents whose children are participants of the  
1238 child care services of the program and who are interested in obtaining  
1239 a high school diploma or its equivalent. Parents and their preschool  
1240 age children may attend classes in parenting and child learning skills  
1241 together so as to promote the mutual pursuit of education and enhance  
1242 parent-child interaction; (4) training, technical assistance and other  
1243 support by the staff of the center to family day care providers in the  
1244 community and serve as an information and referral system for other  
1245 child care needs in the community or coordinate with such systems as  
1246 may already exist in the community; (5) a families-in-training program  
1247 to provide, within available appropriations, community support  
1248 services to expectant parents and parents of children under the age of  
1249 three. Such services shall include, but not be limited to, providing  
1250 information and advice to parents on their [child's] children's  
1251 language, cognitive, social and motor development, visiting a  
1252 participant's home on a regular basis, organizing group meetings at  
1253 the center for neighborhood parents of young children and providing a  
1254 reference center for parents who need special assistance or services.  
1255 The program shall provide for the recruitment of parents to participate

1256 in such program; and (6) a sliding scale of payment, as developed in  
1257 consultation with the Department of Social Services, for child care  
1258 services at the center. The center shall also provide a teen pregnancy  
1259 prevention program for adolescents emphasizing responsible decision-  
1260 making and communication skills.

1261 Sec. 39. Subdivision (5) of section 10-16o of the general statutes is  
1262 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
1263 *passage*):

1264 (5) Prevent or minimize the potential for developmental delay in  
1265 children prior to [children] their reaching the age of five.

1266 Sec. 40. Subsection (c) of section 10-27 of the general statutes is  
1267 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
1268 *passage*):

1269 (c) State agencies, including the educational institutions, may  
1270 exchange a limited number of professional personnel and students  
1271 with institutions of other states and other countries and may pay the  
1272 salaries of such personnel and may assign scholarships and grants-in-  
1273 aid to the exchangees. The authorized exchange of personnel and  
1274 students need not be parallel and simultaneous nor specific with  
1275 regard to the assignment of persons between institutions. If a vacancy  
1276 exists on the staff of any state agency, including the educational  
1277 institutions, because a leave of absence without pay has been granted,  
1278 such agency may engage the services of professional personnel of  
1279 other countries, and may pay such personnel so engaged from the  
1280 funds which otherwise would have been paid to such [personnel] staff  
1281 members on leave of absence without pay.

1282 Sec. 41. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 10-76i of the general  
1283 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
1284 (*Effective from passage*):

1285 (b) Said advisory council shall elect annually its own chairperson  
1286 and other officers as deemed necessary. The council shall meet at least

1287 once during each calendar quarter and at such other times as the  
1288 chairperson deems necessary or upon the request of a majority of  
1289 members in office. The State Board of Education shall meet at least  
1290 annually with the council to review the state plan for the provision of  
1291 special education. A majority of the members in office, but not less  
1292 than ten, shall constitute a quorum. Any member who fails to attend  
1293 fifty per cent of all meetings held during any calendar year shall be  
1294 deemed to have resigned from office. The member appointed by the  
1295 Commissioner of Education who is an official of the department shall  
1296 meet with and act as secretary to the advisory council. Members of the  
1297 advisory council shall serve without compensation, but shall be  
1298 reimbursed for all reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of  
1299 their duties. The [state] Department of Education shall provide  
1300 secretarial and administrative assistance to facilitate the activity of the  
1301 advisory council. The Department of Higher Education shall appoint a  
1302 liaison person to the advisory council.

1303 (c) The advisory council shall: (1) Advise the [state] Department of  
1304 Education of unmet needs in educating children with disabilities and  
1305 on the administration of the provisions of sections 10-94f to 10-94k,  
1306 inclusive; (2) review periodically the laws, regulations, standards and  
1307 guidelines pertaining to special education and recommend to the  
1308 General Assembly and the State Board of Education any changes  
1309 which it finds necessary; (3) comment on any new or revised  
1310 regulations, standards and guidelines proposed for issuance; (4)  
1311 participate with the State Board of Education in the development of  
1312 any state eligibility documents for provision of special education; (5)  
1313 comment publicly on any procedures necessary for distributing federal  
1314 funds received pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education  
1315 Act, 20 USC 1400 et seq., as from time to time amended; (6) assist the  
1316 [state] Department of Education in developing and reporting such data  
1317 and evaluations as may be conducted pursuant to the provisions of  
1318 said act; (7) report to the General Assembly not later than January  
1319 fifteenth in the odd-numbered years and not later than February  
1320 fifteenth in the even-numbered years, concerning recommendations  
1321 for effecting changes in the special education laws; and (8) perform

1322 any other [such] activity that is required by the Individuals with  
1323 Disabilities Education Act, 20 USC 1400, et seq., as from time to time  
1324 amended.

1325 Sec. 42. Subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of section 10-95m of the  
1326 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
1327 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1328 (3) On or before January 1, 2004, the department shall (A) present  
1329 final results for the class of 2003, including graduation rates and the  
1330 results of the postgraduation survey, (B) using such results, predict the  
1331 probability of a vocational-technical school [student] student's being  
1332 successful based on the components of the student's admissions score,  
1333 and (C) evaluate the results and discuss whether it feels any changes  
1334 are needed in the admissions policies.

1335 Sec. 43. Section 10-98a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1336 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1337 The director of each regional vocational-technical school shall meet  
1338 with members of the business community within the geographic area  
1339 served by the regional vocational-technical school to develop a plan to  
1340 assess workforce needs and implement curriculum modifications to  
1341 address those needs.

1342 Sec. 44. Subdivision (1) of subsection (l) of section 10-145b of the  
1343 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
1344 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1345 (l) (1) For certified employees of local and regional boards of  
1346 education, except as provided in this subdivision, each professional  
1347 educator certificate shall be valid for five years and continued every  
1348 five years thereafter upon the successful completion of professional  
1349 development activities which shall consist of not less than ninety hours  
1350 of continuing education, as determined by the local or regional board  
1351 of education in accordance with this section, or documented  
1352 completion of a national board certification assessment in the

1353 appropriate endorsement area, during each successive five-year  
1354 period. (A) Such continuing education completed by certified  
1355 employees with an early childhood nursery through grade three or an  
1356 elementary endorsement who hold a position requiring such an  
1357 endorsement shall include at least fifteen hours of training in the  
1358 teaching of reading and reading readiness and assessment of reading  
1359 performance, including methods of teaching language skills necessary  
1360 for reading, reading comprehension skills, phonics and the structure of  
1361 the English language during each five-year period. (B) Such continuing  
1362 education requirement completed by certified employees with  
1363 elementary, middle grades or secondary academic endorsements who  
1364 hold a position requiring such an endorsement shall include at least  
1365 fifteen hours of training in the use of computers in the classroom  
1366 during each five-year period unless such employees are able to  
1367 demonstrate technology competency, in a manner determined by their  
1368 local or regional board of education, based on state-wide standards for  
1369 teacher competency in the use of technology for instructional purposes  
1370 adopted pursuant to section 4d-85. (C) Such continuing education  
1371 completed by (i) the superintendent of schools, and (ii) employees  
1372 employed in positions requiring an intermediate administrator or  
1373 supervisory certificate, or the equivalent thereof, and whose  
1374 administrative or supervisory duties equal at least fifty per cent of  
1375 [the] their assigned time, [of such employee,] shall include at least  
1376 fifteen hours of training in the evaluation of teachers pursuant to  
1377 section 10-151b during each five-year period. (D) In the case of  
1378 certified employees with a bilingual education endorsement who hold  
1379 positions requiring such an endorsement (i) in an elementary school  
1380 and who do not hold an endorsement in elementary education, such  
1381 continuing education taken on or after July 1, 1999, shall only count  
1382 toward the ninety-hour requirement if it is in language arts, reading  
1383 and mathematics, and (ii) in a middle or secondary school and who do  
1384 not hold an endorsement in the subject area they teach, such  
1385 continuing education taken on or after July 1, 1999, shall only count  
1386 toward the ninety-hour requirement if it is in such subject area or  
1387 areas. During each five-year period in which a professional educator

1388 certificate is valid, a holder of such certificate who has not completed  
1389 the ninety hours of continuing education required pursuant to this  
1390 subdivision, and who has not been employed while holding such  
1391 certificate by a local or regional board of education for all or part of the  
1392 five-year period, shall, upon application, be reissued such certificate  
1393 for five years minus any period of time such holder was employed  
1394 while holding such certificate by a local or regional board of education,  
1395 provided there shall be only one such reissuance during each five-year  
1396 period in which such certificate is valid. A certified employee of a local  
1397 or regional board of education who is a member of the General  
1398 Assembly and who has not completed the ninety hours of continuing  
1399 education required pursuant to this subdivision for continuation of a  
1400 certificate, upon application, shall be reissued a professional educator  
1401 certificate for a period of time equal to six months for each year the  
1402 employee served in the General Assembly during the previous five  
1403 years. Continuing education hours completed during the previous five  
1404 years shall be applied toward such ninety-hour requirement which  
1405 shall be completed during the reissuance period in order for such  
1406 employee to be eligible to have a certificate continued. The cost of the  
1407 professional development activities required under this subsection for  
1408 certified employees of local or regional boards of education shall be  
1409 shared by the state and local or regional boards of education, except  
1410 for those activities identified by the State Board of Education as the  
1411 responsibility of the certificate holder. Each local and regional board of  
1412 education shall make available, annually, at no cost to its certified  
1413 employees not fewer than eighteen hours of professional development  
1414 activities for continuing education credit. Such activities may be made  
1415 available by a board of education directly, through a regional  
1416 educational service center or cooperative arrangement with another  
1417 board of education or through arrangements with any continuing  
1418 education provider approved by the State Board of Education. Local  
1419 and regional boards of education shall grant continuing education  
1420 credit for professional development activities which the certified  
1421 employees of the board of education are required to attend,  
1422 professional development activities offered in accordance with the

1423 plan developed pursuant to subsection (b) of section 10-220a, or  
1424 professional development activities which the board may approve for  
1425 any individual certified employee. Each board of education shall  
1426 determine the specific professional development activities to be made  
1427 available with the advice and assistance of the teachers employed by  
1428 such board, including representatives of the exclusive bargaining unit  
1429 for such teachers pursuant to section 10-153b. The time and location for  
1430 the provision of such activities shall be in accordance with either an  
1431 agreement between the board of education and the exclusive  
1432 bargaining unit pursuant to said section 10-153b or, in the absence of  
1433 such agreement or to the extent such agreement does not provide for  
1434 the time and location of all such activities, in accordance with a  
1435 determination by the board of education.

1436 Sec. 45. Subsection (b) of section 10-155d of the general statutes is  
1437 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
1438 *passage*):

1439 (b) The Department of Higher Education, with the approval of the  
1440 Commissioner of Education, shall expand, within available  
1441 appropriations, participation in its summer alternate route to  
1442 certification program and its [week-end] weekend and evening  
1443 alternate route to certification program. The department shall expand  
1444 the [week-end] weekend and evening program for participants seeking  
1445 certification in a subject shortage area pursuant to section 10-8b. The  
1446 department, in collaboration with the Department of Education, shall  
1447 develop (1) a regional alternate route to certification programs targeted  
1448 to the subject shortage areas, and (2) an alternate route to certification  
1449 program for former teachers whose certificates have expired and who  
1450 are interested in resuming their teaching careers.

1451 Sec. 46. Section 10-2211 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1452 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1453 The Department of Education shall develop, within available  
1454 appropriations, a State-Wide Early Reading Success Institute for  
1455 educators based on the review completed by the Early Reading Success

1456 Panel pursuant to section 10-221j and the assessments conducted  
1457 pursuant to section 10-221k. The institute shall commence operation in  
1458 the 2000-2001 school year. The institute shall use a training curriculum  
1459 that incorporates comprehensive instruction in reading as determined  
1460 by the Early Reading Success Panel pursuant to section 10-221j, to  
1461 include, but not be limited to: (1) Instructional strategies that can be  
1462 adapted for each student's needs; (2) early screening and ongoing  
1463 assessment to determine which individual students need additional  
1464 instruction; (3) teaching of oral language competencies, including  
1465 phonological awareness, vocabulary, listening comprehension and  
1466 grammatical skills; (4) systematic teaching of word identification skills  
1467 including phonics instruction and instruction in phonemic awareness;  
1468 and (5) teaching of comprehension competencies, including the use of  
1469 context to infer meaning.

1470 Sec. 47. Subsection (d) of section 10-265f of the general statutes is  
1471 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
1472 *passage*):

1473 (d) In the case of proposals for intensive early intervention reading  
1474 programs including after-school and summer programs, the plan shall:  
1475 (1) Incorporate the competencies required for early reading success,  
1476 critical indicators for teacher intervention and the components of a  
1477 high quality early reading success curriculum in accordance with the  
1478 findings of the Early Reading Success Panel delineated in section 10-  
1479 221i; (2) provide for a period of time each day of individualized or  
1480 small group instruction for each student; (3) provide for monitoring of  
1481 students and follow-up in subsequent grades, documentation of  
1482 continuous classroom observation of student's reading behaviors and  
1483 establishment of performance indicators aligned with the state-wide  
1484 mastery examinations under chapter 163c, the findings of the Early  
1485 Reading Success Panel pursuant to section 10-221j and other  
1486 methodologies for assessing reading competencies established by the  
1487 department pursuant to section 10-221i; (4) include a professional  
1488 development component for teachers in grades kindergarten to three,  
1489 inclusive, that emphasizes the teaching of reading and reading

1490 readiness and assessment of reading competency based on the findings  
1491 of the Early Reading Success Panel pursuant to section 10-221j; (5)  
1492 provide for parental involvement and ensure that parents have access  
1493 to information on strategies that may be used at home to improve  
1494 prereading or reading skills; (6) provide for data collection and  
1495 program evaluation; and (7) include any additional information the  
1496 commissioner deems relevant.

1497 Sec. 48. Subsection (a) of section 10-266aa of the general statutes is  
1498 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
1499 *passage*):

1500 (a) As used in this section:

1501 (1) "Receiving district" means any school district that accepts  
1502 students under the program established pursuant to this section; [and]

1503 (2) "Sending district" means any school district that sends students it  
1504 would otherwise be legally responsible for educating to another school  
1505 district under the program; and

1506 (3) "Minority students" means students who are "pupils of racial  
1507 minorities", as defined in section 10-226a.

1508 Sec. 49. Subsection (b) of section 10-285a of the general statutes is  
1509 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
1510 *passage*):

1511 (b) The percentage of school building project grant money a regional  
1512 board of education may be eligible to receive under the provisions of  
1513 section 10-286 shall be determined by its ranking. Such ranking shall  
1514 be determined by (1) multiplying the total population, as defined in  
1515 section 10-261, of each town in the district by such town's ranking, as  
1516 determined in subsection (a) of this section, (2) adding together the  
1517 figures determined under subdivision (1) of this subsection, and (3)  
1518 dividing the total computed under subdivision (2) of this subsection by  
1519 the total population of all towns in the district. The ranking of each  
1520 regional board of education shall be rounded to the next higher whole

1521 number and each such board shall receive the same reimbursement  
1522 percentage as would a town with the same rank plus ten per cent,  
1523 except that no such percentage shall exceed eighty-five per cent.

1524 Sec. 50. Section 10-66hh of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1525 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1526 For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2002, and June 30, 2003, the  
1527 Commissioner of Education shall establish, within available  
1528 appropriations and bond authorizations, a grant program to assist  
1529 state charter schools in financing (1) school building projects, as  
1530 defined in section 10-282, (2) general improvements to school  
1531 buildings, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10-265h, and (3)  
1532 repayment of debt incurred for prior school building projects.  
1533 Eligibility for such grants shall be limited to state charter schools  
1534 whose charters were renewed in the prior fiscal year pursuant to  
1535 subsection (g) of section 10-66bb. The governing [authority] authorities  
1536 of such state charter schools may apply for such grants to the  
1537 Department of Education at such time and in such manner as the  
1538 commissioner prescribes. Each state charter school may receive no  
1539 more than one grant under this section and no grant under this section  
1540 shall exceed five hundred thousand dollars.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 11	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 12	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 13	<i>from passage</i>

Sec. 14	<i>from passage</i>
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Sec. 47	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 48	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 49	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 50	<i>from passage</i>

**ED**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

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***OFA Fiscal Note***

***State Impact:*** None

***Municipal Impact:*** None

***Explanation***

This bill is technical and has no fiscal impact.

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**OLR Bill Analysis**

sHB 6691

***AN ACT CONCERNING TECHNICAL REVISIONS TO THE  
EDUCATION STATUTES***

**SUMMARY:**

This bill makes technical changes in laws dealing with elementary and secondary education.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 28 Nay 0