



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 497

January Session, 2003

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1075

Senate, April 23, 2003

The Committee on Education reported through SEN. GAFFEY of the 13th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE COMMUNITY-TECHNICAL COLLEGES TO SPONSOR MAGNET SCHOOLS AND TO MOVE A BRANCH CAMPUS.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 10-264h of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (a) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, until the fiscal year
5 ending June 30, 2003, a local or regional board of education, regional
6 educational service center, the Board of Trustees of the Community-
7 Technical Colleges on behalf of one or more regional community-
8 technical colleges, or a cooperative arrangement pursuant to section
9 10-158a for purposes of an interdistrict magnet school may be eligible
10 for reimbursement up to the full reasonable cost of any capital
11 expenditure for the purchase, construction, extension, replacement,
12 leasing or major alteration of interdistrict magnet school facilities,

13 including any expenditure for the purchase of equipment, in
14 accordance with this section. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004,
15 and each fiscal year thereafter, such entities may be eligible for
16 reimbursement up to ninety-five per cent of such cost. To be eligible
17 for reimbursement under this section a magnet school construction
18 project shall meet the requirements for a school building project
19 established in chapter 173, except that the Commissioner of Education
20 may waive any requirement in such chapter for good cause. On and
21 after July 1, 1997, the commissioner shall approve only applications for
22 reimbursement under this section that he finds will reduce racial,
23 ethnic and economic isolation.

24 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 10-264i of the general statutes is
25 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
26 *passage*):

27 (a) A local or regional board of education, regional educational
28 service center, the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical
29 Colleges on behalf of one or more regional community-technical
30 colleges, or cooperative arrangement pursuant to section 10-158a
31 which transports a child to an interdistrict magnet school program, as
32 defined in section 10-264l, as amended by this act, in a town other than
33 the town in which the child resides shall be eligible pursuant to section
34 10-264e to receive a grant for the cost of transporting such child in
35 accordance with this section. The amount of such grant shall not
36 exceed an amount equal to the number of such children transported
37 multiplied by one thousand two hundred dollars. The Department of
38 Education shall provide such grants within available appropriations.
39 Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent a local or
40 regional board of education, regional educational service center or
41 cooperative arrangement from receiving reimbursement under section
42 10-266m for reasonable transportation expenses for which such board,
43 service center or cooperative arrangement is not reimbursed pursuant
44 to this section.

45 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 10-264l of the general statutes is

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

48 (a) The Department of Education shall, within available
49 appropriations, establish a grant program to assist local and regional
50 boards of education, regional educational service centers, the Board of
51 Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of one or
52 more regional community-technical colleges, and cooperative
53 arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a with the operation of
54 interdistrict magnet school programs. If the Board of Trustees of the
55 Community-Technical Colleges sponsors an interdistrict magnet
56 school, such sponsorship shall be subject to the provisions of this
57 chapter and any regulation adopted by the State Board of Education
58 governing local or regional boards of education. For the purposes of
59 this section "an interdistrict magnet school program" means a program
60 which (1) supports racial, ethnic and economic diversity, (2) offers a
61 special and high quality curriculum, and (3) requires students who are
62 enrolled to attend at least half-time. An interdistrict magnet school
63 program does not include a regional vocational agriculture school, a
64 regional vocational-technical school or a regional special education
65 center. On and after July 1, 2000, the governing authority for each
66 interdistrict magnet school program that is in operation prior to July 1,
67 2005, shall restrict the number of students that may enroll in the
68 program from a participating district to eighty per cent of the total
69 enrollment of the program. The governing authority for each
70 interdistrict magnet school program that begins operations on or after
71 July 1, 2005, shall (A) restrict the number of students that may enroll in
72 the program from a participating district to seventy-five per cent of the
73 total enrollment of the program, and (B) maintain such a school
74 enrollment that at least twenty-five per cent but not more than
75 seventy-five per cent of the students enrolled are pupils of racial
76 minorities, as defined in section 10-226a.

77 Sec. 4. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 10-283 of the
78 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
79 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

80 (a) (1) Each town or regional school district shall be eligible to apply
 81 for and accept grants for a school building project as provided in this
 82 chapter. Any town desiring a grant for a public school building project
 83 may, by vote of its legislative body, authorize the board of education of
 84 such town to apply to the Commissioner of Education and to accept or
 85 reject such grant for the town. Any regional school board may vote to
 86 authorize the supervising agent of the regional school district to apply
 87 to the Commissioner of Education for and to accept or reject such grant
 88 for the district. Applications for such grants under this chapter shall be
 89 made by the superintendent of schools of such town or regional school
 90 district on the form provided and in the manner prescribed by the
 91 Commissioner of Education. The application form shall require the
 92 superintendent of schools to affirm that the school district considered
 93 the maximization of natural light in projects for new construction and
 94 alteration or renovation of a school building. Grant applications for
 95 school building projects shall be reviewed by the Commissioner of
 96 Education on the basis of categories for building projects and
 97 standards for school construction established by the State Board of
 98 Education in accordance with this section, provided grant applications
 99 submitted for purposes of subsection (a) of section 10-65 or section 10-
 100 76e shall be reviewed annually by the commissioner on the basis of the
 101 educational needs of the applicant. Notwithstanding the provisions of
 102 this chapter, the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical
 103 Colleges may apply for school construction reimbursement grants
 104 pursuant to section 10-264h, as amended by this act.

105 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Board of Trustees of the
 106 Community-Technical Colleges may relocate the Meriden branch of
 107 Middlesex Community-Technical College to a building in downtown
 108 Meriden held under lease by the state.

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>

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:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Type	FY 04 \$	FY 05 \$
Education, Dept.	GF - Cost	None	Potential
Colleges, Regional Comm.-Tech.	GF - See Below	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This bill may result in a future cost to the state, as it would allow the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges to be eligible to establish a state funded regional magnet school. Magnet schools receive both construction and operating grants from the state. Construction grants are generally funded by 95% state funds and 5% local funds. It is unclear how the funding mechanism would work should a state entity be the sponsor of a magnet school. Magnet operating grants are provided within available appropriations and therefore the bill may not require additional funds for a new magnet school. However to this point the state has always provided full operating grants to all magnet schools and would likely do so in the future.

Section 5 of the bill concerning Middlesex Community-Technical College has no fiscal impact as the relocation of its Meriden branch could occur with or without the bill.

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 1075

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE COMMUNITY-TECHNICAL COLLEGES TO SPONSOR MAGNET SCHOOLS AND TO MOVE A BRANCH CAMPUS**SUMMARY:**

This bill authorizes the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges to (1) sponsor interdistrict magnet schools and (2) relocate the Meriden branch of Middlesex Community-Technical College to a building in downtown Meriden held under a state lease. With respect to interdistrict magnet schools, the bill subjects any sponsorship by the board to regulations of the State Board of Education governing local or regional boards of education. It also makes board-sponsored schools eligible for state grants for operations, reimbursement for up to 95% of construction costs, and student transportation in the same way other entities may receive such grants for interdistrict magnet schools.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND***Interdistrict Magnet Schools***

By law, an interdistrict magnet school program is one that (1) supports racial, ethnic, and economic diversity; (2) offers a special and high quality curriculum; and (3) requires students who are enrolled to attend at least half time.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference

Yea 21 Nay 1

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 28 Nay 0