



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

**Raised Bill No. 1075**

LCO No. 3992

Referred to Committee on Higher Education and Employment  
Advancement

Introduced by:  
(HED)

**AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
COMMUNITY-TECHNICAL COLLEGES TO SPONSOR MAGNET  
SCHOOLS.**

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2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  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 college, or a cooperative arrangement pursuant to section 10-  
9 158a for purposes of an interdistrict magnet school may be eligible for  
10 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, except that the  
17 Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges may be  
18 eligible for reimbursement up to one hundred per cent of such cost. To  
19 be eligible for reimbursement under this section a magnet school  
20 construction project shall meet the requirements for a school building  
21 project established in chapter 173, except that the Commissioner of  
22 Education may waive any requirement in such chapter for good cause.  
23 On and after July 1, 1997, the commissioner shall approve only  
24 applications for reimbursement under this section that he finds will  
25 reduce racial, ethnic and economic isolation.

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27 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  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

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

47 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 10-264l of the general statutes is  
48 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
49 *passage*):

50 (a) The Department of Education shall, within available  
51 appropriations, establish a grant program to assist local and regional  
52 boards of education, regional educational service centers, the Board of  
53 Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of one or  
54 more regional community-technical college and cooperative  
55 arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a with the operation of  
56 interdistrict magnet school programs. If the Board of Trustees of the  
57 Community-Technical Colleges sponsors an interdistrict magnet  
58 school, such sponsorship shall be subject to the provisions of this title  
59 or any regulation adopted by the State Board of Education governing  
60 local or regional boards of education. For the purposes of this section  
61 "an interdistrict magnet school program" means a program which (1)  
62 supports racial, ethnic and economic diversity, (2) offers a special and  
63 high quality curriculum, and (3) requires students who are enrolled to  
64 attend at least half-time. An interdistrict magnet school program does  
65 not include a regional vocational agriculture school, a regional  
66 vocational-technical school or a regional special education center. On  
67 and after July 1, 2000, the governing authority for each interdistrict  
68 magnet school program that is in operation prior to July 1, 2005, shall  
69 restrict the number of students that may enroll in the program from a  
70 participating district to eighty per cent of the total enrollment of the  
71 program. The governing authority for each interdistrict magnet school  
72 program that begins operations on or after July 1, 2005, shall (A)  
73 restrict the number of students that may enroll in the program from a  
74 participating district to seventy-five per cent of the total enrollment of  
75 the program, and (B) maintain such a school enrollment that at least  
76 twenty-five per cent but not more than seventy-five per cent of the  
77 students enrolled are pupils of racial minorities, as defined in section  
78 10-226a.

79 Sec. 4. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 10-283 of the

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

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

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>

***Statement of Purpose:***

To authorize the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges to sponsor interdistrict magnet schools and to be eligible for grants associated with such sponsorship.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*