



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

Raised Bill No. 1093

LCO No. 4016

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING MINOR REVISIONS TO THE EDUCATION STATUTES.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 10-14n of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2003*):

4 (d) [If] Student scores on each component of the state-wide tenth
5 grade mastery examination may be included on the permanent record
6 and transcript of each student who takes such examination provided,
7 for a student who meets or exceeds the state-wide mastery goal level
8 on [each] any component of the state-wide tenth grade mastery
9 examination, certification of [such mastery] having met or exceeded
10 such goal level shall be made on the permanent record and the
11 transcript of each such student and such student shall be issued a
12 certificate of mastery for such component. Each student who fails to
13 meet the mastery goal level on each component of said mastery
14 examination may annually take or retake each such component at its
15 regular administration until such student scores at or above each such
16 state-wide mastery goal level or such student graduates or reaches age

17 twenty-one.

18 Sec. 2. Subsection (d) of section 10-145f of the general statutes is
19 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
20 *1, 2003*):

21 (d) Any person who is first issued a certificate valid after July 1,
22 1989, or who is reissued a certificate after July 1, 1989, shall, except as
23 otherwise provided in this subsection, be required to achieve a
24 satisfactory evaluation on a professional knowledge clinical
25 assessment [within two years after commencing teaching in a public
26 school] not later than the end of the second year of teaching in a public
27 school if hired prior to January first or, if hired on or after January first,
28 not later than the end of the second full school year of teaching
29 following the year in which such person was hired in order to retain
30 the certificate. The commissioner (1) may waive the requirement that
31 such satisfactory evaluation on a professional knowledge clinical
32 assessment be achieved upon a determination that such assessment is
33 not valid for the person's teaching assignment, or (2) upon a showing
34 of good cause, may extend the time limit for the assessment [by one
35 year] for a period of time not exceeding two years. The requirement of
36 a clinical assessment shall not apply to any such person who has
37 completed at least three years of successful teaching in a public school
38 or a nonpublic school approved by the appropriate state board of
39 education during the ten years immediately preceding the date of
40 application or who successfully taught with a provisional teaching
41 certificate during the year immediately preceding an application for a
42 provisional educator certificate as an employee of a local or regional
43 board of education or facility approved for special education by the
44 State Board of Education. Notwithstanding the provisions of this
45 subsection, [to the contrary,] the State Board of Education may reissue
46 an initial educator certificate to a person who held such certificate and
47 did not achieve a satisfactory evaluation on a professional knowledge
48 clinical assessment provided the person submits evidence
49 demonstrating significant intervening study and experience, in

50 accordance with standards established by the State Board of
51 Education.

52 Sec. 3. Subsection (d) of section 10-220a of the general statutes is
53 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
54 *1, 2003*):

55 (d) The [state] Department of Education may fund, within available
56 appropriations, in cooperation with one or more regional educational
57 service centers: (1) A cooperating teacher program to train Connecticut
58 public school teachers and certified teachers at private special
59 education facilities approved by the Commissioner of Education and at
60 other facilities designated by the commissioner, who participate in the
61 supervision, training and evaluation of student teachers; (2) institutes
62 to provide continuing education for Connecticut public school
63 educators, assessors and cooperating teachers and teacher mentors,
64 including institutes to provide continuing education for Connecticut
65 public school educators offered in cooperation with the Connecticut
66 Humanities Council; and (3) a beginning teacher support and
67 assessment program to train Connecticut public school teachers and
68 other qualified persons approved by the Commissioner of Education
69 and certified teachers at such private special education and other
70 designated facilities who serve as mentors or assessors for beginning
71 teachers and who supervise, train and assist or assess beginning
72 teachers in their initial years in teaching and to pay stipends to
73 assessors. Funds available under this subsection shall be paid directly
74 to school districts for the provision of substitute teachers when
75 cooperating teachers, teacher mentors, beginning teachers and
76 assessors are released from regular classroom responsibilities and for
77 the provision of professional development activities for cooperating
78 and student teachers, teacher mentors, assessors and beginning
79 teachers. The cooperating teacher and beginning teacher support and
80 assessment programs shall operate in accordance with regulations
81 which shall be adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to
82 chapter 54. Student teachers shall be placed with trained cooperating

83 teachers. Beginning teachers shall participate in a beginning teacher
84 support and assessment program as made available by the board.
85 School districts shall be responsible for providing support to beginning
86 teachers which shall include, but not be limited to, the placement of
87 beginning teachers with trained teacher mentors who may be full or
88 part-time teachers in the same or a different building than the
89 beginning teacher and provision of trained assessors to conduct
90 assessments of beginning teachers. Cooperating teachers, teacher
91 mentors and assessors may serve concurrently in more than one
92 capacity and may be assigned more than one student teacher or
93 beginning teacher in each such capacity. The assessment of each
94 beginning teacher shall be based upon, but not limited to, data
95 obtained from observations conducted by assessors using an
96 assessment instrument. [Notwithstanding any regulation to the
97 contrary, the State Board of Education may require less than six
98 observations as part of such assessment for the fiscal year ending June
99 30, 1992, and may establish different assessment standards for use
100 during such fiscal year. Notwithstanding any regulation to the
101 contrary, a] A beginning teacher [need not] shall be assessed by [a
102 certified teacher who holds a certification endorsement] educators with
103 teaching experience in the same general subject area as such beginning
104 teacher. Cooperating teachers and teacher mentors who are
105 Connecticut public school teachers and assessors who are employed by
106 school districts shall be selected by local and regional boards of
107 education. Cooperating teachers and teacher mentors and assessors at
108 such private special education and other designated facilities shall be
109 selected by the authority responsible for the operation of such facilities.
110 If a board of education is unable to identify a sufficient number of
111 individuals to serve in such positions, the commissioner may select
112 qualified persons who are not employed by the board of education to
113 serve in such positions. Such regulations shall require primary
114 consideration of teachers' classroom experience and recognized success
115 as educators. The provisions of sections 10-153a to 10-153n, inclusive,
116 shall not be applicable to the selection, placement and compensation of

117 persons participating in the cooperating teacher and beginning teacher
118 support and assessment programs pursuant to the provisions of this
119 section and to the hours and duties of such persons. The State Board of
120 Education shall protect and save harmless, in accordance with the
121 provisions of section 10-235, any cooperating teacher, teacher mentor
122 or assessor while serving in such capacity.

123 Sec. 4. Subsection (b) of section 10-226a of the general statutes is
124 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
125 *1, 2003*):

126 (b) As used in sections 10-226a to 10-226e, inclusive, "pupils and
127 teachers of racial minorities" means those whose [racial ancestry] race
128 is defined as other than white, or whose ethnicity is defined as
129 Hispanic or Latino by the federal Office of Management and Budget
130 for use by the Bureau of Census of the United States Department of
131 Commerce.

132 Sec. 5. Subsection (b) of section 10-16p of the general statutes is
133 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
134 *1, 2003*):

135 (b) The Department of Education shall be the lead agency for school
136 readiness. For purposes of this section and section 10-16u, school
137 readiness program providers eligible for funding from the Department
138 of Education shall include local and regional boards of education,
139 regional educational service centers, family resource centers and
140 providers of child day care centers, as defined in section 19a-77, Head
141 Start programs, preschool programs and other programs that meet
142 such standards established by the Commissioner of Education. The
143 department shall establish standards for school readiness programs.
144 The standards may include, but need not be limited to, guidelines for
145 staff-child interactions, curriculum content, including preliteracy
146 development, lesson plans, parent involvement, staff qualifications
147 and training, and administration. The department shall develop age-
148 appropriate developmental skills and goals for children attending such

149 programs. The commissioner, in consultation with the Commissioners
150 of Higher Education and Social Services and other appropriate entities,
151 shall develop a continuing education training program for the staff of
152 school readiness programs. For purposes of this section, on and after
153 July 1, [2003] 2004, "staff qualifications" means there is in each
154 classroom an individual who has at least the following: (1) A credential
155 issued by an organization approved by the Commissioner of
156 Education and nine credits or more in early childhood education or
157 child development from an institution of higher education accredited
158 by the Board of Governors of Higher Education or regionally
159 accredited; or (2) an associate's degree [in early childhood education or
160 child development from such an institution; or (3)] or a four-year
161 degree [in early childhood education or child development] from such
162 an institution, with twelve credits in early childhood education or
163 child development.

164 Sec. 6. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 10-261a of the general
165 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
166 (*Effective July 1, 2003*):

167 (b) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall,
168 annually, no later than the first day of August submit the equalized net
169 grand list for each town to the [State Board] Commissioner of
170 Education for purposes of computing the amount of grant payable to
171 any town under the provisions of said section 10-262i.

172 (c) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall,
173 annually, no later than the first day of May mail to the chief executive
174 officer and the assessor in each town [and to the State Board of
175 Education,] notification concerning the equalized net grand list
176 computed with respect to such town. Within fifteen days following
177 receipt of such notification, any town may appeal to the secretary for a
178 hearing concerning such equalized net grand list, provided such
179 appeal shall be in writing and include a statement as to the reasons for
180 such appeal. The secretary shall, within fifteen days following receipt

181 of such appeal, grant or deny such hearing by notification in writing,
182 including in the event of denial, a statement as to the reasons for such
183 denial. If any town is aggrieved by the action of the secretary following
184 such hearing or in denying any such hearing, such town may, within
185 thirty days, appeal to the superior court for the judicial district in
186 which such town is located. Such appeal shall be a preferred case, to be
187 heard, unless cause appears to the contrary, at the first session, by the
188 court. Upon all such appeals which are denied, costs may be taxed
189 against the town at the discretion of the court, but no costs shall be
190 taxed against the state.

191 Sec. 7. Section 10-262k of the general statutes is repealed and the
192 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2003*):

193 Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, [to the
194 contrary,] the board of education which has jurisdiction over the
195 schools in any town (1) with a total population, as defined in
196 subdivision (7) of subsection (a) of section 10-261, greater than twenty
197 thousand, and (2) in which the grant mastery percentage, as defined in
198 subdivision [(8)] (12) of section 10-262f, is greater than twenty per cent
199 may annually apply to the Commissioner of Education, on such forms
200 as the commissioner may prescribe, to receive not more than two per
201 cent of the town's grant entitlement pursuant to section 10-262h for the
202 subsequent fiscal year for compensatory education programs. At the
203 time of application, the board of education shall notify the board of
204 finance in each town or city having a board of finance, the board of
205 selectmen in each town having no board of finance or otherwise the
206 authority making appropriations for the school district of the
207 application. Upon submission of a timely application to the
208 commissioner, the commissioner shall deduct such amount from the
209 payment made to the town in October of such subsequent fiscal year
210 pursuant to section 10-262i, and the board of education shall receive a
211 grant in such amount.

212 Sec. 8. Subsection (a) of section 10-76g of the general statutes is

213 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
214 *1, 2003*):

215 (a) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1984, and each fiscal year
216 thereafter, in any case in which special education is being provided at
217 a private residential institution, including the residential components
218 of regional educational service centers, to a child for whom no local or
219 regional board of education can be found responsible under subsection
220 (b) of section 10-76d, the Department of Children and Families shall
221 pay the costs of special education to such institution pursuant to its
222 authority under sections 17a-1 to 17a-26, inclusive, 17a-28 to 17a-50,
223 inclusive, and 17a-52. (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, and
224 each fiscal year thereafter, any local or regional board of education
225 which provides special education and related services for any child (A)
226 who is placed by a state agency in a private residential facility or who
227 is placed in a facility or institution operated by the Department of
228 Children and Families and who receives such special education at a
229 program operated by a regional education service center or program
230 operated by a local or regional board of education, and (B) for whom
231 no local or regional board of education can be found responsible under
232 subsection (b) of section 10-76d, shall be eligible to receive one
233 hundred per cent of the reasonable costs of special education for such
234 child as defined in the regulations of the State Board of Education. Any
235 such board eligible for payment shall file with the [state] Department
236 of Education, in such manner as prescribed by the Commissioner of
237 Education, annually, on or before December first a statement of the
238 cost of providing special education for such child, provided a board of
239 education may submit, not later than [February] March first, claims for
240 additional children or costs not included in the December filing.
241 Payment by the state for such costs shall be made to the local or
242 regional board of education as follows: Seventy-five per cent of the
243 cost in February and the balance in [April] May.

244 Sec. 9. Subsection (b) of section 10-265l of the general statutes is
245 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*

246 1, 2003):

247 (b) Subject to the provisions of this subsection, each local and
248 regional board of education for a priority school district shall require
249 (1) for the 2000-2001 school year, and each school year thereafter,
250 students in the schools under its jurisdiction who fail to reach the state-
251 wide standard for remedial assistance on the reading component of
252 such fourth grade mastery examination to attend school the summer
253 following the examination on which they failed to reach such standard,
254 and (2) within available appropriations, for the 2001-2002 school year,
255 and each school year thereafter, students in the schools under its
256 jurisdiction who fail to reach the state-wide standard for remedial
257 assistance on such sixth grade mastery examination to attend school
258 the summer following the examination on which they failed to reach
259 such standard. The superintendent of schools may exempt an
260 individual student from such requirement, upon the recommendation
261 of the school principal, based on the student's progress with the
262 additional instruction provided pursuant to subsection (a) of this
263 section. If a student does not receive such an exemption, has been
264 offered the opportunity to attend a summer school program and fails
265 to attend summer school, the local or regional board of education shall
266 not promote the student to the next grade.

267 Sec. 10. Subsection (b) of section 10-262n of the general statutes is
268 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
269 *1, 2003*):

270 (b) Local and regional boards of education shall apply to the
271 department for grants at such time and in such manner as the
272 Commissioner of Education prescribes. In order to be eligible for a
273 grant, a local or regional board of education shall: (1) Have a
274 technology plan that was developed or updated during the [two-year]
275 three-year period preceding the date of application for grant funds
276 and, once the Commission for Educational Technology develops the
277 long-range plan required pursuant to subdivision (5) of subsection (c)

278 of section 4d-80, the local technology plan shall be consistent with such
279 long-range plan, (2) provide that each school and superintendent's
280 office be able to communicate with the Department of Education using
281 the Internet, (3) present evidence that it has applied or will apply for a
282 grant from the federal Universal Service Fund, and (4) submit a plan
283 for the expenditure of grant funds in accordance with subsection (c) of
284 this section.

285 Sec. 11. Subsection (a) of section 10-19o of the general statutes is
286 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
287 *1, 2003*):

288 (a) The Commissioner of Education shall establish a program to
289 provide grants to youth service bureaus in accordance with this
290 section. Only youth service bureaus which were eligible to receive
291 grants pursuant to this section for the fiscal year ending June 30, [2001]
292 2003, or which applied for a grant by June 30, [2001] 2003, with prior
293 approval of the town's contribution pursuant to subsection (b) of this
294 section, shall be eligible for a grant pursuant to this section for any
295 fiscal year commencing on or after July 1, [2001] 2003. Each such youth
296 service bureau shall receive a grant of fourteen thousand dollars. The
297 Department of Education may expend an amount not to exceed two
298 per cent of the amount appropriated for purposes of this section for
299 administrative expenses. If there are any remaining funds, each such
300 youth service bureau that was awarded a grant in excess of fifteen
301 thousand dollars in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995, shall receive a
302 percentage of such funds. The percentage shall be determined as
303 follows: For each such grant in excess of fifteen thousand dollars, the
304 difference between the amount of the grant awarded to the youth
305 service bureau for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995, and fifteen
306 thousand dollars shall be divided by the difference between the total
307 amount of the grants awarded to all youth service bureaus that were
308 awarded grants in excess of fifteen thousand dollars for said fiscal year
309 and the product of fifteen thousand dollars and the number of such
310 grants for said fiscal year.

311 Sec. 12. Subsection (a) of section 10-29a of the general statutes is
312 amended by adding subdivisions (47) and (48) as follows (*Effective*
313 *October 1, 2003*):

314 (NEW) (47) The Governor shall proclaim May twenty-fifth of each
315 year to be Connecticut Aviation Pioneer Day to commemorate and to
316 honor Igor I. Sikorsky. Suitable exercises shall be held in the State
317 Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance
318 of the day.

319 (NEW) (48) The Governor shall proclaim a day of each regular
320 legislative session, as designated by the Joint Committee on Legislative
321 Management, as Student Lobbying Day. Suitable exercises shall be
322 held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for
323 the observance of the day.

324 Sec. 13. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2003*) Any local or regional board of
325 education may offer chess programs as elective courses to students in
326 any grade in the public schools under its jurisdiction.

327 Sec. 14. Subsection (a) of section 10-145b of the general statutes is
328 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
329 *1, 2003*):

330 (a) The State Board of Education, upon receipt of a proper
331 application, shall issue an initial educator certificate to any person who
332 has graduated (1) from a four-year baccalaureate program of teacher
333 education as approved by said state board, [or] (2) from a four-year
334 baccalaureate program approved by said state board or from a college
335 or university accredited by the board of governors or regionally
336 accredited, provided such person has taken such teacher training
337 equivalents as the State Board of Education shall require and, unless
338 such equivalents are taken at institutions outside of this state, as the
339 board of governors shall accredit, or (3) from a four-year baccalaureate
340 program recognized by the United States Department of Education,
341 provided such person holds a master's degree or higher in teacher

342 education from a graduate program approved by said state board or
343 from a college or university accredited by the board of governors or
344 regionally accredited. In addition, on and after July 1, 1993, each
345 applicant shall have completed a subject area major as defined by the
346 State Board of Education. Each such initial educator certificate shall be
347 valid for three years, except as provided in subsection (c) of this
348 section, and may be extended by the Commissioner of Education for
349 an additional year for good cause upon the request of the
350 superintendent in whose school district such person is employed or
351 upon the request of the assessment team reviewing such person's
352 performance.

353 Sec. 15. Subsection (a) of section 10-266x of the general statutes is
354 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
355 *1, 2003*):

356 (a) Within the limits of available appropriations, the Commissioner
357 of Education shall establish a program to encourage local and regional
358 boards of education to develop innovative programs for educational
359 improvement. Local and regional boards of education may file an
360 application to participate in the program in such form and at such time
361 as the commissioner requires. Each application shall include a plan
362 developed by the local or regional board of education, in consultation
363 with the teachers employed in the school or school system for which
364 such application is being made. Proposed plans shall provide for an
365 evaluation process to measure academic progress and school
366 improvement resulting from participation in the program. For
367 purposes of the program, the commissioner may waive requirements
368 under chapters 163, 168, 170 to 173, inclusive, and chapter 164, except
369 for the provisions relating to special education required under federal
370 law, and regulations adopted pursuant to said chapters, provided each
371 application identifies (A) the specific statutes or regulations from
372 which a waiver is requested, if any, and (B) the manner in which each
373 waiver is expected to assist in achieving specified educational benefits.
374 Any such request for a waiver of requirements pursuant to this

375 subsection shall be deemed approved if not acted upon by the
376 commissioner not later than one hundred eighty days from the date of
377 application. Local and regional boards of education may cooperate
378 with businesses and nonprofit organizations in developing and
379 implementing such plans and may receive and expend private funds
380 for purposes of this section.

381 Sec. 16. Section 17a-248d of the general statutes is amended by
382 adding subsection (e) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2003*):

383 (NEW) (e) The state-wide system shall include a system for required
384 notification to any local or regional school board of education no later
385 than January first of each year of any child who resides in the local or
386 regional school district, participates in the state-wide program and will
387 attain the age of three during the next fiscal year. Such system of
388 notification shall include provisions preserving the confidentiality of
389 such child and of the parent or guardian of such child.

390 Sec. 17. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2003*) The State Board of Education
391 shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter
392 54 of the general statutes, to provide standards for the certification of
393 marital and family therapists. Such regulations shall (1) make
394 provision for certification requirements to be met by either (A)
395 completion of prescribed courses of study, or (B) such other
396 experience as the State Board of Education shall deem appropriate for
397 the position of marital and family therapist, and (2) contain standards
398 to certify individuals who are certified by another state.

399 Sec. 18. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2003*) Local and regional boards of
400 education may declare one week during the school year to be "Student
401 Worker Week". High school students in participating local and
402 regional school districts may have opportunities to participate in
403 internship programs, attend programs and symposiums designed to
404 motivate students toward a career path and inform students of career
405 opportunities, and participate in other career development activities.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 12	<i>October 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 13	<i>July 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 14	<i>July 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 15	<i>July 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 16	<i>October 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 17	<i>July 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 18	<i>July 1, 2003</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To make technical and minor revisions to the education statutes.

[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.]