



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

Raised Bill No. 1163

LCO No. 4541

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:
(ED)

**AN ACT CONCERNING REGIONAL EDUCATION SERVICE CENTERS
AND COOPERATIVE PURCHASING.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2003*) The Department of
2 Education shall encourage the use of regional education service centers
3 as providers of goods or services for local and regional boards of
4 education and may award special consideration to grant applications
5 that use the services of regional education service centers or are
6 involved in other cooperative arrangements among boards of
7 education pursuant to section 10-158a of the general statutes, as
8 amended by this act, that result in economies of scale for the purpose
9 of purchasing instructional supplies, testing materials, or food or food
10 services.

11 Sec. 2. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 10-71 of the
12 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
13 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2003*):

14 (1) The percentage of the eligible costs for adult education a local
15 board of education shall receive, under the provisions of this section,

16 shall be determined as follows: (A) Each town shall be ranked in
17 descending order from one to one hundred sixty-nine according to
18 such town's adjusted equalized net grand list per capita, as defined in
19 section 10-261; (B) based upon such ranking, a percentage of not less
20 than zero nor more than sixty-five shall be determined for each town
21 on a continuous scale, except that the percentage for a priority school
22 district pursuant to section 10-266p shall not be less than twenty. Any
23 such percentage shall be increased by seven and one-half percentage
24 points but shall not exceed sixty-five per cent for any local board of
25 education which provides basic adult education programs for adults at
26 facilities operated by or within the general administrative control and
27 supervision of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction
28 Services, provided such adults reside at such facilities. Any such
29 percentage shall be increased by one and one-half percentage points
30 but shall not exceed sixty-five per cent for any local board of education
31 which served four thousand or more students who were enrolled at
32 least twelve hours in the fiscal year two years prior to the year of the
33 grant and whose ratio of students served in the fiscal year two years
34 prior to the year of the grant to persons in the town who were twenty-
35 five years of age or older and did not have a high school diploma
36 according to the most recent federal decennial census is greater than
37 fifteen one-hundredths. Any such percentage shall be increased up to
38 and including five percentage points but shall not exceed sixty-five per
39 cent for any local board of education that uses regional education
40 service centers as providers of goods or services that are considered as
41 eligible costs for local and regional boards of education or are involved
42 in other cooperative arrangements among boards of education
43 pursuant to section 10-158a, as amended by this act, that result in
44 economies of scale. (C) Notwithstanding the provisions of
45 subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, any local board of education
46 which served two thousand or more students who were enrolled at
47 least twelve hours in the fiscal year two years prior to the year of the
48 grant shall receive a grant in the amount determined pursuant to
49 subparagraph (B) or the amount obtained by multiplying the number

50 of such students served in the fiscal year two years prior to the year of
51 the grant by twenty-five, whichever is greater.

52 Sec. 3. Subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 10-217a of the
53 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
54 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2003*):

55 (1) The percentage of the amount paid from local tax revenues for
56 such services reimbursed to a local board of education shall be
57 determined by (A) ranking each town in the state in descending order
58 from one to one hundred sixty-nine according to such town's adjusted
59 equalized net grand list per capita, as defined in section 10-261; (B)
60 based upon such ranking, (i) for reimbursement paid in the fiscal year
61 ending June 30, 1990, a percentage of not less than forty-five nor more
62 than ninety shall be determined for each town on a continuous scale,
63 except that for any town in which the number of children under the
64 temporary family assistance program, as defined in subdivision (17) of
65 section 10-262f, is greater than one per cent of the total population of
66 the town, as defined in subdivision (7) of subsection (a) of section 10-
67 261, the percentage shall be not less than eighty, (ii) for reimbursement
68 paid in the fiscal years ending June 30, 1991, to June 30, 2001, inclusive,
69 a percentage of not less than ten nor more than ninety shall be
70 determined for each town on a continuous scale, except that for any
71 town in which the number of children under the temporary family
72 assistance program, as defined in said subdivision (17) of section 10-
73 262f, is greater than one per cent of the total population of the town, as
74 defined in subdivision (7) of subsection (a) of section 10-261, and for
75 any town which has a wealth rank greater than thirty when towns are
76 ranked pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision and which
77 provides such services to greater than one thousand five hundred
78 children who are not residents of the town, the percentage shall be not
79 less than eighty, and (iii) for reimbursement paid in the fiscal years
80 ending June 30, 2002, and June 30, 2003, a percentage of not less than
81 ten nor more than ninety shall be determined for each town on a
82 continuous scale, except that for any town in which the number of

83 children under the temporary family assistance program, as defined in
84 said subdivision (17) of section 10-262f, for the fiscal year ending June
85 30, 1997, was greater than one per cent of the total population of the
86 town, as defined in subdivision (7) of subsection (a) of section 10-261
87 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1997, and for any town which has a
88 wealth rank greater than thirty when towns are ranked pursuant to
89 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision and which provides such services
90 to greater than one thousand five hundred children who are not
91 residents of the town, the percentage shall be not less than eighty. The
92 percentage of the amount paid from local tax revenues for such
93 services reimbursed pursuant to this subsection may be increased up
94 to and including five percentage points for any board of education that
95 uses regional education service centers as providers of such services or
96 are involved in other cooperative arrangements among boards of
97 education pursuant to section 10-158a, as amended by this act, that
98 result in economies of scale, provided no town shall be reimbursed
99 more than the maximum percentage otherwise allowed to any town
100 during the applicable fiscal year pursuant to this subsection.

101 Sec. 4. Subsection (d) of section 10-262n of the general statutes is
102 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
103 *1, 2003*):

104 (d) (1) Each school district shall be eligible to receive a minimum
105 grant under the program as follows: (A) Each school district in towns
106 ranked from one to one hundred thirteen, inclusive, when all towns
107 are ranked in ascending order from one to one hundred sixty-nine
108 based on town wealth, as defined in subdivision (26) of section 10-262f,
109 shall be eligible to receive a minimum grant in the amount of thirty
110 thousand dollars, and (B) each school district in towns ranked from
111 one hundred fourteen to one hundred sixty-nine, inclusive, when all
112 towns are ranked in ascending order from one to one hundred sixty-
113 nine based on town wealth, as defined in subdivision (26) of section
114 10-262f, shall be eligible to receive a minimum grant under the
115 program in the amount of fifteen thousand dollars. Such minimum

116 grant may be increased for certain school districts pursuant to
117 subdivision (4) of this subsection. (2) The department shall use (A) one
118 hundred thousand dollars of the amount appropriated for purposes of
119 this section for the vocational-technical schools for wiring and other
120 technology initiatives at such schools, and fifty thousand dollars of the
121 amount appropriated for purposes of this section for technology grants
122 to state charter schools. The amount of the grant each state charter
123 school receives shall be based on the number of students enrolled in
124 the school. (3) The department may retain up to one per cent of the
125 amount appropriated for purposes of this section for coordination,
126 program evaluation and administration. (4) Any remaining
127 appropriated funds shall be used to increase the grants to (A) priority
128 school districts pursuant to section 10-266p, (B) transitional school
129 districts pursuant to section 10-263c, [and] (C) school districts in towns
130 ranked from one to eighty-five, inclusive, when all towns are ranked in
131 ascending order from one to one hundred sixty-nine based on town
132 wealth, as defined in section 10-262f. Each such school district shall
133 receive an amount based on the ratio of the number of resident
134 students, as defined in said section 10-262f, in such school district to
135 the total number of resident students in all such school districts, and
136 (D) school districts that use regional education service centers as
137 providers of goods or services to improve the use of technology in
138 schools or are involved in other cooperative arrangements pursuant to
139 section 10-158a, as amended by this act, among boards of education
140 that result in economies of scale, provided the funds allocated
141 pursuant to this subparagraph do not exceed five per cent of the grant
142 amount provided to a district pursuant to this subsection.

143 Sec. 5. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 10-266m of the
144 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
145 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2003*):

146 (1) The percentage of pupil transportation costs reimbursed to a
147 local board of education shall be determined by (A) ranking each town
148 in the state in descending order from one to one hundred sixty-nine

149 according to such town's adjusted equalized net grand list per capita,
150 as defined in section 10-261; (B) based upon such ranking, and
151 notwithstanding the provisions of section 2-32a, (i) except as otherwise
152 provided in this subparagraph, a percentage of zero shall be assigned
153 to towns ranked from one to thirteen and a percentage of not less than
154 zero nor more than sixty shall be determined for the towns ranked
155 from fourteen to one hundred sixty-nine on a continuous scale, except
156 that any such percentage shall be increased by twenty percentage
157 points in accordance with section 10-97, where applicable and (ii) for
158 the fiscal year ending June 30, 1997, and for each fiscal year thereafter,
159 a percentage of zero shall be assigned to towns ranked from one to
160 seventeen and a percentage of not less than zero nor more than sixty
161 shall be determined for the towns ranked from eighteen to one
162 hundred sixty-nine on a continuous scale. Any such percentage shall
163 be increased up to and including five percentage points but shall not
164 exceed sixty per cent for any town that uses regional education service
165 centers as providers of transportation services or are involved in other
166 cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a, as amended by
167 this act, among boards of education that result in economies of scale.

168 Sec. 6. Subsection (a) of section 10-158a of the general statutes is
169 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
170 *1, 2003*):

171 (a) Any two or more boards of education may, in writing, agree to
172 establish cooperative arrangements to provide school accommodations
173 services, goods or services, programs or activities to enable such
174 boards to carry out the duties specified in the general statutes. Such
175 arrangements may include the establishment of a committee to
176 supervise such programs, the membership of the committee to be
177 determined by the agreement of the cooperating boards. Such
178 committee shall have the power, in accordance with the terms of the
179 agreement, to (1) apply for, receive directly and expend on behalf of
180 the school districts which have designated the committee an agent for
181 such purpose any state or federal grants which may be allocated to

182 school districts for specified programs, the supervision of which has
183 been delegated to such committee, provided such grants are payable
184 before implementation of any such program or are to reimburse the
185 committee pursuant to subsection (d) of this section for transportation
186 provided to a school operated by a cooperative arrangement; (2)
187 receive and disburse funds appropriated to the use of such committee
188 by the cooperating school districts, the state or the United States, or
189 given to the committee by individuals or private corporations; (3) hold
190 title to real or personal property in trust, or as otherwise agreed to by
191 the parties, for the appointing boards; (4) employ personnel; (5) enter
192 into contracts; [] and (6) otherwise provide the specified programs,
193 services and activities. Teachers employed by any such committee
194 shall be subject to the provisions of the general statutes applicable to
195 teachers employed by the board of education of any town or regional
196 school district. For purposes of this section, the term "teacher" shall
197 include each professional employee of a committee below the rank of
198 superintendent who holds a regular certificate issued by the State
199 Board of Education and who is in a position requiring such
200 certification.

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>

Statement of Purpose:

To encourage school districts to use the services of regional education service centers or other cooperative arrangements among boards of education that result in economies of scale.

[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.]

