



General Assembly

**Amendment**

January Session, 2003

LCO No. 6929

\*SB0115506929HD0\*

Offered by:

REP. GIANNAROS, 21<sup>st</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 1155

File No. 460

Cal. No. 550

(As Amended)

**"AN ACT CONCERNING THE FEDERAL NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND  
ACT AND TEACHER CERTIFICATION."**

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1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and  
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. Subsection (b) of section 10-16p of the general statutes is  
4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
5 *1, 2003*):

6 (b) The Department of Education shall be the lead agency for school  
7 readiness. For purposes of this section and section 10-16u, school  
8 readiness program providers eligible for funding from the Department  
9 of Education shall include local and regional boards of education,  
10 regional educational service centers, family resource centers and  
11 providers of child day care centers, as defined in section 19a-77, Head  
12 Start programs, preschool programs and other programs that meet  
13 such standards established by the Commissioner of Education. The

14 department shall establish standards for school readiness programs.  
15 The standards may include, but need not be limited to, guidelines for  
16 staff-child interactions, curriculum content, including preliteracy  
17 development, lesson plans, parent involvement, staff qualifications  
18 and training, and administration. The department shall develop age-  
19 appropriate developmental skills and goals for children attending such  
20 programs. The commissioner, in consultation with the Commissioners  
21 of Higher Education and Social Services and other appropriate entities,  
22 shall develop a continuing education training program for the staff of  
23 school readiness programs. For purposes of this section, on and after  
24 July 1, [2003] 2004, "staff qualifications" means there is in each  
25 classroom an individual who has at least the following: (1) A credential  
26 issued by an organization approved by the Commissioner of  
27 Education and nine credits or more in early childhood education or  
28 child development from an institution of higher education accredited  
29 by the Board of Governors of Higher Education or regionally  
30 accredited; (2) an associate's degree in early childhood education or  
31 child development from such an institution; [or] (3) a four-year degree  
32 with nine credits or more, in early childhood education or child  
33 development from such an institution; or (4) certification pursuant to  
34 section 10-145 with an endorsement in early childhood education or  
35 special education.

36 Sec. 502. Subsection (g) of section 10-16p of the general statutes is  
37 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
38 *passage*):

39 (g) Subject to the provisions of this subsection, no funds received by  
40 a town pursuant to subsection (c) or (d) of this section or section 10-  
41 16u shall be used to supplant federal, state or local funding received by  
42 such town for early childhood education, provided (1) a town may use  
43 the greater of (A) twenty-five thousand dollars, or (B) up to five per  
44 cent but no more than fifty thousand dollars of the amount [received]  
45 allocated pursuant to subsection (c) or (d) of this section or section 10-  
46 16u for coordination, program evaluation and administration, and (2)  
47 if a town provides twenty-five thousand dollars in local funding for

48 early childhood education coordination, program evaluation and  
49 administration, such town may use up to ten per cent but no more  
50 than seventy-five thousand dollars of such amount for coordination,  
51 program evaluation and administration. Each town that receives a  
52 grant pursuant to said subsection (c) or (d) or section 10-16u shall  
53 designate a person to be responsible for such coordination, program  
54 evaluation and administration and to act as a liaison between the town  
55 and the Departments of Education and Social Services. Each school  
56 readiness program that receives funds pursuant to this section or  
57 section 10-16u shall provide information to the department or the  
58 school readiness council, as requested, that is necessary for purposes of  
59 any school readiness program evaluation.

60 Sec. 503. Subsection (e) of section 10-16p of the general statutes is  
61 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
62 *1, 2003*):

63 (e) (1) Ninety-three per cent of the amount appropriated for  
64 purposes of this section shall be used for the grant program pursuant  
65 to subsection (c) of this section. Priority school districts and former  
66 priority school districts shall receive grants based on their proportional  
67 share of the sum of the products obtained by multiplying the average  
68 number of enrolled kindergarten students in each priority school  
69 district and in each former priority school district for the three years  
70 prior to the year the grant is to be paid, by the ratio of the average  
71 percentage of free and reduced price meals for all severe need schools  
72 in such district to the minimum percentage requirement for severe  
73 need school eligibility, provided no such school district shall receive a  
74 grant that is less than the grant it received for the prior fiscal year or a  
75 grant that is less than one hundred fifty thousand dollars.

76 (2) Six and five-tenths per cent of the amount appropriated for  
77 purposes of this section shall be used for the competitive grant  
78 program pursuant to subsection (d) of this section.

79 (3) The Department of Education may retain up to five-tenths of one

80 per cent of the amount appropriated for purposes of this section for  
81 coordination, program evaluation and administration.

82 (4) If a town that is eligible for a grant pursuant to subsection (c) of  
83 this section does not submit, by January first, a plan which is  
84 subsequently approved for the expenditure of the entire amount of  
85 funds for which such town is eligible, the department may use [up to  
86 fifty per cent of] any amounts such town has not earmarked for  
87 expenditure to (A) provide supplemental grants to other towns that  
88 are eligible for grants pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, or (B)  
89 enhance the system of professional development for pre-school  
90 educators in programs receiving funds pursuant to this section."