



General Assembly

February Session, 2004

Raised Bill No. 5373

LCO No. 1314

01314_____ED_

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE SPECIAL EDUCATION CATASTROPHIC COST GRANT.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 10-76g of the general statutes, as
2 amended by section 20 of public act 03-6 of the June 30 special session,
3 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
4 *1, 2004*):

5 (b) Any local or regional board of education which provides special
6 education pursuant to the provisions of sections 10-76a to 10-76g,
7 inclusive, as amended, for any exceptional child described in
8 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (5) of section 10-76a, as amended,
9 under its jurisdiction, excluding (1) children placed by a state agency
10 for whom a board of education receives payment pursuant to the
11 provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of section 10-76d, as
12 amended, and (2) children who require special education, who reside
13 on state-owned or leased property or in permanent family residences,
14 as defined in section 17a-154, and who are not the educational
15 responsibility of the unified school districts established pursuant to
16 sections 17a-37, 17a-240 and 18-99a, shall be financially responsible for

17 the reasonable costs of special education instruction, as defined in the
18 regulations of the State Board of Education, in an amount equal to (A)
19 for any fiscal year commencing prior to July 1, [2005] 2004, five times
20 the average per pupil educational costs of such board of education for
21 the prior fiscal year, determined in accordance with the provisions of
22 subsection (a) of section 10-76f, and (B) for the fiscal year commencing
23 July 1, [2005] 2004, and each fiscal year thereafter, four [and one-half]
24 times such average per pupil educational costs of such board of
25 education. The State Board of Education shall, within available
26 appropriations, pay on a current basis any costs in excess of the local
27 or regional board's basic contribution paid by such board in
28 accordance with the provisions of this subsection. Any amounts paid
29 by the State Board of Education on a current basis pursuant to this
30 subsection shall not be reimbursable in the subsequent year.
31 Application for such grant shall be made by filing with the Department
32 of Education, in such manner as prescribed by the commissioner,
33 annually on or before December first a statement of the cost of
34 providing special education pursuant to this subsection, provided a
35 board of education may submit, not later than March first, claims for
36 additional children or costs not included in the December filing.
37 Payment by the state for such excess costs shall be made to the local or
38 regional board of education as follows: Seventy-five per cent of the
39 cost in February and the balance in May. The amount due each town
40 pursuant to the provisions of this subsection shall be paid to the
41 treasurer of each town entitled to such aid, provided the treasurer shall
42 treat such grant, or a portion of the grant, which relates to special
43 education expenditures incurred in excess of such town's board of
44 education budgeted estimate of such expenditures, as a reduction in
45 expenditures by crediting such expenditure account, rather than town
46 revenue. Such expenditure account shall be so credited no later than
47 thirty days after receipt by the treasurer of necessary documentation
48 from the board of education indicating the amount of such special
49 education expenditures incurred in excess of such town's board of
50 education budgeted estimate of such expenditures.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	July 1, 2004

Statement of Purpose:

To reduce the local or regional board's responsibility for the cost of special education.

[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.]