



General Assembly

February Session, 2004

Raised Bill No. 330

LCO No. 1450

01450_____LAB

Referred to Committee on Labor and Public Employees

Introduced by:
(LAB)

AN ACT REINSTATING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SERVICES FOR THE BLIND.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 4-9a of the general statutes, as
2 amended by section 210 of public act 03-6 of the June 30 special
3 session, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
4 (*Effective from passage*):

5 (a) The Governor shall appoint the chairperson and executive
6 director, if any, of all boards and commissions within the Executive
7 Department, except the Board of Governors of Higher Education,
8 provided the Governor shall appoint the initial chairman of said board
9 as provided in section 10a-2, the State Properties Review Board, the
10 State Elections Enforcement Commission, the Commission on Human
11 Rights and Opportunities, the State Ethics Commission, the
12 Commission on Aging, the Board of Education and Services for the
13 Blind and the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control.

14 Sec. 2. Section 10-294 of the general statutes, as amended by section
15 1 of public act 03-217, is repealed and the following is substituted in

16 lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

17 The [Governor] Board of Education and Services for the Blind shall
18 appoint an executive director of the board. [in accordance with the
19 provisions of section 4-7.] The executive director shall be a person who
20 has (1) background, training or education related to services for the
21 blind, and (2) experience in program administration, oversight and
22 leadership. The compensation of said director shall be determined in
23 the manner provided in section 4-40. No member of the board shall
24 receive compensation for services rendered unless such services are
25 special and specially requested by the board, in which case a moderate
26 allowance may be made for the time actually spent. The certificate of
27 the director of the amount of any bill for such services and expenses
28 shall be sufficient warrant to the Comptroller for the payment of the
29 same.

30 Sec. 3. Section 10-298a of the general statutes is repealed and the
31 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

32 [The Board of Education and Services for the Blind is authorized (1)
33 to] There shall be an Industries Division within the Board of Education
34 and Services for the Blind. There shall be a director of said division,
35 who shall be provided with sufficient staff. The division shall (1)
36 maintain and develop workshops for training and employing blind
37 persons in trades and occupations suited to their abilities, for the
38 purpose of producing suitable products and services used by
39 departments, agencies and institutions of the state and its political
40 subdivisions, including, but not limited to towns, cities, boroughs and
41 school districts; (2) [to] aid blind persons in securing employment, in
42 developing home industries and in marketing their products and
43 services; and (3) [to] develop and implement rules and guidelines to
44 guarantee that the dignity and rights of citizens involved in such
45 workshops and work training programs shall be maintained.

46 Sec. 4. (*Effective from passage*) Any position that becomes available
47 within the Board of Education and Services for the Blind pursuant to

48 section 10-298a, as amended by this act, shall first be offered to former
49 employees of the Board of Education and Services for the Blind who
50 were laid off or whose positions were abolished during calendar year
51 2003, and then to such other persons who are otherwise qualified for
52 such available positions.

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 reinstate the Industries Division of the Board of Education and Services for the Blind and to give former employees of the division the opportunity to become reemployed.

[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.]