



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

Raised Bill No. 6925

LCO No. 4465

04465_____ED_

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING INDOOR AIR QUALITY IN SCHOOLS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 10-231f of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2005*):

3 (a) Each local and regional board of education [may] shall establish
4 an indoor air quality committee for each school district or facility to (1)
5 increase staff and student awareness of facets of the environment that
6 affect the health of the occupants of school facilities including, but not
7 limited to, air quality, water quality and the presence of radon, and (2)
8 develop a system for staff, students and parents of students to register
9 complaints about such environmental concerns. The committee shall
10 develop a reasonable time line for the local or regional boards of
11 education to address each complaint and make any repairs or complete
12 maintenance, if necessary. Such committee shall include, but not be
13 limited to, the chief elected official, or the official's designee, of the
14 town in the case of a local board of education, or in the case of a
15 regional board of education, the chief elected official of each member
16 town, or the official's designee, the local public health director of the
17 town in the case of a local board of education, or in the case of a

18 regional board of education, the local public health director of each
19 member town, at least one administrator, one maintenance staff
20 member, one teacher, one school health staff member, one parent of a
21 student and two members-at-large from the school district. [No local
22 or regional board of education, superintendent or school administrator
23 may prohibit a school safety committee established pursuant to section
24 10-220f from addressing indoor air quality issues that affect the health
25 of occupants of school facilities.] The committee shall annually report
26 to the Department of Education on the progress of the committee to
27 increase student and staff awareness and each complaint received and
28 the resolution of any such complaint. The Commissioner of Education
29 shall include such information when reporting in accordance with
30 section 10-220, as amended by this act.

31 (b) Any town whose local or regional board of education fails to
32 address any complaint in accordance with the time line established
33 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, shall have its grant pursuant
34 to section 10-262h reduced by two per cent.

35 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 10-220 of the general statutes is
36 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
37 *1, 2005*):

38 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall maintain good
39 public elementary and secondary schools, implement the educational
40 interests of the state as defined in section 10-4a and provide such other
41 educational activities as in its judgment will best serve the interests of
42 the school district; provided any board of education may secure such
43 opportunities in another school district in accordance with provisions
44 of the general statutes and shall give all the children of the school
45 district as nearly equal advantages as may be practicable; shall provide
46 an appropriate learning environment for its students which includes
47 (1) adequate instructional books, supplies, materials, equipment,
48 staffing, facilities and technology, (2) equitable allocation of resources
49 among its schools, (3) proper maintenance of facilities, and (4) a safe

50 school setting; shall have charge of the schools of its respective school
51 district; shall make a continuing study of the need for school facilities
52 and of a long-term school building program and from time to time
53 make recommendations based on such study to the town; shall adopt
54 and implement an indoor air quality program that provides for
55 ongoing maintenance and facility reviews necessary for the
56 maintenance and improvement of the indoor air quality of its facilities;
57 shall report annually to the Commissioner of Education on the
58 condition of its facilities and the action taken to implement its long-
59 term school building program and indoor air quality program, which
60 report, with the annual reports issued by the indoor air quality
61 committee pursuant to section 10-231f, as amended by this act, the
62 Commissioner of Education shall use to prepare an annual report that
63 said commissioner shall submit in accordance with section 11-4a to the
64 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance
65 of matters relating to education; shall advise the Commissioner of
66 Education of the relationship between any individual school building
67 project pursuant to chapter 173 and such long-term school building
68 program; shall have the care, maintenance and operation of buildings,
69 lands, apparatus and other property used for school purposes and at
70 all times shall insure all such buildings and all capital equipment
71 contained therein against loss in an amount not less than eighty per
72 cent of replacement cost; shall determine the number, age and
73 qualifications of the pupils to be admitted into each school; shall
74 develop and implement a written plan for minority staff recruitment
75 for purposes of subdivision (3) of section 10-4a; shall employ and
76 dismiss the teachers of the schools of such district subject to the
77 provisions of sections 10-151 and 10-158a; shall designate the schools
78 which shall be attended by the various children within the school
79 district; shall make such provisions as will enable each child of school
80 age, residing in the district to attend some public day school for the
81 period required by law and provide for the transportation of children
82 wherever transportation is reasonable and desirable, and for such
83 purpose may make contracts covering periods of not more than five

84 years; may place in an alternative school program or other suitable
85 educational program a pupil enrolling in school who is nineteen years
86 of age or older and cannot acquire a sufficient number of credits for
87 graduation by age twenty-one; may arrange with the board of
88 education of an adjacent town for the instruction therein of such
89 children as can attend school in such adjacent town more conveniently;
90 shall cause each child five years of age and over and under eighteen
91 years of age who is not a high school graduate and is living in the
92 school district to attend school in accordance with the provisions of
93 section 10-184, and shall perform all acts required of it by the town or
94 necessary to carry into effect the powers and duties imposed by law.

95 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2005*) The Department of Education
96 shall provide to each local and regional school district a maintenance
97 template, software and assistance with initial inventory inputs to
98 ensure consistent maintenance and repairs of educational facilities.
99 Each local and regional school board shall report electronically
100 maintenance and repair progress to the department.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	10-231f
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	10-220(a)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To make local indoor air quality committees mandatory with increased responsibilities, to increase reporting requirements and to reduce education cost sharing grants to towns that do not adhere to maintenance and repair time lines established by indoor air quality committees.

[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.]