



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6953

January Session, 2005

* _____HB06953ED_APP040605_____*

AN ACT CONCERNING BEST PRACTICES.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 10-66cc of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2005*):

4 (b) The governing council of each charter school shall submit
5 annually, to the Commissioner of Education, at such time and in such
6 manner as [he] the commissioner prescribes, and, in the case of a local
7 charter school, to the local or regional board of education for the school
8 district in which the school is located, a report on the condition of the
9 school, including (1) the educational progress of students in the school,
10 (2) the financial condition of the school, including a certified audit
11 statement of all revenues and expenditures, (3) accomplishment of the
12 mission, purpose and any specialized focus of the charter school, [and]
13 (4) the racial and ethnic composition of the student body and efforts
14 taken to increase the racial and ethnic diversity of the student body,
15 and (5) best practices employed by the school that contribute
16 significantly to the academic success of students.

17 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2005*) The Department of Education
18 shall, annually, publish a report on all of the best practices reported by
19 governing councils of charter schools pursuant to subdivision (5) of
20 subsection (b) of section 10-66cc of the general statutes, as amended by

21 this act, and distribute a copy of such report to each public school
22 superintendent and the governing council of each charter school.

23 Sec. 3. Section 10-76n of the general statutes is repealed and the
24 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2005*):

25 (a) The State Board of Education shall continue to maintain the
26 special education resource center, with federal funds granted to the
27 state for the maintenance of said center under the provisions of the
28 federal Education for the Handicapped Act, for purposes consistent
29 with the provisions of said act as it may from time to time be amended.
30 The Commissioner of Education is authorized to accept any federal
31 funds allotted to the state for such purposes and shall administer such
32 funds in accordance with federal law.

33 (b) The special education resource center described in subsection (a)
34 of this section may be conducted by the state education resource
35 center, established pursuant to section 4 of this act, as part of its
36 program of activities.

37 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2005*) (a) The State Board of Education
38 shall establish a state education resource center to assist the board in
39 the provision of programs and activities that will promote educational
40 equity and excellence. Such activities may include training and
41 continuing education seminars, publication of technical materials,
42 research and evaluation, and other related activities. The center may
43 support programs and activities concerning early childhood education,
44 the federal No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110, and closing the
45 academic achievement gap between socio-economic subgroups, and
46 other related programs.

47 (b) Within available appropriations, the Department of Education
48 shall establish a Connecticut school reform resource center within the
49 state education resource center established pursuant to subsection (a)
50 of this section. The center shall operate year-round and focus on
51 serving the needs of all public schools. The center shall (1) publish and
52 distribute reports on the most effective practices for improving student

53 achievement by successful schools, (2) provide a program of
54 professional development activities for school leaders, including
55 curriculum coordinators, principals, superintendents and board of
56 education members, (3) provide information on successful models for
57 evaluating student performance and managing student data, and (4)
58 provide other programs and materials to assist in the improvement of
59 public schools.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	10-66cc(b)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	10-76n
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	New section

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Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

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