



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

**Raised Bill No. 5769**

LCO No. 2981

\*02981\_\_\_\_\_ED\_\*

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:  
(ED)

***AN ACT CONCERNING INTERDISTRICT MAGNET SCHOOLS.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 10-264i of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
3 *1, 2008*):

4 (a) A local or regional board of education, regional educational  
5 service center, the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical  
6 Colleges on behalf of Manchester Community College, or cooperative  
7 arrangement pursuant to section 10-158a which transports a child to an  
8 interdistrict magnet school program, as defined in section 10-264l, as  
9 amended, in a town other than the town in which the child resides  
10 shall be eligible pursuant to section 10-264e to receive a grant for the  
11 cost of transporting such child in accordance with this section. The  
12 amount of such grant shall not exceed an amount equal to the number  
13 of such children transported multiplied by one thousand [two] five  
14 hundred dollars, plus fifty per cent of any costs in excess of such  
15 amount, up to three thousand dollars. The Department of Education  
16 shall provide such grants within available appropriations. Nothing in  
17 this subsection shall be construed to prevent a local or regional board

18 of education, regional educational service center or cooperative  
19 arrangement from receiving reimbursement under section 10-266m, as  
20 amended, for reasonable transportation expenses for which such  
21 board, service center or cooperative arrangement is not reimbursed  
22 pursuant to this section.

23 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 10-264h of the general statutes is  
24 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
25 *1, 2008*):

26 (a) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, until the fiscal year  
27 ending June 30, 2003, a local or regional board of education, regional  
28 educational service center or a cooperative arrangement pursuant to  
29 section 10-158a for purposes of an interdistrict magnet school may be  
30 eligible for reimbursement up to the full reasonable cost of any capital  
31 expenditure for the purchase, construction, extension, replacement,  
32 leasing or major alteration of interdistrict magnet school facilities,  
33 including any expenditure for the purchase of equipment, in  
34 accordance with this section. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004,  
35 and each fiscal year thereafter, such entities may be eligible for  
36 reimbursement up to ninety-five per cent of such cost. To be eligible  
37 for reimbursement under this section a magnet school construction  
38 project shall meet the requirements for a school building project  
39 established in chapter 173, except that the Commissioner of Education  
40 may waive any requirement in such chapter concerning space  
41 specifications for good cause. Such waiver shall permit the approval of  
42 a project that exceeds standard space specifications by up to fifteen per  
43 cent when the magnet school demonstrates that it has unusual  
44 programmatic needs. On and after July 1, 1997, the commissioner shall  
45 approve only applications for reimbursement under this section that  
46 he finds will reduce racial, ethnic and economic isolation.

47 Sec. 3. (*Effective July 1, 2006*) The Department of Education shall  
48 develop a plan to provide for the approval of new interdistrict magnet  
49 schools. In the development of such plan, the department shall

50 consider locations for such schools, including, but not limited to, areas  
51 that are underserved by interdistrict magnet schools, and schools that  
52 need to be approved in accordance with the provisions of the  
53 stipulated settlement agreement in the action *Milo Sheff, et al. v.*  
54 *William A. O'Neill, et al.* and the grade levels that such schools shall  
55 serve. Not later than January 1, 2007, the department shall report the  
56 plan, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general  
57 statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly  
58 having cognizance of matters related to education.

59 Sec. 4. Section 10-264l of the 2006 supplement to the general statutes  
60 is amended by adding subsection (j) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

61 (NEW) (j) An interdistrict magnet school that has unused student  
62 capacity may enroll directly any interested student into its program.  
63 The local or regional board of education otherwise responsible for  
64 educating such student shall contribute funds to support the operation  
65 of the magnet school in an amount equal to any per student tuition  
66 charged to participating districts, except if the total number of such  
67 students enrolled pursuant to this subsection exceeds three per cent of  
68 the total population of students of the school district under the  
69 jurisdiction of such board of education, such board of education shall  
70 pay tuition, if any, for the number of students in excess of three per  
71 cent of such total population in accordance with a formal agreement  
72 entered into by such school district and the interdistrict magnet school.  
73 If any such board of education fails to pay such tuition, the  
74 commissioner may withhold from such school district a sum payable  
75 under section 10-262h of the 2006 supplement to the general statutes in  
76 an amount that does not exceed the amount of the unpaid tuition to  
77 the magnet school and transfer such money to the fiscal agent for the  
78 magnet school as a supplementary grant for the operation of the  
79 magnet school program.

80 Sec. 5. Subdivision (9) of section 10-262f of the 2006 supplement to  
81 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu

82 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

83 (9) "Foundation" means (A) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1990,  
 84 three thousand nine hundred eighteen dollars, (B) for the fiscal year  
 85 ending June 30, 1991, four thousand one hundred ninety-two dollars,  
 86 (C) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1992, four thousand four  
 87 hundred eighty-six dollars, (D) for the fiscal years ending June 30,  
 88 1993, June 30, 1994, and June 30, 1995, four thousand eight hundred  
 89 dollars, (E) for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1996, June 30, 1997, and  
 90 June 30, 1998, five thousand seven hundred eleven dollars, (F) for the  
 91 fiscal year ending June 30, 1999, five thousand seven hundred seventy-  
 92 five dollars, [and] (G) for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2000, to June  
 93 30, [2007] 2008, inclusive, five thousand eight hundred ninety-one  
 94 dollars, and (H) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, six thousand  
 95 ninety-four dollars.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	10-264i(a)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	10-264h(a)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	10-264l
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	10-262f(9)

**Statement of Purpose:**

To enact certain recommendations of the task force concerning interdistrict magnet schools.

*[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.]*