



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Raised Bill No. 6998

LCO No. 3719

03719_____PRI

Referred to Committee on Program Review and Investigations

Introduced by:
(PRI)

**AN ACT ADOPTING THE 2006 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS
COMMITTEE CONCERNING ADULT LITERACY.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) As used in sections 1 to 7,
2 inclusive, of this act:

3 (1) "Board" means the Adult Literacy Leadership Board;

4 (2) "Adult literacy programs" and "adult literacy services" means
5 services aimed at improving the ability of persons sixteen years of age
6 or over who are not enrolled in secondary school to read, write and
7 speak in English, compute and solve problems at levels of proficiency
8 necessary to function on the job, in the family of the individual and in
9 society;

10 (3) "Adult education" means a program established pursuant to part
11 V of chapter 164 of the general statutes;

12 (4) "Vision statement" means a written projected overview of the
13 state's adult literacy programs and services at a specified future date;

14 and

15 (5) "Mission statement" means a written declaration of the purpose
16 of the state's adult literacy programs and services, including elements
17 that address the goals.

18 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) There is established the
19 Adult Literacy Leadership Board. The board shall consist of nine
20 voting members and eight ex-officio nonvoting members. (1) The
21 voting members shall be appointed as follows: (A) Five appointed by
22 the Governor, (i) two of whom represent local or regional boards of
23 education that administer adult education programs, (ii) one of whom
24 represents a voluntary literacy organization, (iii) one of whom
25 represents a public library, and (iv) one of whom represents a business
26 that has employees who lack basic literacy skills or proficiency in the
27 English language; (B) one appointed by the speaker of the House of
28 Representatives who represents a regional workforce development
29 board; (C) one appointed by the minority leader of the House of
30 Representatives who represents adult literacy programs provided by
31 the community-technical colleges; (D) one appointed by the president
32 pro tempore of the Senate who represents organized labor; and (E) one
33 appointed by the minority leader of the Senate who represents a
34 community organization that operates an adult literacy program. (2)
35 The ex-officio nonvoting members shall be the Commissioners of
36 Correction, Education, Higher Education, Economic and Community
37 Development and Social Services, the Labor Commissioner, the
38 director of the Office of Workforce Competitiveness and the Secretary
39 of the Office of Policy and Management. The voting members shall
40 serve for a term of four years. The members of the commission shall
41 serve without compensation but shall, within the limits of available
42 funds, be reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred in the
43 performance of their duties.

44 (b) The Governor shall appoint the chairperson of the board from
45 among its voting members. The board may create other positions it

46 deems necessary and may fill such positions from among its members.
47 The powers of the board shall be vested in and exercised by not less
48 than five members of the board. Five members of the board shall
49 constitute a quorum.

50 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The Adult Literacy Leadership
51 Board shall:

52 (1) Create a vision and mission statement, by July 1, 2008, that
53 clarifies the purpose of adult literacy programs and services in
54 Connecticut emphasizing the goal of helping adults develop the
55 literacy skills they need to function as productive citizens in the
56 workplace, family and community;

57 (2) Develop and update a three-year strategic plan, in accordance
58 with section 4 of this act;

59 (3) Report recommendations annually to the Governor and General
60 Assembly for sources and levels of funding to meet the goals and
61 objectives outlined in the strategic plan, in accordance with section 4 of
62 this act;

63 (4) Establish performance measures for the adult literacy system
64 and use them to track progress toward the goals and objectives
65 outlined in the strategic plan;

66 (5) Develop and maintain an online centralized inventory of all
67 adult literacy programs and services offered in the state that includes a
68 description of the type of service, the time and place it is offered and
69 any eligibility requirements or fees;

70 (6) Establish standards for adult literacy service providers,
71 including requirements for waiting lists;

72 (7) Require each adult literacy service provider in the state to
73 maintain a waiting list and report the information to the board, in
74 accordance with standards it establishes;

75 (8) Promote coordination and collaboration of delivery of adult
76 literacy programs and services through regionalized service delivery
77 and community partnerships; and

78 (9) Prepare an annual state report card on the status of adult literacy
79 in Connecticut, in accordance with section 5 of this act.

80 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) On or before July 1, 2008, the
81 board shall develop a three-year strategic plan for an adult literacy
82 system in Connecticut.

83 (b) The strategic plan shall: (1) Include goals for an adult literacy
84 system; (2) define the roles of all adult literacy service providers in the
85 state, examining in particular, (A) governance responsibility for adult
86 education, (B) discrepancies in service delivery and ways to promote
87 regionalized service delivery and community partnerships, and (C)
88 resources for system-wide administration, management, research and
89 coordination; (3) include priorities for services that (A) improve the
90 quality of instruction, (B) improve access and retention, and (C)
91 identify target populations for services; (4) include an analysis funding
92 of all adult literacy services, identifying (A) estimated resources
93 needed to implement the plan's goals, (B) current sources of funding
94 and possibilities for reallocation, and (C) potential alternatives and
95 new sources of funding; and (5) outline funding policies that provide
96 (A) financial support and incentives to support collaborative delivery
97 of services, and (B) adequate resources for state-funded agencies with
98 adult literacy responsibilities, including public libraries, to carry out
99 data collection, analysis, evaluation and research related to program
100 effectiveness and best practices.

101 (c) The board shall designate regional planning workgroups
102 consisting of representatives of adult literacy service providers and
103 persons receiving adult literacy services to assist in developing and
104 reviewing the strategic plan for adult literacy. The board shall review
105 annually the implementation of the strategic plan and make any
106 necessary revisions. The board shall update the strategic plan every

107 three years.

108 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The state report card, prepared
109 pursuant to subdivision (8) of section 3 of this act, shall provide
110 information on the status of adult literacy in the state. The report card
111 shall identify each major component of the adult literacy system,
112 including, but not limited to, adult education, family literacy, and
113 workplace literacy, and provide for each component: (1) The number
114 and demographics of persons served, (2) a description of sources of
115 funding, and (3) performance measures for adult literacy services.

116 Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) On or before January 1, 2008,
117 and annually thereafter, the board shall report, in accordance with
118 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the Governor and to the joint
119 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
120 matters relating to correction, education, higher education, economic
121 and community development, labor and human services on (1) the
122 progress made in developing and implementing the strategic plan, (2)
123 recommendations for sources and levels of funding to meet the goals
124 outlined in the strategic plan, and (3) the report card prepared
125 pursuant to subdivision (8) of section 3 of this act.

126 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The board may request other
127 state agencies, including, but not limited to, the Departments of
128 Education, Higher Education, Economic and Community
129 Development and Social Services, the Labor Department, the Office of
130 Workforce Competitiveness and the Board of Trustees of the
131 Community-Technical Colleges to provide information, reports and
132 other assistance in carrying out its duties.

133 Sec. 8. Subsection (e) of section 2c-2b of the general statutes is
134 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
135 *1, 2007*):

136 (e) The following governmental entities and programs are
137 terminated, effective July 1, 2012, unless reestablished in accordance

138 with the provisions of section 2c-10:

139 (1) Regional advisory councils for children and youth center
140 facilities, established under section 17a-30;

141 (2) Repealed by P.A. 93-262, S. 86, 87;

142 (3) Advisory Council on Children and Families, established under
143 section 17a-4;

144 (4) Board of Education and Services for the Blind, established under
145 section 10-293;

146 (5) Repealed by P.A. 84-361, S. 6, 7;

147 (6) Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired, established
148 under section 46a-27;

149 (7) Advisory and planning councils for regional centers for the
150 mentally retarded, established under section 17a-273;

151 (8) Repealed by P.A. 01-141, S. 15, 16;

152 (9) Repealed by P.A. 94-245, S. 45, 46;

153 (10) Repealed by P.A. 85-613, S. 153, 154;

154 (11) State Library Board, established under section 11-1;

155 (12) Advisory Council for Special Education, established under
156 section 10-76i;

157 (13) Repealed by June 30 Sp. Sess. P.A. 03-6, S. 248;

158 (14) Repealed by June 30 Sp. Sess. P.A. 03-6, S. 248;

159 (15) Repealed by P.A. 89-362, S. 4, 5;

160 (16) Repealed by June Sp. Sess. P.A. 91-14, S. 28, 30;

161 (17) Repealed by P.A. 90-230, S. 100, 101;

162 (18) State Commission on Capitol Preservation and Restoration,
163 established under section 4b-60;

164 (19) Repealed by P.A. 90-230, S. 100, 101; [and]

165 (20) Examining Board for Crane Operators, established under
166 section 29-222; and

167 (21) Adult Literacy Leadership Board, established under section 2 of
168 this act.

169 Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The sum of ____ dollars is
170 appropriated to the Department of Education, from the General Fund,
171 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, for personal services for two
172 full-time education consultant positions in the adult education unit of
173 the Department of Education.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	2c-2b(e)
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To adopt the 2006 recommendations of the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee on Adult Literacy.

[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.]