



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 1415**

January Session, 2007

\* SB01415ED\_APP032007 \*

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT SCIENCE CENTER AND  
A COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM FOR ROBOTICS IN SCHOOLS.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) The Department of  
2 Education shall administer a grant program to assist with the  
3 operation of the Connecticut Science Center.

4 (b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, the Commissioner of  
5 Education shall, on or before July 31, 2007, make a payment to the  
6 Connecticut Science Center for the grant under subsection (a) of this  
7 section, in an amount equal to three hundred thousand dollars.

8 (c) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, the Commissioner of  
9 Education shall, on or before July 31, 2008, make a payment to the  
10 Connecticut Science Center for the grant under subsection (a) of this  
11 section, in an amount equal to one million two hundred thousand  
12 dollars.

13 (d) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, and each fiscal year  
14 thereafter, the Commissioner of Education shall, on or before July  
15 thirty-first, make a payment to the Connecticut Science Center for the  
16 grant under subsection (a) of this section, in an amount that shall be  
17 determined by the commissioner after review of the budget proposal  
18 submitted pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, but such amount

19 shall not be less than one million two hundred thousand dollars. No  
20 payment shall be made pursuant to this subsection if the center has not  
21 fulfilled the requirements pursuant to subsection (f) of this section.

22 (e) For the biennium ending June 30, 2011, and each biennium  
23 thereafter, the Connecticut Science Center shall submit a budget  
24 proposal for operations of the center to the Department of Education at  
25 such time and in such manner as the Commissioner of Education  
26 prescribes.

27 (f) In order to be eligible for a grant payment under subsection (d) of  
28 this section, the Connecticut Science Center shall:

29 (1) Provide, annually, not later than June thirtieth, the Department  
30 of Education with a summary report of programs and services and an  
31 independent audit of the most recent fiscal year;

32 (2) Document reasonable efforts to include the core science  
33 curriculum framework developed by the Department of Education in  
34 the center's programs, services and exhibits and offer science education  
35 training to public school teachers and administrators; and

36 (3) Subscribe to the goals of (A) motivating more young people to  
37 study science, technology, engineering and math, (B) advancing  
38 student achievement in these fields, and (C) helping to close  
39 achievement gaps in these fields, by offering special programs to the  
40 priority school districts pursuant to section 10-266p of the general  
41 statutes.

42 (g) Not later than September 1, 2011, and triennially thereafter, the  
43 Connecticut Science Center shall report, in accordance with the  
44 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, on the programs,  
45 services, exhibits, financial status and any future plans of the center  
46 and any available demographic information on clients served by the  
47 center to the Commissioner of Education and the joint standing  
48 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
49 relating to education.

50       Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The Connecticut Science Center  
51 shall be eligible to the same extent as boards of education for any  
52 competitive state grant.

53       Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) There is established the  
54 "Connecticut Science Center account" which shall be a separate,  
55 nonlapsing account within the General Fund to be administered by the  
56 Department of Education. The account shall contain appropriations to  
57 the grant program pursuant to section 1 of this act and any other funds  
58 required by law to be deposited in the account. Funds in the account  
59 shall be used to support the annual operations of the Connecticut  
60 Science Center.

61       Sec. 4. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The Connecticut Science Center shall  
62 administer a competitive grant program for robotics programs in  
63 schools. Local and regional boards of education may apply for a grant  
64 under the program at such time in such manner as the president of the  
65 Connecticut Science Center prescribes. The science center shall use any  
66 state funds it receives that were appropriated for purposes of the  
67 competitive grant program for such grants and may use any other  
68 available funds for such grants.

69       Sec. 5. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The sum of three hundred thousand  
70 dollars is appropriated to the Department of Education, from the  
71 General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, for the grant  
72 program under section 1 of this act.

73       Sec. 6. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The sum of one million two hundred  
74 thousand dollars is appropriated to the Department of Education, from  
75 the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, for the grant  
76 program under section 1 of this act.

77       Sec. 7. (*Effective from passage*) The sum of one hundred fifty thousand  
78 dollars is appropriated to the Department of Education, from the  
79 General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, for the purpose  
80 of carrying out section 4 of this act.

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>from passage</i>	New section

**ED**

*Joint Favorable Subst. C/R*

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