



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 634

February Session, 2008

Substitute House Bill No. 5869

House of Representatives, April 15, 2008

The Committee on Appropriations reported through REP. MERRILL of the 54th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION.

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

1 Section 1. Section 10-64 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

3 (a) Any local or regional board of education may enter into
4 agreements with other such boards of education to establish a regional
5 [vocational agriculture] agricultural science and technology education
6 center in conjunction with its regular public school system, provided
7 such center shall have a regional [vocational agriculture] agricultural
8 science and technology education consulting committee which shall
9 advise the operating board of education but shall have no legal
10 authority with respect to such center. Such agreements may include
11 matters pertaining to the admission of students, including the
12 establishment of a reasonable number of available program
13 acceptances and the criteria for program acceptance. Each board of
14 education shall appoint to said committee two representatives, who

15 have a competent knowledge of agriculture or aquaculture, as
16 appropriate, and who need not be members of such board.

17 (b) No new [vocational agriculture] agricultural science and
18 technology education center shall be approved by the State Board of
19 Education pursuant to section 10-65 of the 2008 supplement to the
20 general statutes, as amended by this act, during the three-year period
21 from July 1, 1993, to June 30, 1996, except that the State Board of
22 Education may approve such a center if it is to be operated by the
23 board of education of a local or regional school district with fifteen
24 thousand or more resident students, as defined in subdivision (19) of
25 section 10-262f of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes. If a new
26 regional [vocational agriculture] agricultural science and technology
27 education center is established for a school district pursuant to this
28 subsection, any resident student of such school district who, during
29 the school year immediately preceding the initial operation of such
30 center, was enrolled in grades 10 to 12, inclusive, in a regional
31 [vocational agriculture] agricultural science and technology education
32 center operated by another local or regional board of education, may
33 continue to be enrolled in such regional [vocational agriculture]
34 agricultural science and technology education center.

35 (c) For purposes of this section and sections 10-65 of the 2008
36 supplement to the general statutes, as amended by this act, and 10-66
37 as amended by this act, the term ["vocational agriculture"] "agricultural
38 science and technology education" includes vocational aquaculture
39 and marine-related employment.

40 (d) Any local or regional board of education which does not furnish
41 [vocational agricultural training] agricultural science and technology
42 education approved by the State Board of Education shall designate a
43 school or schools having such a course approved by the State Board of
44 Education as the school which any person may attend who has
45 completed an elementary school course through the eighth grade. The
46 board of education shall pay the tuition and reasonable and necessary
47 cost of transportation of any person under twenty-one years of age

48 who is not a graduate of a high school or vocational school or an
49 agricultural science and technology center and who attends the
50 designated school, provided transportation services may be suspended
51 in accordance with the provisions of section 10-233c of the 2008
52 supplement to the general statutes. Each such board's reimbursement
53 percentage pursuant to section 10-266m for expenditures in excess of
54 eight hundred dollars per pupil incurred in the fiscal year beginning
55 July 1, 2004, and in each fiscal year thereafter, shall be increased by an
56 additional twenty percentage points.

57 Sec. 2. Section 10-65 of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes is
58 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
59 *1, 2008*):

60 (a) Each local or regional school district operating [a vocational
61 agriculture] an agricultural science and technology education center
62 approved by the State Board of Education for program, educational
63 need, location and area to be served shall be eligible for the following
64 grants: (1) In accordance with the provisions of chapter 173, through
65 progress payments in accordance with the provisions of section 10-
66 287i, ninety-five per cent of the net eligible costs of constructing,
67 acquiring, renovating and equipping approved facilities to be used for
68 such [vocational agriculture] agricultural science and technology
69 education center, for the expansion or improvement of existing
70 facilities or for the replacement or improvement of equipment therein,
71 and (2) subject to the provisions of section 10-65b, as amended by this
72 act, in an amount equal to one thousand [three] five hundred [fifty-
73 five] five dollars per student for every secondary school student who
74 was enrolled in such center on October first of the previous year.

75 (b) Each local or regional board of education not maintaining [a
76 vocational agricultural] an agricultural science and technology
77 education center shall provide opportunities for its students to enroll
78 in [such a center] one or more such centers in a number that is at least
79 equal to the number specified in any written agreement with [a
80 vocational agricultural center] each such center or centers, or in the

81 absence of such an agreement, a number that is at least equal to the
82 average number of its students that the board of education enrolled in
83 [a vocational agricultural center] each such center or centers during the
84 previous three school years, provided, in addition to such number,
85 each such board of education shall provide opportunities for its
86 students to enroll in the ninth grade in a number that is at least equal
87 to the number specified in any written agreement with each such
88 center or centers, or in the absence of such an agreement, a number
89 that is at least equal to the average number of students that the board
90 of education enrolled in the ninth grade in each such center or centers
91 during the previous three school years. If a local or regional board of
92 education provided opportunities for students to enroll in more than
93 one center as of July 1, 2007, such board of education shall continue to
94 provide such opportunities to students in accordance with this
95 subsection. The board of education operating [a vocational agriculture]
96 an agricultural science and technology education center may charge,
97 subject to the provisions of section 10-65b, as amended by this act,
98 tuition for a school year in an amount not to exceed eighty-two and
99 five-tenths per cent of the foundation level pursuant to subdivision (9)
100 of section 10-262f of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes, per
101 student for the fiscal year in which the tuition is paid, except that such
102 board may charge tuition for (1) students enrolled under shared-time
103 arrangements on a pro rata basis, and (2) special education students
104 which shall not exceed the actual costs of educating such students
105 minus the amounts received pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection
106 (a) of this section and subsection (c) of this section. Any tuition paid by
107 such board for special education students in excess of the tuition paid
108 for non-special-education students shall be reimbursed pursuant to
109 section 10-76g.

110 (c) In addition to the grants described in subsection (a) of this
111 section, within available appropriations, (1) each local or regional
112 board of education operating [a vocational agriculture] an agricultural
113 science and technology education center in which more than one
114 hundred and fifty of the students in the prior school year were out-of-
115 district students shall be eligible to receive, a grant in an amount equal

116 to five hundred dollars for every secondary school student enrolled in
117 such center on October first of the previous year, (2) on and after July
118 1, 2000, if a local or regional board of education operating [a vocational
119 agriculture] an agricultural science and technology education center
120 that received a grant pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, no
121 longer qualifies for such a grant, such local or regional board of
122 education shall receive a grant in an amount determined as follows:
123 (A) For the first fiscal year such board of education does not qualify for
124 a grant under said subdivision (1), a grant in the amount equal to four
125 hundred dollars for every secondary school student enrolled in its
126 [vocational agriculture] agricultural science and technology education
127 center on October first of the previous year, (B) for the second
128 successive fiscal year such board of education does not so qualify, a
129 grant in an amount equal to three hundred dollars for every such
130 secondary school student enrolled in such center on said date, (C) for
131 the third successive fiscal year such board of education does not so
132 qualify, a grant in an amount equal to two hundred dollars for every
133 such secondary school student enrolled in such center on said date,
134 and (D) for the fourth successive fiscal year such board of education
135 does not so qualify, a grant in an amount equal to one hundred dollars
136 for every such secondary school student enrolled in such center on
137 said date, and (3) each local and regional board of education operating
138 [a vocational agriculture] an agricultural science and technology
139 education center [which] that does not receive a grant pursuant to
140 subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection shall receive a grant in an
141 amount equal to sixty dollars for every secondary school student
142 enrolled in such center on said date.

143 (d) (1) If there are any remaining funds after the amount of the
144 grants described in subsections (a) and (c) of this section are calculated,
145 within available appropriations, each local or regional board of
146 education operating [a vocational agriculture] an agricultural science
147 and technology education center shall be eligible to receive a grant in
148 an amount equal to one hundred dollars for each student enrolled in
149 such center on October first of the previous school year. (2) If there are
150 any remaining funds after the amount of the grants described in

151 subdivision (1) of this subsection are calculated, within available
152 appropriations, each local or regional board of education operating [a
153 vocational agriculture] an agricultural science and technology
154 education center that had more than one hundred and fifty out-of-
155 district students enrolled in such center on October first of the
156 previous school year shall be eligible to receive a grant based on the
157 ratio of the number of out-of-district students in excess of one hundred
158 and fifty out-of-district students enrolled in such center on said date to
159 the total number of out-of-district students in excess of one hundred
160 and fifty out-of-district students enrolled in all [vocational agriculture]
161 agricultural science and technology education centers that had in
162 excess of one hundred and fifty out-of-district students enrolled on
163 said date.

164 Sec. 3. Section 10-65a of the general statutes is repealed and the
165 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

166 (a) Each local and regional board of education which operates [a
167 vocational agriculture] an agricultural science and technology
168 education center shall establish and implement a five-year plan to
169 increase racial and ethnic diversity at such center. The plan shall
170 reasonably reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of the area of the state
171 in which the center is located.

172 (b) Each local and regional board of education which operates [a
173 vocational agriculture] an agricultural science and technology
174 education center shall conduct an annual study to ascertain the
175 educational and vocational activities in which graduates of such center
176 are engaged five years after graduation and shall submit the study to
177 the State Board of Education.

178 Sec. 4. Section 10-65b of the general statutes is repealed and the
179 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

180 A local or regional board of education [which] that operates a
181 regional [vocational agriculture] agricultural science and technology
182 education center shall provide to each student enrolled in such center

183 all of the student's nonagricultural academic courses, provided [that]
184 any such board which, on or before July 1, 1993, entered into an
185 agreement to offer shared-time arrangements and any such board
186 [which] that operates a regional vocational aquaculture program may
187 offer or continue to offer such shared-time arrangements unless the
188 Commissioner of Education determines that such shared-time
189 arrangements are not in substantial compliance with the provisions of
190 sections 10-64, as amended by this act, and 10-65 of the 2008
191 supplement to the general statutes, as amended by this act, and any
192 regulations adopted pursuant to section 10-66, as amended by this act.
193 For purposes of this section and said section 10-65 of the 2008
194 supplement to the general statutes, as amended by this act, "shared-
195 time arrangements" means the enrollment of students in a regional
196 [vocational agriculture] agricultural science and technology education
197 center while such students receive nonagricultural academic courses in
198 a school district under the jurisdiction of a local or regional board of
199 education other than the board of education operating such center.

200 Sec. 5. Section 10-66 of the general statutes is repealed and the
201 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

202 The State Board of Education may adopt, in accordance with the
203 provisions of chapter 54, such regulations as are necessary to carry out
204 the purposes of this part and to insure reasonable economy in the
205 [vocational agriculture] agricultural science and technology centers.

206 Sec. 6. Section 10-97 of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes is
207 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
208 *1, 2008*):

209 (a) The board of education of any town or, where the boards of
210 education of constituent towns have so agreed, any regional school
211 district shall provide the reasonable and necessary transportation,
212 except as provided in section 10-233c of the 2008 supplement to the
213 general statutes, for any student under twenty-one years of age who is
214 not a graduate of a high school or vocational school and who resides
215 with a parent or guardian in such town or regional school district or

216 who belongs to such town, and who attends a state or state-approved
217 vocational secondary school within such local or regional school
218 district as a regular all-day student or as a high school cooperative
219 student, and for any such student who attends any such school in a
220 town other than the town of his residence. When the cost of such
221 transportation out-of-town would exceed the sum of two hundred
222 dollars per year, said board of education may elect to maintain such
223 student in the town where he or she attends such vocational school
224 and for the cost of such maintenance the local or regional school
225 district shall be reimbursed in the same manner and to the same extent
226 as in the case of payment for transportation. Each such board's
227 reimbursement percentage pursuant to section 10-266m of the 2008
228 supplement to the general statutes, for expenditures in excess of eight
229 hundred dollars per pupil incurred in the fiscal year beginning July 1,
230 1987, and in each fiscal year thereafter, shall be increased by an
231 additional twenty percentage points.

232 (b) Any local or regional board of education which does not furnish
233 [vocational agricultural training] agricultural science and technology
234 education approved by the State Board of Education shall designate a
235 school or schools having such a course approved by the State Board of
236 Education as the school which any person may attend who has
237 completed an elementary school course through the eighth grade. The
238 board of education shall pay the tuition and reasonable and necessary
239 cost of transportation of any person under twenty-one years of age
240 who is not a graduate of a high school or vocational school and who
241 attends the designated school, provided transportation services may be
242 suspended in accordance with the provisions of section 10-233c of the
243 2008 supplement to the general statutes. Each such board's
244 reimbursement percentage pursuant to section 10-266m for
245 expenditures in excess of eight hundred dollars per pupil incurred in
246 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1987, and in each fiscal year thereafter,
247 shall be increased by an additional twenty percentage points.

248 (c) Any local or regional board of education which transports
249 students to a state or state-approved vocational secondary school, or

250 school furnishing [vocational agricultural training] agricultural science
251 and technology education shall be reimbursed for a portion of such
252 pupil transportation annually in accordance with the provisions of
253 section 10-266m of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes, and the
254 provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this section relating to
255 reimbursement percentages, provided the reimbursement for
256 transportation costs to a school furnishing vocational agricultural
257 training shall not exceed an amount equal to such reimbursement of
258 the costs of transporting such pupils to the school furnishing a full
259 program of vocational agricultural training nearest to the sending
260 school district at the time of the pupil's initial enrollment in the
261 program. Application for such reimbursement shall be made by the
262 board of education to the State Board of Education at such time and in
263 such manner as said state board prescribes. The provisions of this
264 section shall apply to a veteran who served in time of war, as defined
265 by section 27-103, without regard to age or whether or not such
266 veteran resides with a parent or guardian provided such veteran is
267 attending a state or state-approved vocational secondary school.

268 (d) The parents or guardian of any student or any veteran over
269 twenty-one who is denied the reasonable and necessary transportation
270 required in this section may appeal such lack of transportation in the
271 same manner as is provided in sections 10-186 and 10-187.

272 (e) For purposes of this section, a local or regional board of
273 education shall not be required to expend for transporting a student to
274 a regional vocational-technical school or [a vocational-agriculture] an
275 agricultural science and technology education center an amount
276 greater than six thousand dollars, except that a board of education
277 shall continue to pay the reasonable and necessary costs of
278 transporting a student who is enrolled in such a school or center on
279 July 1, 1996, until such student completes the program at such school
280 or center.

281 Sec. 7. Section 10-220d of the general statutes is repealed and the
282 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

283 Each local and regional board of education shall provide full access
284 to regional vocational-technical schools, regional [vocational
285 agriculture] agricultural science and technology education centers,
286 interdistrict magnet schools, charter schools and interdistrict student
287 attendance programs for the recruitment of students attending the
288 schools under the board's jurisdiction, provided such recruitment is
289 not for the purpose of interscholastic athletic competition.

290 Sec. 8. Subsection (a) of section 10-231b of the 2008 supplement to
291 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
292 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

293 (a) No person, other than a pesticide applicator with supervisory
294 certification under section 22a-54 or a pesticide applicator with
295 operational certification under section 22a-54 under the direct
296 supervision of a supervisory pesticide applicator, may apply pesticide
297 within any building or on the grounds of any school, other than a
298 regional [vocational agriculture] agricultural science and technology
299 education center. This section shall not apply in the case of an
300 emergency application of pesticide to eliminate an immediate threat to
301 human health where it is impractical to obtain the services of any such
302 applicator provided such emergency application does not involve a
303 restricted use pesticide, as defined in section 22a-47.

304 Sec. 9. Subsection (a) of section 10-231c of the general statutes is
305 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
306 *1, 2008*):

307 (a) As used in this section, "local or regional board of education"
308 means a local or regional board of education that does not have an
309 integrated pest management plan for the schools under its control that
310 is consistent with an applicable model plan provided by the
311 Commissioner of Environmental Protection under section 22a-66l of
312 the 2008 supplement to the general statutes and "school" means a
313 school, other than a regional [vocational agriculture] agricultural
314 science and technology education center, under the control of a local or
315 regional board of education.

316 Sec. 10. Subsection (a) of section 10-231d of the general statutes is
317 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
318 *1, 2008*):

319 (a) As used in this section, "local or regional board of education"
320 means a local or regional board of education which has an integrated
321 pest management plan for the schools under its control that is
322 consistent with an applicable model plan provided by the
323 Commissioner of Environmental Protection under section 22a-66l of
324 the 2008 supplement to the general statutes and "school" means a
325 school, other than a regional [vocational agriculture] agricultural
326 science and technology education center, under the control of a local or
327 regional board of education.

328 Sec. 11. Subsection (a) of section 10-264l of the 2008 supplement to
329 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
330 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

331 (a) The Department of Education shall, within available
332 appropriations, establish a grant program to assist local and regional
333 boards of education, regional educational service centers, the Board of
334 Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of
335 Manchester Community College, and cooperative arrangements
336 pursuant to section 10-158a with the operation of interdistrict magnet
337 school programs. All interdistrict magnet schools shall be operated in
338 conformance with the same laws and regulations applicable to public
339 schools. For the purposes of this section "an interdistrict magnet school
340 program" means a program which (1) supports racial, ethnic and
341 economic diversity, (2) offers a special and high quality curriculum,
342 and (3) requires students who are enrolled to attend at least half-time.
343 An interdistrict magnet school program does not include a regional
344 [vocational agriculture] agricultural science and technology school, a
345 regional vocational-technical school or a regional special education
346 center. On and after July 1, 2000, the governing authority for each
347 interdistrict magnet school program that is in operation prior to July 1,
348 2005, shall restrict the number of students that may enroll in the

349 program from a participating district to eighty per cent of the total
350 enrollment of the program. The governing authority for each
351 interdistrict magnet school program that begins operations on or after
352 July 1, 2005, shall (A) restrict the number of students that may enroll in
353 the program from a participating district to seventy-five per cent of the
354 total enrollment of the program, and (B) maintain such a school
355 enrollment that at least twenty-five per cent but not more than
356 seventy-five per cent of the students enrolled are pupils of racial
357 minorities, as defined in section 10-226a.

358 Sec. 12. Subdivision (2) of section 10-282 of the 2008 supplement to
359 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
360 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

361 (2) "Secondary school building" means any public school building
362 designed to house any combination of grades seven through twelve or
363 any regional [vocational agriculture] agricultural science and
364 technology education center established under the provisions of part
365 IV of chapter 164, and may also include any separate combination of
366 grades five and six or grade six with grades seven and eight in a
367 program approved by the State Board of Education when the use of
368 special facilities generally associated with secondary schools is an
369 essential part of the program for all grades included in such school.

370 Sec. 13. Subdivision (15) of section 10-282 of the 2008 supplement to
371 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
372 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

373 (15) ["Vocational agriculture"] "Agricultural science and technology
374 education" includes vocational aquaculture and marine-related
375 employment.

376 Sec. 14. Subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 10-286 of the
377 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
378 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

379 (4) In the case of a regional [vocational agriculture] agricultural

380 science and technology education center or the purchase of equipment
381 pursuant to subsection (a) of section 10-65 of the 2008 supplement to
382 the general statutes, as amended by this act, or a regional special
383 education facility pursuant to section 10-76e, an amount equal to the
384 eligible cost of such project, as determined by the Commissioner of
385 Education.

386 Sec. 15. Subsection (a) of section 10-287 of the 2008 supplement to
387 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
388 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

389 (a) A grant for a school building project under this chapter to meet
390 project costs not eligible for state financial assistance under section 10-
391 287a shall be paid in installments, the number and time of payment of
392 which shall correspond to the number and time of principal
393 installment payments on municipal bonds, including principal
394 payments to retire temporary notes renewed for the third and
395 subsequent years pursuant to section 7-378a of the 2008 supplement to
396 the general statutes or 7-378e, issued for the purpose of financing such
397 costs and shall be equal to the state's share of project costs per
398 principal installment on municipal bonds or notes, except in cases
399 where the project has been fully paid for, in which case the number of
400 installments shall be five or, in the case of a regional [vocational
401 agriculture] agricultural science and technology education center or a
402 cooperative regional special educational facility, shall be one; provided
403 final payment shall not be made prior to an audit conducted by the
404 State Board of Education for each project for which a final calculation
405 was not made prior to July 31, 1983. Grants under twenty-five
406 thousand dollars shall be paid in one lump sum. The Commissioner of
407 Education shall certify to the State Comptroller, upon completion of
408 the issuance of bonds or such renewal of temporary notes to finance
409 each school building project, the dates and amounts of grant payments
410 to be made pursuant to this chapter and the State Comptroller shall
411 draw an order on the State Treasurer upon such certification to pay the
412 amounts so certified when due. All site acquisition and project cost
413 grant payments shall be made at least ten days prior to the principal

414 payment on bonds or temporary notes related thereto or short-term
415 financing issued to finance such site acquisition or project. Annual
416 grant installments paid pursuant to this section on principal
417 installment payments to retire temporary notes renewed pursuant to
418 section 7-378a of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes or 7-378e
419 shall be based each year on the amount required to be retired pursuant
420 to said sections, as adjusted for any ineligible project costs, and shall be
421 paid only if at the time such temporary notes are renewed the rate of
422 interest applicable to such notes is less than the rate of interest that
423 would be applicable with respect to twenty-year bonds if issued at the
424 time of such renewal. The determination related to such rates of
425 interest pursuant to this subsection may be reviewed and shall be
426 subject to approval by the Commissioner of Education prior to renewal
427 of such notes. In the event that a school building project is not
428 completed at the time bonds or temporary notes related thereto are
429 issued to finance the project, the certification of the grant payments
430 made pursuant to this section by the Commissioner of Education may
431 be based on estimates, provided upon completion of such project and
432 notification of final acceptance to the state, the Commissioner of
433 Education shall adjust and recertify the dates and amounts of
434 subsequent grant payments based on the state's share of final eligible
435 costs.

436 Sec. 16. Section 10-288a of the general statutes is repealed and the
437 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

438 When the secondary school with which an approved [vocational
439 agriculture] agricultural science and technology education center has
440 been associated is to be replaced or relocated within a town or regional
441 school district, the Commissioner of Education may require the
442 relocation of the equipment and program in a building approximately
443 equal to that serving as a center for [vocational agriculture]
444 agricultural science and technology education. Such new facilities shall
445 be included in or adjacent to the high school which is to serve the
446 needs of the [vocational agriculture] agricultural science and
447 technology education pupils and shall conform to requirements of the

448 Commissioner of Education with respect to location, design and
 449 construction. Said town or regional school district may receive a grant
 450 for the construction of such replaced or relocated [vocational
 451 agriculture] agricultural science and technology education center as
 452 provided in subsection (e) of section 10-286 for a secondary regional
 453 school district or subsection (f) of section 10-286, whichever may be
 454 appropriate. Upon final approval by the Commissioner of Education of
 455 the replacement or relocation of such [vocational agriculture]
 456 agricultural science and technology education center the town or
 457 regional school district may use the facilities which had previously
 458 served as such center for such purposes as it determines advisable.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2008	10-64
Sec. 2	July 1, 2008	10-65
Sec. 3	July 1, 2008	10-65a
Sec. 4	July 1, 2008	10-65b
Sec. 5	July 1, 2008	10-66
Sec. 6	July 1, 2008	10-97
Sec. 7	July 1, 2008	10-220d
Sec. 8	July 1, 2008	10-231b(a)
Sec. 9	July 1, 2008	10-231c(a)
Sec. 10	July 1, 2008	10-231d(a)
Sec. 11	July 1, 2008	10-264l(a)
Sec. 12	July 1, 2008	10-282(2)
Sec. 13	July 1, 2008	10-282(15)
Sec. 14	July 1, 2008	10-286(a)(4)
Sec. 15	July 1, 2008	10-287(a)
Sec. 16	July 1, 2008	10-288a

ED Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

APP

APP Joint Favorable Subst.

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 09 \$	FY 10 \$
Education, Dept.	GF - Cost	500,000	500,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 09 \$	FY 10 \$
Various Municipalities	Revenue Gain	500,000	500,000

Explanation

The bill increases the per student subsidy to vocational science programs from \$1,355 to \$1,506 resulting in a cost to the State Department of Education of approximately \$500,000 which in turn is a revenue gain to the regional vocational agricultural high schools. Funds are included in sHB 5021, AAC The State Budget for the Biennium ending June 30, 2009, and Making Appropriations Thereof, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee for this purpose.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5869*****AN ACT CONCERNING AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill increases the state's per-student grant to districts operating vocational agriculture (vo ag) centers by \$150, from \$1,355 to \$1,505. Centers receive the state grant for each full-time secondary school student they enrolled on the preceding October 1.

The bill also expands the enrollment opportunities school districts that do not operate vo ag centers must offer to students who wish to attend a center in another district.

Finally, the bill changes the statutory name for the education offered at vo ag centers from vocational agriculture education to agricultural science and technology education and changes the name of the centers to conform.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2008

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE ENROLLMENT OPPORTUNITIES

By law, school districts that do not furnish vo ag training must designate where their students can receive such training. The bill requires districts not operating vo ag centers to provide enrollment opportunities in one or more centers, not just one center, run by other districts. And if a district provided opportunities for its students to enroll in more than one center as of July 1, 2007, the bill requires it to continue to do so in the numbers required by the current law and the bill.

Current law requires a school district that does not maintain a

center to allow its students to enroll in another district's center in numbers that are at least equal to (1) the number specified in any written agreement it has with a center or (2) if there is no written agreement, the average number of its students enrolled in the center during the three previous school years. The bill requires districts to, in addition, provide enrollment opportunities for 9th graders in each center it designates that are at least equal to (1) the number of 9th graders specified in its written agreement with each center or (2) the average number of 9th graders that enrolled in each designated center or centers over the preceding three years.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference
Yea 30 Nay 0 (03/17/2008)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 54 Nay 0 (03/28/2008)