



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

Raised Bill No. 5048

LCO No. 805

* HB05048HED 030508 *

Referred to Committee on Higher Education and Employment
Advancement

Introduced by:
(HED)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF HIGHER
EDUCATION.**

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 10-220a of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (d) The Department of Education may fund, within available
5 appropriations, in cooperation with one or more regional educational
6 service centers: (1) A cooperating teacher program to train Connecticut
7 public school teachers and certified teachers at private special
8 education facilities approved by the Commissioner of Education and at
9 other facilities designated by the commissioner, who participate in the
10 supervision, training and evaluation of student teachers; (2) institutes
11 to provide continuing education for Connecticut public school
12 educators, assessors and cooperating teachers and teacher mentors,
13 including institutes to provide continuing education for Connecticut
14 public school educators offered in cooperation with the Connecticut
15 Humanities Council; and (3) a beginning teacher support and

16 assessment program to train Connecticut public school teachers and
17 other qualified persons approved by the Commissioner of Education
18 and certified teachers at such private special education and other
19 designated facilities who serve as mentors or assessors for beginning
20 teachers and who supervise, train and assist or assess beginning
21 teachers in their initial years in teaching and to pay stipends to
22 assessors. Funds available under this subsection shall be paid directly
23 to school districts for the provision of substitute teachers when
24 cooperating teachers, teacher mentors, beginning teachers and
25 assessors are released from regular classroom responsibilities and for
26 the provision of professional development activities for cooperating
27 and student teachers, teacher mentors, assessors and beginning
28 teachers. The cooperating teacher and beginning teacher support and
29 assessment programs shall operate in accordance with regulations
30 adopted by the State Board of Education in accordance with chapter
31 54, except in cases of placement in other countries pursuant to written
32 cooperative agreements between Connecticut institutions of higher
33 education and institutions of higher education in other countries. A
34 Connecticut institution may enter such an agreement only if the State
35 Board of Education and Board of Governors [for] of Higher Education
36 have jointly approved the institution's teacher preparation program to
37 enter into such agreements. Student teachers shall be placed with
38 trained cooperating teachers. Beginning teachers shall participate in a
39 beginning teacher support and assessment program as made available
40 by the board. School districts shall be responsible for providing
41 support to beginning teachers which shall include, but not be limited
42 to, the placement of beginning teachers with trained teacher mentors
43 who may be full or part-time teachers in the same or a different
44 building than the beginning teacher and provision of trained assessors
45 to conduct assessments of beginning teachers. Cooperating teachers,
46 teacher mentors and assessors may serve concurrently in more than
47 one capacity and may be assigned more than one student teacher or
48 beginning teacher in each such capacity. The assessment of each
49 beginning teacher shall be based upon, but not limited to, data
50 obtained from observations conducted by assessors using an

51 assessment instrument. A beginning teacher shall be assessed by
 52 educators with teaching experience in the same general subject area as
 53 such beginning teacher. Cooperating teachers and teacher mentors
 54 who are Connecticut public school teachers and assessors who are
 55 employed by school districts shall be selected by local and regional
 56 boards of education. Cooperating teachers and teacher mentors and
 57 assessors at such private special education and other designated
 58 facilities shall be selected by the authority responsible for the operation
 59 of such facilities. If a board of education is unable to identify a
 60 sufficient number of individuals to serve in such positions, the
 61 commissioner may select qualified persons who are not employed by
 62 the board of education to serve in such positions. Such regulations
 63 shall require primary consideration of teachers' classroom experience
 64 and recognized success as educators. The provisions of sections 10-
 65 153a to 10-153n, inclusive, shall not be applicable to the selection,
 66 placement and compensation of persons participating in the
 67 cooperating teacher and beginning teacher support and assessment
 68 programs pursuant to the provisions of this section and to the hours
 69 and duties of such persons. The State Board of Education shall protect
 70 and save harmless, in accordance with the provisions of section 10-235,
 71 any cooperating teacher, teacher mentor or assessor while serving in
 72 such capacity.

73 Sec. 2. Subdivision (3) of section 10a-22a of the general statutes is
 74 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
 75 *passage*):

76 (3) "Board of Governors" means the Board of Governors [for] of
 77 Higher Education.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	10-220a(d)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	10a-22a(3)

HED Joint Favorable