



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 749

January Session, 2009

Substitute House Bill No. 6687

House of Representatives, April 20, 2009

The Committee on Education reported through REP. FLEISCHMANN of the 18th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE EDUCATION STATUTES.

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

1 Section 1. Section 10-66gg of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 [Within available appropriations] On or before January 1, 2011, and
4 biennially thereafter, the Commissioner of Education shall [annually,]
5 review and report, within available appropriations and in accordance
6 with the provisions of section 11-4a, on the operation of such charter
7 schools as may be established pursuant to sections 10-66aa to 10-66ff,
8 inclusive, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
9 having cognizance of matters relating to education. Such report shall
10 include: (1) Recommendations for any statutory changes that would
11 facilitate expansion in the number of charter schools; (2) a compilation
12 of school profiles pursuant to section 10-66cc; (3) an assessment of the
13 adequacy of funding pursuant to section 10-66ee, and (4) the adequacy

14 and availability of suitable facilities for such schools.

15 Sec. 2. Subsection (d) of section 10-266w of the general statutes is
16 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
17 *1, 2009*):

18 (d) Each local and regional board of education participating in the
19 grant program shall prepare a financial statement of expenditures
20 which shall be submitted to the department [on or before September
21 first of the fiscal year immediately following each fiscal year in which
22 the school district participates in the grant program] annually at such
23 time and in such manner as the commissioner prescribes. If the
24 commissioner finds that any school breakfast grant recipient uses such
25 grant for purposes which are not in conformity with the purposes of
26 this section, the commissioner [may] shall require repayment of the
27 grant to the state.

28 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2009*) (a) Whenever the term "regional
29 vocational-technical school" or "regional vocational-technical schools"
30 is used or referred to in the following sections of the general statutes,
31 the term "technical high school" or "technical high schools" shall be
32 substituted in lieu thereof: 4-124ff, 4-124gg, 4a-11a, 4d-83, 5-275, 8-
33 265pp, 10-4h, 10-9, 10-19d, 10-20a, 10-21g, 10-66p, 10-67, 10-74d, 10-76q,
34 10-95, 10-95a, 10-95h, 10-95i, 10-95j, 10-95k, 10-95m, 10-95n, 10-97, 10-
35 98a, 10-214a, 10-215b, 10-215f, 10-220d, 10-233d, 10-235, 10-262r, 10-
36 264l, 10-266m, 10-283, 10-283b, 10-287d, 10a-12a, 10a-19b, 10a-72d, 17b-
37 610, 31-3c, 31-3h, 31-3k, 31-3l, 31-11p, 31-11s, 32-6j and 32-475.

38 (b) Whenever the term "vocational-technical school" or "vocational-
39 technical schools" is used or referred to in the following sections of the
40 general statutes, the term "technical high school" or "technical high
41 schools" shall be substituted in lieu thereof: 1-79, 1-84d, 1-91, 4-124z, 4-
42 124hh, 10-15d, 10-19e, 10-21g, 10-69, 10-95, 10-95a, 10-95i, 10-95l, 10-
43 95m, 10-235, 10-262n, 10-262r, 10a-12a, 10a-25b, 17b-688i, 31-3ee and
44 31-51ww.

45 (c) Whenever the term "vocational school" or "vocational schools" is

46 used or referred to in the following sections of the general statutes, the
47 term "technical high school" or "technical high schools" shall be
48 substituted in lieu thereof: 4-29, 10-13, 10-55, 10-64, 10-97, 10-186, 10a-
49 123, 10a-166, 14-36, 20-90, 31-23, 31-24, 38a-682 and 48-9.

50 Sec. 4. Section 10-220h of the general statutes is repealed and the
51 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

52 When a student enrolls in a school in a new school district or in a
53 new state charter school, the new school district or new state charter
54 school shall provide written notification of such enrollment to the
55 school district in which the student previously attended school or the
56 state charter school the student previously attended not later than two
57 business days after the student registers. The school district in which
58 the student previously attended school or the state charter school that
59 the student previously attended (1) shall transfer the student's
60 education records to the new school district or new state charter school
61 no later than ten days after receipt of such notification, and (2) if the
62 student's parent or guardian did not give written authorization for the
63 transfer of such records, shall send notification of the transfer to the
64 parent or guardian at the same time that it transfers the records. In the
65 case of a student who transfers from Unified School District #1 or
66 Unified School District #2, the new school district or new state charter
67 school shall provide written notification of such enrollment to Unified
68 School District #1 or Unified School District #2 not later than ten days
69 after the date of enrollment, the unified school district shall, not later
70 than ten days after receipt of notification of enrollment from the new
71 school district or new state charter school, transfer [the] all records of
72 the student to the new school district or new state charter school and
73 the new school district or new state charter school shall, not later than
74 thirty days after receiving the student's education records, credit the
75 student for all instruction received in Unified School District #1 or
76 Unified School District #2.

77 Sec. 5. Section 10-212 of the general statutes is repealed and the
78 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

79 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall appoint one or
80 more school nurses or nurse practitioners. Such school nurses and
81 nurse practitioners appointed by such boards shall be qualified
82 pursuant to regulations adopted in accordance with the provisions of
83 chapter 54 by the State Board of Education in consultation with the
84 Department of Public Health. Such school nurses may also act as
85 visiting nurses in the town, may visit the homes of pupils in the public
86 schools and shall assist in executing the orders of the school medical
87 advisor, if there is any in such town, and perform such other duties as
88 are required by such board.

89 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes or any
90 regulation of Connecticut state agencies, nothing in this section shall
91 be construed to prohibit the administering of medications by parents
92 or guardians to their own children on school grounds.

93 (c) School nurses and nurse practitioners appointed by or under
94 contract with any local or regional board of education and any nurse
95 provided to a nonpublic school under the provisions of section 10-217a
96 shall submit to a criminal history records check in accordance with the
97 provisions of section 29-17a.

98 (d) The State Board of Education shall adopt regulations, in
99 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to increase the
100 qualifications of school nurses by requiring each school nurse to (1) be
101 certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, (2) have at least two years
102 of full-time working experience as a registered nurse during the five-
103 year period immediately prior to the date of employment as a school
104 nurse, (3) hold a baccalaureate degree with a concentration in nursing
105 or other health-related field, such as public health or health education,
106 or hold a diploma or associate degree in nursing and at least fifteen
107 academic credits from a licensed or accredited institution of higher
108 education in nursing-related subject areas, (4) participate in at least
109 fifteen hours of continuing education annually, (5) be certified as a
110 school nurse by the National Board for Certification of School Nurses,
111 and (6) maintain a valid nursing license in the state of Connecticut. The

112 regulations shall include a provision exempting school nurses
113 employed by schools at anytime prior to July 1, 2009, from satisfying
114 such additional qualifications pursuant to subdivisions (1) to (3),
115 inclusive, and (5) of this subsection.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	10-66gg
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	10-266w(d)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	10-220h
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	10-212

ED *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 10 \$	FY 11 \$
Education, Dept.	GF - Savings	None	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

Section 1 results in a minimal savings, in FY 11, as the State Department of Education (SDE) has to produce the report on the operation of charter schools biennially, rather than annually.

Sections 2, 3, 4 and 5 make various other changes that are not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact.

The Out Years

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

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6687

***AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE
EDUCATION STATUTES.***

SUMMARY:

This bill makes a number of changes to the education statutes. It:

1. requires the report on the operation of charter schools that the education commissioner must annually submit to the Education Committee, to instead be submitted biennially, beginning January 1, 2011;
2. requires boards of education participating in the school breakfast program to submit a financial statement on the program annually in the time and manner the commissioner requires, rather than by September 1 of the next year and requires, rather than allows, the commissioner to require repayment of funds to the state that were inappropriately spent;
3. replaces the term "regional vocational-technical school" with "technical high school" throughout the statutes;
4. applies the records transfer rules applicable to Unified School District #1 (Department of Corrections) to Unified School District #2 (Department of Children and Families) and, in the case of other districts and state charter schools, requires that notice of student transfer to a new school be sent to the previous school district within two business days of the student's registration; and
5. requires the State Board of Education to adopt regulations to enhance school nurse qualifications.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2009, except for the provisions on the charter school report and records transfer, which are effective on passage.

RECORDS TRANSFER

By law, when a student enrolls in a school in a new school district or state charter school, the new district or school must provide written notification of enrollment to the student's previous school district or the state charter school. The bill specifies that this must be done within two business days after the student's registration. By law, the records must be transferred to the new school within 10 days of receiving the notification.

If a student transfers from Unified School District #1, the new school district or charter school must provide notice of enrollment to the unified district within 10 days of such enrollment. The unified district has 10 days to transfer the records after it receives the notification. The new district or charter school has 30 days to credit the student for all instruction received in the unified school district. The bill applies these provisions to Unified School District #2.

SCHOOL NURSE REQUIREMENTS

The regulations must require each school nurse to:

1. be certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation;
2. have at least two years of full-time working experience as a registered nurse during the five-year period immediately prior to the date of employment as a school nurse;
3. hold a baccalaureate degree with a concentration in nursing or other health-related field or hold a diploma or associate degree in nursing and at least 15 credits from a licensed or accredited higher education institution in nursing-related subject areas;
4. participate in at least 15 hours of continuing education annually;
5. be certified as a school nurse by the National Board for

Certification of School Nurses; and

6. maintain a valid Connecticut nursing license.

The bill requires the regulations to exempt nurses employed by schools before July 1, 2009 from everything but the continuing education and Connecticut nursing license requirements.

BACKGROUND***Current School Nurse Regulations***

In order to qualify as a school nurse each nurse or nurse practitioner must:

1. be a registered professional nurse, designated as R.N. and currently licensed in the state of Connecticut;
2. have at least the equivalent of one year full-time working experience as a registered nurse within five years immediately prior to employment as a school nurse; and
3. have academic preparation to include 12 credits at a licensed or accredited institution of higher learning, 18 continuing education units, or 180 workshop or in-service hours meeting certain distribution requirements (Conn. Agency Regs. § 10-212-2).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 28 Nay 2 (04/01/2009)