



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 648

January Session, 2009

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1014

Senate, April 15, 2009

The Committee on Education reported through SEN. GAFFEY of the 13th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING LONGITUDINAL STUDIES OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT.

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

1 Section 1. Section 10-10a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

3 (a) The Department of Education shall develop and implement a
4 state-wide public school information system. The system shall be
5 designed for the purpose of establishing a standardized electronic data
6 collection and reporting protocol that will facilitate compliance with
7 state and federal reporting requirements, improve school-to-school
8 and district-to-district information exchanges, and maintain the
9 confidentiality of individual student and staff data. The initial design
10 shall focus on student information, provided the system shall be
11 created to allow for future compatibility with financial, facility and
12 staff data. The system shall provide for the tracking of the performance
13 of individual students on each of the state-wide mastery examinations
14 under section 10-14n in order to allow the department to compare the

15 progress of the same cohort of students who take each examination
16 and to better analyze school performance. The department shall assign
17 a unique student identifier to each student prior to tracking the
18 performance of a student in the public school information system.

19 (b) [The] Subject to the provisions of subsection (e) of this section,
20 the system database of student information shall not be considered a
21 public record for the purposes of section 1-210.

22 (c) [The department shall initiate a pilot system project not later
23 than the 2002-2003 school year with full implementation in the school
24 year following successful implementation of the pilot.] All school
25 districts shall participate in the system, provided the department
26 provides for technical assistance and training of school staff in the use
27 of the system.

28 (d) Local and regional boards of education and preschool programs
29 which receive state or federal funding shall participate, in a manner
30 prescribed by the Commissioner of Education, in the state-wide public
31 school information system described in subsection (a) of this section.
32 Participation for purposes of this subsection shall include, but not be
33 limited to, reporting on (1) student experiences in preschool by
34 program type and by numbers of months in each such program, and
35 (2) the readiness of students entering kindergarten and student
36 progress in kindergarten. Such reporting shall be done by October 1,
37 2007, and annually thereafter.

38 (e) On and after August 1, 2009, upon receipt of a written request to
39 access data maintained under this section, the department shall
40 provide such data to public school officials, nonprofit organizations,
41 researchers and educational policy-makers not later than thirty days
42 after such request, provided such requesting party shall be responsible
43 for the reasonable cost of such request. The Department of Information
44 Technology shall monitor the calculation of such fees charged for
45 access to or copies of such records to ensure that such fees are
46 reasonable and consistent with those charged by other state agencies.
47 The Department of Education shall respond to written requests under

48 this section in the order in which they are received.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	10-10a

ED *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 House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 10 \$	FY 11 \$
Various State Agencies	GF - See Below	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 10 \$	FY 11 \$
Various Municipalities	See Below	See Below	See Below

Explanation

The bill requires the State Department of Education (SDE) to assign a unique student identifier to each student before tracking the performance of a student in the information system. This provision is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact.

The bill also requires SDE, beginning August 1, 2009, to provide data to various entities within 30 days of an entity submitting their request for data in writing. The bill specifies that the requestor is responsible for the reasonable cost of the request. To the extent that a state agency, municipality, or local school board requests information, they could incur an additional cost.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the rates that are charged by SDE.

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 1014*****AN ACT CONCERNING LONGITUDINAL STUDIES OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT.*****SUMMARY:**

By law, the State Department of Education (SDE) must develop and implement a state-wide public school information system. The system must provide for the tracking of the performance of individual students on each of the state-wide mastery tests. This bill requires SDE to assign a unique student identifier to each student before tracking them.

Current law specifies that the system database of student information is not a public record for Freedom of Information Act purposes. However, starting August 1, 2009, the bill requires SDE to provide data maintained in the system to public school officials, nonprofit organizations, researchers, and educational policy-makers within 30 days of their written request for it. SDE must respond to these requests in the order they are received. The bill specifies that the requestor is responsible for the reasonable cost of the request and requires the Department of Information Technology to monitor fees to ensure they are reasonable and consistent with other state agency charges.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2009

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 30 Nay 0 (04/01/2009)