



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

Raised Bill No. 6665

LCO No. 4569

04569_____ED_

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF STUDENTS ON LOCAL AND REGIONAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION AND A STUDY OF BULLYING ISSUES.

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

1 Section 1. Section 10-218 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

3 (a) Each board of education shall, not later than one month after the
4 date on which the newly elected members take office, elect from its
5 number a chairperson and elect a secretary of such board and may
6 prescribe their duties. The votes of each member of such board cast in
7 such election shall be reduced to writing and made available for public
8 inspection within forty-eight hours, excluding Saturday, Sunday or
9 legal holidays, and shall also be recorded in the minutes of the meeting
10 at which taken, which minutes shall be available for public inspection
11 at all reasonable times. If such officers are not chosen after one month
12 because of a tie vote of the members, the town council or, if there is no
13 town council, the selectmen of the town shall choose such officers from
14 the membership of the board. The chairperson of the board of
15 education or, in case of such chairperson's absence or inability to act,

16 the secretary shall call a meeting of the board at least once in six
17 months and whenever such chairperson deems it necessary or is
18 requested in writing so to do by three of its members. If no meeting is
19 called within fourteen days after such a request has been made, one
20 may be called by any three members by giving the usual written notice
21 to the other members.

22 (b) At least one student from each public high school located in the
23 district shall serve on the board of education as a nonvoting member.
24 The number of students from each such high school shall be
25 determined by the local or regional board of education and the
26 students shall be selected through a student election at the school or in
27 another manner prescribed by such board of education.

28 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force to
29 study bullying issues. Such study shall include, but not be limited to,
30 an examination of issues involving school districts' approach to
31 combating bullying in schools.

32 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

33 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

34 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

35 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
36 Representatives;

37 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

38 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
39 Representatives;

40 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

41 (7) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee;

42 and

43 (8) Two persons appointed by the Governor.

44 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),
45 (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member
46 of the General Assembly.

47 (d) All appointments to the task force shall be made no later than
48 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be
49 filled by the appointing authority.

50 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president
51 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task
52 force, from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons
53 shall schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held no
54 later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

55 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
56 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education
57 shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

58 (g) Not later than January 1, 2010, the task force shall submit, in
59 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,
60 a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
61 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
62 relating to education. The task force shall terminate on the date that it
63 submits such report or January 1, 2010, whichever is later.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | <i>July 1, 2009</i> | 10-218 |
| Sec. 2 | <i>from passage</i> | New section |

Statement of Purpose:

To conduct a study concerning bullying issues in schools and to allow students to voice their concerns and share their opinions on matters affecting their education.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]