



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

Raised Bill No. 6667

LCO No. 4263

04263_____ED_

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING VOLUNTARY REGIONALIZATION OF CERTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT SERVICES.

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision (6) of subsection (a) of section 10-262h of the
2 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

4 (6) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, and each fiscal year
5 thereafter, a grant in an amount equal to the amount of its target aid as
6 described in subdivision (32) of section 10-262f except that such
7 amount shall be capped in accordance with the following: (A) For the
8 fiscal years ending June 30, 1996, June 30, 1997, June 30, 1998, and June
9 30, 1999, for each town, the maximum percentage increase over its
10 previous year's base revenue shall be the product of five per cent and
11 the ratio of the wealth of the town ranked one hundred fifty-third
12 when all towns are ranked in descending order to each town's wealth,
13 provided no town shall receive an increase greater than five per cent.
14 (B) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2000, June 30, 2001, June 30,
15 2002, June 30, 2003, and June 30, 2004, for each town, the maximum
16 percentage increase over its previous year's base revenue shall be the

17 product of six per cent and the ratio of the wealth of the town ranked
18 one hundred fifty-third when all towns are ranked in descending order
19 to each town's wealth, provided no town shall receive an increase
20 greater than six per cent. (C) No such cap shall be used for the fiscal
21 year ending June 30, 2005, or any fiscal year thereafter. (D) For the
22 fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, for each town, the maximum
23 percentage reduction from its previous year's base revenue shall be
24 equal to the product of three per cent and the ratio of each town's
25 wealth to the wealth of the town ranked seventeenth when all towns
26 are ranked in descending order, provided no town's grant shall be
27 reduced by more than three per cent. (E) For the fiscal years ending
28 June 30, 1997, June 30, 1998, and June 30, 1999, for each town, the
29 maximum percentage reduction from its previous year's base revenue
30 shall be equal to the product of five per cent and the ratio of each
31 town's wealth to the wealth of the town ranked seventeenth when all
32 towns are ranked in descending order, provided no town's grant shall
33 be reduced by more than five per cent. (F) For the fiscal year ending
34 June 30, 2000, and each fiscal year thereafter, no town's grant shall be
35 less than the grant it received for the prior fiscal year. (G) For each
36 fiscal year prior to the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, except for the
37 fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, in addition to the amount determined
38 pursuant to this subdivision, a town shall be eligible for a density
39 supplement if the density of the town is greater than the average
40 density of all towns in the state. The density supplement shall be
41 determined by multiplying the density aid ratio of the town by the
42 foundation level and the town's total need students for the prior fiscal
43 year provided, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000, and each fiscal
44 year thereafter, no town's density supplement shall be less than the
45 density supplement such town received for the prior fiscal year. (H)
46 For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1997, the grant determined in
47 accordance with this subdivision for a town ranked one to forty-two
48 when all towns are ranked in descending order according to town
49 wealth shall be further reduced by one and two-hundredths of a per
50 cent and such grant for all other towns shall be further reduced by

51 fifty-six-hundredths of a per cent. (I) For the fiscal year ending June 30,
52 1998, and each fiscal year thereafter, no town whose school district is a
53 priority school district shall receive a grant pursuant to this
54 subdivision in an amount that is less than the amount received under
55 such grant for the prior fiscal year. (J) For the fiscal year ending June
56 30, 2000, and each fiscal year through the fiscal year ending June 30,
57 2003, no town whose school district is a priority school district shall
58 receive a grant pursuant to this subdivision that provides an amount of
59 aid per resident student that is less than the amount of aid per resident
60 student provided under the grant received for the prior fiscal year. (K)
61 For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1998, and each fiscal year thereafter,
62 no town whose school district is a priority school district shall receive a
63 grant pursuant to this subdivision in an amount that is less than
64 seventy per cent of the sum of (i) the product of a town's base aid ratio,
65 the foundation level and the town's total need students for the fiscal
66 year prior to the year in which the grant is to be paid, (ii) the product
67 of a town's supplemental aid ratio, the foundation level and the sum of
68 the portion of its total need students count described in subparagraphs
69 (B) and (C) of subdivision (25) of section 10-262f for the fiscal year
70 prior to the fiscal year in which the grant is to be paid, and the
71 adjustments to its resident student count described in subdivision (22)
72 of said section 10-262f relative to length of school year and summer
73 school sessions, and (iii) the town's regional bonus. (L) For the fiscal
74 year ending June 30, 2000, and each fiscal year thereafter, no town
75 whose school district is a transitional school district shall receive a
76 grant pursuant to this subdivision in an amount that is less than forty
77 per cent of the sum of (i) the product of a town's base aid ratio, the
78 foundation level and the town's total need students for the fiscal year
79 prior to the fiscal year in which the grant is to be paid, (ii) the product
80 of a town's supplemental aid ratio, the foundation level and the sum of
81 the portion of its total need students count described in subparagraphs
82 (B) and (C) of subdivision (25) of section 10-262f for the fiscal year
83 prior to the fiscal year in which the grant is to be paid, and the
84 adjustments to its resident student count described in subdivision (22)

85 of said section 10-262f relative to length of school year and summer
86 school sessions, and (iii) the town's regional bonus. (M) For the fiscal
87 year ending June 30, 2002, (i) each town whose target aid is capped
88 pursuant to this subdivision shall receive a grant that includes a pro
89 rata share of twenty-five million dollars based on the difference
90 between its target aid and the amount of the grant determined with the
91 cap, and (ii) all towns shall receive a grant that is at least 1.68 per cent
92 greater than the grant they received for the fiscal year ending June 30,
93 2001. (N) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, (i) each town whose
94 target aid is capped pursuant to this subdivision shall receive a pro
95 rata share of fifty million dollars based on the difference between its
96 target aid and the amount of the grant determined with the cap, and
97 (ii) each town shall receive a grant that is at least 1.2 per cent more
98 than its base revenue, as defined in subdivision (28) of section 10-262f.
99 (O) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, each town shall receive a
100 grant that is at least equal to the grant it received for the prior fiscal
101 year. (P) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, (i) each town whose
102 target aid is capped pursuant to this subdivision shall receive a grant
103 that includes a pro rata share of fifty million dollars based on the
104 difference between its target aid and the amount of the grant
105 determined with the cap, (ii) each town's grant including the cap
106 supplement shall be reduced by three per cent, (iii) the towns of
107 Bridgeport, Hartford and New Haven shall each receive a grant that is
108 equal to the grant such towns received for the prior fiscal year plus one
109 million dollars, (iv) those towns described in clause (i) of this
110 subparagraph shall receive a grant that includes a pro rata share of
111 three million dollars based on the same pro rata basis as used in said
112 clause (i), (v) towns whose school districts are priority school districts
113 pursuant to subsection (a) of section 10-266p or transitional school
114 districts pursuant to section 10-263c or who are eligible for grants
115 under section 10-276a or 10-263d for the fiscal years ending June 30,
116 2002, to June 30, 2004, inclusive, shall receive grants that are at least
117 equal to the grants they received for the prior fiscal year, (vi) towns not
118 receiving funds under clause (iii) of this subparagraph shall receive a

119 pro rata share of any remaining funds based on their grant determined
120 under this subparagraph. (Q) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005,
121 (i) no town shall receive a grant pursuant to this subparagraph in an
122 amount that is less than sixty per cent of the amount determined
123 pursuant to the previous subparagraphs of this subdivision, (ii)
124 notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (B) of this
125 subdivision, each town shall receive a grant that is equal to the amount
126 the town received for the prior fiscal year increased by twenty-three
127 and twenty-seven hundredths per cent of the difference between the
128 grant amount calculated pursuant to this subdivision and the amount
129 the town received for the prior fiscal year, (iii) no town whose school
130 district is a priority school district pursuant to subsection (a) of section
131 10-266p shall receive a grant pursuant to this subdivision that is less
132 than three hundred seventy dollars per resident student, and (iv) each
133 town shall receive a grant that is at least the greater of the amount of
134 the grant it received for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, or the
135 amount of the grant it received for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004,
136 increased by seven-tenths per cent, except that the town of Winchester
137 shall not receive less than its fixed entitlement for the fiscal year
138 ending June 30, 2003. (R) Notwithstanding the provisions of this
139 subdivision, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2006, and June 30,
140 2007, each town shall receive a grant that is equal to the amount of the
141 grant the town received for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005,
142 increased by two per cent plus the amount specified in section 33 of
143 public act 05-245*, provided for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, no
144 town shall receive a grant in an amount that is less than sixty per cent
145 of the amount of its target aid as described in subdivision (32) of
146 section 10-262f. (S) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, a grant in
147 an amount equal to the sum of (i) the town's base aid, and (ii)
148 seventeen and thirty-one one-hundredths per cent of the difference
149 between the town's fully funded grant as described in subdivision (33)
150 of section 10-262f, and its base aid, except that such per cent shall be
151 adjusted for all towns so that no town shall receive a grant that is less
152 than the amount of the grant the town received for the fiscal year

153 ending June 30, 2007, increased by four and four-tenths per cent. (T)
154 For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, a grant in an amount equal to
155 the sum of (i) the town's base aid, and (ii) twenty-two and two one-
156 hundredths per cent of the difference between the fully funded grant
157 as described in said subdivision (33) of section 10-262f, and its base aid,
158 except that such per cent shall be adjusted for all towns so that no
159 town shall receive a grant that is less than the amount of the grant the
160 town received for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, increased by
161 four and four-tenths per cent. The amount of the grant a town
162 participating in a cooperative arrangement pursuant to section 10-
163 157a, 10-660 or 10-158a, as amended by this act, or any other
164 cooperative arrangement approved by the Commissioner of Education
165 receives shall be increased by an amount equal to the number of its
166 resident students multiplied by seven.

167 Sec. 2. Section 10-660 of the general statutes is repealed and the
168 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

169 The Department of Education shall encourage the use of regional
170 educational service centers as providers of goods and services for local
171 and regional boards of education and may award special consideration
172 to grant applications that indicate the use of services of regional
173 educational service centers or joint purchasing agreements among
174 boards of education for the purpose of purchasing instructional or
175 other supplies, testing materials, special education services,
176 transportation services or food or food services.

177 Sec. 3. Section 10-158a of the general statutes is repealed and the
178 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

179 (a) Any two or more boards of education may, in writing, agree to
180 establish cooperative arrangements to provide school accommodations
181 services, programs or activities, special education services or
182 transportation services to enable such boards to carry out the duties
183 specified in the general statutes. Such arrangements may include the
184 establishment of a committee to supervise such programs, the

185 membership of the committee to be determined by the agreement of
186 the cooperating boards. Such committee shall have the power, in
187 accordance with the terms of the agreement, to (1) apply for, receive
188 directly and expend on behalf of the school districts which have
189 designated the committee an agent for such purpose any state or
190 federal grants which may be allocated to school districts for specified
191 programs, the supervision of which has been delegated to such
192 committee, provided such grants are payable before implementation of
193 any such program or are to reimburse the committee pursuant to
194 subsection (d) of this section for transportation provided to a school
195 operated by a cooperative arrangement; (2) receive and disburse funds
196 appropriated to the use of such committee by the cooperating school
197 districts, the state or the United States, or given to the committee by
198 individuals or private corporations; (3) hold title to real or personal
199 property in trust, or as otherwise agreed to by the parties, for the
200 appointing boards; (4) employ personnel; (5) enter into contracts, and
201 (6) otherwise provide the specified programs, services and activities.
202 Teachers employed by any such committee shall be subject to the
203 provisions of the general statutes applicable to teachers employed by
204 the board of education of any town or regional school district. For
205 purposes of this section, the term "teacher" shall include each
206 professional employee of a committee below the rank of
207 superintendent who holds a regular certificate issued by the State
208 Board of Education and who is in a position requiring such
209 certification.

210 (b) Subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of this section, any
211 board of education may withdraw from any agreement entered into
212 under subsection (a) if, at least one year prior to the date of the
213 proposed withdrawal, it gives written notice of its intent to do so to
214 each of the other boards. Upon withdrawal by one or more boards of
215 education, two or more boards of education may continue their
216 commitment to the agreement. If two or more boards of education
217 continue the arrangement, then such committee established within the
218 arrangement may continue to hold title to any real or personal

219 property given to or purchased by the committee in trust for all the
220 boards of education which entered the agreement, unless otherwise
221 provided in the agreement or by law or by the grantor or donor of
222 such property. Upon dissolution of the committee, any property held
223 in trust shall be distributed in accordance with the agreement, if such
224 distribution is not contrary to law.

225 (c) If a cooperative arrangement receives a grant for a school
226 building project pursuant to chapter 173, the cooperative arrangement
227 shall use the building for which the grant was provided for a period of
228 not less than twenty years after completion of such project. If the
229 cooperative arrangement ceases to use the building for the purpose for
230 which the grant was provided, the Commissioner of Education shall
231 determine whether (1) title to the building and any legal interest in
232 appurtenant land reverts to the state or (2) the cooperative
233 arrangement reimburses the state an amount equal to ten per cent of
234 the eligible school building project costs of the project.

235 (d) Any cooperative arrangement established pursuant to this
236 section, or any local or regional board of education which is a member
237 of such a cooperative arrangement which transports students to a
238 school operated by such cooperative arrangement shall be reimbursed
239 in accordance with the provisions of section 10-266m. At the end of
240 each school year, any such cooperative arrangement or local or
241 regional board of education which provides such transportation shall
242 file an application for reimbursement on a form provided by the
243 Department of Education.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	10-262h(a)(6)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	10-660
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	10-158a

Statement of Purpose:

To encourage towns to participate in cooperative arrangements for the regionalization of certain school district services and operations by including an additional seven dollars per pupil to a town's ECS grant.

[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.]