



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2010

LCO No. 4634

SB0043804634SR0

Offered by:

SEN. RORABACK, 30th Dist.
SEN. BOUCHER, 26th Dist.
SEN. WITKOS, 8th Dist.
SEN. KANE, 32nd Dist.
SEN. MCLACHLAN, 24th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 438

File No. 593

Cal. No. 422

(As Amended)

"AN ACT CONCERNING CHARTER SCHOOLS."

1 Strike sections 3 to 5, inclusive, in their entirety and insert the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Sec. 3. Section 10-10a of the 2010 supplement to the general statutes
4 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
5 *1, 2010*):

6 (a) As used in this section:

7 (1) "Educator" means any certified professional employee below the
8 rank of superintendent employed by a local or regional board of
9 education for at least ninety days in a position requiring a certificate
10 issued by the State Board of Education;

11 (2) "Educator preparation program" means a planned sequence of
12 experiences provided by colleges and universities designed to qualify
13 an individual for professional certification as an educator, including,
14 but not limited to, an alternate route to certification program.

15 [(a)] (b) The Department of Education shall develop and implement
16 a state-wide public school information system. The system shall be
17 designed for the purpose of establishing a standardized electronic data
18 collection and reporting protocol that will facilitate compliance with
19 state and federal reporting requirements, improve school-to-school
20 and district-to-district information exchanges, and maintain the
21 confidentiality of individual student and staff data. The initial design
22 shall focus on student information, provided the system shall be
23 created to allow for future compatibility with financial, facility and
24 staff data. The system shall provide for the tracking of the performance
25 of individual students on each of the state-wide mastery examinations
26 under section 10-14n in order to allow the department to compare the
27 progress of the same cohort of students who take each examination
28 and to better analyze school performance. The department shall assign
29 a unique student identifier to each student prior to tracking the
30 performance of a student in the public school information system.

31 (c) On or before July 1, 2012, the department shall, within available
32 appropriations, expand the state-wide public school information
33 system to perform the following functions:

34 (1) Link high school student performance data to postsecondary
35 school performance data to provide information about public school
36 student performance in post-secondary education;

37 (2) Connect the state-wide public school information system with
38 the data systems of public and independent institutions of higher
39 education in the state;

40 (3) Assign unique identifiers to all public school educators for
41 purposes of monitoring student performance in preschool, elementary
42 and secondary schools;

43 (4) Assign unique identifiers to each educator preparation program
44 and attach such unique identifier to the unique identifier for a public
45 school educator who has completed such educator preparation
46 program; and

47 (5) Collect student transcript information, such as information
48 regarding courses completed and grades received.

49 [(b)] (d) The system database of student information shall not be
50 considered a public record for the purposes of section 1-210. Nothing
51 in this section shall be construed to limit the ability of a full-time
52 permanent employee of a nonprofit organization that is exempt from
53 taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986,
54 or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United
55 States, as from time to time amended, and that is organized and
56 operated for educational purposes, to obtain information in accordance
57 with the provisions of subsection [(e)] (g) of this section.

58 [(c)] (e) All school districts shall participate in the system, provided
59 the department provides for technical assistance and training of school
60 staff in the use of the system.

61 [(d)] (f) Local and regional boards of education and preschool
62 programs which receive state or federal funding shall participate, in a
63 manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Education, in the state-
64 wide public school information system described in subsection [(a)] (b)
65 of this section. Participation for purposes of this subsection shall
66 include, but not be limited to, reporting on (1) student experiences in
67 preschool by program type and by numbers of months in each such
68 program, and (2) the readiness of students entering kindergarten and
69 student progress in kindergarten. Such reporting shall be done by
70 October 1, 2007, and annually thereafter.

71 [(e)] (g) On and after August 1, 2009, upon receipt of a written
72 request to access data maintained under this section by a full-time
73 permanent employee of a nonprofit organization that is exempt from
74 taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986,

75 or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United
76 States, as from time to time amended, and that is organized and
77 operated for educational purposes, the Department of Education shall
78 provide such data to such requesting party not later than sixty days
79 after such request, provided such requesting party shall be responsible
80 for the reasonable cost of such request. The Department of Information
81 Technology shall monitor the calculation of such fees charged for
82 access to or copies of such records to ensure that such fees are
83 reasonable and consistent with those charged by other state agencies.
84 The Department of Education shall respond to written requests under
85 this section in the order in which they are received.

86 Sec. 4. Section 10-151b of the general statutes is repealed and the
87 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2010*):

88 (a) The superintendent of each local or regional board of education
89 shall continuously evaluate or cause to be evaluated each teacher, in
90 accordance with (1) a program developed pursuant to subsection (c) of
91 this section, or (2) guidelines established by the State Board of
92 Education for the development of evaluation programs, pursuant to
93 subsection (d) of this section, and such other guidelines as may be
94 established by mutual agreement between the local or regional board
95 of education and the teachers' representative chosen pursuant to
96 section 10-153b. [, continuously evaluate or cause to be evaluated each
97 teacher.] An evaluation pursuant to this [subsection] section shall
98 include, but need not be limited to, strengths, areas needing
99 improvement, [and] strategies for improvement and the academic
100 growth of such teacher's students. Claims of failure to follow the
101 established procedures of such evaluation programs shall be subject to
102 the grievance procedure in collective bargaining agreements
103 negotiated subsequent to July 1, 2004. The superintendent shall report
104 the status of teacher evaluations to the local or regional board of
105 education on or before June first of each year. For purposes of this
106 section, the term "teacher" shall include each professional employee of
107 a board of education, below the rank of superintendent, who holds a
108 certificate or permit issued by the State Board of Education.

109 (b) Each local and regional board of education shall develop and
110 implement (1) teacher evaluation programs, pursuant to subsection (c)
111 of this section, or (2) teacher evaluation programs consistent with
112 guidelines established by the State Board of Education, pursuant to
113 subsection (d) of this section, and consistent with the plan developed
114 in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of section 10-220a.

115 (c) On and after July 1, 2011, each local and regional board of
116 education shall incorporate into the teacher evaluation program for the
117 school district the use of data and indicators on student academic
118 growth as a significant factor in evaluating teacher performance. Each
119 local and regional board of education shall (1) develop a teacher
120 evaluation program consistent with the model teacher evaluation
121 program developed by the State Board of Education pursuant to
122 subsection (d) of this section, or (2) adopt the model teacher evaluation
123 program developed by the State Board of Education pursuant to
124 subsection (d) of this section.

125 (d) The State Board of Education shall develop, in consultation with
126 the Performance Evaluation Advisory Council, established pursuant to
127 section 3 of this act, model teacher evaluation program guidelines that
128 may be incorporated in the teacher evaluation programs developed by
129 local and regional boards of education. Such model teacher evaluation
130 program guidelines shall incorporate the use of data and indicators on
131 student academic growth as a significant factor in rating teacher
132 performance. Such model teacher evaluation program guidelines shall
133 include, but not be limited to: (1) Methods for measuring student
134 academic growth, including, but not limited to, time limitations on
135 data relevancy, the types and amount of data needed to reliably and
136 validly measure student academic growth for purposes of teacher
137 evaluations, and criteria for the use of state-wide mastery
138 examinations, pursuant to section 10-14n; (2) a definition of significant
139 factor for purposes of the evaluating teacher performance with student
140 academic growth; (3) a consideration of control factors that may
141 influence teacher performance ratings, including, but not limited to,
142 student characteristics, student attendance and student mobility; and

143 (4) minimum requirements for teacher evaluation instruments and
144 procedures.

145 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2010*) There is established a
146 Performance Evaluation Advisory Council within the Department of
147 Education. Membership of the council shall consist of the
148 Commissioner of Education, or his designee, the Commissioner of
149 Higher Education, or his designee, a representative from the
150 Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, a representative from
151 the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents, and
152 those persons selected by the Commissioner of Education who shall
153 include, but not be limited to, teachers, representatives of the exclusive
154 bargaining unit for teachers pursuant to section 10-153b of the general
155 statutes, persons with expertise in performance evaluation processes
156 and systems, and any other person the commissioner deems
157 appropriate. The council shall be responsible for (1) (A) assisting in the
158 State Board of Education in the development and implementation of
159 the model teacher evaluation programs guidelines, pursuant to
160 subsection (d) of section 10-151b of the general statutes, as amended by
161 this act, and (B) the data collection and evaluation support system,
162 pursuant to subsection (g) of section 10-151b of the general statutes, as
163 amended by this act; and (2) defining effective teacher, highly effective
164 teacher, effective principal, highly effective principal and student
165 academic growth for purposes of teacher performance evaluations
166 pursuant to section 10-151b of the general statutes, as amended by this
167 act. The council shall meet at least quarterly."