

Good Afternoon, Representative Fleischmann,
It has been awhile since we have been in communication. I hope you have been well. I just wanted to touch base with you briefly regarding HB 5422.

As the Executive Director of SERC, I felt it appropriate to let you know that I am supportive of the Commissioner of Education's testimony regarding HB 5422, specifically the recommended language change in state statute regarding SERC (attached). I would respectfully ask you to support the suggested change as the Co-Chair of the Education Subcommittee. I have been working closely with the Department on this proposal so we are in agreement with this recommendation and agree it is in SERC's best interest, and more importantly, in the best interest of the children, families, educators, and community members we serve. Thank you very much.

Please also know that if SERC can be supportive of the legislative effort regarding next steps on CT's Race to the Top application, please do not hesitate to ask.

Enjoy the promise of spring.

Warm regards,
Marianne Kirner

Marianne Kirner, Ph.D.
Director
State Education Resource Center
25 Industrial Park Road
Middletown, CT 06457

860-632-1485, ext.265 or 266
Executive Assistant, Jen LeBrun

Proposed Change in Statute Language
Regarding SERC
March 2010

Sec. 10-4q. State Education Resource Center to promote equity and excellence. (a) The State Board of Education shall establish a State Education Resource Center to assist the board in the provision of programs and activities that will promote educational equity and excellence. The Center shall be organized as a non-profit entity under the guidance of its Board of Directors and the Commissioner of Education.

Such activities, to be provided by the State Education Resource Center or a regional educational service center, may include training and continuing education seminars, publication of technical materials, research and evaluation, and other related activities. The center may support programs and activities concerning early childhood education, the federal No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110, and closing the academic achievement gap between socio-economic subgroups, and other related programs.