



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 101

January Session, 2011

House Bill No. 6320

House of Representatives, March 21, 2011

The Committee on Education reported through REP. FLEISCHMANN of the 18th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE AVAILABILITY OF HUMANE EDUCATION MATERIALS TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 10-16b of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2011*):

3 (a) In the public schools the program of instruction offered shall
4 include at least the following subject matter, as taught by legally
5 qualified teachers, the arts; career education; consumer education;
6 health and safety, including, but not limited to, human growth and
7 development, nutrition, first aid, disease prevention, community and
8 consumer health, physical, mental and emotional health, including
9 youth suicide prevention, substance abuse prevention, safety, which
10 may include the dangers of gang membership, and accident
11 prevention; language arts, including reading, writing, grammar,
12 speaking and spelling; mathematics; physical education; science; social
13 studies, including, but not limited to, citizenship, economics,
14 geography, government and history; and in addition, on at least the

15 secondary level, one or more foreign languages and vocational
16 education. For purposes of this subsection, language arts may include
17 American sign language or signed English, provided such subject
18 matter is taught by a qualified instructor under the supervision of a
19 teacher who holds a certificate issued by the State Board of Education.
20 For purposes of this subsection, the "arts" means any form of visual or
21 performing arts, which may include, but not be limited to, dance,
22 music, art and theatre.

23 (b) If a local or regional board of education requires its pupils to
24 take a course in a foreign language, the parent or guardian of a pupil
25 identified as deaf or hearing impaired may request in writing that such
26 pupil be exempted from such requirement and, if such a request is
27 made, such pupil shall be exempt from such requirement.

28 (c) Each local and regional board of education shall on September 1,
29 1982, and annually thereafter at such time and in such manner as the
30 Commissioner of Education shall request, attest to the State Board of
31 Education that such local or regional board of education offers at least
32 the program of instruction required pursuant to this section, and that
33 such program of instruction is planned, ongoing and systematic.

34 (d) The State Board of Education shall make available curriculum
35 materials and such other materials as may assist local and regional
36 boards of education in developing instructional programs pursuant to
37 this section. The State Board of Education, within available
38 appropriations and utilizing available resource materials, shall assist
39 and encourage local and regional boards of education to include: (1)
40 Holocaust education and awareness; (2) the historical events
41 surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (3) African-American
42 history; (4) Puerto Rican history; (5) Native American history; (6)
43 personal financial management; and (7) topics approved by the state
44 board upon the request of local or regional boards of education as part
45 of the program of instruction offered pursuant to subsection (a) of this
46 section.

47 (e) To the extent that funds become available from third-party

48 donors, the State Board of Education shall consult with animal welfare
49 organizations to develop a curriculum of humane education to be
50 distributed to local and regional boards of education. Such curriculum
51 shall include, but not be limited to, principles of humane education,
52 pet care, the humane treatment of animals and the promotion of
53 compassion, empathy and the respectful treatment of other people,
54 animals and the environment.

55 Sec. 2. Section 10-220a of the general statutes is repealed and the
56 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2011*):

57 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall provide an in-
58 service training program for its teachers, administrators and pupil
59 personnel who hold the initial educator, provisional educator or
60 professional educator certificate. Such program shall provide such
61 teachers, administrators and pupil personnel with information on (1)
62 the nature and the relationship of drugs, as defined in subdivision (17)
63 of section 21a-240, and alcohol to health and personality development,
64 and procedures for discouraging their abuse, (2) health and mental
65 health risk reduction education which includes, but need not be
66 limited to, the prevention of risk-taking behavior by children and the
67 relationship of such behavior to substance abuse, pregnancy, sexually
68 transmitted diseases, including HIV-infection and AIDS, as defined in
69 section 19a-581, violence, teen dating violence, domestic violence, child
70 abuse and youth suicide, (3) the growth and development of
71 exceptional children, including handicapped and gifted and talented
72 children and children who may require special education, including,
73 but not limited to, children with attention-deficit hyperactivity
74 disorder or learning disabilities, and methods for identifying, planning
75 for and working effectively with special needs children in a regular
76 classroom, (4) school violence prevention, conflict resolution and
77 prevention of bullying, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10-222d,
78 except that those boards of education that implement an evidence-
79 based model approach, consistent with subsection (d) of section 10-
80 145a, subsection (a) of section 10-220a, sections 10-222d, 10-222g and
81 10-222h, subsection (g) of section 10-233c and sections 1 and 3 of public

82 act 08-160, shall not be required to provide in-service training on
83 prevention of bullying, (5) cardiopulmonary resuscitation and other
84 emergency life saving procedures, (6) computer and other information
85 technology as applied to student learning and classroom instruction,
86 communications and data management, (7) the teaching of the
87 language arts, reading and reading readiness for teachers in grades
88 kindergarten to three, inclusive, and (8) second language acquisition in
89 districts required to provide a program of bilingual education
90 pursuant to section 10-17f. Each local and regional board of education
91 may allow any paraprofessional or noncertified employee to
92 participate, on a voluntary basis, in any in-service training program
93 provided pursuant to this section. The State Board of Education,
94 within available appropriations and utilizing available materials, shall
95 assist and encourage local and regional boards of education to include:
96 (A) Holocaust education and awareness; (B) the historical events
97 surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (C) African-American
98 history; (D) Puerto Rican history; (E) Native American history; (F)
99 personal financial management; (G) domestic violence and teen dating
100 violence; and (H) topics approved by the state board upon the request
101 of local or regional boards of education as part of in-service training
102 programs pursuant to this subsection.

103 (b) Not later than a date prescribed by the commissioner, each local
104 and regional board of education shall establish a professional
105 development committee consisting of certified employees, and such
106 other school personnel as the board deems appropriate, including
107 representatives of the exclusive bargaining representative for such
108 employees chosen pursuant to subsection (b) of section 10-153. The
109 duties of such committees shall include, but not be limited to, the
110 development, evaluation and annual updating of a comprehensive
111 local professional development plan for certified employees of the
112 district. Such plan shall: (1) Be directly related to the educational goals
113 prepared by the local or regional board of education pursuant to
114 subsection (b) of section 10-220, (2) on and after July 1, 2011, be
115 developed with full consideration of the priorities and needs related to
116 student outcomes as determined by the State Board of Education, and

117 (3) provide for the ongoing and systematic assessment and
118 improvement of both teacher evaluation and professional
119 development of the professional staff members of each such board,
120 including personnel management and evaluation training or
121 experience for administrators, shall be related to regular and special
122 student needs and may include provisions concerning career
123 incentives and parent involvement. The State Board of Education shall
124 develop guidelines to assist local and regional boards of education in
125 determining the objectives of the plans and in coordinating staff
126 development activities with student needs and school programs.

127 (c) The Department of Education, in cooperation with one or more
128 regional educational service centers, is authorized to provide institutes
129 annually for Connecticut educators. Such institutes shall serve as
130 model programs of professional development and shall be taught by
131 exemplary Connecticut teachers and administrators and by other
132 qualified individuals as selected by the Department of Education. The
133 Department of Education shall charge fees for attending such institutes
134 provided such fees shall be based on the actual cost of such institutes.

135 (d) The Department of Education may fund, within available
136 appropriations, in cooperation with one or more regional educational
137 service centers: (1) A cooperating teacher program to train Connecticut
138 public school teachers and certified teachers at private special
139 education facilities approved by the Commissioner of Education and at
140 other facilities designated by the commissioner, who participate in the
141 supervision, training and evaluation of student teachers; and (2)
142 institutes to provide continuing education for Connecticut public
143 school educators and cooperating teachers, including institutes to
144 provide continuing education for Connecticut public school educators
145 offered in cooperation with the Connecticut Humanities Council.
146 Funds available under this subsection shall be paid directly to school
147 districts for the provision of substitute teachers when cooperating
148 teachers are released from regular classroom responsibilities and for
149 the provision of professional development activities for cooperating
150 and student teachers. The cooperating teacher program shall operate in

151 accordance with regulations adopted by the State Board of Education
152 in accordance with chapter 54, except in cases of placement in other
153 countries pursuant to written cooperative agreements between
154 Connecticut institutions of higher education and institutions of higher
155 education in other countries. A Connecticut institution may enter such
156 an agreement only if the State Board of Education and Board of
157 Governors of Higher Education have jointly approved the institution's
158 teacher preparation program to enter into such agreements. Student
159 teachers shall be placed with trained cooperating teachers.
160 Cooperating teachers who are Connecticut public school teachers shall
161 be selected by local and regional boards of education. Cooperating
162 teachers at such private special education and other designated
163 facilities shall be selected by the authority responsible for the operation
164 of such facilities. If a board of education is unable to identify a
165 sufficient number of individuals to serve in such positions, the
166 commissioner may select qualified persons who are not employed by
167 the board of education to serve in such positions. Such regulations
168 shall require primary consideration of teachers' classroom experience
169 and recognized success as educators. The provisions of sections 10-
170 153a to 10-153n, inclusive, shall not be applicable to the selection,
171 placement and compensation of persons participating in the
172 cooperating teacher program pursuant to the provisions of this section
173 and to the hours and duties of such persons. The State Board of
174 Education shall protect and save harmless, in accordance with the
175 provisions of section 10-235, any cooperating teacher while serving in
176 such capacity.

177 (e) To the extent that funds become available from third-party
178 donors, the State Board of Education shall assist and encourage local
179 and regional boards of education to include the teaching of the
180 principles of humane education, as described in subsection (e) of
181 section 10-16b, as amended by this act, as part of its in-service training
182 program pursuant to this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	10-16b
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	10-220a

ED *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to (1) develop a humane education curriculum and (2) to encourage local and regional school boards to include human education principles as part of the annual in-service training for teachers, will not result in an additional cost to the state or to municipalities, as any additional cost must be paid by third-party donors.

It is anticipated that the total cost to third-party donors would range from \$75,000 to \$100,000. It is assumed that each of the six regional education service centers would require between \$12,500 and \$16,000 in order to provide the professional development and materials necessary to implement the new curriculum.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 6320*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE AVAILABILITY OF HUMANE EDUCATION MATERIALS TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS.*****SUMMARY:**

To the extent funds are available from third-party donors, this bill requires the State Board of Education to (1) consult with animal welfare organizations to develop a humane education curriculum and (2) encourage and help local and regional school boards to include the teaching of humane education principles as part of the annual in-service training they must offer for teachers. The humane education curriculum must include the principles of humane education; pet care; humane treatment of animals; and the promotion of compassion, empathy, and respectful treatment of other people, animals, and the environment.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2011

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 22 Nay 8 (03/02/2011)