



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

**Raised Bill No. 6431**

LCO No. 3734

\*03734\_\_\_\_\_ED\_\*

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:  
(ED)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE MINIMUM BUDGET REQUIREMENT.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 10-262i of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2011*):

3 (a) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1990, and for each fiscal year  
4 thereafter, each town shall be paid a grant equal to the amount the  
5 town is entitled to receive under the provisions of section 10-262h, as  
6 calculated using the data of record as of the December first prior to the  
7 fiscal year such grant is to be paid, adjusted for the difference between  
8 the final entitlement for the prior fiscal year and the preliminary  
9 entitlement for such fiscal year as calculated using the data of record as  
10 of the December first prior to the fiscal year when such grant was paid.

11 (b) The amount due each town pursuant to the provisions of  
12 subsection (a) of this section shall be paid by the Comptroller, upon  
13 certification of the Commissioner of Education, to the treasurer of each  
14 town entitled to such aid in installments during the fiscal year as  
15 follows: Twenty-five per cent of the grant in October, twenty-five per  
16 cent of the grant in January and the balance of the grant in April. The

17 balance of the grant due towns under the provisions of this subsection  
18 shall be paid in March rather than April to any town which has not  
19 adopted the uniform fiscal year and which would not otherwise  
20 receive such final payment within the fiscal year of such town.

21 (c) All aid distributed to a town pursuant to the provisions of this  
22 section shall be expended for educational purposes only and shall be  
23 expended upon the authorization of the local or regional board of  
24 education. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999, and each fiscal year  
25 thereafter, if a town receives an increase in funds pursuant to this  
26 section over the amount it received for the prior fiscal year such  
27 increase shall not be used to supplant local funding for educational  
28 purposes. The budgeted appropriation for education in any town  
29 receiving an increase in funds pursuant to this section shall be not less  
30 than the amount appropriated for education for the prior year plus  
31 such increase in funds.

32 [(d) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, and June 30, 2011, the  
33 budgeted appropriation for education shall be no less than the  
34 budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year ending June  
35 30, 2009, minus any reductions made pursuant to section 19 of public  
36 act 09-1 of the June 19 special session, except that for the fiscal year  
37 ending June 30, 2010, those districts whose number of resident  
38 students for the school year commencing July 1, 2009, is lower than  
39 such district's number of resident students for the school year  
40 commencing July 1, 2008, may reduce such district's budgeted  
41 appropriation for education by the difference in number of resident  
42 students for such school years multiplied by three thousand.]

43 [(e)] (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (c) of this  
44 section, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2008, and June 30, 2009, the  
45 budgeted appropriation for education in any town receiving an  
46 increase in funds pursuant to this section shall be not less than the  
47 amount appropriated for education for the prior year plus the  
48 percentage of such increase in funds as determined under subsection

49 [(f)] (g) of this section.

50 (e) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, and June 30, 2011, the  
51 budgeted appropriation for education shall be no less than the  
52 budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year ending June  
53 30, 2009, minus any reductions made pursuant to section 19 of public  
54 act 09-1 of the June 19 special session, except that for the fiscal year  
55 ending June 30, 2010, those districts whose number of resident  
56 students for the school year commencing July 1, 2009, is lower than  
57 such district's number of resident students for the school year  
58 commencing July 1, 2008, may reduce such district's budgeted  
59 appropriation for education by the difference in number of resident  
60 students for such school years multiplied by three thousand.

61 (f) (1) Except as provided for in subdivision (2) of this subsection,  
62 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, and each fiscal year thereafter,  
63 the budgeted appropriation for education shall be no less than the  
64 budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year ending June  
65 30, 2009.

66 (2) Subject to review and approval by the Commissioner of  
67 Education:

68 (A) Those districts whose number of resident students for the  
69 current school year is lower than such district's number of resident  
70 students for the previous school year may reduce such district's  
71 budgeted appropriation for education by the difference in number of  
72 resident students for such school years multiplied by three thousand;

73 (B) Those districts that make agreements for the provision of  
74 medical or health benefits pursuant to section 7-464b may reduce such  
75 district's budgeted appropriation for education in an amount equal to  
76 the savings experienced as a result of such agreement;

77 (C) Those districts that make cooperative arrangements to provide  
78 school accommodations services, programs or activities, special

79 education services or health care services pursuant to section 10-158a,  
80 or use regional educational service centers or joint purchasing  
81 agreements among boards of education for the purpose of purchasing  
82 instructional or other supplies, testing materials, special education  
83 services, health care services or food or food services pursuant to  
84 section 10-660 may reduce such district's budgeted appropriation for  
85 education in an amount equal to the savings experienced as a result of  
86 such cooperative arrangements, regionalization of services and joint  
87 purchasing agreements; and

88 (D) Those districts that make use of any other budgetary efficiencies  
89 approved by the commissioner may reduce such district's budgeted  
90 appropriation for education in an amount equal to the savings  
91 experienced as a result of such other budgetary efficiency.

92 ~~[(f)]~~ (g) (1) Except as provided for in subdivisions (2), (3) and (4) of  
93 this subsection, the percentage of the increase in aid pursuant to this  
94 section applicable under subsection (e) shall be the average of the  
95 results of (A) (i) a town's current program expenditures per resident  
96 student pursuant to subdivision (36) of section 10-262f, subtracted  
97 from the highest current program expenditures per resident student in  
98 this state, (ii) divided by the difference between the highest current  
99 program expenditures per resident student in this state and the lowest  
100 current program expenditures per resident student in this state, (iii)  
101 multiplied by thirty per cent, (iv) plus fifty percentage points, (B) (i) a  
102 town's wealth pursuant to subdivision (26) of section 10-262f,  
103 subtracted from the wealth of the town with the highest wealth of all  
104 towns in this state, (ii) divided by the difference between the wealth of  
105 the town with the highest wealth of all towns in this state and the  
106 wealth of the town with the lowest wealth of all towns in this state, (iii)  
107 multiplied by thirty per cent, (iv) plus fifty percentage points, and (C)  
108 (i) a town's grant mastery percentage pursuant to subdivision (12) of  
109 section 10-262f, subtracted from one, subtracted from one minus the  
110 grant mastery percentage of the town with the highest grant mastery  
111 percentage in this state, (ii) divided by the difference between one

112 minus the grant mastery percentage of the town with the highest grant  
113 mastery percentage in this state and one minus the grant mastery  
114 percentage of the town with the lowest grant mastery percentage in  
115 this state, (iii) multiplied by thirty per cent, (iv) plus fifty percentage  
116 points.

117 (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, any town whose school  
118 district is in its third year or more of being identified as in need of  
119 improvement pursuant to section 10-223e, and has failed to make  
120 adequate yearly progress in mathematics or reading at the whole  
121 district level, the percentage determined pursuant to subdivision (1) of  
122 this subsection for such town shall be increased by an additional  
123 twenty percentage points.

124 (3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, any town whose school  
125 district is in its third year or more of being identified as in need of  
126 improvement pursuant to section 10-223e, and has failed to make  
127 adequate yearly progress in mathematics or reading at the whole  
128 district level, the percentage of the increase in aid pursuant to this  
129 section applicable under subsection (e) of this section shall be the  
130 percentage of the increase determined under subdivision (1) of this  
131 section for such town, plus twenty percentage points, or eighty per  
132 cent, whichever is greater.

133 (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal year  
134 ending June 30, 2008, and each fiscal year thereafter, any town that (A)  
135 is a member of a regional school district that serves only grades seven  
136 to twelve, inclusive, or grades nine to twelve, inclusive, (B)  
137 appropriates at least the minimum percentage of increase in aid  
138 pursuant to the provisions of this section, and (C) has a reduced  
139 assessment from the previous fiscal year for students enrolled in such  
140 regional school district, excluding debt service for such students, shall  
141 be considered to be in compliance with the provisions of this section.

142 (5) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, charter,  
143 special act or home rule ordinance, on or before September 15, 2007,

144 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, a town may request the  
145 Commissioner of Education to defer a portion of the town's increase in  
146 aid over the prior fiscal year pursuant to this section to be expended in  
147 the subsequent fiscal year. If the commissioner approves such request,  
148 the deferred amount shall be credited to the increase in aid for the  
149 fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, rather than the fiscal year ending June  
150 30, 2008. Such funds shall be expended in the fiscal year ending June  
151 30, 2009, in accordance with the provisions of this section. In no case  
152 shall a town be allowed to defer increases in aid required to be spent  
153 for education as a result of failure to make adequate yearly progress in  
154 accordance with the provisions of subdivisions (2) and (3) of this  
155 subsection.

156       [(g)] (h) Upon a determination by the State Board of Education that  
157 a town or kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, regional school  
158 district failed in any fiscal year to meet the requirements pursuant to  
159 subsection (c), (d) or (e) of this section, the town or kindergarten to  
160 grade twelve, inclusive, regional school district shall forfeit an amount  
161 equal to two times the amount of the shortfall. The amount so forfeited  
162 shall be withheld by the Department of Education from the grant  
163 payable to the town in the second fiscal year immediately following  
164 such failure by deducting such amount from the town's equalization  
165 aid grant payment pursuant to this section, except that in the case of a  
166 kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, regional school district, the  
167 amount so forfeited shall be withheld by the Department of Education  
168 from the grants payable pursuant to this section to the towns which  
169 are members of such regional school district. The amounts deducted  
170 from such grants to each member town shall be proportional to the  
171 number of resident students in each member town. Notwithstanding  
172 the provisions of this subsection, the State Board of Education may  
173 waive such forfeiture upon agreement with the town or kindergarten  
174 to grade twelve, inclusive, regional school district that the town or  
175 kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, regional school district shall  
176 increase its budgeted appropriation for education during the fiscal  
177 year in which the forfeiture would occur by an amount not less than

178 the amount of said forfeiture or for other good cause shown. Any  
179 additional funds budgeted pursuant to such an agreement shall not be  
180 included in a district's budgeted appropriation for education for the  
181 purpose of establishing any future minimum budget requirement.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2011	10-262i

**Statement of Purpose:**

To allow towns to reduce their minimum budget requirement for education by encouraging school districts to regionalize services, achieve efficiencies and lower costs.

*[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.]*