



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

**Raised Bill No. 6434**

LCO No. 3776

\*03776\_\_\_\_\_ED\_\*

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:  
(ED)

**AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATORS AND ADMINISTRATORS.**

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision (1) of subsection (h) of section 10-145b of the  
2 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
3 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2011*):

4 (h) (1) Unless otherwise provided in regulations adopted under  
5 section 10-145d, in not less than three years or more than eight years  
6 after the issuance of a provisional educator certificate pursuant to  
7 subsection (e) of this section and upon the statement of the  
8 superintendent, or the superintendent's designee, in whose school  
9 district such certificate holder was employed, or the supervisory agent  
10 of a nonpublic school approved by the State Board of Education, in  
11 whose school such certificate holder was employed, that the  
12 provisional educator certificate holder and such superintendent, or  
13 such superintendent's designee, or supervisory agent have mutually  
14 determined or approved an individual program pursuant to  
15 subdivision (2) of subsection (g) of this section and upon the statement  
16 of such superintendent, or such superintendent's designee, or

17 supervisory agent that such certificate holder has a record of  
18 competency in the discharge of such certificate holder's duties during  
19 such provisional period, the state board upon receipt of a proper  
20 application shall issue such certificate holder a professional educator  
21 certificate. A signed recommendation from the superintendent of  
22 schools, or the superintendent's designee, for the local or regional  
23 board of education or from the supervisory agent of a nonpublic  
24 school approved by the State Board of Education shall be evidence of  
25 competency. Such recommendation shall state that the person who  
26 holds or has held a provisional educator certificate has successfully  
27 completed at least three school years of satisfactory teaching for one or  
28 more local or regional boards of education or such nonpublic schools.  
29 Each applicant for a certificate pursuant to this subsection shall  
30 provide to the Department of Education, in such manner and form as  
31 prescribed by the commissioner, evidence that the applicant has  
32 successfully completed coursework pursuant to subsection (g) of this  
33 section, as appropriate. [Notwithstanding the provisions of this  
34 subsection, on and after July 1, 2012, experience teaching in a  
35 nonpublic school shall not be accepted for purposes of issuing a  
36 professional educator certificate, but may be accepted to renew the  
37 provisional educator certificate.]

38 Sec. 2. Section 10-145a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
39 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2011*):

40 (a) The State Board of Education may, in accordance with section 10-  
41 19 and such regulations and qualifications as it prescribes, issue  
42 certificates of qualification to teach, to administer, to supervise or to  
43 serve in other positions requiring certification pursuant to regulations  
44 adopted by the State Board of Education in any public school in the  
45 state and may revoke the same. Any such regulations shall provide  
46 that the qualifications to maintain any administrator, supervisor or  
47 special service certificate shall incorporate the continuing education  
48 provisions of subsection (i) of section 10-145b. The certificates of  
49 qualification issued under this section shall be accepted by boards of

50 education in lieu of any other certificate, provided additional  
51 qualifications may be required by a board of education, in which case  
52 the state certificate shall be accepted for such subjects as it includes.

53 (b) Any candidate in a program of teacher preparation leading to  
54 professional certification shall be encouraged to successfully complete  
55 an intergroup relations component of such a program which shall be  
56 developed with the participation of both sexes, and persons of various  
57 ethnic, cultural and economic backgrounds. Such intergroup relations  
58 program shall have the following objectives: (1) The imparting of an  
59 appreciation of the contributions to American civilization of the  
60 various ethnic, cultural and economic groups composing American  
61 society and an understanding of the life styles of such groups; (2) the  
62 counteracting of biases, discrimination and prejudices; and (3) the  
63 assurance of respect for human diversity and personal rights. The State  
64 Board of Education, the Board of Governors of Higher Education, the  
65 Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities and the Permanent  
66 Commission on the Status of Women shall establish a joint committee  
67 composed of members of the four agencies, which shall develop and  
68 implement such programs in intergroup relations.

69 (c) Any candidate in a program of teacher preparation leading to  
70 professional certification shall be encouraged to complete a (1) health  
71 component of such a program, which includes, but need not be limited  
72 to, human growth and development, nutrition, first aid, disease  
73 prevention and community and consumer health, and (2) mental  
74 health component of such a program, which includes, but need not be  
75 limited to, youth suicide, child abuse and alcohol and drug abuse.

76 (d) Any candidate in a program of teacher preparation leading to  
77 professional certification shall be encouraged to complete a school  
78 violence, bullying and suicide prevention and conflict resolution  
79 component of such a program.

80 (e) On and after July 1, 1998, any candidate in a program of teacher  
81 preparation leading to professional certification shall complete a

82 computer and other information technology skills component of such  
83 program, as applied to student learning and classroom instruction,  
84 communications and data management.

85 (f) On and after July 1, 2006, any program of teacher preparation  
86 leading to professional certification shall include, as part of the  
87 curriculum, instruction in literacy skills and processes that reflects  
88 current research and best practices in the field of literacy training. Such  
89 instruction shall be incorporated into requirements of student major  
90 and concentration.

91 (g) On and after July 1, 2006, any program of teacher preparation  
92 leading to professional certification shall include, as part of the  
93 curriculum, instruction in the concepts of second language learning  
94 and second language acquisition and processes that reflects current  
95 research and best practices in the field of second language learning and  
96 second language acquisition. Such instruction shall be incorporated  
97 into requirements of student major and concentration.

98 (h) On and after July 1, 2011, any program of teacher preparation  
99 leading to professional certification may permit teaching experience in  
100 a nonpublic school, approved by the State Board of Education, and  
101 offered through a public or private institution of higher education to  
102 count towards the preparation and eligibility requirements for an  
103 initial educator certificate, provided such teaching experience is  
104 completed as part of a cooperating teacher program, in accordance  
105 with the provisions of subsection (d) of section 10-220a, as amended by  
106 this act.

107 [(h)] (i) On and after July 1, 2012, any candidate entering a program  
108 of teacher preparation leading to professional certification shall be  
109 required to complete training in competency areas contained in the  
110 professional teaching standards established by the State Board of  
111 Education, including, but not limited to, development and  
112 characteristics of learners, evidence-based and standards-based  
113 instruction, evidence-based classroom and behavior management, and

114 assessment and professional behaviors and responsibilities.

115 Sec. 3. Subsection (d) of section 10-220a of the general statutes is  
116 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
117 *1, 2011*):

118 (d) The Department of Education may fund, within available  
119 appropriations, in cooperation with one or more regional educational  
120 service centers: (1) A cooperating teacher program to train Connecticut  
121 public school teachers, [and] certified teachers at private special  
122 education facilities approved by the Commissioner of Education,  
123 certified teachers at nonpublic schools approved by the commissioner  
124 and certified teachers at other facilities designated by the  
125 commissioner, who participate in the supervision, training and  
126 evaluation of student teachers, provided such certified teachers at  
127 nonpublic schools pay for the cost of participation in such cooperating  
128 teacher program; and (2) institutes to provide continuing education for  
129 Connecticut public school educators and cooperating teachers,  
130 including institutes to provide continuing education for Connecticut  
131 public school educators offered in cooperation with the Connecticut  
132 Humanities Council. Funds available under this subsection shall be  
133 paid directly to school districts for the provision of substitute teachers  
134 when cooperating teachers are released from regular classroom  
135 responsibilities and for the provision of professional development  
136 activities for cooperating and student teachers, except that such funds  
137 shall not be paid to nonpublic schools for such professional  
138 development activities. The cooperating teacher program shall operate  
139 in accordance with regulations adopted by the State Board of  
140 Education in accordance with chapter 54, except in cases of placement  
141 in other countries pursuant to written cooperative agreements between  
142 Connecticut institutions of higher education and institutions of higher  
143 education in other countries. A Connecticut institution may enter such  
144 an agreement only if the State Board of Education and Board of  
145 Governors of Higher Education have jointly approved the institution's  
146 teacher preparation program to enter into such agreements. Student

147 teachers shall be placed with trained cooperating teachers.  
148 Cooperating teachers who are Connecticut public school teachers shall  
149 be selected by local and regional boards of education. Cooperating  
150 teachers at such private special education facilities, nonpublic schools  
151 and other designated facilities shall be selected by the authority  
152 responsible for the operation of such facilities. If a board of education  
153 is unable to identify a sufficient number of individuals to serve in such  
154 positions, the commissioner may select qualified persons who are not  
155 employed by the board of education to serve in such positions. Such  
156 regulations shall require primary consideration of teachers' classroom  
157 experience and recognized success as educators. The provisions of  
158 sections 10-153a to 10-153n, inclusive, shall not be applicable to the  
159 selection, placement and compensation of persons participating in the  
160 cooperating teacher program pursuant to the provisions of this section  
161 and to the hours and duties of such persons. The State Board of  
162 Education shall protect and save harmless, in accordance with the  
163 provisions of section 10-235, any cooperating teacher while serving in  
164 such capacity.

165       Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2011*) (a) The Department of  
166 Education shall review and approve proposals for alternate route to  
167 certification programs for guidance counselors and school counselors.  
168 In order to be approved, a proposal shall provide that the alternative  
169 route to certification program (1) be provided by a public or  
170 independent institution of higher education, a local or regional board  
171 of education, a regional educational service center or a private,  
172 nonprofit teacher or administrator training organization approved by  
173 the State Board of Education; (2) accept only those participants who  
174 (A) hold a bachelor's degree from an institution of higher education  
175 accredited by the Board of Governors of Higher Education or  
176 regionally accredited, (B) have at least forty school months' experience  
177 as a guidance counselor or school counselor in a school, of which at  
178 least ten school months are in a position requiring certification at a  
179 public school, in this state or another state, and (C) are recommended  
180 by the immediate supervisor or district administrator of such person

181 on the basis of such person's performance; (3) require each participant  
182 to (A) complete a one-year residency that requires such person to serve  
183 (i) in a position requiring a guidance counselor or school counselor  
184 endorsement, and (ii) in a full-time position for ten school months at a  
185 local or regional board of education in the state under the supervision  
186 of (I) a certified guidance counselor or school counselor, and (II) a  
187 supervisor from an institution or organization described in subdivision  
188 (1) of this subsection, or (B) have ten school months' experience in a  
189 full-time position as a guidance counselor or school counselor in a  
190 public or nonpublic school in another state that is approved by the  
191 appropriate state board of education in such other state; and (4) meet  
192 such other criteria as the departments require.

193 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (d) of section 10-  
194 145b, of the general statutes, as amended by this act, on and after July  
195 1, 2011, the State Board of Education, upon receipt of a proper  
196 application, shall issue an initial educator certificate in the certification  
197 endorsement area of guidance counselor or school counselor, which  
198 shall be valid for three years, to any person who (1) successfully  
199 completed the alternate route to certification program for guidance  
200 counselors and school counselors pursuant to this section, and (2)  
201 meets the requirements established in subsection (b) of section 10-145f  
202 of the general statutes.

203 (c) Notwithstanding any regulation adopted by the State Board of  
204 Education pursuant to section 10-145b of the general statutes, as  
205 amended by this act, any person who successfully completed the  
206 alternate route to certification program for guidance counselors and  
207 school counselors pursuant to this section and was issued an initial  
208 educator certificate in the endorsement area of guidance counselor or  
209 school counselor shall obtain a master's degree not later than five years  
210 after such person was issued such initial educator certificate. If such  
211 person does not obtain a master's degree in such time period, such  
212 person shall not be eligible for a professional educator certificate.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	10-145b(h)(1)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	10-145a
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	10-220a(d)
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To allow nonpublic school teachers in Connecticut to receive a professional educator certificate and to create an alternate route to certification program for school guidance counselors.

*[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.]*