



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

Raised Bill No. 6502

LCO No. 3996

03996_____ED_

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE OPEN CHOICE PROGRAM.

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

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2011*) (a) As used in this section:
- 2 (1) "Crandall school program" means a program offered at an
3 existing public school that (A) has a specialized curriculum or theme,
4 such as art, science, technology, engineering, mathematics, history,
5 government, English, world languages or preschool or full-day
6 kindergarten, and (B) is designed to promote participation in the open
7 choice program pursuant to section 10-266aa of the general statutes, as
8 amended by this act;
- 9 (2) "Sending district" means any school district that sends students it
10 would otherwise be legally responsible for educating to a school
11 district that offers a Crandall school program and in which such
12 students are enrolled in such program; and
- 13 (3) "Minority students" means students who are "pupils of racial
14 minorities", as defined in section 10-226a of the general statutes.

15 (b) For the school year commencing July 1, 2012, and each school
16 year thereafter, the Department of Education shall, within available
17 appropriations, establish a Crandall school program. A Crandall
18 school program shall be available to any local or regional board of
19 education that assists the state in meeting the goals of the 2008
20 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al.

21 (c) Any local or regional board of education seeking to participate in
22 the Crandall school program shall submit an application for such grant
23 to the Commissioner of Education at such time and in such manner as
24 the commissioner prescribes. In determining whether to award a grant
25 pursuant to this section, the commissioner shall consider, but such
26 consideration shall not be limited to, (1) whether the Crandall school
27 program offered by the local or regional board of education reduces
28 racial isolation, (2) whether the educational program offered through
29 the Crandall school program is likely to increase student achievement,
30 (3) whether the educational program offered through the Crandall
31 school program is unique and will not adversely impact enrollment at
32 existing interdistrict magnet schools, regional vocational-technical
33 schools and regional agricultural science and technology education
34 centers in the region, and (4) the proposed operating budget and
35 funding sources for the innovation school.

36 (d) Each local or regional board of education participating in the
37 Crandall school program shall be eligible to receive a per pupil grant
38 as follows: (1) Four thousand dollars for each student who is a resident
39 of Hartford and is enrolled in a Crandall school program offered by a
40 local or regional board of education for a school district other than the
41 Hartford school district, provided at least twenty-five per cent of the
42 students enrolled in such Crandall school program are students who
43 are residents of Hartford, and (2) four thousand dollars for each
44 student enrolled in a Crandall school program offered by the Hartford
45 school district who is not a resident of such district, provided the
46 number of minority students enrolled in such Crandall school program
47 is not greater than seventy-five per cent.

48 (e) The commissioner may, within available appropriations, provide
49 annual operating grants to local or regional boards of education
50 offering Crandall school programs in an amount not to exceed two
51 hundred fifty thousand dollars for the purposes of enhancing the
52 educational specialized curriculum or theme offered by such program.

53 (f) Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 172 of the general
54 statutes, each sending district and each district offering a Crandall
55 school program shall divide the number of children participating in
56 such program who reside in such district or attend school in such
57 district by two for purposes of the counts for subdivision (22) of
58 section 10-262f of the general statutes and subdivision (2) of subsection
59 (a) of section 10-261 of the general statutes.

60 (g) In the case of an out-of-district student enrolled in a Crandall
61 school program who requires special education and related services,
62 the sending district shall pay the district offering a Crandall school
63 program an amount equal to the difference between the reasonable
64 cost of providing such special education and related services to such
65 student and the amount received by the receiving district pursuant to
66 subsection (d) of this section. The sending district shall be eligible for
67 reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g of the general statutes.

68 (h) The department shall provide grants to local or regional boards
69 of education offering a Crandall school program for the reasonable
70 cost of transportation for students participating in such program. For
71 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year thereafter, the
72 department shall provide such grants within available appropriations,
73 provided the state-wide average of such grants does not exceed an
74 amount equal to three thousand two hundred fifty dollars for each
75 student transported. For purposes of this section, the number of
76 students transported shall be determined on September first of each
77 fiscal year.

78 (i) In accordance with the provisions of subsection (l) of this section,
79 for purposes of the state-wide mastery examinations under section 10-

80 14n of the general statutes, students enrolled in a Crandall school
81 program established pursuant to this section shall be considered
82 residents of the school district in which they attend school.

83 (j) Within available appropriations, the commissioner may make
84 grants to local or regional boards of education offering Crandall school
85 programs which provide summer school educational programs
86 approved by the commissioner to students participating in such
87 program.

88 (k) The commissioner may provide grants for children in the
89 Hartford program described in this section to participate in preschool
90 and full-day kindergarten programs. In addition to the subsidy
91 provided to the district for educational services, such grants may be
92 used for the provision of before and after-school care and remedial
93 services for the preschool and full-day kindergarten students
94 participating in such program.

95 (l) Each local or regional board of education offering a Crandall
96 school program pursuant to this section shall allow out-of-district
97 students enrolled in such program to attend school in the district in
98 which such program is offered until such out-of-district students
99 graduate from high school, pursuant to section 10-266aa of the general
100 statutes, as amended by this act.

101 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2011*) (a) For purposes of this section,
102 "school choice program" means (1) an interdistrict magnet school
103 operating pursuant to section 10-264l of the general statutes, (2) the
104 open choice program pursuant to section 10-266aa of the general
105 statutes, as amended by this act, (3) a regional vocational-technical
106 school, (4) a regional agricultural science and technology education
107 center, or (5) an innovational school that assists the state in meeting the
108 goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William
109 A. O'Neill, et al.

110 (b) The Department of Education shall provide transportation

111 grants to (1) a local or regional board of education, (2) a regional
112 educational service center, (3) the Board of Trustees of the
113 Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of Quinebaug Valley
114 Community College, (4) a cooperative arrangement pursuant to section
115 10-158a of the general statutes, (5) the Board of Trustees of the
116 Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-
117 technical college, (6) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State
118 University System on behalf of a state university, (7) the Board of
119 Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of the university,
120 (8) the board of governors for an independent college or university, as
121 defined in section 10a-37 of the general statutes, or the equivalent of
122 such a board, on behalf of the independent college or university, and
123 (9) any other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the
124 commissioner, which transports a child to an eligible out-of-district
125 school choice program to assist the state in meeting the goals of the
126 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et
127 al., as determined by the commissioner.

128 (c) The amount of such grant shall not exceed an amount equal to
129 the number of such children transported multiplied by three thousand
130 two hundred fifty dollars.

131 (d) Grants under this section shall be contingent on documented
132 costs of providing such transportation. Eligible entities identified in
133 subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section shall submit
134 applications for grants under this section to the Commissioner of
135 Education in such form and at such times as the commissioner
136 prescribes. Grants pursuant to this section shall be paid as follows: In
137 October one-half of the estimated eligible transportation cost and the
138 balance of such cost in May.

139 Sec. 3. Section 10-266aa of the general statutes is repealed and the
140 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2011*):

141 (a) As used in this section:

142 (1) "Receiving district" means any school district that accepts
143 students under the program established pursuant to this section;

144 (2) "Sending district" means any school district that sends students it
145 would otherwise be legally responsible for educating to another school
146 district under the program; and

147 (3) "Minority students" means students who are "pupils of racial
148 minorities", as defined in section 10-226a.

149 (b) There is established, within available appropriations, an
150 interdistrict public school attendance program. The purpose of the
151 program shall be to: (1) Improve academic achievement; (2) reduce
152 racial, ethnic and economic isolation or preserve racial and ethnic
153 balance; and (3) provide a choice of educational programs. [for
154 students enrolled in the public schools.] The Department of Education
155 shall provide oversight for the program, including the setting of
156 reasonable limits for the transportation of students participating in the
157 program, and may provide for the incremental expansion of the
158 program for the school year commencing in 2000 for each town
159 required to participate in the program pursuant to subsection (c) of
160 this section.

161 (c) The program shall be phased in as provided in this subsection.
162 (1) For the school year commencing in 1998, and for each school year
163 thereafter, the program shall be in operation in the Hartford, New
164 Haven and Bridgeport regions. The Hartford program shall operate as
165 a continuation of the program described in section 10-266j. Students
166 who reside in Hartford, New Haven or Bridgeport may attend school
167 in another school district in the region and students who reside in such
168 other school districts may attend school in Hartford, New Haven or
169 Bridgeport, provided, beginning with the 2001-2002 school year, the
170 proportion of students who are not minority students to the total
171 number of students leaving Hartford, Bridgeport or New Haven to
172 participate in the program shall not be greater than the proportion of
173 students who were not minority students in the prior school year to

174 the total number of students enrolled in Hartford, Bridgeport or New
175 Haven in the prior school year. The regional educational service center
176 operating the program shall make program participation decisions in
177 accordance with the requirements of this subdivision. (2) For the
178 school year commencing in 2000, and for each school year thereafter,
179 the program shall be in operation in New London, provided beginning
180 with the 2001-2002 school year, the proportion of students who are not
181 minority students to the total number of students leaving New London
182 to participate in the program shall not be greater than the proportion
183 of students who were not minority students in the prior year to the
184 total number of students enrolled in New London in the prior school
185 year. The regional educational service center operating the program
186 shall make program participation decisions in accordance with this
187 subdivision. (3) The Department of Education may provide, within
188 available appropriations, grants for the fiscal year ending June 30,
189 2003, to the remaining regional educational service centers to assist
190 school districts in planning for a voluntary program of student
191 enrollment in every priority school district, pursuant to section 10-
192 266p, which is interested in participating in accordance with this
193 subdivision. For the school year commencing in 2003, and for each
194 school year thereafter, the voluntary enrollment program may be in
195 operation in every priority school district in the state. Students from
196 other school districts in the area of a priority school district, as
197 determined by the regional educational service center pursuant to
198 subsection (d) of this section, may attend school in the priority school
199 district, provided such students bring racial, ethnic and economic
200 diversity to the priority school district and do not increase the racial,
201 ethnic and economic isolation in the priority school district.

202 (d) School districts which received students from New London
203 under the program during the 2000-2001 school year shall allow such
204 students to attend school in the district until they graduate from high
205 school. The attendance of such students in such program shall not be
206 supported by grants pursuant to subsections (f) and (g) of this section
207 but shall be supported, in the same amounts as provided for in said

208 subsections, by interdistrict cooperative grants pursuant to section 10-
209 74d to the regional educational service centers operating such
210 programs.

211 (e) Once the program is in operation in the region served by a
212 regional educational service center pursuant to subsection (c) of this
213 section, the Department of Education shall provide an annual grant to
214 such regional educational service center to assist school districts in its
215 area in administering the program and to provide staff to assist
216 students participating in the program to make the transition to a new
217 school and to act as a liaison between the parents of such students and
218 the new school district. Each regional educational service center shall
219 determine which school districts in its area are located close enough to
220 a priority school district to make participation in the program feasible
221 in terms of student transportation pursuant to subsection (f) of this
222 section, provided any student participating in the program prior to
223 July 1, 1999, shall be allowed to continue to attend the same school
224 such student attended prior to said date in the receiving district until
225 the student completes the highest grade in such school. Each regional
226 educational service center shall convene, annually, a meeting of
227 representatives of such school districts in order for such school
228 districts to report, by March thirty-first, the number of spaces available
229 for the following school year for out-of-district students under the
230 program. Annually, each regional educational service center shall
231 provide a count of such spaces to the Department of Education by
232 April fifteenth. If there are more students who seek to attend school in
233 a receiving district than there are spaces available, the regional
234 educational service center shall assist the school district in determining
235 attendance by the use of a lottery or lotteries designed to preserve or
236 increase racial, ethnic and economic diversity, except that the regional
237 educational service center shall give preference to siblings and to
238 students who would otherwise attend a school that has lost its
239 accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges
240 or has been identified as in need of improvement pursuant to the No
241 Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110. The admission policies shall be

242 consistent with section 10-15c and this section. No receiving district
243 shall recruit students under the program for athletic or extracurricular
244 purposes. Each receiving district shall allow out-of-district students it
245 accepts to attend school in the district until they graduate from high
246 school.

247 (f) [The] Except as provided in section 2 of this act, the Department
248 of Education shall provide grants to regional educational service
249 centers or local or regional boards of education for the reasonable cost
250 of transportation for students participating in the program. For the
251 fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, and each fiscal year thereafter, the
252 department shall provide such grants within available appropriations,
253 provided the state-wide average of such grants does not exceed an
254 amount equal to three thousand two hundred fifty dollars for each
255 student transported, except that the Commissioner of Education may
256 grant to regional educational service centers additional sums from
257 funds remaining in the appropriation for such transportation services
258 if needed to offset transportation costs that exceed such maximum
259 amount. The regional educational service centers shall provide
260 reasonable transportation services to high school students who wish to
261 participate in supervised extracurricular activities. For purposes of this
262 section, the number of students transported shall be determined on
263 September first of each fiscal year.

264 (g) [The] (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection,
265 the Department of Education shall provide, within available
266 appropriations, an annual grant to the local or regional board of
267 education for each receiving district in an amount not to exceed two
268 thousand five hundred dollars for each out-of-district student who
269 attends school in the receiving district under the program.

270 (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, and each fiscal year
271 thereafter, the department shall provide, within available
272 appropriations, an annual grant to the local or regional board of
273 education for each receiving district that assists the state in meeting the

274 goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William
275 A. O'Neill, et al., as determined by the commissioner, an amount not to
276 exceed (A) three thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who
277 attends school in the receiving district under the program if the
278 number of such out-of-district students is less than two per cent of the
279 total student population of such receiving district, (B) four thousand
280 dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the
281 receiving district under the program if the number of such out-of-
282 district students is greater than or equal to two per cent but less than
283 three per cent of the total student population of such receiving district,
284 and (C) six thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who
285 attends school in the receiving district under the program if the
286 number of such out-of-district students is greater than or equal to three
287 per cent of the total student population of such receiving district.

288 (3) Each town which receives funds pursuant to this subsection shall
289 make such funds available to its local or regional board of education in
290 supplement to any other local appropriation, other state or federal
291 grant or other revenue to which the local or regional board of
292 education is entitled.

293 (h) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, each sending
294 district and each receiving district shall divide the number of children
295 participating in the program who reside in such district or attend
296 school in such district by two for purposes of the counts for
297 subdivision (22) of section 10-262f and subdivision (2) of subsection (a)
298 of section 10-261.

299 (i) In the case of an out-of-district student who requires special
300 education and related services, the sending district shall pay the
301 receiving district an amount equal to the difference between the
302 reasonable cost of providing such special education and related
303 services to such student and the amount received by the receiving
304 district pursuant to subsection (g) of this section and in the case of
305 students participating pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, the

306 per pupil amount received pursuant to section 10-74d. The sending
307 district shall be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g.

308 (j) Nothing in this section shall prohibit school districts from
309 charging tuition to other school districts that do not have a high school
310 pursuant to section 10-33.

311 (k) On or before October fifteenth of each year, the Commissioner of
312 Education shall determine if the enrollment in the program pursuant
313 to subsection (c) of this section for the fiscal year is below the number
314 of students for which funds were appropriated. If the commissioner
315 determines that the enrollment is below such number, the additional
316 funds shall not lapse but shall be used by the commissioner in
317 accordance with this subsection. (1) Any amount up to five hundred
318 thousand dollars of such nonlapsing funds shall be used for
319 supplemental grants to receiving districts on a pro rata basis for each
320 out-of-district student in the program pursuant to subsection (c) of this
321 section who attends the same school in the receiving district as at least
322 nine other such out-of-district students, not to exceed one thousand
323 dollars per student; [~~. (2) Any~~] (2) any amount up to five hundred
324 thousand dollars of such nonlapsing funds shall be used for
325 supplemental grants on a pro rata basis to receiving districts that
326 report to the commissioner on or before March first of the current
327 school year that the number of spaces for out-of-district students
328 exceeds the number of such spaces for such receiving district in the
329 prior school year; and (3) any remaining nonlapsing funds shall be
330 used for interdistrict cooperative grants pursuant to section 10-74d.

331 (l) For purposes of the state-wide mastery examinations under
332 section 10-14n, students participating in the program established
333 pursuant to this section shall be considered residents of the school
334 district in which they attend school.

335 (m) Within available appropriations, the commissioner may make
336 grants to regional education service centers which provide summer
337 school educational programs approved by the commissioner to

338 students participating in the program.

339 (n) The Commissioner of Education may provide grants for children
340 in the Hartford program described in this section to participate in
341 preschool and all day kindergarten programs. In addition to the
342 subsidy provided to the receiving district for educational services,
343 such grants may be used for the provision of before and after-school
344 care and remedial services for the preschool and kindergarten students
345 participating in the program.

346 (o) Within available appropriations, the commissioner may make
347 grants for academic student support for programs pursuant to this
348 section that assist the state in meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation
349 and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as
350 determined by the commissioner.

351 Sec. 4. Section 10-264i of the general statutes is repealed and the
352 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2011*):

353 (a) (1) (A) A local or regional board of education, (B) regional
354 educational service center, (C) the Board of Trustees of the
355 Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of Quinebaug Valley
356 Community College, or (D) cooperative arrangement pursuant to
357 section 10-158a, [or (E) to assist the state in meeting the goals of the
358 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et
359 al., as determined by the Commissioner of Education, (i) the Board of
360 Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional
361 community-technical college, (ii) the Board of Trustees of the
362 Connecticut State University System on behalf of a state university, (iii)
363 the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of
364 the university, (iv) the board of governors for an independent college
365 or university, as defined in section 10a-37, or the equivalent of such a
366 board, on behalf of the independent college or university, and (v) any
367 other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the
368 commissioner] which transports a child to an interdistrict magnet
369 school program, as defined in section 10-264l, in a town other than the

370 town in which the child resides shall be eligible pursuant to section 10-
371 264e to receive a grant for the cost of transporting such child in
372 accordance with this section.

373 (2) [Except as provided in subdivisions (3) and (4) of this subsection,
374 the] The amount of such grant shall not exceed an amount equal to the
375 number of such children transported multiplied by one thousand three
376 hundred dollars.

377 [(3) For districts assisting the state in meeting the goals of the 2008
378 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al.,
379 as determined by the commissioner, (i) for the fiscal year ending June
380 30, 2010, the amount of such grant shall not exceed an amount equal to
381 the number of such children transported multiplied by one thousand
382 four hundred dollars, and (ii) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011,
383 the amount of such grant shall not exceed an amount equal to the
384 number of such children transported multiplied by two thousand
385 dollars.

386 (4) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2009, and June 30, 2010, in
387 addition to the grants otherwise provided pursuant to this section, the
388 Commissioner of Education may provide supplemental transportation
389 grants to regional educational service centers for the purposes of
390 transportation to interdistrict magnet schools. Any such grant shall be
391 provided within available appropriations and after the commissioner
392 has reviewed and approved the total interdistrict magnet school
393 transportation budget for a regional education service center,
394 including all revenue and expenditure estimates. For the fiscal year
395 ending June 30, 2010, in addition to the grants otherwise provided
396 pursuant to this section, the Commissioner of Education, with the
397 approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, may
398 provide supplemental transportation grants to the Hartford school
399 district and the Capitol Region Education Council for the purposes of
400 transportation of students who are not residents of Hartford to
401 interdistrict magnet schools operated by the Capitol Region Education

402 Council or the Hartford school district.]

403 [(5)] (3) The Department of Education shall provide such grants
404 within available appropriations. Nothing in this subsection shall be
405 construed to prevent a local or regional board of education, regional
406 educational service center or cooperative arrangement from receiving
407 reimbursement under section 10-266m for reasonable transportation
408 expenses for which such board, service center or cooperative
409 arrangement is not reimbursed pursuant to this section.

410 (b) Grants under this section shall be contingent on documented
411 costs of providing such transportation. Eligible entities identified in
412 subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section shall submit
413 applications for grants under this section to the Commissioner of
414 Education in such form and at such times as he prescribes. Grants
415 pursuant to this section shall be paid as follows: In October one-half of
416 the estimated eligible transportation costs and the balance of such costs
417 in May.

418 (c) Each eligible entity identified in subdivision (1) of subsection (a)
419 of this section participating in the grant program shall prepare a
420 financial statement of expenditures which shall be submitted to the
421 Department of Education on or before September first of the fiscal year
422 immediately following each fiscal year in which the school district,
423 regional educational service center or cooperative arrangement
424 participates in the grant program. Based on such statement, any
425 underpayment or overpayment may be calculated and adjusted by the
426 Department of Education in the grant for any subsequent year.

427 Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 10-266m of the general statutes is
428 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
429 *1, 2011*):

430 (a) A local or regional board of education providing transportation
431 in accordance with the provisions of sections 10-54, 10-66ee, 10-97, 10-
432 158a, 10-273a, 10-277 and 10-281 shall be reimbursed for a percentage

433 of such transportation costs as follows:

434 (1) The percentage of pupil transportation costs reimbursed to a
435 local board of education shall be determined by (A) ranking each town
436 in the state in descending order from one to one hundred sixty-nine
437 according to such town's adjusted equalized net grand list per capita,
438 as defined in section 10-261; (B) based upon such ranking, and
439 notwithstanding the provisions of section 2-32a, (i) except as otherwise
440 provided in this subparagraph, a percentage of zero shall be assigned
441 to towns ranked from one to thirteen and a percentage of not less than
442 zero nor more than sixty shall be determined for the towns ranked
443 from fourteen to one hundred sixty-nine on a continuous scale, except
444 that any such percentage shall be increased by twenty percentage
445 points in accordance with section 10-97, where applicable, and (ii) for
446 the fiscal year ending June 30, 1997, and for each fiscal year thereafter,
447 a percentage of zero shall be assigned to towns ranked from one to
448 seventeen and a percentage of not less than zero nor more than sixty
449 shall be determined for the towns ranked from eighteen to one
450 hundred sixty-nine on a continuous scale.

451 (2) The percentage of pupil transportation costs reimbursed to a
452 regional board of education shall be determined by its ranking. Such
453 ranking shall be determined by (A) multiplying the total population, as
454 defined in section 10-261, of each town in the district by such town's
455 ranking, as determined in subdivision (1) of this section, (B) adding
456 together the figures determined under subparagraph (A) of this
457 subdivision, and (C) dividing the total computed under subparagraph
458 (B) of this subdivision by the total population of all towns in the
459 district. The ranking of each regional board of education shall be
460 rounded to the next higher whole number and each such board shall
461 receive the same reimbursement percentage as would a town with the
462 same rank, provided such percentage shall be increased in the case of a
463 secondary regional school district by an additional five percentage
464 points and, in the case of any other regional school district by an
465 additional ten percentage points.

466 (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of
467 this section, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1997, and for each fiscal
468 year thereafter, no local or regional board of education shall receive a
469 grant of less than one thousand dollars.

470 (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal
471 years ending June 30, 2004, to June 30, 2011, inclusive, the amount of
472 transportation grants payable to local or regional boards of education
473 shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in such year
474 exceeds the amount appropriated for such grants for such year.

475 [(5) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the
476 Commissioner of Education may provide grants, within available
477 appropriations, in an amount not to exceed two thousand dollars per
478 pupil, to local and regional boards of education and regional
479 educational service centers that transport (A) out-of-district students to
480 technical high schools located in Hartford, or (B) Hartford students
481 attending a technical high school or a regional agricultural science and
482 technology education center outside of the district, to assist the state in
483 meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al.
484 v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as determined by the commissioner, for
485 the costs associated with such transportation.]

486 [(6)] (5) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, in addition to the
487 reimbursements and grants payable under subdivisions (1) to (5),
488 inclusive, of this subsection, the Commissioner of Education shall
489 provide a grant when (A) two or more boards of education enter into a
490 cooperative agreement in accordance with section 10-158a to transport
491 students to schools operated by the boards of education during the
492 fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, and (B) such cooperative arrangement
493 results in a savings, as determined by the commissioner, over the
494 transportation costs incurred by the boards of education during the
495 fiscal year ending June 30, 2010. This grant, which shall be returned to
496 the municipalities in which the participating boards of education are
497 located in accordance with the terms of the written cooperative

498 arrangement, shall be equal to half of the difference in the amount the
499 boards of education would have been reimbursed in the fiscal year
500 ending June 30, 2012, for pupil transportation costs but for the savings
501 realized in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, pursuant to the
502 cooperative arrangement.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	10-266aa
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	10-264i
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	10-266m(a)

Statement of Purpose:

To establish and provide grants for districts offering Crandall school programs that will assist the state in meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al.; to create a three-tiered grant program for receiving districts of students participating in the Open Choice Program; to provide supplemental grants to receiving districts participating in the Open Choice Program that increased the number of available spaces from the previous school year; to provide grants to eligible entities that provide transportation to students participating in the Open Choice Program.

[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.]