



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 407**

February Session, 2012

Substitute Senate Bill No. 299

*Senate, April 12, 2012*

The Committee on Education reported through SEN. STILLMAN of the 20th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## ***AN ACT CONCERNING MINOR REVISIONS TO THE EDUCATION STATUTES.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 10-285b of the 2012 supplement  
2 to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in  
3 lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

4 (a) (1) Any incorporated or endowed high school or academy  
5 approved by the State Board of Education, pursuant to section 10-34,  
6 may apply and be eligible subsequently to be considered for school  
7 construction grant commitments from the state pursuant to this  
8 chapter.

9 (2) Applications pursuant to this subsection shall be filed at such  
10 time and on such forms as the Department of Construction Services  
11 prescribes. The Commissioners of Education and Construction Services  
12 shall approve such applications pursuant to the provisions of section  
13 10-284.

14     (3) In the case of a school building project, as defined in  
15 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of section 10-282, the amount of  
16 the grant approved by the Commissioner of Construction Services  
17 shall be computed pursuant to the provisions of section 10-286, and the  
18 eligible percentage shall be computed pursuant to the provisions of  
19 subsection (b) of this section. The calculation of the grant pursuant to  
20 this section shall be made in accordance with the state standard space  
21 specifications in effect at the time of final grant calculation.

22     Sec. 2. Section 8-210 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
23 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

24     (a) The state, acting by and in the discretion of the Commissioner of  
25 Social Services or the Commissioner of Education, as appropriate, may  
26 enter into a contract with a municipality or a qualified private,  
27 nonprofit corporation for state financial assistance for the planning,  
28 construction, renovation, site preparation and purchase of improved or  
29 unimproved property as part of a capital development project for  
30 neighborhood facilities. Such facilities may include, but are not limited  
31 to, child day care facilities, elderly centers, multipurpose human  
32 resource centers, emergency shelters for the homeless and shelters for  
33 victims of domestic violence. The financial assistance shall be in the  
34 form of state grants-in-aid equal to (1) all or any portion of the cost of  
35 such capital development project if the grantee is a qualified private  
36 nonprofit corporation, or (2) up to two-thirds of the cost of such capital  
37 development project if the grantee is a municipality, as determined by  
38 the [commissioner] Commissioner of Social Services or the  
39 Commissioner of Education, as appropriate.

40     (b) The state, acting by and in the discretion of the Commissioner of  
41 [Social Services] Education, may enter into a contract with a  
42 municipality, a human resource development agency or a nonprofit  
43 corporation for state financial assistance in developing and operating  
44 child day care centers for children disadvantaged by reasons of  
45 economic, social or environmental conditions, provided no such  
46 financial assistance shall be available for the operating costs of any

47 such day care center unless it has been licensed by the Commissioner  
48 of Public Health pursuant to section 19a-80. Such financial assistance  
49 shall be available for a program of a municipality, of a human resource  
50 development agency or of a nonprofit corporation which may provide  
51 for personnel, equipment, supplies, activities, program materials and  
52 renovation and remodeling of physical facilities of such day care  
53 centers. Such contract shall provide for state financial assistance,  
54 within available appropriations, in the form of a state grant-in-aid (1)  
55 for a portion of the cost of such program as determined by the  
56 Commissioner of [Social Services] Education, if not federally assisted,  
57 or (2) equal to one-half of the amount by which the net cost of such  
58 program as approved by the [commissioner] Commissioner of  
59 Education exceeds the federal grant-in-aid thereof. The Commissioner  
60 of [Social Services] Education may authorize child day care centers  
61 provided financial assistance pursuant to this subsection to apply a  
62 program surplus to the next program year. The [commissioner]  
63 Commissioner of Education shall consult with directors of child day  
64 care centers in establishing fees for the operation of such centers.

65 (c) The Department of [Social Services] Education, in consultation  
66 with representatives from child care centers, within available  
67 appropriations, shall develop guidelines for state-contracted child care  
68 center programs. The guidelines shall include standards for program  
69 quality and design and identify short and long-term outcomes for  
70 families participating in such programs. The Department of [Social  
71 Services] Education, within available appropriations, shall provide a  
72 copy of such guidelines to each state-contracted child care center. Each  
73 state-contracted child care center shall use the guidelines to develop a  
74 program improvement plan for the next twelve-month period and  
75 shall submit the plan to the department. The plan shall include goals to  
76 be used for measuring such improvement. The department shall use  
77 the plan to monitor the progress of the center.

78 (d) The state, acting by and in the discretion of the [commissioner]  
79 Commissioner of Education may enter into a contract with a  
80 municipality, a human resource development agency or a nonprofit

81 corporation for state financial assistance for a project of renovation of  
82 any child day care facility receiving assistance pursuant to the  
83 provisions of this section, to make such facility accessible to the  
84 physically disabled, in the form of a state grant-in-aid equal to (1) the  
85 total net cost of the project as approved by the [commissioner]  
86 Commissioner of Education, or (2) the total amount by which the net  
87 cost of the project as approved by the [commissioner] Commissioner of  
88 Education exceeds the federal grant-in-aid thereof.

89 (e) Any municipality, human resource development agency or  
90 nonprofit corporation which enters into a contract pursuant to this  
91 section for state financial assistance for a day care facility shall have  
92 sole responsibility for the development of the budget of the day care  
93 program, including, but not limited to, personnel costs, purchases of  
94 equipment, supplies, activities and program materials, within the  
95 resources provided by the state under said contract. Upon local  
96 determination of a change in the type of day care service required in  
97 the area, a municipality, human resource development agency or  
98 nonprofit corporation may, within the limits of its annual budget and  
99 subject to the provisions of this subsection and sections 19a-77 to 19a-  
100 80, inclusive, and 19a-82 to 19a-87a, inclusive, change its day care  
101 service. An application to change the type of child day care service  
102 provided shall be submitted to the Commissioner of [Social Services.  
103 Within] Education. Not later than forty-five days [of his receipt of]  
104 after the Commissioner of Education receives the application, the  
105 [commissioner] Commissioner of Education shall advise the  
106 municipality, human resource development agency or nonprofit  
107 corporation of [his] the Commissioner of Education's approval, denial  
108 or approval with modifications of the application. If the  
109 [commissioner] Commissioner of Education fails to act on the  
110 application [within forty-five days of its] not later than forty-five days  
111 after the application's submittal, the application shall be deemed  
112 approved.

113 (f) The Commissioner of [Social Services] Education may, in his  
114 discretion, with the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy

115 and Management authorize the expenditure of such funds for the  
116 purposes of this section as shall enable the Commissioner of [Social  
117 Services] Education to apply for, qualify for and provide the state's  
118 share of a federally assisted day care program.

119 Sec. 3. Section 10-19q of the general statutes is repealed and the  
120 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

121 The Department of Education shall administer, within available  
122 appropriations, an enhancement grant program for youth service  
123 bureaus. The department shall annually award grants in the amounts  
124 of: (1) Three thousand three hundred dollars to youth service bureaus  
125 that serve a town with a population of not more than eight thousand  
126 or towns with a total combined population of not more than eight  
127 thousand; (2) five thousand dollars to youth service bureaus that serve  
128 a town with a population greater than eight thousand, but not more  
129 than seventeen thousand or towns with a total combined population  
130 greater than eight thousand, but not more than seventeen thousand; (3)  
131 six thousand two hundred fifty dollars to youth service bureaus that  
132 serve a town with population greater than seventeen thousand, but not  
133 more than thirty thousand or towns with a total combined population  
134 greater than seventeen thousand, but not more than thirty thousand;  
135 (4) seven thousand five hundred fifty dollars to youth service bureaus  
136 that serve a town with a population greater than thirty thousand, but  
137 not more than one hundred thousand or towns with a total combined  
138 population greater than thirty thousand, but not more than one  
139 hundred thousand; and (5) ten thousand dollars to youth service  
140 bureaus that serve a town with a population greater than one hundred  
141 thousand or towns with a total combined population greater than one  
142 hundred thousand. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for  
143 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year thereafter, the  
144 amount of grants payable to youth service bureaus shall be reduced  
145 proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds the  
146 amount appropriated for such grants for such year.

147 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 10-220 of the 2012 supplement to the

148 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
149 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

150 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall maintain good  
151 public elementary and secondary schools, implement the educational  
152 interests of the state, as defined in section 10-4a, and provide such  
153 other educational activities as in its judgment will best serve the  
154 interests of the school district; provided any board of education may  
155 secure such opportunities in another school district in accordance with  
156 provisions of the general statutes and shall give all the children of the  
157 school district as nearly equal advantages as may be practicable; shall  
158 provide an appropriate learning environment for its students which  
159 includes (1) adequate instructional books, supplies, materials,  
160 equipment, staffing, facilities and technology, (2) equitable allocation  
161 of resources among its schools, (3) proper maintenance of facilities,  
162 and (4) a safe school setting; shall, in accordance with the provisions of  
163 subsection (f) of this section, maintain records of allegations,  
164 investigations and reports that a child has been abused or neglected by  
165 a school employee, as defined in section 53a-65, employed by the local  
166 or regional board of education; shall have charge of the schools of its  
167 respective school district; shall make a continuing study of the need for  
168 school facilities and of a long-term school building program and from  
169 time to time make recommendations based on such study to the town;  
170 shall adopt and implement an indoor air quality program that  
171 provides for ongoing maintenance and facility reviews necessary for  
172 the maintenance and improvement of the indoor air quality of its  
173 facilities; shall adopt and implement a green cleaning program,  
174 pursuant to section 10-231g, that provides for the procurement and use  
175 of environmentally preferable cleaning products in school buildings  
176 and facilities; on and after July 1, 2011, and triennially thereafter, shall  
177 report to the Commissioner of [Education] Construction Services on  
178 the condition of its facilities and the action taken to implement its long-  
179 term school building program, indoor air quality program and green  
180 cleaning program, which report the Commissioner of [Education]  
181 Construction Services shall use to prepare a triennial report that said  
182 commissioner shall submit in accordance with section 11-4a to the joint

183 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
184 matters relating to education; shall advise the Commissioner of  
185 [Education] Construction Services of the relationship between any  
186 individual school building project pursuant to chapter 173 and such  
187 long-term school building program; shall have the care, maintenance  
188 and operation of buildings, lands, apparatus and other property used  
189 for school purposes and at all times shall insure all such buildings and  
190 all capital equipment contained therein against loss in an amount not  
191 less than eighty per cent of replacement cost; shall determine the  
192 number, age and qualifications of the pupils to be admitted into each  
193 school; shall develop and implement a written plan for minority staff  
194 recruitment for purposes of subdivision (3) of section 10-4a, as  
195 amended by this act; shall employ and dismiss the teachers of the  
196 schools of such district subject to the provisions of sections 10-151 and  
197 10-158a; shall designate the schools which shall be attended by the  
198 various children within the school district; shall make such provisions  
199 as will enable each child of school age residing in the district to attend  
200 some public day school for the period required by law and provide for  
201 the transportation of children wherever transportation is reasonable  
202 and desirable, and for such purpose may make contracts covering  
203 periods of not more than five years; may place in an alternative school  
204 program or other suitable educational program a pupil enrolling in  
205 school who is nineteen years of age or older and cannot acquire a  
206 sufficient number of credits for graduation by age twenty-one; may  
207 arrange with the board of education of an adjacent town for the  
208 instruction therein of such children as can attend school in such  
209 adjacent town more conveniently; shall cause each child five years of  
210 age and over and under eighteen years of age who is not a high school  
211 graduate and is living in the school district to attend school in  
212 accordance with the provisions of section 10-184, and shall perform all  
213 acts required of it by the town or necessary to carry into effect the  
214 powers and duties imposed by law.

215 Sec. 5. Subsection (d) of section 10-264/ of the 2012 supplement to  
216 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
217 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

218 (d) Grants made pursuant to this section, except those made  
219 pursuant to subdivision (6) of subsection (c) of this section, shall be  
220 paid as follows: Seventy per cent by September first and the balance by  
221 May first of each fiscal year. The May first payment shall be adjusted  
222 to reflect actual interdistrict magnet school program enrollment as of  
223 the preceding October first using the data of record as of the  
224 intervening March first, if the actual level of enrollment is lower than  
225 the projected enrollment stated in the approved grant application. The  
226 May first payment shall be further adjusted for the difference between  
227 the total grant received in the prior fiscal year and the [preliminary]  
228 revised grant amount calculated for the [current] prior fiscal year in  
229 cases where the financial audit submitted by the interdistrict magnet  
230 school pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (n) of this section  
231 indicates an overpayment by the department.

232 Sec. 6. Subsection (a) of section 10-264h of the 2012 supplement to  
233 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
234 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

235 (a) For the fiscal year ending June 30, [1996, until the fiscal year  
236 ending June 30, 2003] 2012, and each fiscal year thereafter, a local or  
237 regional board of education, regional educational service center, [or] a  
238 cooperative arrangement pursuant to section 10-158a, [for purposes of  
239 an interdistrict magnet school] or any of the following entities that  
240 operate an interdistrict magnet school that assists the state in meeting  
241 the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v.  
242 William A. O'Neill, et al., as determined by the Commissioner of  
243 Education: (1) The Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical  
244 Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college, (2) the  
245 Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on behalf  
246 of a state university, (3) the Board of Trustees for The University of  
247 Connecticut on behalf of the university, (4) the board of governors for  
248 an independent college or university, as defined in section 10a-37, or  
249 the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent college or  
250 university, and (5) any other third-party not-for-profit corporation  
251 approved by the Commissioner of Education, may be eligible for

252 reimbursement, except as otherwise provided for, up to [the full  
253 reasonable] eighty per cent of the eligible cost of any capital  
254 expenditure for the purchase, construction, extension, replacement,  
255 leasing or major alteration of interdistrict magnet school facilities,  
256 including any expenditure for the purchase of equipment, in  
257 accordance with this section. [For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004,  
258 until the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, the following entities that  
259 operate an interdistrict magnet school that assists the state in meeting  
260 the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v.  
261 William A. O'Neill, et al., as determined by the Commissioner of  
262 Education may be eligible for reimbursement up to ninety-five per cent  
263 of such cost: (1) The Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical  
264 Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college, (2) the  
265 Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on behalf  
266 of a state university, (3) the Board of Trustees for The University of  
267 Connecticut on behalf of the university, (4) the board of governors for  
268 an independent college or university, as defined in section 10a-37, or  
269 the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent college or  
270 university, and (5) any other third-party not-for-profit corporation  
271 approved by the Commissioner of Education. For the fiscal year  
272 ending June 30, 2012, and each fiscal year thereafter, a project eligible  
273 for reimbursement under this section, except as otherwise provided  
274 for, may be eligible for reimbursement up to eighty per cent of the  
275 eligible cost of such project.] To be eligible for reimbursement under  
276 this section a magnet school construction project shall meet the  
277 requirements for a school building project established in chapter 173,  
278 except that the Commissioner of Construction Services, in consultation  
279 with the Commissioner of Education, may waive any requirement in  
280 such chapter for good cause. On and after July 1, 2011, the  
281 Commissioner of Construction Services shall approve only  
282 applications for reimbursement under this section that the  
283 Commissioner of Education finds will reduce racial, ethnic and  
284 economic isolation. Applications for reimbursement under this section  
285 for the construction of new interdistrict magnet schools shall not be  
286 accepted until the Commissioner of Education develops a

287 comprehensive state-wide interdistrict magnet school plan, in  
288 accordance with the provisions of subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of  
289 section 10-264l, unless the Commissioner of Education determines that  
290 such construction will assist the state in meeting the goals of the 2008  
291 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al.

292 Sec. 7. Subsection (a) of section 10-5 of the general statutes is  
293 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
294 *passage*):

295 (a) The Commissioner of Education shall, in accordance with this  
296 section, issue a state high school diploma to any person (1) who  
297 successfully completes an examination approved by the commissioner,  
298 or (2) who (A) is [sixteen or] seventeen years of age and has been  
299 officially withdrawn from school in accordance with the provisions of  
300 section 10-184 or is eighteen years of age or older, and (B) presents to  
301 the commissioner evidence demonstrating educational qualifications  
302 which the commissioner deems equivalent to those required for  
303 graduation from a public high school. Application for such a diploma  
304 shall be made in the manner and form prescribed by the commissioner  
305 provided at the time of application to take the examination described  
306 in subdivision (1) of this subsection the applicant is seventeen years of  
307 age or older, has been officially withdrawn from school, in accordance  
308 with section 10-184, for at least six months and has been advised, in  
309 such manner as may be prescribed by the commissioner, of the other  
310 options for high school completion and other available educational  
311 programs. For good cause shown, the commissioner may allow a  
312 person who is sixteen years of age to apply to take the examination,  
313 provided the commissioner may not issue a state high school diploma  
314 to such person until the person has attained seventeen years of age.

315 Sec. 8. Subdivision (1) of section 10-67 of the general statutes is  
316 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
317 *passage*):

318 (1) "Adult" means any person [sixteen] seventeen years of age or  
319 [over] older who is not enrolled in a public elementary or secondary

320 school program or a student enrolled in school who was assigned to an  
321 adult class pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10-233d or section 10-  
322 73d;

323 Sec. 9. Subsection (a) of section 10-76i of the 2012 supplement to the  
324 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
325 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

326 (a) There shall be an Advisory Council for Special Education which  
327 shall advise the General Assembly, State Board of Education and the  
328 Commissioner of Education, and which shall engage in such other  
329 activities as described in this section. On and after July 1, 2010, the  
330 advisory council shall consist of the following members: (1) Nine  
331 appointed by the Commissioner of Education, (A) six of whom shall be  
332 (i) the parents of children with disabilities, provided such children are  
333 under the age of twenty-seven, or (ii) individuals with disabilities, (B)  
334 one of whom shall be an official of the Department of Education, (C)  
335 one of whom shall be a state or local official responsible for carrying  
336 out activities under Subtitle B of Title VII of the McKinney-Vento  
337 Homeless Assistance Act, 42 USC 11431 et seq., as amended from time  
338 to time, and (D) one of whom shall be a representative of an institution  
339 of higher education in the state that prepares teacher and related  
340 services personnel; (2) one appointed by the Commissioner of  
341 Developmental Services who shall be an official of the department; (3)  
342 one appointed by the Commissioner of Children and Families who  
343 shall be an official of the department; (4) one appointed by the  
344 Commissioner of Correction who shall be an official of the department;  
345 (5) [a representative from] the director of the Office of Protection and  
346 Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities, or the director's designee; (6) [a  
347 representative from] one appointed by the director of the Parent  
348 Leadership Training Institute within the Commission on Children who  
349 shall be (A) the parent of a child with a disability, provided such child  
350 is under the age of twenty-seven, or (B) an individual with a disability;  
351 (7) a representative from the parent training and information center for  
352 Connecticut established pursuant to the Individuals With Disabilities  
353 Education Act, 20 USC 1400 et seq., as amended from time to time; [(7)

354 a representative from] (8) the director of the Bureau of Rehabilitative  
355 Services, or the director's designee; [(8)] (9) five who are members of  
356 the General Assembly who shall serve as nonvoting members of the  
357 advisory council, one appointed by the speaker of the House of  
358 Representatives, one appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
359 Representatives, one appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
360 Representatives, one appointed by the president pro tempore of the  
361 Senate and one appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; [(9)]  
362 (10) one appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate who  
363 shall be a member of the Connecticut Speech-Language-Hearing  
364 Association; [(10)] (11) one appointed by the majority leader of the  
365 Senate who shall be a public school teacher; [(11)] (12) one appointed  
366 by the minority leader of the Senate who shall be a representative of a  
367 vocational, community or business organization concerned with the  
368 provision of transitional services to children with disabilities; [(12)]  
369 (13) one appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives who  
370 shall be a member of the Connecticut Council of Special Education  
371 Administrators and who is a local education official; [(13)] (14) one  
372 appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives who  
373 shall be a representative of charter schools; [(14)] (15) one appointed by  
374 the minority leader of the House of Representatives who shall be a  
375 member of the Connecticut Association of Private Special Education  
376 Facilities; [(15)] (16) one appointed by the Chief Court Administrator of  
377 the Judicial Department who shall be an official of such department  
378 responsible for the provision of services to adjudicated children and  
379 youth; [(16)] (17) seven appointed by the Governor, all of whom shall  
380 be (A) the parents of children with disabilities, provided such children  
381 are under the age of twenty-seven, or (B) individuals with disabilities;  
382 and [(17)] (18) such other members as required by the Individuals with  
383 Disabilities Education Act, 20 USC 1400 et seq., as amended from time  
384 to time, appointed by the Commissioner of Education. Appointments  
385 made pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be representative  
386 of the ethnic and racial diversity of, and the types of disabilities found  
387 in, the state population. The terms of the members of the council  
388 serving on June 8, 2010, shall expire on June 30, 2010. Appointments

389 shall be made to the council by July 1, 2010. Members shall serve two-  
390 year terms, except that members appointed pursuant to subdivisions  
391 (1) to (3), inclusive, of this subsection whose terms commenced July 1,  
392 2010, shall serve three-year terms and the successors to such members  
393 appointed pursuant to subdivisions (1) to (3), inclusive, of this  
394 subsection shall serve two-year terms.

395 Sec. 10. Subsection (g) of section 10-16x of the 2012 supplement to  
396 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
397 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

398 (g) Not later than [December 1, 2011] February 15, 2012, and  
399 biennially thereafter, the Department of Education shall report, in  
400 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing  
401 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
402 relating to education on performance outcomes of recipients of grants  
403 under this section. The report shall include, but not be limited to,  
404 measurements of the impact on student achievement, school  
405 attendance and the in-school behavior of student participants.

406 Sec. 11. Subsection (a) of section 10-215g of the general statutes is  
407 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
408 *passage*):

409 (a) There is established an in-classroom school breakfast pilot  
410 program. The Department of Education may, within available  
411 appropriations, maintain a competitive grant program for the purpose  
412 of assisting up to ten severe need schools, as defined [by federal law  
413 governing school nutrition programs] in section 10-266w, to establish  
414 or expand in-classroom school breakfast programs.

415 Sec. 12. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Department of Education  
416 shall administer, within available appropriations, an even start family  
417 literacy program, in accordance with the William F. Goodling Even  
418 Start Family Literacy Program under the No Child Left Behind Act,  
419 P.L. 107-111, to provide grants to establish new or expand existing  
420 local family literacy programs that provide literacy services for

421 children and the parents or guardians of such children.

422 Sec. 13. Subsection (c) of section 10-16n of the general statutes is  
423 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
424 *passage*):

425 (c) There is established a committee to advise the Commissioner of  
426 Education concerning the coordination, priorities for allocation and  
427 distribution, and utilization of funds for Head Start and concerning the  
428 competitive grant program established under this section, and to  
429 evaluate programs funded pursuant to this section. The committee  
430 shall consist of [twelve members as follows] the following members:  
431 (1) One member designated by the Commissioner of Social Services; (2)  
432 six members who are directors of Head Start programs, two from  
433 community action agency program sites or school readiness  
434 [coordinators] liaisons, one of whom shall be appointed by the  
435 president pro tempore of the Senate and one by the speaker of the  
436 House of Representatives, two from public school program sites, one  
437 of whom shall be appointed by the majority leader of the Senate and  
438 one by the majority leader of the House of Representatives, and two  
439 from other nonprofit agency program sites, one of whom shall be  
440 appointed by the minority leader of the Senate and one by the minority  
441 leader of the House of Representatives; (3) one member designated by  
442 the Commission on Children; (4) one member designated by the Early  
443 Childhood Education [Council] Cabinet; [one member] (5) two  
444 members designated by the Head Start [Directors] Association, [who]  
445 one of whom shall be the parent of a present or former Head Start  
446 student; (6) one member designated by the Connecticut Association for  
447 Community Action who shall have expertise and experience  
448 concerning Head Start; [and] (7) one member designated by the Region  
449 I Office of [Human Development Services, Office of Community  
450 Programs, Region 1 of] Head Start within the federal Administration of  
451 Children and Families of the Department of Health and Human  
452 Services; and (8) the director of the Head Start Collaboration Office.

453 Sec. 14. Section 10-4a of the general statutes is repealed and the

454 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

455 For purposes of sections 10-4, 10-4b and 10-220, as amended by this  
456 act, the educational interests of the state shall include, but not be  
457 limited to, the concern of the state that (1) each child shall have for the  
458 period prescribed in the general statutes equal opportunity to receive a  
459 suitable program of educational experiences; (2) each school district  
460 shall finance at a reasonable level at least equal to the minimum  
461 [expenditure] budget requirement pursuant to the provisions of  
462 section [10-262j] 10-262i an educational program designed to achieve  
463 this end; (3) in order to reduce racial, ethnic and economic isolation,  
464 each school district shall provide educational opportunities for its  
465 students to interact with students and teachers from other racial,  
466 ethnic, and economic backgrounds and may provide such  
467 opportunities with students from other communities; and (4) the  
468 mandates in the general statutes pertaining to education within the  
469 jurisdiction of the State Board of Education be implemented.

470 Sec. 15. Subdivision (18) of section 10-282 of the 2012 supplement to  
471 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
472 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

473 (18) "Renovation" means a school building project to totally  
474 refurbish an existing building (A) which results in the renovated  
475 facility taking on a useful life comparable to that of a new facility and  
476 which will cost less than building a new facility as determined by the  
477 [department] Department of Construction Services, provided the  
478 school district may submit a feasibility study and cost analysis of the  
479 project prepared by an independent licensed architect to the  
480 department prior to final plan approval, (B) which was not renovated  
481 in accordance with this subdivision during the twenty-year period  
482 ending on the date of application, and (C) of which not less than  
483 seventy-five per cent of the facility to be renovated is at least thirty  
484 years old;

485 Sec. 16. Subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 10-286 of the 2012  
486 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is

487 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

488 (4) In the case of a regional agricultural science and technology  
489 education center or the purchase of equipment pursuant to subsection  
490 (a) of section 10-65 or a regional special education facility pursuant to  
491 section 10-76e, as amended by this act, an amount equal to eighty per  
492 cent of the eligible cost of such project, as determined by the  
493 Commissioner of Construction Services;

494 Sec. 17. Section 10-76e of the general statutes is repealed and the  
495 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

496 Any school district which agrees to provide special education, as  
497 part of a long-term regional plan approved by the State Board of  
498 Education, for children requiring special education who reside in other  
499 school districts or a private academy, as defined in section 10-289d,  
500 which agrees to provide special education, as part of a long-term  
501 regional plan approved by the State Board of Education, for children  
502 requiring special education shall be eligible to receive a grant, through  
503 progress payments in accordance with the provisions of section 10-  
504 287i, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 173, which payments  
505 shall total an amount equal to [ninety-five] eighty per cent of the net  
506 eligible cost to such district or to such academy of purchasing,  
507 constructing or reconstructing appropriate facilities to be used  
508 primarily for children requiring special education and equipping and  
509 furnishing of any such purchase, construction or reconstruction,  
510 provided such facilities shall be approved by the State Board of  
511 Education and shall be an adjunct to or connected with facilities for  
512 children in the regular school program, except when the State Board of  
513 Education determines that separate facilities would be of greater  
514 benefit to the children participating in the long-term special education  
515 program.

516 Sec. 18. Subparagraph (E) of subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of  
517 section 10-264l of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes is  
518 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
519 *passage*):

520 (E) Each interdistrict magnet school operated by (i) a regional  
521 educational service center, (ii) the Board of Trustees of the  
522 Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-  
523 technical college, (iii) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State  
524 University System on behalf of a state university, (iv) the Board of  
525 Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of the university,  
526 (v) the board of governors for an independent college or university, as  
527 defined in section 10a-37, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf  
528 of the independent college or university, (vi) cooperative arrangements  
529 pursuant to section 10-158a, [and] (vii) any other third-party not-for-  
530 profit corporation approved by the commissioner, and (viii) the  
531 Hartford school district for the operation of Great Path Academy on  
532 behalf of Manchester Community College, that enrolls less than sixty  
533 per cent of its students from Hartford pursuant to the 2008 stipulation  
534 and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., shall receive  
535 a per pupil grant in the amount of (I) nine thousand six hundred  
536 ninety-five dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, and (II) ten  
537 thousand four hundred forty-three dollars for the fiscal years ending  
538 June 30, 2011, to June 30, 2013, inclusive.

539 Sec. 19. Subsection (k) of section 10-264l of the 2012 supplement to  
540 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
541 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

542 (k) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, any tuition charged to a  
543 local or regional board of education by a regional educational service  
544 center operating an interdistrict magnet school shall be in an amount  
545 equal to at least seventy-five per cent of the difference between (1) the  
546 average per pupil expenditure of the magnet school for the prior fiscal  
547 year, and (2) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy calculated  
548 under subsection (c) of this section plus any revenue from other  
549 sources calculated on a per pupil basis. For the fiscal year ending June  
550 30, 2010, any tuition charged to a local or regional board of education  
551 by a regional educational service center operating an interdistrict  
552 magnet school for any student enrolled in such interdistrict magnet  
553 school shall be in an amount equal to at least ninety per cent of the

554 difference between (A) the average per pupil expenditure of the  
555 magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (B) the amount of any per  
556 pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of this section plus  
557 any revenue from other sources calculated on a per pupil basis. For the  
558 fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, and each fiscal year thereafter, any  
559 tuition charged to a local or regional board of education by a regional  
560 educational service center operating an interdistrict magnet school or  
561 any tuition charged by the Hartford school district operating the Great  
562 Path Academy on behalf of Manchester Community College for any  
563 student enrolled in such interdistrict magnet school shall be in an  
564 amount equal to the difference between (i) the average per pupil  
565 expenditure of the magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (ii) the  
566 amount of any per pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c)  
567 of this section plus any revenue from other sources calculated on a per  
568 pupil basis. If any such board of education fails to pay such tuition, the  
569 commissioner may withhold from such board's town or towns a sum  
570 payable under section 10-262i in an amount not to exceed the amount  
571 of the unpaid tuition to the magnet school and pay such money to the  
572 fiscal agent for the magnet school as a supplementary grant for the  
573 operation of the interdistrict magnet school program. In no case shall  
574 the sum of such tuitions exceed the difference between (I) the total  
575 expenditures of the magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (II) the  
576 total per pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of this  
577 section plus any revenue from other sources. The commissioner may  
578 conduct a comprehensive financial review of the operating budget of a  
579 magnet school to verify such tuition rate.

580 Sec. 20. Subsection (o) of section 10-264l of the 2012 supplement to  
581 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
582 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

583 (o) For the school years commencing July 1, 2009, to July 1, 2012,  
584 inclusive, the Hartford school district shall not charge tuition for any  
585 student enrolled in an interdistrict magnet school operated by such  
586 school district, except the Hartford school district may charge tuition  
587 for any student enrolled in the Great Path Academy.

588 Sec. 21. Subsection (b) of section 10-221d of the 2012 supplement to  
 589 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
 590 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

591 (b) If a local or regional board of education, endowed or  
 592 incorporated academy approved by the State Board of Education  
 593 pursuant to section 10-34, or special education facility approved by the  
 594 State Board of Education pursuant to section 10-76d requests, a  
 595 regional educational service center shall arrange for the fingerprinting  
 596 of any person required to submit to state and national criminal history  
 597 records checks pursuant to this section or for conducting any other  
 598 method of positive identification required by the State Police Bureau of  
 599 Identification or the Federal Bureau of Investigation and shall forward  
 600 such fingerprints or other positive identifying information to the State  
 601 Police Bureau of Identification which shall conduct criminal history  
 602 records checks in accordance with section 29-17a. Such regional  
 603 educational service center shall maintain such fingerprints or other  
 604 positive identifying information, which may be in an electronic format,  
 605 for a period of four years, at the end of which such fingerprints and  
 606 positive identifying information shall be destroyed. Such regional  
 607 educational service centers shall provide the results of such checks to  
 608 such local or regional board of education, endowed or incorporated  
 609 academy or special education facility. Such regional educational  
 610 service centers shall provide such results to any other local or regional  
 611 board of education or regional educational service center upon the  
 612 request of such person.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	10-285b(a)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	8-210
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	10-19q
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	10-220(a)
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	10-264l(d)
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	10-264h(a)
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	10-5(a)

Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	10-67(1)
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	10-76i(a)
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>	10-16x(g)
Sec. 11	<i>from passage</i>	10-215g(a)
Sec. 12	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 13	<i>from passage</i>	10-16n(c)
Sec. 14	<i>from passage</i>	10-4a
Sec. 15	<i>from passage</i>	10-282(18)
Sec. 16	<i>from passage</i>	10-286(a)(4)
Sec. 17	<i>from passage</i>	10-76e
Sec. 18	<i>from passage</i>	10-264l(c)(3)(E)
Sec. 19	<i>from passage</i>	10-264l(k)
Sec. 20	<i>from passage</i>	10-264l(o)
Sec. 21	<i>from passage</i>	10-221d(b)

**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

Clarified language in section 21 to reflect the intent of committee.

**ED**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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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.

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### **OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** See Below

**Municipal Impact:** See Below

### **Explanation**

The bill makes various revisions to the education statutes with the associated fiscal impact identified below.

**Section 1** will result in an increase in General Fund debt service cost related to an increase in General Obligation (GO) bond authorizations for school construction grants-in-aid because it permits private or endowed academies to apply for funding; however the magnitude of the impact cannot be determined because there are no pending applications from these schools. Prior to the enactment of PA 11-51, Woodstock Academy, Norwich Free Academy, and Gilbert Academy could apply for funding but the public act eliminated their eligibility.<sup>1</sup>

**Section 2** is conforming and does not result in a fiscal impact.

**Section 3** caps the enhancement grant for Youth Service Bureaus (YSB) at the appropriated amount and requires the grant for each YSB to be proportionately reduced if the appropriation level is insufficient. This could result in a potential revenue loss for municipalities.

sHB 5014, the revised FY 13 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, appropriated \$42,000 in the YSB base grant for three new YSBs located in Voluntown, Columbia, and Watertown. However, the enhancement grant was not increased, so

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<sup>1</sup> The estimated FY 13 reimbursement rate for the endowed academies ranges from 62% to 76%.

there is likelihood that the enhancement grants will be proportionately reduced. On average, the enhancement grant for each YSB is between \$3,300 and \$10,000 depending on the population of the town or group of towns the YSB serves.

**Section 4** has no fiscal impact because the Department of Construction Services is currently responsible for collecting data on school facilities and producing the reports.

**Sections 5 and 6** require the State Department of Education (SDE) to adjust for any overpayment of interdistrict magnet school per-student operating grants in the May 1<sup>st</sup> payment for the following year. This could result in either a revenue loss or a revenue gain for various municipalities. It is anticipated that the magnitude of the impact will be minimal.

**Sections 7 and 8** are conforming and have no fiscal impact.

**Section 9** makes various membership changes to the Special Education Advisory Council, which has no fiscal impact.

**Section 10**, which delays the deadline for SDE's biennial after-school grant program report, is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact.

**Section 11** expands eligibility for competitive grants for a pilot program to help schools establish in-classroom breakfast programs, to up to ten eligible schools. Currently, three schools are participating in the pilot program. If SDE expands the eligibility to include ten schools, the annual appropriation of \$50,000 will be spread over ten rather than three schools, thus potentially reducing the funding to the original three schools. This could result in a minimal revenue loss to one of three municipalities currently operating the pilot.<sup>2</sup>

**Section 12** requires SDE to administer an Even Start program. sHB

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<sup>2</sup> West Hartford, Winchester and Vernon are the three municipalities that currently operate this pilot program.

5014, the revised FY 13 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, appropriated \$500,000 for this purpose.

**Section 13** makes various membership changes to the Head Start Advisory Committee, and is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact.

**Sections 14 and 15** make conforming changes that are not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact.

**Sections 16 and 17** will result in General Fund debt service savings related to a decrease in General Obligation (GO) bond authorizations for school construction grants-in-aid because the sections reduce the reimbursement rate for vocational agriculture equipment and regional special education facility projects. The annual reduction in grants-in-aid for vocational agriculture equipment is estimated to be less than \$100,000 (see Further Explanation below). The impact on funding for regional special education facility projects cannot be determined at this time because there is currently a moratorium on the expansion of such facilities that is expected to continue into the foreseeable future.

### ***Further Explanation***

The table below shows: (1) the state's actual expenditures at the 95% reimbursement rate for vocational agriculture equipment between FY 08 and FY 11 and (2) a savings of about \$86,000 if the rate had been 80%. The General Fund debt service cost for the issuance of \$100,000 in General Obligation (GO) bonds over 20 years at a 5% interest rate is \$152,500 (comprised of \$52,500 in interest and \$100,000 in principal). There are 19 regional vocational agriculture programs currently operating.

**FY 08 to FY 11 State Reimbursements for Vo-Ag Equipment  
Actual Cost at 95% Rate and Estimated Savings at 80% Rate**

Fiscal Year	Number of Projects	Total Cost of Projects \$	State Reimbursement Rate		Savings at 80% rate \$
			Actual rate: 95% \$	SB 299 rate: 80% \$	
2011	6	1,266,257	1,202,944	1,013,006	(189,939)
2010	2	782,562	743,434	626,050	(117,384)
2009	0	-	-	-	-
2008	1	246,725	234,389	197,380	(37,009)
<b>Estimated Average Annual Saving at 80%</b>					<b>(86,083)</b>

**Sections 18-20** allow the Hartford school district to operate the Great Path Magnet School while maintaining the current funding structure, as operated by the Capitol Region Education Council (CREC). The bill provides Hartford with the same per pupil operating grant (\$10,433) as CREC and the ability to charge tuition to sending towns.

This results in a foregone savings to the state of approximately \$232,318 and a foregone savings to various municipalities who are currently paying tuition to Great Path (of approximately \$4,000 per student). If the language contained in **Sections 18-20** were not included and Hartford were still to take over Great Path, the state would save, and Hartford would correspondingly lose \$232,318, plus the revenue that sending towns pay for tuition dollars.

**Section 21**, which requires Regional Education Service Centers (RESCs) to maintain fingerprints for up to four years, is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact.

### ***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the rate of inflation. The General Fund debt service fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future for the term of issuance of the bonds.

**OLR Bill Analysis****sSB 299*****AN ACT CONCERNING MINOR REVISIONS TO THE EDUCATION STATUTES.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill:

1. requires regional education service centers (RESCs) that arrange for criminal background checks of school personnel to retain fingerprints and other identifying information for four years;
2. limits enhancement grants to youth service bureaus (YSBs) to the amount appropriated for the grants and requires proportional grant reductions if that amount is not sufficient to pay the full grants;
3. gives the Hartford school district, as the successor operator of Great Path Academy magnet school on behalf of Manchester Community College (MCC), the same state operating grants and allows it to charge sending districts the same tuition as its predecessor;
4. makes changes to conform with laws enacted or taking effect in 2011, including those relating to school construction, responsibility for early childhood programs, school breakfast program eligibility, and an increase in the high school dropout age;
5. expands and revises the membership of the Special Education and Head Start advisory councils;
6. changes the deadline for State Department of Education's (SDE)

after-school grant program report;

7. expressly allows SDE to administer the Even Start Family Literacy Program; and
8. makes other minor and technical changes and eliminates obsolete language.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, except for the provision relating to youth service bureau enhancement grants, which takes effect July 1, 2012.

### **FINGERPRINTS FOR SCHOOL EMPLOYEE BACKGROUND CHECKS (§ 21)**

By law, school districts must conduct state and national criminal history record checks of certain school personnel and may arrange for the required checks through RESCs. The bill (1) requires RESCs to maintain the fingerprints and positive identifying information submitted for the checks for four years and then destroy them and (2) allows the fingerprints or other information to be in electronic form.

### **YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU ENHANCEMENT GRANTS (§ 3)**

Starting with FY 13, the bill caps aggregate enhancement grants for YSBs at the appropriated amount and requires the grant for each YSB to be proportionately reduced if the annual appropriation for the grants is insufficient to cover the full statutory payments.

By law, each YSB receives a basic grant of \$14,000 plus an enhancement grant of between \$3,300 and \$10,000 based on the population of the town or group of towns the YSB serves.

### **HARTFORD AND THE GREAT PATH ACADEMY (§§ 18-20)**

The bill allows the Hartford school district to receive the same state magnet school operating grant for students at MCC's Great Path Academy interdistrict magnet school as the school's former operator, Capitol Region Education Council (CREC) received, namely \$10,433 per student for FY 13.

It also allows Hartford to charge tuition to districts whose students attend Great Path Academy. As with tuition charged by CREC, that charged by Hartford must equal the difference between Great Path's average per-pupil expenditure for the prior year and its state per-pupil operating grant plus any other funds it receives, calculated on a per-student basis.

The Hartford school district has received a contract from MCC's board of trustees to operate Great Path Academy on its behalf, succeeding CREC as the school's operator.

## **SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROVISIONS (§§ 1, 4, & 15-17)**

### ***Endowed Academies (§ 1)***

The bill expressly allows qualifying endowed academies (see BACKGROUND) to apply for and receive state school construction grants, restoring provisions deleted in PA 11-51. Current law specifies a method for calculating grants for such schools but does not explicitly allow them to apply for grants.

### ***School Facilities Reports (§ 4)***

PA 11-51 transferred responsibility for state school construction grants and certain matters relating to school facilities from the SDE to the Department of Construction Services (DCS).

The bill requires school districts to submit required reports on the condition of their school facilities, actions to implement their long-term school building programs, and their implementation of required school indoor air quality and green cleaning programs to the DCS, rather than the education, commissioner. The reports are due every three years by July 1.

It also requires (1) the DCS commissioner, rather than the education commissioner, to file the required triennial school facilities report with the legislature and (2) school districts to advise the DCS commissioner rather than the education commissioner about the relationship between an individual school project and the district's long-term school building program.

**Renovation Projects (§ 15)**

By law, a school project qualifies for a higher state grant as a renovation if, among other things, it costs less than building a new facility. The bill requires the DCS commissioner, rather than the education commissioner, to make that cost determination. This change also conforms to PA 11-51.

**Reimbursement for Interdistrict Projects (§§ 16 & 17)**

PA 11-51 reduced the state reimbursement for interdistrict magnet school and agricultural science and technology center (vo-ag) capital projects from 95% to 80% of their eligible costs. The bill makes the same reduction in state reimbursements for vo-ag equipment and regional special education facility projects.

**RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILDCARE PROGRAMS (§ 2)**

The bill transfers from the Department of Social Services (DSS) commissioner to the education commissioner authority to (1) contract for, and provide state financial assistance to, towns, human resource development agencies, and nonprofits for child daycare and other childcare programs and (2) establish guidelines for, and oversee, the programs. These changes conform to PA 11-44, which made SDE, rather than DSS, the lead agency for child daycare and all other early childhood programs.

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PILOT PROGRAM (§ 11)**

The bill expands eligibility for competitive grants for a pilot program to help schools establish in-classroom school breakfast programs by requiring SDE to use the state, rather than the federal, eligibility standard in awarding grants to up to 10 eligible schools.

This change conforms to PA 11-48, which expanded eligibility for state school breakfast grants by making schools eligible if at least 20%, rather than 40%, of the lunches they serve are served free or for reduced prices. The bill requires SDE to use the same criteria to define the “severe-need” schools eligible for the pilot program.

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**CONFORMING CHANGES TO REFLECT INCREASE IN SCHOOL DROPOUT AGE (§§ 7 & 8)**

By law, as of July 1, 2011, students must remain in school until they either turn age 17 or graduate from high school. To correspond with this change, the bill increases, from 16 to 17, the minimum age at which a student who has left school may (1) receive a state high school diploma or (2) enroll in adult education.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (§ 9)**

The bill:

1. expands the membership of the Advisory Council for Special Education by adding a representative from the parent training and information center for Connecticut established under the federal special education law;
2. requires the representatives of the following organizations to be either the organization's director or the director's appointee: (a) Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities, (b) Commission on Children's Parent Leadership Training Institute, and (c) Bureau of Rehabilitative Services; and
3. requires the person appointed by the Parent Leadership Training Institute to be either (a) a person with a disability or (b) the parent of a child under age 27 with a disability.

The bill does not specify when the new appointment must be made, but by law, unchanged by the act, all appointments must be made by July 1, 2010.

**HEAD START ADVISORY COMMITTEE (§ 13)**

The bill increases the membership of the Head Start advisory committee from 12 to 14 by adding (1) a second member designated by the Head Start Directors Association, which the bill renames the Head Start Association and (2) the Head Start Collaboration Office director.

It also revises required qualifications for certain members as well as

the names of the groups they must represent, as follows.

1. Of the six Head Start program directors it requires two to be either from community action agency program sites or school readiness liaisons, rather than coordinators, and two to be from public school, rather than merely from school, program sites.
2. It requires one member to be designated by the Early Childhood Cabinet rather than the Early Childhood Council.
3. It requires one member to be designated by the Region I Office of Head Start within the federal Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Administration of Children and Families instead of by the Office of Human Development Services, Office of Community Programs, Region 1 of HHS.

#### **AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM REPORT (§ 10)**

The bill delays the deadline for SDE's biennial after-school grant program report to the Education Committee from December 1 to February 15, starting February 15, 2012 rather than December 1, 2011. The report must address performance outcomes for grant recipients, including measurements of the program's effect on student achievement, school attendance, and in-school behavior.

#### **EVEN START FAMILY LITERACY PROGRAM GRANTS (§ 12)**

The bill requires SDE, within available appropriations, to administer an Even Start program to provide grants for new or expanded local family literacy programs that provide literacy services for children and their parents. Programs must comply with the requirements of a federal program of the same name that is no longer funded (see BACKGROUND).

#### **OTHER MINOR CHANGES**

##### ***Magnet School Grants (§§ 5 & 6)***

The bill requires SDE to adjust for any overpayment of interdistrict magnet school per-student operating grants in any year in the May 1 payment for the following year. It also makes technical changes and

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eliminates obsolete language relating to state magnet school capital grants (§ 6).

By law, SDE must pay 70% of the grant by September 1, and the balance on May 1. If a school's actual enrollment is lower than projected or its annual financial audit shows a grant overpayment, SDE must adjust the second payment to reflect that fact. Under the bill, an audit adjustment must be based on the difference between the total grant the school received in the prior year and the revised amount calculated for that year, instead of between the prior year's total, and the current year's preliminary, grant amount.

#### ***Updated Minimum Local Financing Requirement for Education (§ 14)***

By law, local and regional school boards must implement state laws and the state's educational interests. This includes financing education at a reasonable level at least equal to a statutory minimum. The bill updates this minimum from the minimum expenditure requirement (MER) to the minimum budget requirement (MBR). Towns must meet the minimum as a condition of receiving a state Education Cost Sharing (ECS) grant. The MER is obsolete and was supplanted by the MBR in 2005.

### **BACKGROUND**

#### ***Youth Service Bureaus***

YSBs are community-based agencies formed by one or more towns and run either by the towns or private agencies under contract to them. They evaluate, plan for, coordinate, and implement youth services, which include prevention and intervention programs for predelinquent, delinquent, pregnant, parenting, and troubled youth. Youths may seek a bureau's services on their own or be referred to one by schools, police, juvenile and adult courts, and parents.

#### ***Endowed Academies***

Three private schools, Gilbert School, Norwich Free Academy, and Woodstock Academy, serve certain towns as public high schools and

are collectively referred to as the “endowed academies.” Under current law and the bill, such a school is eligible for a state school construction grant if (1) it provides school facilities to the towns that designate it as their high school for at least 10 years after the last grant payment and (2) at least half of the members of its governing board, other than its chairman, represent the school boards of the designating towns. The membership requirement applies to whatever board exercises final educational, financial, and legal responsibility for the school.

***Federal Even Start Family Literacy Program***

The federal program offered grants to support local family literacy projects that integrate early childhood education, adult literacy (adult basic and secondary-level education and instruction for English language learners), parenting education, and interactive parent and child literacy activities for low-income families with parents and their children from birth through age seven. Teen parents and their children from birth through age seven were also eligible. All participating families had to be those most in need of program services.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 31 Nay 0 (03/23/2012)