



General Assembly

February Session, 2012

Raised Bill No. 5348

LCO No. 1625

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Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING SCHOOL NURSES AND SCHOOL MEDICAL ADVISORS.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 10-212 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2012*):

4 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall appoint one or
5 more school nurses or nurse practitioners to provide health services for
6 children attending a public school or private nonprofit school,
7 pursuant to section 10-217a, in the district in a number that is
8 appropriate to the size and needs of the student population and the
9 number of such schools located in the district. Such school nurses and
10 nurse practitioners appointed by such boards shall be qualified
11 pursuant to regulations adopted in accordance with the provisions of
12 chapter 54 by the State Board of Education in consultation with the
13 Department of Public Health. Such school nurses may also act as
14 visiting nurses in the town, may visit the homes of pupils in the public
15 schools and shall assist in executing the orders of the school medical
16 advisor, if there is any in such town, and perform such other duties as

17 are required by such board.

18 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2012*) There is established a School
19 Nurse Professional Development Advisory Council. The council shall
20 be composed of one representative from each of the exclusive
21 bargaining representatives of school nurses, one representative of the
22 Association of School Nurses of Connecticut and one representative
23 from the Connecticut Nurses Association. The council shall advise, at
24 least quarterly, the Commissioner of Education on issues relating to
25 the training of and professional development programs and activities
26 for school nurses, including, but not limited to, the effectiveness of the
27 content and delivery of existing training and professional development
28 programs and activities for school nurses.

29 Sec. 3. Section 10-207 of the general statutes is repealed and the
30 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

31 (a) Each school medical advisor shall [make a prompt examination
32 of all pupils referred to such medical advisor by the school nurse,
33 teacher, principal or superintendent, and shall interpret to such nurse,
34 teacher, principal or superintendent, and to the parents of each such
35 pupil, such medical advisor's findings, with recommendations as to
36 how the pupil should be cared for and what provisions, if any, should
37 be made at the school for the care and welfare of such pupil. Each such
38 school medical advisor shall also make examinations of teachers,
39 janitors and others in the employment of the board of education when
40 requested to do so by the board of education or when, in such medical
41 advisor's opinion, such examinations are necessary for the protection
42 of health, provided such medical advisor shall accept the report of an
43 equivalent physical examination by any reputable physician chosen by
44 such teacher, janitor or other employee in lieu thereof. Such medical
45 advisor shall make such sanitary inspection of school buildings as, in
46 such medical advisor's opinion, is necessary for the protection of the
47 health of pupils. The school medical advisor shall take steps to
48 preserve and improve the health of pupils in accordance with the

49 requirements of the Public Health Code of this state established by the
50 Commissioner of Public Health under the provisions of section 19a-36
51 or the sanitary regulations in force in such town or district in excluding
52 and readmitting pupils or teachers or other school employees
53 suspected of being ill, or ill, with any communicable disease. In
54 cooperation with the director of health, the school medical advisor
55 shall interpret to teachers and nurses factors dealing with
56 communicable disease control.] work with the local or regional board
57 of education that appointed such school medical advisor and the board
58 of health or health department for the school district under the
59 jurisdiction of such board to (1) plan and administer the health
60 program for each school, as described in subsection (b) of this section,
61 (2) provide school health services, as described in subsection (c) of this
62 section, (3) provide consultation on the school health environment, as
63 described in subsection (d) of this section, and (4) perform other
64 duties, as described in subsection (e) of this section.

65 (b) [With the approval of the local or regional board of education,
66 the school medical advisor may establish a diagnostic and treatment
67 program for health and dental services to pupils, provided no costs
68 incurred for such health service shall be charged to the local or
69 regional board of education without approval of such board.] The
70 school medical advisor shall contribute to the management of a health
71 program for each school in the district by collaborating with the school
72 nurse, the principal of the school and the local or regional board of
73 education by: (1) Planning, reviewing, evaluating and revising the
74 health program for the school, (2) consulting regularly with the school
75 nurse during the school year, (3) consulting at least annually with the
76 principal of the school, and (4) participating in school health activities,
77 such as school wellness committees, health councils or other
78 appropriate committees.

79 (c) The school medical advisor shall be responsible for providing
80 school health services. Such responsibilities shall include: (1) Assisting
81 and advising the local or regional board of education in the

82 administration of health assessments, pursuant to section 10-206, and
83 immunizations, pursuant to section 10-204a, (2) consulting with school
84 nurses in the development of nursing protocols for the assessment and
85 management of student health care problems, (3) providing
86 consultation and medical direction, when appropriate, to school nurses
87 regarding the management of student medical problems, (4) providing
88 standing orders for medications and medical treatments, (5)
89 participating in the establishment of screening and referral procedures,
90 (6) reviewing individual student health records, as necessary, (7)
91 consulting with the planning and placement teams for a child
92 receiving special education services when medical problems affect the
93 education of such child, (8) advising the local or regional board of
94 education, the superintendent of schools and the school principal on
95 health and safety issues related to athletics, and (9) providing
96 consultation and clinical supervision to advanced practice nurses for
97 medical diagnosis and treatment.

98 (d) The school medical advisor shall provide consultation on the
99 school health environment by (1) making recommendations for
100 appropriate health facilities and equipment, (2) consulting with the
101 board of health or health department and school nurses on
102 environmental health problems and issues within the school district,
103 (3) acting as a liaison with state health officials, and (4) assisting in the
104 development and review of environmental health policies, including,
105 but not limited to, the indoor air quality program, as described in
106 section 10-220, the green cleaning program, as described in section 10-
107 231g, and integrated pest management, as described in sections 10-
108 231a to 10-231d, inclusive.

109 (e) The school medical advisor shall (1) participate in professional
110 development activities and continuing education and observe
111 professional development activities and continuing education for
112 school nurses and other school health personnel, (2) participate in the
113 development and updating of school health policies and protocols,
114 including, but not limited to, policies regarding the administration of

115 medication, food allergies and wellness for the school district, (3)
116 respond to requests for consultation by the local or regional board of
117 education on health and medical issues identified by such board, (4)
118 act as a resource in the planning, development and implementation of
119 the health education curriculum for the school district, (5) interpret the
120 health program for the school and other health policies of the school
121 district for parents, the community, physicians and other interested
122 persons, (6) consult with school personnel on issues related to health
123 exemptions, out-of-school placements and requests for home tutoring,
124 (7) consult with the food service providers for the school district on
125 issues relating to nutrition, (8) act as a liaison to the board of health or
126 health department for the school district, and (9) act as a liaison to
127 relevant medical organizations and state agencies on issues relating to
128 school and student health.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	10-212(a)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	10-207

Statement of Purpose:

To require local and regional boards of education to appoint an appropriate number of school nurses for the district that promotes a healthy learning environment; to establish the School Nurse Professional Development Advisory Council; and to amend the duties of school medical advisors.

[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.]