



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 226

January Session, 2013

Substitute House Bill No. 6502

House of Representatives, March 27, 2013

The Committee on Education reported through REP. FLEISCHMANN of the 18th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE PARAPROFESSIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL.

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

1 Section 1. Section 10-155k of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

3 [The] On and after July 1, 2013, the Commissioner of Education shall
4 establish a School Paraprofessional Advisory Council consisting of (1)
5 one [representative] school paraprofessional from each state-wide
6 bargaining representative organization that represents school
7 paraprofessionals with instructional responsibilities, (2) one
8 representative from each of the exclusive bargaining units for certified
9 employees, chosen pursuant to section 10-153b, (3) the most recent
10 recipient of the Connecticut Paraprofessional of the Year Award, (4)
11 two representatives from the regional educational service centers,
12 appointed by the Commissioner of Education, and (5) a school
13 administrator, appointed by the Connecticut Federation of School

14 Administrators. The council shall hold quarterly meetings and
15 [annually] advise, at least quarterly, the Commissioner of Education,
16 or the commissioner's designee, of the needs for (A) professional
17 development and the training of [such] paraprofessionals and the
18 effectiveness of the content and the delivery of existing training for
19 such paraprofessionals, (B) appropriate staffing strategies for
20 paraprofessionals, and (C) other relevant issues relating to
21 paraprofessionals. The council shall report, annually, in accordance
22 with the provisions of section 11-4a, on the recommendations given to
23 the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, pursuant to the
24 provisions of this section, to the joint standing committee of the
25 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2013	10-155k

ED *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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.

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

The bill, which alters the membership and duties of the Paraprofessional Advisory Council, is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact, as the members of the advisory council are not compensated or reimbursed for their participation.

The Out Years**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6502

AN ACT CONCERNING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE PARAPROFESSIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL.

SUMMARY:

This bill alters the membership and duties of the Paraprofessional Advisory Council by (1) increasing the required number of paraprofessional members and (2) expanding the council's advisement role. By law, the council advises the education commissioner on paraprofessional training needs.

Current law requires the council's membership to consist of one representative from each paraprofessionals' union, of which there are five. In practice, however, the council has 17 members. The bill requires the council's membership to consist of:

1. one representative from each paraprofessionals' union, who is also a paraprofessional;
2. one representative from each teachers' union;
3. two Regional Education Service Center representatives;
4. the most recent Connecticut Paraprofessional of the Year award recipient; and
5. one school administrator appointed by the Connecticut Federation of School Administrators.

The bill increases the frequency with which the council must advise the education commissioner and adds required advisement topics. Under the bill, the council must advise the commissioner at least quarterly, instead of annually. The bill also expands the topics on

which the council must advise the commissioner to include professional development, staffing strategies, and other relevant issues relating to paraprofessionals.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 34 Nay 0 (03/13/2013)