



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 5423**

January Session, 2013

\* \_\_\_\_\_HB05423HED\_\_\_\_022013\_\_\_\_\_\*

**AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION STATUTES.**

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 4-124dd of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
3 *passage*):

4 (b) The board shall consist of the following members:

5 (1) A member appointed by the speaker of the House of  
6 Representatives;

7 (2) A member appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

8 (3) A member appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
9 Representatives;

10 (4) A member appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

11 (5) The Commissioners of Public Health [,] and Education, [and] the  
12 president of the Board of Regents for Higher Education and the  
13 executive director of the Office of Higher Education, or their designees;

14 (6) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing  
15 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters

16 relating to public health and higher education and employment  
17 advancement, or their designees;

18 (7) A representative of the Connecticut State Board of Examiners for  
19 Nursing, established under section 20-88, who shall be appointed by  
20 said board; and

21 (8) A representative of the Connecticut Conference of Independent  
22 Colleges, who shall be appointed by said conference.

23 Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 10-16p of the general statutes is  
24 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
25 *passage*):

26 (b) (1) The Department of Education shall be the lead agency for  
27 school readiness. For purposes of this section and section 10-16u,  
28 school readiness program providers eligible for funding from the  
29 Department of Education shall include local and regional boards of  
30 education, regional educational service centers, family resource centers  
31 and providers of child day care centers, as defined in section 19a-77,  
32 Head Start programs, preschool programs and other programs that  
33 meet such standards established by the Commissioner of Education.  
34 The department shall establish standards for school readiness  
35 programs. The standards may include, but need not be limited to,  
36 guidelines for staff-child interactions, curriculum content, including  
37 preliteracy development, lesson plans, parent involvement, staff  
38 qualifications and training, transition to school and administration.  
39 The department shall develop age-appropriate developmental skills  
40 and goals for children attending such programs. The commissioner, in  
41 consultation with the president of the Board of Regents for Higher  
42 Education, the Commissioner of Social Services and other appropriate  
43 entities, shall develop a professional development program for the  
44 staff of school readiness programs.

45 (2) For purposes of this section:

46 (A) Prior to July 1, 2015, "staff qualifications" means there is in each

47 classroom an individual who has at least the following: (i) A childhood  
48 development associate credential or an equivalent credential issued by  
49 an organization approved by the Commissioner of Education and  
50 twelve credits or more in early childhood education or child  
51 development, as determined by the president of the Board of Regents  
52 for Higher Education, after consultation with the Commissioners of  
53 Education and Social Services, from an institution of higher education  
54 [(1)] (I) accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or  
55 State Board of Education, and [(2)] (II) regionally accredited; (ii) an  
56 associate's degree with twelve credits or more in early childhood  
57 education or child development, as determined by the president of the  
58 Board of Regents for Higher Education, after consultation with the  
59 Commissioners of Education and Social Services, from such an  
60 institution; (iii) a four-year degree with twelve credits or more in early  
61 childhood education or child development, as determined by the  
62 president of the Board of Regents for Higher Education, after  
63 consultation with the Commissioners of Education and Social Services,  
64 from such an institution; or (iv) certification pursuant to section 10-  
65 145b with an endorsement in early childhood education or special  
66 education;

67 (B) From July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2020, "staff qualifications" means  
68 that for each early childhood education program accepting state funds  
69 for infant, toddler and preschool spaces associated with such  
70 program's child day care program or school readiness program, (i) at  
71 least fifty per cent of those individuals with the primary responsibility  
72 for a classroom of children hold (I) certification pursuant to section 10-  
73 145b with an endorsement in early childhood education or early  
74 childhood special education, or (II) a bachelor's degree with a  
75 concentration in early childhood education, including, but not limited  
76 to, a bachelor's degree in early childhood education, child study, child  
77 development or human growth and development, from an institution  
78 of higher education [(1)] accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher  
79 Education or State Board of Education, and [(2)] regionally accredited,  
80 provided such bachelor's degree program is approved by the Board of

81 Regents for Higher Education and the Department of Education, and  
82 (ii) such remaining individuals with the primary responsibility for a  
83 classroom of children hold an associate degree with a concentration in  
84 early childhood education, including, but not limited to, an associate's  
85 degree in early childhood education, child study, child development or  
86 human growth and development, from an institution of higher  
87 education [(1)] (I) accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher  
88 Education or State Board of Education, and [(2)] (II) regionally  
89 accredited, provided such associate degree program is approved by  
90 the Board of Regents for Higher Education and the Department of  
91 Education; and

92 (C) On and after July 1, 2020, "staff qualifications" means that for  
93 each early childhood education program accepting state funds for  
94 infant, toddler and preschool spaces associated with such program's  
95 child day care program or school readiness program, one hundred per  
96 cent of those individuals with the primary responsibility for a  
97 classroom of children hold (i) certification pursuant to section 10-145b  
98 with an endorsement in early childhood education or early childhood  
99 special education, or (ii) a bachelor's degree with a concentration in  
100 early childhood education, including, but not limited to, a bachelor's  
101 degree in early childhood education, child study, child development or  
102 human growth and development, from an institution of higher  
103 education [(1)] (I) accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher  
104 Education or State Board of Education, and [(2)] (II) regionally  
105 accredited, provided such bachelor's degree program is approved by  
106 the Board of Regents for Higher Education and the Department of  
107 Education.

108 (3) Any individual with a bachelor's degree who, on or before June  
109 30, 2015, is employed as a teacher by an early childhood education  
110 program that accepts state funds for infant, toddler and preschool  
111 spaces associated with such program's child day care program or  
112 school readiness program and meets the staff qualifications required  
113 under subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be  
114 considered to meet the staff qualifications required under

115 subparagraphs (B) and (C) of subdivision (2) of this subsection. No  
116 such early childhood education program shall terminate any such  
117 individual from employment for purposes of meeting the staff  
118 qualification requirements set forth in subparagraph (B) or (C) of  
119 subdivision (2) of this subsection. Any such individual who terminates  
120 his or her employment with such early childhood education program  
121 and accepts a teacher position at another early childhood education  
122 program accepting state funds for spaces associated with such  
123 program's child day care program or school readiness program shall  
124 submit documentation of such individual's progress toward meeting  
125 the staff qualification requirements set forth in subparagraph (B) or (C)  
126 of subdivision (2) of this subsection in a manner determined by the  
127 Department of Education.

128 (4) Any individual with a bachelor's degree other than those  
129 bachelor's degrees specified in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of  
130 subdivision (2) of this subsection may submit documentation  
131 concerning such degree for review and assessment by the Department  
132 of Education as to whether such degree has a sufficient concentration  
133 in early childhood education so as to satisfy the requirements set forth  
134 in said subparagraphs (A) and (B).

135 Sec. 3. Subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of  
136 section 10-16p of the general statutes is repealed and the following is  
137 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

138 (B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, and each fiscal year  
139 thereafter, if funds appropriated for the purposes of subsection (c) of  
140 this section are not expended, an amount up to five hundred thousand  
141 dollars of such unexpended funds may be available for the provision  
142 of professional development for early childhood education program  
143 providers offered by a professional development and program  
144 improvement system within the Connecticut State University System  
145 and available for use in accordance with the provisions of this  
146 subparagraph for the subsequent fiscal year. The Commissioner of  
147 Education may use such unexpended funds on and after July 1, 2012,

148 in consultation with the president of the Board of Regents for Higher  
149 Education, to support early childhood education programs accepting  
150 state funds in satisfying the staff qualifications requirements of  
151 subparagraphs (B) and (C) of subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this  
152 section. The Department of Education shall use any such funds to  
153 provide assistance to individual staff members, giving priority to those  
154 staff members attending an institution of higher education [(1)] (i)  
155 accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or State  
156 Board of Education, and [(2)] (ii) regionally accredited, at a maximum  
157 of five thousand dollars per staff member per year for the cost of  
158 higher education courses leading to a bachelor's degree or, not later  
159 than December 31, 2013, an associate's degree, as such degrees are  
160 described in said subparagraphs (B) and (C) at an in-state public  
161 institution of higher education or a Connecticut-based for-profit or  
162 nonprofit institution of higher education, provided such staff members  
163 have applied for all available federal and state scholarships and grants,  
164 and such assistance does not exceed such staff members' financial  
165 need. Individual staff members shall apply for such unexpended funds  
166 in a manner determined by the Department of Education. The  
167 Commissioner of Education shall determine, in consultation with the  
168 president of the Board of Regents for Higher Education, how such  
169 unexpended funds shall be distributed.

170 Sec. 4. Section 10a-10 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
171 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

172 The Office of Higher Education shall establish an Office of  
173 Educational Opportunity in the Office of Higher Education, within the  
174 limits of funds appropriated for such purpose. The [office] Office of  
175 Educational Opportunity shall assist the [board] Office of Higher  
176 Education in state-wide efforts to increase enrollment, retention and  
177 graduation of disadvantaged students.

178 Sec. 5. Subparagraph (C) of subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of  
179 section 10a-109i of the general statutes is repealed and the following is  
180 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

181 (C) In any such fiscal year in which the eligible gifts received by the  
182 university exceed the endowment fund state grant maximum  
183 commitment for such fiscal year, the amount in excess of such  
184 endowment fund state grant maximum commitment for such fiscal  
185 year [,] shall be carried forward and be eligible for a matching state  
186 grant in any succeeding fiscal year, from the fiscal year ending June 30,  
187 1999, to the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, inclusive, subject to the  
188 endowment fund state grant maximum commitment for such fiscal  
189 year. Any endowment fund eligible gifts that are not included in the  
190 total amount of endowment fund eligible gifts certified by the  
191 chairperson of the board of trustees pursuant to this subparagraph  
192 may be carried forward and be eligible for a matching state grant in  
193 any succeeding fiscal year from the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000, to  
194 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, inclusive, subject to the  
195 endowment fund state matching grant maximum commitment for  
196 such fiscal year.

197 Sec. 6. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 10a-223 of the  
198 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
199 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

200 (1) "Authority" means the Connecticut Higher Education  
201 Supplemental Loan Authority constituted as a subsidiary of the  
202 Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority as provided  
203 in section 10a-179a;

204 Sec. 7. Subsection (c) of section 31-23 of the general statutes is  
205 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
206 *passage*):

207 (c) No minor under the age of eighteen years shall be employed or  
208 permitted to work in any occupation which has been or shall be  
209 pronounced hazardous to health by the Department of Public Health  
210 or pronounced hazardous in other respects by the Labor Department.  
211 This section shall not apply to (1) the employment or enrollment of  
212 minors sixteen years of age and over as apprentices in bona fide

213 apprenticeship courses in manufacturing or mechanical  
 214 establishments, technical high schools or public schools, (2) the  
 215 employment of such minors who have graduated from a public or  
 216 private secondary or technical high school in any manufacturing or  
 217 mechanical establishment, (3) the employment of such minors who are  
 218 participating in a manufacturing or mechanical internship in any  
 219 manufacturing or mechanical establishment, or (4) the enrollment of  
 220 such minors in a cooperative work-study program approved by the  
 221 Commissioner of Education and the Labor Commissioner or in a  
 222 program established pursuant to section 10-20a. No provision of this  
 223 section shall apply to agricultural employment, domestic service, street  
 224 trades or the distribution of newspapers. For purposes of this  
 225 subsection, (A) "internship" means supervised practical training of a  
 226 high school student or recent high school graduate that is comprised of  
 227 curriculum and workplace standards approved by the Department of  
 228 Education and the Labor Department, and (B) [the term] "cooperative  
 229 work-study program" means a program of vocational education,  
 230 approved by the Commissioner of Education and the Labor  
 231 Commissioner, for persons who, through a cooperative arrangement  
 232 between the school and employers, receive instruction, including  
 233 required academic courses and related vocational instruction by  
 234 alternation of study in school with a job in any occupational field,  
 235 provided these two experiences are planned and supervised by the  
 236 school and employers so that each contributes to the student's  
 237 education and to his employability. Work periods and school  
 238 attendance may be on alternate half days, full days, weeks or other  
 239 periods of time in fulfilling the cooperative work-study program.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	4-124dd(b)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	10-16p(b)
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	10-16p(e)(2)(B)
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	10a-10
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	10a-109i(b)(2)(C)

Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	10a-223(a)(1)
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	31-23(c)

**HED**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*