



General Assembly

January Session, 2013

**Raised Bill No. 6505**

LCO No. 3613



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:  
(ED)

**AN ACT CONCERNING PARAMETERS FOR FEES FOR  
EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 10-221 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

3 (a) [Boards] Each local and regional board of education shall  
4 prescribe rules for the management, studies, classification and  
5 discipline of the public schools and, subject to the control of the State  
6 Board of Education, the textbooks to be used; shall make rules for the  
7 control, within their respective jurisdictions, of school library media  
8 centers and approve the selection of books and other educational  
9 media therefor, and shall approve plans for public school buildings  
10 and superintend any high or graded school in the manner specified in  
11 this title.

12 (b) Not later than July 1, 1985, each local and regional board of  
13 education shall develop, adopt and implement written policies  
14 concerning homework, attendance, promotion and retention. The

15 Department of Education shall make available model policies and  
16 guidelines to assist local and regional boards of education in meeting  
17 the responsibilities enumerated in this subsection.

18 (c) [Boards] Each local and regional board of education may  
19 prescribe rules to impose sanctions against [pupils] students who  
20 damage or fail to return textbooks, library materials or other  
21 educational materials. [Said boards] A local or regional board of  
22 education may charge [pupils] students for such damaged or lost  
23 textbooks, library materials or other educational materials and may  
24 withhold grades, transcripts or report cards until the [pupil] student  
25 pays for or returns the textbook, library book or other educational  
26 material.

27 (d) Not later than July 1, 1991, each local and regional board of  
28 education shall develop, adopt and implement policies and procedures  
29 in conformity with section 10-154a for (1) dealing with the use, sale or  
30 possession of alcohol or controlled drugs, as defined in subdivision (8)  
31 of section 21a-240, by public school students on school property,  
32 including a process for coordination with, and referral of such students  
33 to, appropriate agencies, and (2) cooperating with law enforcement  
34 officials.

35 (e) Not later than July 1, 1990, each local and regional board of  
36 education shall adopt a written policy and procedures for dealing with  
37 youth suicide prevention and youth suicide attempts. Each such local  
38 and regional board of education may establish a student assistance  
39 program to identify risk factors for youth suicide, procedures to  
40 intervene with such youths, referral services and training for teachers  
41 and other school professionals and students who provide assistance in  
42 the program.

43 (f) Not later than September 1, 1998, each local and regional board of  
44 education shall develop, adopt and implement written policies and  
45 procedures to encourage parent-teacher communication. These policies

46 and procedures may include monthly newsletters, required regular  
47 contact with all parents, flexible parent-teacher conferences, drop-in  
48 hours for parents, home visits and the use of technology such as  
49 homework hot lines to allow parents to check on their children's  
50 assignments and students to get assistance if needed. For the school  
51 year commencing July 1, 2010, and each school year thereafter, such  
52 policies and procedures shall require the district to conduct two  
53 flexible parent-teacher conferences for each school year.

54 (g) (1) Except as otherwise provided in section 10-266t, no local or  
55 regional board of education shall (A) charge a student activity fee to  
56 any student who does not participate in any extracurricular activity, if  
57 the proceeds of such student activity fee are used to fund any such  
58 extracurricular activity, or (B) charge more than fifty dollars for each  
59 interscholastic or intramural athletic activity offered by the school or  
60 school district, provided no local or regional board of education shall  
61 charge more than two hundred dollars in a school year to a family for  
62 student participation in interscholastic or intramural athletics offered  
63 by the school or school district.

64 (2) A local or regional board of education may develop a student  
65 activity fee exemption policy for students who demonstrate an  
66 inability to pay a student activity fee charged by the local or regional  
67 board of education for participation in any extracurricular activity.  
68 Such policy shall include, but not be limited to, the criteria and  
69 standards for determining who is eligible for a student activity fee  
70 exemption and a list of the student activity fees and extracurricular  
71 activities to which such exemptions apply. If no such student activity  
72 fee exemption policy exists for a local or regional board of education,  
73 such local or regional board of education shall not charge a student  
74 activity fee to a student for participation in any extracurricular activity  
75 who demonstrates an inability to pay such student activity fee.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	10-221

**Statement of Purpose:**

To prohibit local and regional boards of education from charging fees to students who do not participate in any extracurricular activities; to limit the amount local and regional boards of education can charge for participation in athletic activities; to permit local and regional boards of education to develop student activity fee exemption policies; and to prohibit local and regional boards of education from charging any student activity fees to students who are unable to pay such fees.

*[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.]*