



General Assembly

January Session, 2013

Governor's Bill No. 847

LCO No. 2897



Referred to Committee on PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Introduced by:

SEN. WILLIAMS, 29th Dist.

SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.

REP. SHARKEY, 88th Dist.

REP. ARESIMOWICZ, 30th Dist.

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE COMMISSION FOR TECHNOLOGY
ADVANCEMENT.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 4d-80 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

3 (a) There is established a Commission for [Educational] Technology
4 Advancement within the Department of Administrative Services. The
5 commission shall consist of the following members or their designees:
6 (1) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the
7 Commissioner of Administrative Services, [or the commissioner's
8 designee,] the Commissioner of Education, the Commissioner of
9 Economic and Community Development, the president of The
10 University of Connecticut and the president of the Board of Regents
11 for Higher Education, [or their designees,] the State Librarian, [or the

12 State Librarian's designee, the chairperson of the Public Utilities
13 Regulatory Authority, or the chairperson's designee, the chief
14 executive officers of the constituent units of the state system of higher
15 education, or their designees,] and the Consumer Counsel, (2) one
16 member each representing the Connecticut Conference of Independent
17 Colleges, the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, the
18 [Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents, the
19 Connecticut Educators Computer Association,] Connecticut
20 Conference of Municipalities, the Connecticut Council of Small Towns
21 and the Connecticut Library Association, and (3) [a secondary school
22 teacher designated by the Connecticut Education Association and an
23 elementary school teacher designated by the Connecticut Federation of
24 Educational and Professional Employees, and (4)] four members who
25 represent business [and] or have expertise in information technology,
26 [one each] two appointed by the Governor, [the Lieutenant Governor,]
27 one each appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives
28 and the president pro tempore of the Senate. [The Lieutenant Governor
29 shall convene the first meeting of the commission on or before
30 September 1, 2000.]

31 (b) The [commission shall elect] Governor shall appoint a
32 chairperson from among [its] the members of the commission or their
33 designees. Subject to the provisions of chapter 67, and within available
34 appropriations, the commission may appoint an executive director and
35 such other employees as may be necessary for the discharge of the
36 duties of the commission. Notwithstanding any provision of the
37 general statutes, the executive director shall have the option to elect
38 participation in the state employees retirement system, or the alternate
39 retirement program established for eligible employees in higher
40 education or the teachers' retirement system.

41 (c) The commission shall:

42 [(1) Be the principal educational technology policy advisor for state
43 government;]

44 [(2)] (1) Develop, oversee and direct the attainment of state-wide
45 technology advancement goals including:

46 (A) Increasing the availability and usage of technology that
47 promotes efficiency in operation and increased digital literacy across
48 the state;

49 (B) Increasing and improving usage of high-speed, cost effective
50 network technology to meet collaboration demands of state and local
51 government and private industry;

52 [(A)] (C) Connecting [all] institutions of higher education, libraries,
53 public elementary and secondary schools, regional educational service
54 centers, municipal facilities and other parties through a state-wide
55 high speed, flexible network that will allow for video, voice and data
56 transmission at reasonable rates;

57 [(B)] (D) Wiring [all] school classrooms and connecting them to the
58 Internet and to the state-wide high speed network through wired,
59 wireless, or any other digital transmission technology providing high
60 speed connectivity;

61 [(C)] (E) Providing access for [all] public schools, public libraries
62 and libraries at institutions of higher education to a core set of on-line
63 full text resources and to the ability to purchase collaboratively for
64 other collections in order to maximize buying power;

65 [(D)] Ensuring, in cooperation with the State Board of Education,
66 competency in computing skills by the sixth grade for all students;]

67 [(E)] (F) Ensuring competency in specific computing skills and the
68 integration of technology into the curriculum for all public school
69 teachers; and

70 [(F)] (G) Ensuring that institutions of higher education offer a wide
71 range of course and degree programs via the Internet and through
72 other synchronous and asynchronous methods;

73 [(3) Coordinate the activities of all state agencies, educational
74 institutions and other parties involved in the creation and
75 management of a reliable and secure network that will offer
76 connectivity and allow for the transmission of video, voice and data
77 transmission to every library, school, regional educational service
78 center and institution of higher education;]

79 [(4)] (2) Be the liaison between the Governor and the General
80 Assembly and local, state and federal organizations and entities with
81 respect to [educational] technology adoption and access matters;

82 [(5)] (3) Develop and maintain a long-range plan and make related
83 recommendations for the coordination of [educational] technology
84 advancement. The plan shall (A) establish clear goals and a strategy for
85 [using telecommunications and information] technology to improve
86 education, research and access, (B) [include a professional
87 development strategy to ensure that teachers and faculty know how to
88 use the new technologies to improve education] improve digital
89 literacy and awareness, (C) include an assessment of the
90 telecommunications, hardware, software and other services that will
91 be needed to improve education, and (D) include an evaluation
92 process that monitors progress towards the specified goals;

93 [(6) Measure the availability and usage of Internet access sites
94 available to the public, including, but not limited to, those maintained
95 by state and local government agencies, libraries, schools, institutions
96 of higher education, nonprofit organizations, businesses and other
97 organizations and recommend strategies for reducing the disparities in
98 Internet accessibility and usage across the state and among all
99 potential users;

100 (7) Establish methods and procedures to ensure the maximum
101 involvement of members of the public, educators, librarians,
102 representatives of higher education, the legislature and local officials
103 in educational technology matters and organize, as necessary, advisory

104 boards consisting of individuals with expertise in a particular
105 discipline significant to the work of the commission;]

106 [(8)] (4) On or before January 1, [2001] 2015, and [annually] every
107 two years thereafter, [the commission shall] report, in accordance with
108 section 11-4a, on its activities, progress made in the attainment of the
109 state-wide technology advancement goals as outlined in the long-
110 range plan and any recommendations to the joint standing committee
111 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
112 education, commerce, higher education and appropriations and the
113 budgets of state agencies; [, the State Board of Education, and the
114 Board of Regents for Higher Education. The report shall include
115 recommendations for adjustments to the funding formula for grants
116 pursuant to section 10-262n if there are school districts that are at a
117 disadvantage in terms of wiring their schools and the use of
118 technology in their schools;]

119 [(9)] (5) Enter into such contractual agreements, in accordance with
120 established procedures, as may be necessary to carry out the
121 provisions of this section; and

122 [(10)] (6) Take any other action necessary to carry out the provisions
123 of this section.

124 (d) The Commission for [Educational] Technology Advancement
125 may request any office, department, board, commission or other
126 agency of the state to supply such reports, information and assistance
127 as may be necessary or appropriate in order to carry out its duties and
128 requirements.

129 [(e) For purposes of this section, educational technology shall
130 include, but not be limited to: (1) Computer-assisted instruction; (2)
131 information retrieval and data transfer; (3) telecommunications related
132 to voice, data and video transmission of instruction related materials
133 and courses; (4) the development and acquisition of educational
134 software; and (5) the instructional uses of the Internet and other

135 technologies.]

136 Sec. 2. Section 4d-81 of the general statutes is repealed and the
137 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

138 There is established [an educational] a technology advancement
139 account. The Commission for [Educational] Technology Advancement
140 shall deposit in said account any private donation, bequest or devise
141 made to it to assist in the attainment of the state-wide technology
142 advancement goals established pursuant to subdivision [(2)] (1) of
143 subsection (c) of section 4d-80, as amended by this act. Said account is
144 intended to be in addition to those resources that are appropriated by
145 the state for technology purposes. The commission shall use the
146 resources of the account for activities related to the attainment of such
147 goals.

148 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 4d-82 of the general statutes is
149 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
150 *1, 2013*):

151 (a) The Commission for [Educational] Technology Advancement
152 shall develop, with the advice and assistance of the State Board of
153 Education, the Board of Regents for Higher Education and the
154 Department of Administrative Services, a five-year plan for the
155 implementation of the Connecticut Education Network to provide
156 state-of-the-art, high-speed, reliable Internet access and video, voice
157 and data transmissions that electronically link all educational
158 institutions in the state, including public and independent institutions
159 of higher education, the state's libraries and all elementary, middle and
160 secondary schools and other institutions including businesses, job
161 centers and community organizations. The plan shall include the
162 establishment of a Connecticut Digital Library as a component of the
163 Connecticut Education Network to ensure on-line access by all
164 students and citizens to essential library and information resources.
165 The State Library, in conjunction with the Board of Regents for Higher

166 Education, shall administer the Connecticut Digital Library. The
167 Connecticut Digital Library shall provide access to available on-line
168 electronic full-text databases, a state-wide electronic catalog and
169 interlibrary loan system and the electronic and physical delivery of
170 library resources. The Connecticut Digital Library shall include
171 elements specifically designed to meet the educational and research
172 needs of the general public, higher education students and faculty and
173 elementary and secondary school students and teachers.

174 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 10-4h of the general statutes is
175 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
176 *1, 2013*):

177 (a) The Department of Education, in consultation with the
178 Commission for [Educational] Technology Advancement, shall
179 establish a competitive grant program, within the limit of the bond
180 authorization for purposes of this section, to assist (1) local and
181 regional school districts, (2) regional educational service centers, (3)
182 cooperative arrangements among one or more boards of education,
183 and (4) endowed academies approved pursuant to section 10-34 that
184 are eligible for school building project grants pursuant to chapter 173,
185 to upgrade or install wiring, including electrical wiring, cable or other
186 distribution systems and infrastructure improvements to support
187 telecommunications and other information transmission equipment to
188 be used for educational purposes, provided the department may
189 expend up to two per cent of such bond authorization for such
190 purposes for the technical high school system.

191 Sec. 5. Subsection (b) of section 10-262n of the general statutes is
192 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
193 *1, 2013*):

194 (b) Local and regional boards of education shall apply to the
195 department for grants at such time and in such manner as the
196 Commissioner of Education prescribes. In order to be eligible for a

197 grant, a local or regional board of education shall: (1) Have a
198 technology plan that was developed or updated during the three-year
199 period preceding the date of application for grant funds and, once the
200 Commission for [Educational] Technology Advancement develops the
201 long-range plan required pursuant to subdivision [(5)] (3) of subsection
202 (c) of section 4d-80, as amended by this act, the local technology plan
203 shall be consistent with such long-range plan, (2) provide that each
204 school and superintendent's office be able to communicate with the
205 Department of Education using the Internet, (3) present evidence that
206 it has applied or will apply for a grant from the federal Universal
207 Service Fund, and (4) submit a plan for the expenditure of grant funds
208 in accordance with subsection (c) of this section.

209 Sec. 6. Section 10-262o of the general statutes is repealed and the
210 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

211 The Department of Education shall establish, within available
212 appropriations, a competitive grant program to fund innovative
213 teacher training programs on the integration of technology into the
214 public school curriculum in order to improve student learning. [On
215 and after July 1, 2001, such training programs shall be consistent with
216 the standards developed pursuant to section 4d-85.]

217 Sec. 7. Section 10a-143b of the general statutes is repealed and the
218 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

219 The Board for State Academic Awards shall establish, within
220 available appropriations, innovative on-line teacher and higher
221 education faculty training programs on the integration of technology
222 into the public school curriculum and courses at public institutions of
223 higher education in order to improve student learning. [On and after
224 July 1, 2001, the training program established for public school
225 teachers shall be consistent with the standards developed pursuant to
226 section 4d-85.]

227 Sec. 8. Section 11-2b of the general statutes is repealed and the

228 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

229 The State Library, in consultation with the Commission for
230 [Educational] Technology Advancement, within available
231 appropriations, shall contract, through a request for proposal process,
232 for the development of a Connecticut Parent Technology Academy.
233 The academy shall be host network for the development of increased
234 opportunities for parents of elementary, middle and secondary school
235 students to learn about and demonstrate their knowledge of
236 information technologies. The academy shall: (1) Identify existing
237 programs and best practices for the delivery of information technology
238 training for parents, (2) coordinate the development of curriculum
239 models to be used to train parents in the use of information
240 technologies, and (3) seek business, philanthropic, community and
241 educational partners to expand training locations and learning options
242 for parents. The Commission for [Educational] Technology
243 Advancement shall work in collaboration with the academy to
244 negotiate vendor discounts for computer purchases and upgrades and
245 low interest bank loans for such purchases for parents who
246 successfully complete an information technology training program.

247 Sec. 9. Subdivision (5) of subsection (d) of section 16-331 of the
248 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
249 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

250 (5) The authority shall adopt regulations, in accordance with
251 chapter 54, establishing procedures and standards for the renewal of
252 certificates issued to community antenna television companies. Such
253 regulations shall, without limitation, (A) incorporate the provisions of
254 the Communications Act of 1934, 47 USC 546, (B) require the authority
255 to consult with the advisory council for the franchise area served by
256 the certificate holder before making a decision concerning the renewal
257 of the certificate, (C) require any holder of a certificate which is not
258 renewed by the authority to continue to operate the franchise for one
259 year after the end of its term or until a successor is chosen and ready to

260 assume control of the franchise, whichever is sooner, (D) establish
261 standards for the content of notices sent to cable subscribers
262 concerning public hearings for franchise renewal proceedings which
263 standards shall include, without limitation, the requirements specified
264 in subdivision (6) of this subsection, (E) establish standards to ensure
265 that the costs and expenses of a municipality constructing, purchasing
266 or operating a community antenna television company are accurately
267 attributed to such company, and (F) establish quality standards for the
268 instructional and educational channels. The authority shall adopt
269 regulations pursuant to this subdivision in conjunction with the
270 Commission for [Educational] Technology Advancement.

271 Sec. 10. Subsection (a) of section 16-333h of the general statutes is
272 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
273 *1, 2013*):

274 (a) Each community antenna television company, as defined in
275 section 16-1, shall, not later than the date it extends energized trunk
276 and feeder to all areas within its franchise territory in which there are
277 at least twenty-five prospective subscribers per aerial plant mile of
278 extension and fifty prospective subscribers per underground plant
279 mile of extension, extend such trunk and feeder to public and private
280 elementary and secondary schools in such franchise areas and offer
281 one instructional television channel as part of its basic service. Each
282 such company may utilize such instructional television channel for
283 noninstructional television programming during any time when the
284 channel is not needed for instructional programming. No such
285 company shall be required to offer the instructional television channel
286 on or after July 1, 1995, unless the Commission for [Educational]
287 Technology Advancement certifies to the Public Utilities Regulatory
288 Authority that educational agencies in the company's franchise area
289 have utilized the instructional television channel to provide, during
290 the school year, an average of not less than twenty hours per week of
291 credit and noncredit instructional programming, programming
292 supporting school curricula and programming for professional

293 development.

294 Sec. 11. Subsection (a) of section 4d-1a of the general statutes is
 295 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
 296 *1, 2013*):

297 (a) (1) Wherever the term "Chief Information Officer of the
 298 Department of Information Technology" is used in the following
 299 general statutes, the term "Commissioner of Administrative Services"
 300 shall be substituted in lieu thereof; (2) wherever the term "Chief
 301 Information Officer" is used in the following general statutes, the term
 302 "commissioner" shall be substituted in lieu thereof; and (3) wherever
 303 the term "Department of Information Technology" is used in the
 304 following general statutes, the term "Department of Administrative
 305 Services" shall be substituted in lieu thereof: 1-205, 1-211, 1-212, 1-283,
 306 3-117, 4d-3, 4d-5, 4d-10, 4d-11, 4d-14, 4d-38, 4d-41, 4d-42, 4d-43, 4d-
 307 81a, 4d-82a, 4d-83, [4d-84,] 10-5b, 10-10a, 18-81x, 19a-110, 19a-750, 32-
 308 6i, 54-105a, 54-142q, 54-142r and 54-142s.

309 Sec. 12. Sections 4d-84 and 4d-85 of the general statutes are
 310 repealed. (*Effective July 1, 2013*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	4d-80
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	4d-81
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	4d-82(a)
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	10-4h(a)
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	10-262n(b)
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	10-262o
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	10a-143b
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	11-2b
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	16-331(d)(5)
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	16-333h(a)
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	4d-1a(a)
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	Repealer section

Statement of Purpose:

To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

[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.]