



General Assembly

January Session, 2013

***Raised Bill No. 1070***

LCO No. 3928



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:  
(PH)

***AN ACT CONCERNING SCHOOL NURSE STAFFING AND  
ESTABLISHMENT OF A SCHOOL NURSE ADVISORY COUNCIL.***

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2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  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, 2013*):

4 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall appoint one or  
5 more school nurses or nurse practitioners. The local or regional board  
6 of education shall maintain a staffing ratio of school nurses to students  
7 that is appropriate to the size and health needs of the student  
8 population in order to promote a healthy learning environment. Such  
9 school nurses and nurse practitioners appointed by such boards shall  
10 be qualified pursuant to regulations adopted in accordance with the  
11 provisions of chapter 54 by the State Board of Education in  
12 consultation with the Department of Public Health. Such school nurses  
13 may also act as visiting nurses in the town, may visit the homes of  
14 pupils in the public schools and shall assist in executing the orders of  
15 the school medical advisor, if there is any in such town, and perform

16 such other duties as are required by such board.

17 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) (a) There is established a School  
18 Nurse Advisory Council. The advisory council shall advise the  
19 Commissioners of Public Health and Education concerning  
20 professional development for school nurses, school nurse staffing  
21 levels, the delivery of health care services by school nurses in schools  
22 and other matters that affect school nurses.

23 (b) The advisory council shall consist of the following members  
24 appointed by the Commissioner of Public Health not later than thirty  
25 days after the effective date of this section:

26 (1) One school nurse who is a member of the American Federation  
27 of Teachers Connecticut;

28 (2) One school nurse who is a member of Council 4 of the American  
29 Federation of State County and Municipal Employees;

30 (3) One school nurse who is a member of the Connecticut Education  
31 Association;

32 (4) One representative of the Association of School Nurses of  
33 Connecticut;

34 (5) One representative of the Connecticut Association of Public  
35 School Superintendents;

36 (6) One representative of the Connecticut Federation of School  
37 Administrators; and

38 (7) The Commissioners of Public Health and Education, or the  
39 commissioners' designees, who shall be ex-officio, nonvoting members  
40 and shall attend meetings of the advisory council.

41 (c) Members shall receive no compensation except for  
42 reimbursement for necessary expenses incurred in performing their

43 duties.

44 (d) The Commissioner of Public Health shall schedule the first  
45 meeting of the advisory council, which shall be held not later than  
46 sixty days after July 1, 2013. The members shall elect the chairperson of  
47 the advisory council from among the members of the council who are  
48 school nurses. A majority of the council members shall constitute a  
49 quorum. A majority vote of a quorum shall be required for any official  
50 action of the advisory council. The advisory council shall meet upon  
51 the call of the chair or upon the majority request of the council  
52 members.

53 (e) Not later than January 1, 2014, and not less than annually  
54 thereafter, the advisory council shall submit a report on its  
55 recommendations to the Commissioners of Public Health and  
56 Education and to the joint standing committees of the General  
57 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health and  
58 education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the  
59 general statutes. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to,  
60 recommendations concerning: (1) Professional development for school  
61 nurses; (2) school nurse staffing levels; and (3) the delivery of health  
62 care services by school nurses in schools.

63 (f) The Commissioner of Public Health shall notify each local and  
64 regional board of education of the advisory council's recommendations  
65 not later than thirty days after the commissioner's receipt of the  
66 advisory council's report containing such recommendations.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: |                     |             |
| Section 1   | <i>July 1, 2013</i> | 10-212(a)   |
| Sec. 2  | <i>July 1, 2013</i> | New section |

***Statement of Purpose:***

To require local and regional boards of education to maintain appropriate school nurse staffing and to establish a school nurse advisory council.

*[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.]*