Offered by:
REP. FLEISCHMANN, 18th Dist.
SEN. STILLMAN, 20th Dist.
REP. ACKERT, 8th Dist.
SEN. BOUCHER, 26th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 6624
File No. 554
Cal. No. 347

"AN ACT CONCERNING MINOR REVISIONS TO THE EDUCATION STATUTES."

1 Strike sections 5, 12 and 13 in their entirety and renumber the remaining sections and internal references accordingly

2 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and internal references accordingly:

3 Sec. 501. Subsection (f) of section 10-145d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

4 (f) An endorsement issued prior to July 1, 2013, to teach elementary education grades one to six, inclusive, shall be valid for grades kindergarten to six, inclusive, and for such an endorsement issued on or after July 1, 2013, the endorsement shall be valid for grades one to
six, inclusive, except such an endorsement issued between July 1, 2013, and July 1, 2017, to any student who was admitted to and successfully completes a teacher preparation program, as defined in section 10-10a, in the certification endorsement area of elementary education on or before [the start of the fall semester of 2012, and successfully completes such program] June 30, 2017, shall be valid for grades kindergarten to six, inclusive. An endorsement to teach comprehensive special education grades one to twelve, inclusive, shall be valid for grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, provided, on and after July 1, 2013, any certified employee with such comprehensive special education endorsement achieves a satisfactory score on the reading instruction examination approved by the State Board of Education on April 1, 2009.

Sec. 502. (Effective from passage) (a) The Department of Education shall conduct a study of alternative school programs offered by local and regional boards of education. Such study shall include (1) an examination of alternative school programs, including, but not limited to, (A) enrollment and discharge criteria, including methods to obtain parental consent, (B) enrollment data by gender, race and ethnicity, (C) the curriculum offered, (D) the length of the school day and school year, (E) attendance rates, (F) truancy rates, (G) graduation rates, and (H) student academic performance, (2) an evaluation of each such alternative school program that measures the effectiveness of such alternative school program in meeting the needs of students enrolled in such alternative school program, and (3) a statement on the degree to which each such alternative school program complies with sections 10-15, 10-16 and 10-16b of the general statutes. Each local or regional board of education that offers an alternative school program shall provide the department all information relating to such alternative school program for purposes of such study. For purposes of this section, "alternative school program" includes, but is not limited to, (A) alternative school programs, pursuant to section 10-220 of the general statutes, (B) alternative educational opportunities, pursuant to sections 10-19m, 10-69 and 10-233d of the general statutes, (C) alternative
programs, pursuant to sections 10-4p, 10-263c and 10-266q of the general statutes, (D) alternative schools, pursuant to section 10-94e of the general statutes, (E) alternative high schools, pursuant to sections 10-220d and 10-223h of the general statutes, and (F) alternative schools or programs operated by a local or regional boards of education in which struggling or at-risk students are educated separately from the students enrolled in the general education program provided by such boards of education.

(b) Not later than February 1, 2014, the Department of Education shall submit a report on the study of alternative school programs, conducted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. Such report shall include such study, and recommendations for legislation, including, but not limited to (1) a definition of alternative school programs, (2) enrollment requirements, (3) length of school day and school year, (4) curriculum requirements, (5) graduation requirements, and (6) continuous evaluation and oversight of alternative school programs.

Sec. 503. Section 10-151c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

Any records maintained or kept on file by the Department of Education or any local or regional board of education [which] that are records of teacher performance and evaluation shall not be deemed to be public records and shall not be subject to the provisions of section 1-210, provided that any teacher may consent in writing to the release of such teacher's records by the department or a board of education. Such consent shall be required for each request for a release of such records.

Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, records maintained or kept on file by the Department of Education or any local or regional board of education [which] that are records of the personal misconduct of a teacher shall be deemed to be public records and shall be subject to disclosure pursuant to the provisions of subsection (a) of...
section 1-210. Disclosure of such records of a teacher's personal misconduct shall not require the consent of the teacher. For the purposes of this section, "teacher" includes each certified professional employee below the rank of superintendent employed by a board of education in a position requiring a certificate issued by the State Board of Education.

Sec. 504. Section 10-145p of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

(a) The Department of Education shall review and approve proposals for alternate route to certification programs for school administrators. In order to be approved, a proposal shall provide that the alternative route to certification program (1) be provided by a public or independent institution of higher education, a local or regional board of education, a regional educational service center or a private, nonprofit teacher or administrator training organization approved by the State Board of Education; (2) accept only those participants who (A) hold a bachelor's degree from an institution of higher education accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or State Board of Education or regionally accredited, (B) have at least forty school months teaching experience, of which at least ten school months are in a position requiring certification at a public school, in this state or another state, and (C) are recommended by the immediate supervisor or district administrator of such person on the basis of such person's performance; (3) require each participant to (A) complete a one-year residency that requires such person to serve (i) in a position requiring an intermediate administrator or supervisor endorsement, and (ii) in a full-time position for ten school months at a local or regional board of education in the state under the supervision of (I) a certified administrator, and (II) a supervisor from an institution or organization described in subdivision (1) of this subsection, or (B) have ten school months experience in a full-time position as an administrator in a public or nonpublic school in another state that is approved by the appropriate state board of education in such other
(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (d) of section 10-145b, on and after July 1, 2010, the State Board of Education, upon receipt of a proper application, shall issue an initial educator certificate in the certification endorsement area of administration and supervision, which shall be valid for three years, to any person who (1) successfully completed the alternate route to certification program for administrators and superintendents pursuant to this section, and (2) meets the requirements established in subsection (b) of section 10-145f.

(c) Notwithstanding any regulation adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to section 10-145b, any person who successfully completed the alternate route to certification program for administrators pursuant to this section and was issued an initial educator certificate in the endorsement area of administration and supervision shall obtain a master's degree not later than five years after such person was issued such initial educator certificate. If such person does not obtain a master's degree in such time period, such person shall not be eligible for a professional educator certificate.

(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section, any entity described in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section that administers an alternate route to certification program for school administrators, approved by the Department of Education under this section, shall permit any person who has provided service to a local or regional board of education in a supervisory or managerial role for at least forty school months and held a professional educator certificate for at least ten school months during such forty school months, to participate in such alternate route to certification program for school administrators, provided such person holds a bachelor's degree from an institution of higher education accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or State Board of Education or regionally accredited and is recommended by the immediate supervisor or district administrator of such person on the basis of such person's performance.
Sec. 505. Section 84 of public act 13-3 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

(a) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, to June 30, 2015, inclusive, the Departments of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Construction Services and Education shall jointly administer a school security infrastructure competitive grant program to reimburse towns for certain expenses for schools under the jurisdiction of the town's school district incurred on or after [the effective date of this section] January 1, 2013, for: (1) The development or improvement of the security infrastructure of schools, based on the results of school building security assessments pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, including, but not limited to, the installation of surveillance cameras, penetration resistant vestibules, ballistic glass, solid core doors, double door access, computer-controlled electronic locks, entry door buzzer systems, scan card systems, panic alarms or other systems; and (2) (A) the training of school personnel in the operation and maintenance of the security infrastructure of school buildings, or (B) the purchase of portable entrance security devices, including, but not limited to, metal detector wands and screening machines and related training.

(b) On and after the effective date of this section, each local and regional board of education may, on behalf of its town or its member towns, apply, at such time and in such manner as the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection prescribes, to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection for a grant for certain expenses for schools under the jurisdiction of such board of education incurred on and after January 1, 2013, for the purposes described in subsection (a) of this section. Prior to the date that the School Safety Infrastructure Council makes its initial submission of the school safety infrastructure standards, pursuant to subsection (c) of section 80 of this act, the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in consultation with the Commissioners of Construction Services and Education, shall determine which expenses
are eligible for reimbursement under the program. On and after the
date that the School Safety Infrastructure Council submits the school
safety infrastructure standards, the decision to approve or deny an
application and the determination of which expenses are eligible for
reimbursement under the program shall be in accordance with the
most recent submission of the school safety infrastructure standards,
pursuant to subsection (c) of section 80 of this act.

(c) A town may receive a grant equal to a percentage of its eligible
expenses. The percentage shall be determined as follows: (1) Each
town shall be ranked in descending order from one to one hundred
sixty-nine according to town wealth, as defined in subdivision (26) of
section 10-262f of the general statutes, (2) based upon such ranking, a
percentage of not less than twenty or more than eighty shall be
assigned to each town on a continuous scale, and (3) the town ranked
first shall be assigned a percentage of twenty and the town ranked last
shall be assigned a percentage of eighty. If there are not sufficient
funds to provide grants to all towns based on the percentage
determined pursuant to this subsection, the Commissioner of
Emergency Services and Public Protection, in consultation with the
Commissioners of Construction Services and Education, shall give
priority to applicants on behalf of schools with the greatest need for
security infrastructure, as determined by said commissioners based on
school building security assessments of the schools under the
jurisdiction of the town's school district conducted pursuant to this
subsection. Of the applicants on behalf of such schools with the
greatest need for security infrastructure, said commissioners shall give
first priority to applicants on behalf of schools that have no security
infrastructure at the time of such school building security assessment
and succeeding priority to applicants on behalf of schools located in
priority school districts pursuant to section 10-266p of the general
statutes. To be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to this section, an
applicant board of education shall (A) demonstrate that it has
developed and periodically practices an emergency plan at the schools
under its jurisdiction and that such plan has been developed in concert
with applicable state or local first-responders, and (B) provide for a uniform assessment of the schools under its jurisdiction, including any security infrastructure, using the National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities’ Safe Schools Facilities Check List. The assessment shall be conducted under the supervision of the local law enforcement agency.

Sec. 506. Subsection (f) of section 10-145f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2013):

(f) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, any person who holds a valid teaching certificate that is at least equivalent to an initial educator certificate, as determined by the State Board of Education, and such certificate is issued by a state other than Connecticut in the subject area or endorsement area for which such person is seeking certification in Connecticut shall not be required to successfully complete the competency examination and subject matter assessment pursuant to this section, if such person has either (1) successfully completed at least three years of teaching experience or service in the [subject] endorsement area for which such person is seeking certification in Connecticut in the past ten years in a public school or a nonpublic school approved by the appropriate state board of education in such other state, or (2) holds a master’s degree or higher in the subject area for which such person is seeking certification in Connecticut."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

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<th>Section</th>
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<td>501</td>
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<td>10-145d(f)</td>
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<td>506</td>
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<td>10-145f(f)</td>
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