



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2014

LCO No. 5110

SB0042505110SD0

Offered by:

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

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 425

File No. 459

Cal. No. 293

"AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER."

1 In line 12, after "Education" insert ", with the advice and consent of
2 both houses of the General Assembly"

3 Strike section 2 in its entirety and insert the following in lieu thereof:

4 "Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The purposes of the State
5 Education Resource Center, established pursuant to section 1 of this
6 act, shall be to assist the State Board of Education in the provision of
7 programs and activities that will promote educational equity and
8 excellence. Such activities shall be limited to: Training, technical
9 assistance and professional development for local and regional boards
10 of education, school leaders, teachers, families and community
11 partners in the form of seminars, publications, site visits, on-line
12 content and other appropriate means; maintaining a state education

13 resource center library; publication of technical materials; research and
14 evaluation; writing, managing, administering and coordinating grants
15 for the purposes described in this subsection; and any other related
16 activities directly related to the purposes described in this subsection.
17 The center may support programs and activities concerning early
18 childhood education, in collaboration with the Office of Early
19 Childhood, improving school and district academic performance, and
20 closing academic achievement gaps between socio-economic
21 subgroups, and other related programs and activities. For such
22 purposes the center is authorized and empowered to:

23 (1) Have perpetual succession as a body politic and corporate and to
24 adopt bylaws for the regulation of its affairs and the conduct of its
25 business;

26 (2) Adopt an official seal and alter the same at pleasure;

27 (3) Maintain an office at such place or places as it may designate;

28 (4) Sue and be sued in its own name and plead and be impleaded;

29 (5) (A) Employ such assistants, agents and other employees as may
30 be necessary or desirable who shall not be employees, as defined in
31 subsection (b) of section 5-270 of the general statutes; (B) establish all
32 necessary or appropriate personnel practices and policies, including
33 those relating to hiring, promotion, compensation, retirement and
34 collective bargaining, which need not be in accordance with chapter 68
35 of the general statutes, and the center shall not be an employer as
36 defined in subsection (a) of section 5-270 of the general statutes; and
37 (C) engage consultants, attorneys and appraisers as may be necessary
38 or desirable to carry out its purposes in accordance with this section
39 and sections 1, 3 and 4 of this act;

40 (6) Receive and accept aid or contributions from any source of
41 money, property, labor or other things of value, to be held, used and
42 applied to carry out the purposes of this section and sections 1, 3 and 4
43 of this act, subject to such conditions upon which such grants and

44 contributions may be made, including, but not limited to, gifts or
45 grants from any department, agency or instrumentality of the United
46 States or this state for any purpose consistent with this section and
47 sections 1, 3 and 4 of this act;

48 (7) Make and enter into all contracts and agreements necessary or
49 incidental to the performance of its duties and the execution of its
50 powers under this section and sections 1, 3 and 4 of this act, including
51 contracts and agreements for such professional services as the center
52 deems necessary, including, but not limited to, those services provided
53 by financial consultants, underwriters and technical specialists;

54 (8) Acquire, lease, purchase, own, manage, hold and dispose of
55 personal property, and lease, convey or deal in or enter into
56 agreements with respect to such property on any terms necessary or
57 incidental to the carrying out of these purposes;

58 (9) Invest in, acquire, lease, purchase, own, manage, hold and
59 dispose of real property and lease, convey or deal in or enter into
60 agreements with respect to such property on any terms necessary or
61 incidental to carrying out the purposes of this section and sections 1, 3
62 and 4 of this act, provided such transactions shall be subject to
63 approval, review or regulation by any state agency pursuant to title 4b
64 of the general statutes or any other provision of the general statutes;

65 (10) Procure insurance against any liability or loss in connection
66 with its property and other assets, in such amounts and from such
67 insurers as it deems desirable and to procure insurance for employees;

68 (11) Account for and audit funds of the center and funds of any
69 recipients of funds from the center;

70 (12) Hold patents, copyrights, trademarks, marketing rights,
71 licenses, or any other evidences of protection or exclusivity as to any
72 products as defined in this section and sections 1, 3 and 4 of this act,
73 issued under the laws of the United States or any state or any nation;

74 (13) Establish advisory committees to assist in accomplishing its
75 duties under this section and sections 1, 3 and 4 of this act, which may
76 include one or more members of the board of directors and persons
77 other than members; and

78 (14) Do all acts and things necessary or convenient to carry out the
79 purposes of this section and sections 1, 3 and 4 of this act, and the
80 powers expressly granted by this section and sections 1, 3 and 4 of this
81 act.

82 (b) The State Education Resource Center shall establish a
83 Connecticut School Reform Resource Center either within the State
84 Education Resource Center or by contract through a regional
85 educational service center, established pursuant to section 10-66a of
86 the general statutes. The Connecticut School Reform Resource Center
87 shall operate year-round and shall focus on serving the needs of all
88 public schools. The Connecticut School Reform Resource Center shall
89 (1) publish and distribute reports on the most effective practices for
90 improving student achievement by successful schools; (2) provide a
91 program of professional development activities for (A) school leaders,
92 including curriculum coordinators, principals, superintendents and
93 board of education members, and (B) teachers to educate students that
94 includes research-based child development and reading instruction
95 tools and practices; (3) provide information on successful models for
96 evaluating student performance and managing student data; (4)
97 develop strategies for assisting such students who are in danger of
98 failing; (5) develop culturally-relevant methods for educating students
99 whose primary language is not English; and (6) provide other
100 programs and materials to assist in the improvement of public schools.

101 (c) The State Education Resource Center shall be subject to (1) rules,
102 regulations and restrictions on purchasing, procurement, personal
103 service agreements and the disposition of assets generally applicable to
104 Connecticut state agencies, including those contained in titles 4, 4a and
105 4b of the general statutes, section 4e-19 of the general statutes, and (2)
106 audit by the Auditors of Public Accounts under section 2-90 of the

107 general statutes."

108 Strike section 14 in its entirety and insert the following in lieu
109 thereof:

110 "Sec. 14. Subdivision (20) of section 10-183b of the general statutes is
111 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
112 *passage*):

113 (20) "Public school" means any day school conducted within or
114 without this state under the orders and superintendence of a duly
115 elected school committee, a board of education, the State Board of
116 Education, the board of governors or any of its constituent units, the E.
117 O. Smith School, the Children's Center and its successors, the State
118 Education Resource Center established pursuant to section 10-4q of the
119 2014 supplement to the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to
120 January 1, 2013, the State Education Resource Center established
121 pursuant to section 1 of this act, joint activities of boards of education
122 authorized by subsection (b) of section 10-158a and any institution
123 supported by the state at which teachers are employed or any
124 incorporated secondary school not under the orders and
125 superintendence of a duly elected school committee or board of
126 education but located in a town not maintaining a high school and
127 providing free tuition to pupils of the town in which it is located, and
128 which has been approved by the State Board of Education under the
129 provisions of part II of chapter 164, provided that such institution or
130 such secondary school is classified as a public school by the retirement
131 board."

132 In line 437, after "2013," insert "or the State Education Resource
133 Center established pursuant to section 1 of this act,"