



# House of Representatives

**File No. 884**

General Assembly

January Session, 2015

**(Reprint of File No. 479)**

Substitute House Bill No. 6975  
As Amended by House Amendment  
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner  
May 22, 2015

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY LIFE-THREATENING FOOD ALLERGIES IN SCHOOLS.***

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

1       Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force  
2 to study life-threatening food allergies in schools. The task force shall  
3 examine (1) the efficacy of the implementation, dissemination and  
4 enforcement of the guidelines for the management of students with  
5 life-threatening food allergies and glycogen storage disease, developed  
6 by the Department of Education pursuant to section 10-212c of the  
7 general statutes, (2) methods used by school districts to ensure the  
8 safety of students with life-threatening food allergies while such  
9 students are being transported to and from school, (3) the plans for the  
10 management of students with life-threatening food allergies and  
11 glycogen storage disease, implemented by local and regional boards of  
12 education pursuant to section 10-212c of the general statutes, to ensure  
13 the safety of students with life-threatening food allergies and their  
14 inclusion as fully participating members in the school community, (4)  
15 the emotional and psychosocial welfare of students with life-

16 threatening food allergies as it relates to and is influenced by such  
17 students' membership in the school community and how such students  
18 are included or excluded from participating in school events, and (5)  
19 how instances of isolation or targeting of students with life-threatening  
20 food allergies by other students, school staff or school policy are  
21 addressed by the school or district administration.

22 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

23 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,  
24 one of whom shall be a representative of the Connecticut Association  
25 of Boards of Education and one of whom shall be a physician who is  
26 an allergist;

27 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one  
28 of whom shall be a certified teacher in a public elementary school and  
29 one of whom shall be the parent or guardian of a student with a life-  
30 threatening food allergy enrolled in a public school in the state;

31 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
32 Representatives, who shall be the principal of a public middle school  
33 in the state;

34 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall be  
35 a school nurse supervisor;

36 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
37 Representatives, who shall be the parent or guardian of a student with  
38 a life-threatening food allergy enrolled in a public school in the state;

39 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be  
40 a food service director or cafeteria supervisor employed by a local or  
41 regional board of education;

42 (7) The Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's  
43 designee;

44 (8) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee;

45 and

46 (9) One person appointed by the Governor, who shall be a mental  
47 health professional with an expertise in school climate.

48 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),  
49 (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member  
50 of the General Assembly.

51 (d) All appointments to the task force shall be made not later than  
52 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be  
53 filled by the appointing authority.

54 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president  
55 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force  
56 from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall  
57 schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not  
58 later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

59 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the  
60 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public  
61 health shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

62 (g) Not later than January 1, 2016, the task force shall submit a  
63 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing  
64 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
65 relating to public health and education, in accordance with the  
66 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force shall  
67 terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 1, 2016,  
68 whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section	<i>from passage</i>	New section

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 16 \$	FY 17 \$
Various State Agencies	GF - Potential Cost	Less than \$1,000	None

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

There may be a cost of less than \$1,000 in FY 16 to those agencies participating in the task force to reimburse legislators and agency staff for mileage expenses.

House "A" made clarifying changes to the issues the task force must study, and did not result in a fiscal impact.

**The Out Years**

There is no ongoing fiscal impact because the task force terminates in FY 16.

**OLR Bill Analysis**

**sHB 6975 (as amended by House "A")\***

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**SUMMARY:**

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Education Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 31    Nay 1    (03/18/2015)