



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6975

January Session, 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 and enforcement of the
4 guidelines for the management of students with life-threatening food
5 allergies and glycogen storage disease, developed by the Department
6 of Education pursuant to section 10-212c of the general statutes, (2)
7 methods used by school districts to ensure the safety of students with
8 life-threatening food allergies while such students are being
9 transported to and from school, (3) the plan for the management of
10 students with life-threatening food allergies and glycogen storage
11 disease, implemented by local and regional boards of education
12 pursuant to section 10-212c of the general statutes, to ensure the safety
13 of students with life-threatening food allergies, (4) the use of seclusion
14 or exclusion of students with life-threatening food allergies in the
15 classroom or cafeteria and how it affects the social and emotional well-
16 being of such students, and (5) the existence and nature of incidents of
17 teasing and bullying of students with life-threatening food allergies
18 that is a result of such students' life-threatening food allergies or
19 policies adopted by the school district to address such students' life-
20 threatening food allergies.

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

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

26 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one
27 of whom shall be a certified teacher in a public elementary school and
28 one of whom shall be an attorney with expertise in education and
29 special education law;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

49 of the General Assembly.

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

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

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

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

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In section 1(a), "allergy" was replaced with "allergies" for proper grammar, and in section 1(b)(1) and (2), "whom is" was replaced with "whom shall be" for proper form.

ED Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO