



General Assembly

**Amendment**

January Session, 2015

LCO No. 6051



Offered by:  
SEN. BARTOLOMEO, 13<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Senate Bill No. 843

File No. 47

Cal. No. 84

**"AN ACT CONCERNING TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICE TRAINING FOR TEACHERS, ADMINISTRATORS AND PUPIL PERSONNEL."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Section 10-220a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

5 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall provide an in-  
6 service training program for its teachers, administrators and pupil  
7 personnel who hold the initial educator, provisional educator or  
8 professional educator certificate. Such program shall provide such  
9 teachers, administrators and pupil personnel with information on (1)  
10 the nature and the relationship of drugs, as defined in subdivision (17)  
11 of section 21a-240, and alcohol to health and personality development,  
12 and procedures for discouraging their abuse, (2) health and mental  
13 health risk reduction education [which] that includes, but need not be  
14 limited to, the prevention of risk-taking behavior by children and the

15 relationship of such behavior to substance abuse, pregnancy, sexually  
16 transmitted diseases, including HIV-infection and AIDS, as defined in  
17 section 19a-581, violence, teen dating violence, domestic violence, child  
18 abuse and youth suicide, (3) the growth and development of  
19 exceptional children, including handicapped and gifted and talented  
20 children and children who may require special education, including,  
21 but not limited to, children with attention-deficit hyperactivity  
22 disorder or learning disabilities, and methods for identifying, planning  
23 for and working effectively with special needs children in a regular  
24 classroom, including, but not limited to, implementation of student  
25 individualized education programs, (4) school violence prevention,  
26 conflict resolution, the prevention of and response to youth suicide  
27 and the identification and prevention of and response to bullying, as  
28 defined in subsection (a) of section 10-222d, except that those boards of  
29 education that implement any evidence-based model approach that is  
30 approved by the Department of Education and is consistent with  
31 subsection (d) of section 10-145a, sections 10-222d, 10-222g and 10-  
32 222h, subsection (g) of section 10-233c and sections 1 and 3 of public  
33 act 08-160, shall not be required to provide in-service training on the  
34 identification and prevention of and response to bullying, (5)  
35 cardiopulmonary resuscitation and other emergency life saving  
36 procedures, (6) computer and other information technology as applied  
37 to student learning and classroom instruction, communications and  
38 data management, (7) the teaching of the language arts, reading and  
39 reading readiness for teachers in grades kindergarten to three,  
40 inclusive, (8) second language acquisition in districts required to  
41 provide a program of bilingual education pursuant to section 10-17f,  
42 (9) the requirements and obligations of a mandated reporter, and (10)  
43 the teacher evaluation and support program adopted pursuant to  
44 subsection (b) of section 10-151b. Each local and regional board of  
45 education may allow any paraprofessional or noncertified employee to  
46 participate, on a voluntary basis, in any in-service training program  
47 provided pursuant to this section. The State Board of Education,  
48 within available appropriations and utilizing available materials, shall  
49 assist and encourage local and regional boards of education to include:

50 (A) Holocaust and genocide education and awareness; (B) the  
51 historical events surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (C) African-  
52 American history; (D) Puerto Rican history; (E) Native American  
53 history; (F) personal financial management; (G) domestic violence and  
54 teen dating violence; (H) mental health first aid training; (I) trauma-  
55 informed practices for the school setting to enable teachers,  
56 administrators and pupil personnel to more adequately respond to  
57 students with mental, emotional or behavioral health needs; and [(I)]  
58 [(I)] topics approved by the state board upon the request of local or  
59 regional boards of education as part of in-service training programs  
60 pursuant to this subsection.

61 (b) Not later than a date prescribed by the commissioner, each local  
62 and regional board of education shall establish a professional  
63 development and evaluation committee consisting of certified  
64 employees, and such other school personnel as the board deems  
65 appropriate, including representatives selected by the exclusive  
66 bargaining representative for such employees chosen pursuant to  
67 subsection (b) of section 10-153. The duties of such committees shall  
68 include, but not be limited to, participation in the development or  
69 adoption of a teacher evaluation and support program for the district,  
70 pursuant to section 10-151b, and the development, evaluation and  
71 annual updating of a comprehensive local professional development  
72 plan for certified employees of the district. Such plan shall: (1) Be  
73 directly related to the educational goals prepared by the local or  
74 regional board of education pursuant to subsection (b) of section 10-  
75 220, (2) on and after July 1, 2011, be developed with full consideration  
76 of the priorities and needs related to student outcomes as determined  
77 by the State Board of Education, and (3) provide for the ongoing and  
78 systematic assessment and improvement of both teacher evaluation  
79 and professional development of the professional staff members of  
80 each such board, including personnel management and evaluation  
81 training or experience for administrators, shall be related to regular  
82 and special student needs and may include provisions concerning  
83 career incentives and parent involvement. The State Board of

84 Education shall develop guidelines to assist local and regional boards  
85 of education in determining the objectives of the plans and in  
86 coordinating staff development activities with student needs and  
87 school programs.

88 (c) The Department of Education, in cooperation with one or more  
89 regional educational service centers, is authorized to provide institutes  
90 annually for Connecticut educators. Such institutes shall serve as  
91 model programs of professional development and shall be taught by  
92 exemplary Connecticut teachers and administrators and by other  
93 qualified individuals as selected by the Department of Education. The  
94 Department of Education shall charge fees for attending such institutes  
95 provided such fees shall be based on the actual cost of such institutes.

96 (d) The Department of Education may fund, within available  
97 appropriations, in cooperation with one or more regional educational  
98 service centers: (1) A cooperating teacher program to train Connecticut  
99 public school teachers, certified teachers at private special education  
100 facilities approved by the Commissioner of Education, certified  
101 teachers at nonpublic schools approved by the commissioner and  
102 certified teachers at other facilities designated by the commissioner,  
103 who participate in the supervision, training and evaluation of student  
104 teachers, provided such certified teachers at nonpublic schools pay for  
105 the cost of participation in such cooperating teacher program and  
106 provided further that enrollment in such program shall first be made  
107 available to public school teachers; and (2) institutes to provide  
108 professional development for Connecticut public school educators and  
109 cooperating teachers, including institutes to provide professional  
110 development for Connecticut public school educators offered in  
111 cooperation with the Connecticut Humanities Council. Funds available  
112 under this subsection shall be paid directly to school districts for the  
113 provision of substitute teachers when cooperating teachers are  
114 released from regular classroom responsibilities and for the provision  
115 of professional development activities for cooperating and student  
116 teachers, except that such funds shall not be paid to nonpublic schools

117 for such professional development activities. The cooperating teacher  
 118 program shall operate in accordance with regulations adopted by the  
 119 State Board of Education in accordance with chapter 54, except in cases  
 120 of placement in other countries pursuant to written cooperative  
 121 agreements between Connecticut institutions of higher education and  
 122 institutions of higher education in other countries. A Connecticut  
 123 institution may enter such an agreement only if the State Board of  
 124 Education and the Board of Regents for Higher Education have jointly  
 125 approved the institution's teacher preparation program to enter into  
 126 such agreements. Student teachers shall be placed with trained  
 127 cooperating teachers. Cooperating teachers who are Connecticut  
 128 public school teachers shall be selected by local and regional boards of  
 129 education. Cooperating teachers at such private special education  
 130 facilities, nonpublic schools and other designated facilities shall be  
 131 selected by the authority responsible for the operation of such facilities.  
 132 If a board of education is unable to identify a sufficient number of  
 133 individuals to serve in such positions, the commissioner may select  
 134 qualified persons who are not employed by the board of education to  
 135 serve in such positions. Such regulations shall require primary  
 136 consideration of teachers' classroom experience and recognized success  
 137 as educators. The provisions of sections 10-153a to 10-153n, inclusive,  
 138 shall not be applicable to the selection, placement and compensation of  
 139 persons participating in the cooperating teacher program pursuant to  
 140 the provisions of this section and to the hours and duties of such  
 141 persons. The State Board of Education shall protect and save harmless,  
 142 in accordance with the provisions of section 10-235, any cooperating  
 143 teacher while serving in such capacity."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2015</i>	10-220a