



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 424

January Session, 2015

Substitute House Bill No. 6979

House of Representatives, April 2, 2015

The Committee on Education reported through REP. FLEISCHMANN of the 18th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY DECLINING STUDENT ENROLLMENT.

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 declining student enrollment in school districts. The task force
3 shall examine the causes and consequences of declining student
4 enrollment in school districts and the state, including, but not limited
5 to, its effect on state and local education budgets.

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

7 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
8 one of whom shall be a representative of the Connecticut Association
9 of Boards of Education and one of whom shall be a professor at a
10 public institution of higher education in the state with expertise in real
11 estate and urban economic studies;

12 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one

13 of whom shall be a representative of the Connecticut Association of
14 Schools and one of whom shall be a certified teacher in a public school;

15 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
16 Representatives, who shall be a representative of the Connecticut
17 Association of Public School Superintendents;

18 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall be
19 a representative of the Connecticut Association of School Business
20 Officials;

21 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
22 Representatives, who shall be a person with expertise in economics;

23 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be
24 a person with expertise in workforce development;

25 (7) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee;
26 and

27 (8) Two persons appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be a
28 person with expertise in demography.

29 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),
30 (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member
31 of the General Assembly.

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

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

40 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
41 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education

42 shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

43 (g) Not later than January 1, 2016, the task force shall submit a
44 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
45 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
46 relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-
47 4a of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date
48 that it submits such report or January 1, 2016, whichever is later.

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

ED *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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.

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.

The Out Years

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



OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6979

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SUMMARY:

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 32 Nay 0 (03/18/2015)