



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 819

January Session, 2015

Substitute House Bill No. 7022

House of Representatives, May 14, 2015

The Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding reported through REP. BERGER of the 73rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING AUTHORIZATION OF STATE GRANT COMMITMENTS FOR SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS AND CHANGES TO THE STATUTES CONCERNING SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of
2 Administrative Services, having reviewed applications for state grants
3 for public school building projects in accordance with section 10-283 of
4 the general statutes, as amended by this act, on the basis of priorities
5 for such projects and standards for school construction established by
6 the State Board of Education, and having prepared a listing of all such
7 eligible projects ranked in order of priority, including a separate
8 schedule of previously authorized projects which have changed
9 substantially in scope or cost, as determined by said commissioner
10 together with the amount of the estimated grant with respect to each
11 eligible project, and having submitted such listing of eligible projects,
12 prior to December 15, 2014, to a committee of the General Assembly

13 established under section 10-283a of the general statutes for the
14 purpose of reviewing such listing, is hereby authorized to enter into
15 grant commitments on behalf of the state in accordance with said
16 section 10-283 with respect to the priority listing of such projects and in
17 such estimated amounts as approved by said committee prior to
18 February 1, 2015, as follows:

19 (1) Estimated Grant Commitments.

T1	School District	Estimated	Estimated
T2	School	Project Costs	Grant
T3	Project Number		
T4			
T5	SOUTH WINDSOR		
T6	Orchard Hill Elementary School		
T7	132-0083 N	\$33,521,724	\$11,611,925
T8			
T9	STAMFORD		
T10	Rogers Interdistrict Magnet Extension		
T11	135-0277 MAG/PF	77,312,385	61,849,908
T12			
T13	CREC		
T14	Aerospace Elementary		
T15	241-0105 MAG/N/PS	61,572,181	49,257,745
T16			
T17	GOODWIN COLLEGE		
T18	Goodwin College Early Childhood		
T19	Magnet School		
T20	542-0005 MAG/N	19,935,061	15,948,049
T21			
T22	NORTH HAVEN		
T23	North Haven Middle School		
T24	101-0047 EA/RR	69,814,452	27,674,449
T25			
T26	SIMSBURY		
T27	Squadron Line School		
T28	128-0105 A	1,050,000	345,030
T29			
T30	SIMSBURY		
T31	Henry James Memorial School		
T32	128-0106 A/CV	1,055,000	346,673

T33			
T34	REGION 1		
T35	Housatonic Valley Regional High		
T36	School		
T37	201-0044 A	318,198	137,493
T38			
T39	CLINTON		
T40	Jared Eliot School		
T41	027-0062 A/EC	600,000	267,840
T42			
T43	NEW CANAAN		
T44	South School		
T45	090-0046 A/EC	2,533,367	515,794
T46			
T47	NEW LONDON		
T48	Bennie Dover Jackson Middle School		
T49	095-0089 EC	1,989,963	1,549,385
T50			
T51	OLD SAYBROOK		
T52	Kathleen E. Goodwin School		
T53	106-0039 EC	1,610,243	454,250
T54			
T55	WINDHAM		
T56	W. B. Sweeney School		
T57	163-0074 EC	100,000	79,290
T58			
T59	WINDHAM		
T60	Windham Middle School		
T61	163-0075 EC	1,720,000	1,363,788
T62			
T63	WINDSOR LOCKS		
T64	Windsor Locks High School		
T65	165-0079 EC	7,555,000	4,101,610
T66			
T67	WOODBIDGE		
T68	Beecher Road School		
T69	167-0025 A/RR/EC	13,345,000	3,717,917
T70			
T71	ACES		
T72	ACES Village School		
T73	244-0038 SP/EC	1,231,748	985,398
T74			

T75	ACES		
T76	ACES Mill Road School		
T77	244-0039 SP/EC	1,223,678	978,942

20 (2) Previously Authorized Projects That Have Changed
 21 Substantially in Scope or Cost which are Seeking First Reauthorization.

T78	School District	Authorized	Requested
T79	School		
T80	Project Number		
T81			
T82	BRIDGEPORT		
T83	New Harding High School		
T84	015-0173 N		
T85			
T86	Estimated...		
T87	Total Project Costs	\$78,254,163	\$106,629,000
T88	Total Grant	\$61,202,581	\$83,394,541
T89			
T90	BRIDGEPORT		
T91	Central High School		
T92	015-0174 EA/RR		
T93			
T94	Estimated...		
T95	Total Project Costs	\$73,418,940	\$86,419,000
T96	Total Grant	\$57,420,953	\$67,588,300
T97			
T98	NAUGATUCK		
T99	Naugatuck High School		
T100	088-0067 RNV/E		
T101			
T102	Estimated...		
T103	Total Project Costs	\$77,967,900	\$79,100,000
T104	Total Grant	\$58,475,925	\$59,325,000
T105			
T106	NAUGATUCK		
T107	Central Administration		
T108	088-0068 BE/RNV		
T109			
T110	Estimated...		
T111	Total Project Costs	\$3,032,100	\$1,900,000
T112	Total Grant	\$1,137,038	\$712,500

T113			
T114	CREC		
T115	CREC Discovery Academy		
T116	241-0100 MAG/PF/EA		
T117			
T118	Estimated...		
T119	Total Project Costs	\$35,675,000	\$52,046,374
T120	Total Grant	\$33,891,250	\$49,444,055
T121			
T122	ACES		
T123	Educational Center for the Arts-Little		
T124	Theatre		
T125	244-0037 MAG/EA		
T126			
T127	Estimated...		
T128	Total Project Costs	\$6,986,129	\$8,959,583
T129	Total Grant	\$6,636,823	\$8,511,604

- 22 (3) Previously Authorized Project For The Technical High School
- 23 System That Has Changed Substantially in Scope or Cost which is
- 24 Seeking Reauthorization.

T130	School District	Authorized	Requested
T131	School		
T132	Project Number		
T133			
T134	CTHSS (BRIDGEPORT)		
T135	Bullard-Havens		
T136	900-0015 VT/EA		
T137			
T138	Estimated...		
T139	Total Project Costs	\$ 27,331,000	\$ 60,383,000
T140	Total Grant	\$ 27,331,000	\$ 60,383,000
T141			
T142	CTHSS (WINDHAM)		
T143	Windham		
T144	900-0016 VT/EA		
T145			
T146	Estimated...		
T147	Total Project Costs	\$42,051,000	\$151,294,981
T148	Total Grant	\$42,051,000	\$151,294,981

T149			
T150	CTHSS (MIDDLETOWN)		
T151	Vinal		
T152	900-0017 VT/EA		
T153			
T154	Estimated...		
T155	Total Project Costs	\$51,076,000	\$156,825,315
T156	Total Grant	\$51,076,000	\$156,825,315

25 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2015*) (a) Not later than October 1,
 26 2015, the Department of Administrative Services shall develop a
 27 standard checklist for construction projects of school buildings. Such
 28 checklist shall include, but need not be limited to, testing for
 29 polychlorinated biphenyls and asbestos.

30 (b) On and after October 1, 2015, the Department of Administrative
 31 Services shall conduct an assessment of any construction project of a
 32 school building receiving state funding for compliance with the
 33 standard checklist developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

34 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2015*) (a) The Department of
 35 Administrative Services shall establish a school building project
 36 clearinghouse for the collection and distribution of school building
 37 project designs, plans and specifications. Such clearinghouse shall
 38 consist of a publicly accessible database for the collection and storage
 39 of relevant publications and school building project designs, plans and
 40 specifications that have been approved by the department pursuant to
 41 chapter 173 of the general statutes.

42 (b) Any architect or professional engineer who is registered or
 43 licensed to practice such person's profession in accordance with the
 44 applicable provisions of the general statutes may submit school
 45 building project designs, plans and specifications for posting in the
 46 school building project clearinghouse. The licensed architect of record
 47 or professional engineer of record shall retain ownership and liability
 48 for any such design, plan or specifications submitted to the school
 49 building project clearinghouse.

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	Out Years
Treasurer, Debt Serv.	GF - Future Cost	731.1 million

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	Out Years
Various Municipalities	Future Revenue Gain	231.4 million

Explanation

Section 1 of the bill approves a total of \$479.4 million in state grant commitments for school construction projects, including: (1) \$181.2 million for 18 new projects on the education commissioner's project priority list and (2) \$298.2 million for nine previously-authorized projects that have changed substantially (more than 10%) in cost or scope.

The grants-in-aid will be financed through the issuance of \$479.4 million in General Obligation (GO) bonds, which will be authorized in future fiscal years. The projected debt service cost to the General Fund to issue \$479.4 million at a 5.0% interest rate for a 20-year term is \$731.1 million, which is comprised of \$251.7 million in interest and \$479.4 million in principal. Since the bill does not authorize new GO bonds, it has no fiscal impact in FY 16 or FY 17.

Approximately \$231.4 million of the \$479.4 million in GO bond principal represents a revenue gain to various municipalities whose projects are included on the priority list.

Sections 2, 3 and 4 are technical and administrative and result in no fiscal impact.

The Out Years

The debt service cost to the state will continue over the 20-year term of the General Obligation (GO) bonds.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 7022

AN ACT CONCERNING AUTHORIZATION OF STATE GRANT COMMITMENTS FOR SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS AND CHANGES TO THE STATUTES CONCERNING SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS.

SUMMARY:

This bill authorizes the administrative services (DAS) commissioner to enter into grant commitments on behalf of the state for 18 new school construction projects. It authorizes state grants totaling \$181.2 million related to total project costs of \$296.5 million. It also reauthorizes and changes grant commitments, due to cost and scope changes, for:

1. six previously authorized local projects with a total increased grant commitment of \$50.2 million and
2. three previously authorized technical high school projects with a total increased grant commitment of \$248 million.

Under the state school construction grant program, the state (1) reimburses towns and local districts for a percentage of eligible school construction costs (with less wealthy towns receiving a higher reimbursement percentage) and (2) pays 100% of technical high school costs. The state runs the Connecticut Technical High School System (CTHSS).

The bill also allows DAS to place a project on the school construction priority list before local approval of the local share of the cost, provided the applying town schedules a referendum to approve the local share with the referendum results to be submitted to DAS before November 15 of the year of application.

The bill also requires DAS to (1) develop a standard checklist for school construction projects that includes testing for two common carcinogens and (2) establish a school building project clearinghouse to publicly share DAS-approved school project designs, plans, and specifications.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The construction grant commitment provisions are effective upon passage, and all other provisions are effective July 1, 2015.

§ 1 — NEW AUTHORIZATIONS AND PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED PROJECTS WITH CHANGES

Table 1 shows the new school construction projects the bill authorizes. Tables 2 and 3 list changes in previously authorized school and technical high school projects.

Table 1: New School Construction Projects Authorized

<i>District</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Estimated Project Costs</i>	<i>Estimated Grant</i>	<i>State Reimbursement %</i>
South Windsor	Orchard Hill Elementary School	New construction	\$33,521,724	\$11,611,925	34.64%
Stamford	Rogers Magnet Extension	Magnet school facility purchase	77,312,385	61,849,908	80%
CREC	Aerospace Elementary	Magnet new construction, site purchase	61,572,181	49,257,745	80%
Goodwin College	Goodwin College Early Childhood Magnet School	Magnet new construction	19,935,061	15,948,049	80%
North Haven	North Haven Middle School	Extension, alteration, and roof replacement	69,814,452	27,674,449	39.64%
Simsbury	Squadron Line School	Alteration	1,050,000	345,030	32.86%
Simsbury	Henry James Memorial School	Alteration, code violation	1,055,000	346,673	32.86%
Region 1	Housatonic Valley Regional High School	Alteration	318,198	137,493	43.21%
Clinton	Jared Eliot School	Alteration and energy conservation	600,000	267,840	44.64%
New Canaan	South School	Alteration and energy conservation	2,533,367	515,794	20.36%

New London	Bennie Dover Jackson Middle School	Energy conservation	1,989,963	1,549,385	77.86%
Old Saybrook	Kathleen E. Goodwin School	Energy conservation	1,610,243	454,250	28.21%
Windham	W. B. Sweeney School	Energy conservation	100,000	79,290	79.29%
Windham	Windham Middle School	Energy conservation	1,720,000	1,363,788	79.29%
Windsor Locks	Windsor Locks High School	Energy conservation	7,555,000	4,101,610	54.29%
Woodbridge	Beecher Road School	Alteration, roof replacement, and energy conservation	13,345,000	3,717,917	27.86%
ACES	ACES Village School	Regional special education and energy conservation	1,231,748	985,398	80%
ACES	ACES Mill Road School	Regional special education and energy conservation	1,223,678	978,942	80%
Total	18 projects		296,488,000	181,185,486	

Table 2: Previously Authorized School Construction Projects with Substantial Changes in Scope or Cost

District	School	Project	Previous Grant Authorization	New Grant Authorization	Change
Bridgeport	New Harding High School	New construction	\$61,202,581	\$83,394,541	\$22,191,960
Bridgeport	Central High School	Extension, alteration, and roof replacement	57,420,953	67,588,300	10,167,347
Naugatuck	Naugatuck High School	Renovation and extension	58,475,925	59,325,000	849,075
Naugatuck	Central Administration	Board of education administration facility, extension and renovation	1,137,038	712,500	(424,538)
CREC	CREC Discovery Academy	Magnet school facility purchase, extension and alteration	33,891,250	49,444,055	15,552,805
ACES	ECA- Little Theatre	Magnet school extension and alteration	6,636,823	8,511,604	1,874,781
Total	Six projects		218,764,570	268,976,000	50,211,430

Table 3: Previously Authorized Technical High School Construction Projects with Substantial Scope or Cost Changes

District	School & Town	Project	Previous Authorization	Requested Authorization	Change
CTHSS	Bullard-Havens	Extension,	\$27,331,000	\$60,383,000	\$33,052,000

	(Bridgeport)	alteration			
CTHSS	Windham (Windham)	Extension, alteration	42,051,000	151,294,981	109,243,981
CTHSS	Vinal (Middletown)	Extension, alteration	51,076,000	156,825,315	105,749,315
Total	Three projects		120,458,000	368,503,296	248,045,296

§ 2 – CONSTRUCTION PROJECT CHECKLIST

The bill requires DAS, by October 1, 2015, to develop a standard checklist for school building construction projects. The checklist must at least include testing for polychlorinated biphenyls and asbestos.

Starting October 1, 2015, DAS must assess any school building construction project receiving state funding for compliance with the newly developed standard checklist.

§ 3 – SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT CLEARINGHOUSE

The bill requires DAS to establish a clearinghouse for collecting and distributing school building project designs, plans, and specifications. The clearinghouse must include a publicly accessible database for collecting and storing relevant publications and DAS-approved school building project designs, plans, and specifications.

The bill specifies that any architect or professional engineer who is registered or licensed to practice in the state may submit designs, plans, and specifications for posting in the school building project clearinghouse. The licensed architect of record or professional engineer of record will retain ownership and liability for any design, plan, or specifications he or she submits to the clearinghouse.

§ 4 – SECURING THE LOCAL SHARE OF A SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Current law prohibits DAS and the education commissioner from accepting an application for a school building project unless the applicant has secured the authorization for the local share of the project costs, which is typically done through approval by local referendum. The bill instead prohibits the DAS commissioner from adding such projects to the school construction priority list (the list that becomes the school construction bill) and drops references to the

education commissioner. (Several years ago the duty of preparing the list was transferred to the DAS commissioner.) It specifies the local authorization must be effective under the general statutes, local ordinance, or charter.

It also allows a project to be added to the list if (1) the applicant has scheduled and prepared a referendum, if necessary to approve local funding, and (2) the referendum results are submitted by November 15 of the application year.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference
Yea 33 Nay 0 (03/27/2015)

Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

Joint Favorable
Yea 49 Nay 0 (04/30/2015)