



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2016

LCO No. 5462



Offered by:

SEN. SLOSSBERG, 14th Dist.

REP. FLEISCHMANN, 18th Dist.

To: Senate Bill No. 179

File No. 311

Cal. No. 226

"AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATION ISSUES."

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

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2016*) The State Board of
4 Education, in consultation with the Department of Veterans' Affairs,
5 shall award, upon receipt of a request, an exemplary veterans
6 education program distinction to those local and regional boards of
7 education that offer a program that provides students with
8 opportunities to learn about the contributions of veterans, as defined
9 in section 27-103 of the general statutes, or collaborate with local
10 veterans organizations. Such opportunities may include, but need not
11 be limited to, classes, extracurricular activities, presentations or
12 symposiums. A local or regional board of education may submit, at
13 such time and in such manner as the state board prescribes, a request
14 for such distinction by providing details about such board's program
15 to the state board. The state board shall make information about the

16 distinction available on the Department of Education's Internet web
17 site.

18 Sec. 2. Section 10-221s of the general statutes is repealed and the
19 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

20 (a) Each local and regional board of education shall post the
21 telephone number for the Careline operated by the Department of
22 Children and Families, pursuant to section 17a-103a, as amended by
23 this act, and the Internet web site address that provides information
24 about the Careline in a conspicuous location frequented by students in
25 each school under the jurisdiction of the board. Such posting shall be
26 in various languages that are the most appropriate for the students
27 enrolled in the school.

28 (b) A local or regional board of education shall permit and give
29 priority to any investigation conducted by the Commissioner of
30 Children and Families or the appropriate local law enforcement
31 agency that a child has been abused or neglected pursuant to sections
32 17a-101a to 17a-101d, inclusive, and section 17a-103. Such board of
33 education shall conduct its own investigation and take any
34 disciplinary action, in accordance with the provisions of section 17a-
35 101i, upon notice from the commissioner or the appropriate local law
36 enforcement agency that such board's investigation will not interfere
37 with the investigation of the commissioner or such local law
38 enforcement agency.

39 Sec. 3. Section 17a-103a of the general statutes is repealed and the
40 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

41 The Commissioner of Children and Families shall [provide a
42 telephone hotline] establish and operate the telephone Careline for
43 child abuse and neglect that shall be dedicated to receive reports of
44 child abuse [. Such hotline] or neglect and to provide information
45 concerning child abuse or neglect. The Careline shall accept all reports
46 of child abuse or neglect regardless of the relationship of the alleged
47 perpetrator to the child who is the alleged victim and regardless of the

48 alleged perpetrator's affiliation with any organization or other entity in
49 any capacity. The commissioner shall classify and evaluate all reports
50 pursuant to the provisions of section 17a-101g.

51 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 10-16b of the 2016 supplement to the
52 general statutes, as amended by section 1 of public act 15-94, is
53 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
54 *1, 2016*):

55 (a) In the public schools the program of instruction offered shall
56 include at least the following subject matter, as taught by legally
57 qualified teachers, the arts; career education; consumer education;
58 health and safety, including, but not limited to, human growth and
59 development, nutrition, first aid, including cardiopulmonary
60 resuscitation training in accordance with the provisions of section 10-
61 16qq, disease prevention and cancer awareness, including, but not
62 limited to, age and developmentally appropriate instruction in
63 performing self-examinations for the purposes of screening for breast
64 cancer and testicular cancer, community and consumer health,
65 physical, mental and emotional health, including youth suicide
66 prevention, substance abuse prevention, safety, which shall include the
67 safe use of social media, as defined in section 9-601, and may include
68 the dangers of gang membership, and accident prevention; language
69 arts, including reading, writing, grammar, speaking and spelling;
70 mathematics; physical education; science; social studies, including, but
71 not limited to, citizenship, economics, geography, government and
72 history; computer programming instruction; and in addition, on at
73 least the secondary level, one or more world languages and vocational
74 education. For purposes of this subsection, world languages shall
75 include American Sign Language, provided such subject matter is
76 taught by a qualified instructor under the supervision of a teacher who
77 holds a certificate issued by the State Board of Education. For purposes
78 of this subsection, the "arts" means any form of visual or performing
79 arts, which may include, but not be limited to, dance, music, art and
80 theatre.

81 Sec. 5. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force to
82 review, streamline and align state policies relating to school climate,
83 bullying, school safety and social-emotional learning. The task force
84 shall examine the manner in which local and regional boards of
85 education are implementing the safe school climate plans, pursuant to
86 section 10-222d of the general statutes, and any issues resulting from
87 such implementation. The task force shall make recommendations
88 relating to (1) school climate standards for local and regional boards of
89 education to use to develop and implement safe school climate plans,
90 and (2) an accountability methodology that uses the results from
91 student surveys to assess the effectiveness of such safe school climate
92 plans.

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

94 (1) The chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General
95 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education;

96 (2) One representative from each of the following associations,
97 designated by the association: The Connecticut Association of Boards
98 of Education, the Connecticut Association of Public School
99 Superintendents, the Connecticut Association of Schools, the
100 Connecticut Federation of School Administrators, the Connecticut
101 Education Association, the American Federation of Teachers-
102 Connecticut and the Connecticut PTA;

103 (3) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee;

104 (4) The executive director of the Commission on Children, or the
105 executive director's designee;

106 (5) The director of the Center for Behavioral Education and Research
107 in the Neag School of Education at The University of Connecticut; and

108 (6) The director of the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence.

109 (c) The chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General
110 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education shall

111 serve as the chairpersons of the task force. Such chairpersons shall
112 schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not
113 later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

114 (d) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
115 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education
116 shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

117 (e) Not later than January 1, 2017, the task force shall submit a
118 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
119 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
120 relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-
121 4a of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date
122 that it submits such report or January 1, 2017, whichever is later.

123 Sec. 6. (*Effective July 1, 2016*) (a) For the school years commencing
124 July 1, 2016, to July 1, 2025, inclusive, the local board of education for
125 the East Haven school district shall participate in a pilot program to
126 provide school transportation services for resident students to attend
127 an equivalent nonpublic school located in the New Haven school
128 district. For purposes of this subsection, "resident student" means any
129 student who is a resident of the town of East Haven and, for the school
130 year commencing July 1, 2015, was enrolled in a nonpublic school
131 located in the school district that ceased operations on or after January
132 1, 2016.

133 (b) The East Haven school district shall be reimbursed only for the
134 cost of such transportation as is required by this section upon the same
135 basis and in the same manner as such school districts are reimbursed
136 pursuant to section 10-281 of the general statutes.

137 Sec. 7. (*Effective from passage*) The local board of education for the
138 Franklin school district shall be reimbursed for any special education
139 and transportation costs charged to and paid by such board during the
140 fiscal years ending June 30, 2012, to June 30, 2014, inclusive, for any
141 child who was (1) receiving special education and related services, (2)
142 in the custody of the Department of Children and Families, and (3)

143 involved in a proceeding for the termination of parental rights at any
 144 time during such period. Such reimbursement shall be paid out of the
 145 Excess Cost-Student Based account in the Department of Education.

146 Sec. 8. (*Effective July 1, 2016*) Notwithstanding the provisions of
 147 subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 10-261 of the general
 148 statutes, concerning the definition of net current expenditures, the total
 149 current educational expenditures for the town of Newtown for
 150 purposes of calculating payments under section 10-76g of the general
 151 statutes for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, to June 30, 2017,
 152 inclusive, shall not include any funds received from the United States
 153 Department of Justice or under Project SERV (School Emergency
 154 Response to Violence) administered by the United States Department
 155 of Education in fiscal years ending June 30, 2014, to June 30, 2016,
 156 inclusive. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, the town of
 157 Newtown shall receive a payment under section 10-76g of the general
 158 statutes in an amount equal to (1) the difference between the amount
 159 received in the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, and June 30, 2016, and
 160 the amount that would have been received during such fiscal years as
 161 calculated under this section, plus (2) the amount the town of
 162 Newtown is entitled to receive as calculated under this section for the
 163 fiscal year ending June 30, 2017."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10-221s
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	17a-103a
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10-16b(a)
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	New section