



House Bill No. 7113

Public Act No. 19-139

AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATION ISSUES.

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

Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 10-91j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

(b) On and after July 1, 2019, a local or regional board of education shall not be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to subsection (b) of section 10-76g for any costs of special education paid by such board of education to a private provider of special education services unless such board of education has entered into a written contract with such private provider of special education services for the provision of such special education services. The individualized education program of a child shall not be considered a contract between a local or regional board of education and a private provider of special education services for purposes of this section. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to limit or interrupt the provision of special education and related services to a child by a local or regional board of education or private provider of special education services.

Sec. 2. Subdivision (6) of subsection (a) of section 10-151 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu

House Bill No. 7113

thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

(6) "Tenure" means:

(A) The completion of forty school months of full-time continuous employment for the same board of education, provided the superintendent offers the teacher a contract to return for the following school year on the basis of effective practice as informed by performance evaluations conducted pursuant to section 10-151b. For purposes of calculating continuous employment towards tenure, the following shall apply: (i) For a teacher who has not attained tenure, two school months of part-time continuous employment by such teacher shall equal one school month of full-time continuous employment except, for a teacher employed in a part-time position at a salary rate of less than twenty-five per cent of the salary rate of a teacher in such position, if such position were full-time, three school months of part-time continuous employment shall equal one school month of full-time continuous employment; (ii) a teacher who has not attained tenure shall not count layoff time towards tenure, except that if such teacher is reemployed by the same board of education within five calendar years of the layoff, such teacher may count the previous continuous employment immediately prior to the layoff towards tenure; (iii) a teacher who has not attained tenure shall not count authorized leave time towards tenure if such time exceeds ninety student school days in any one school year, provided only the student school days worked that year by such teacher shall count towards tenure and shall be computed on the basis of eighteen student school days or the greater fraction thereof equaling one school month; (iv) for a teacher who has not attained tenure and who is employed by a local or regional board of education that enters into a cooperative arrangement pursuant to section 10-158a, such teacher may count the previous continuous employment with such board immediately prior to such cooperative arrangement towards tenure; and (v) for a teacher

House Bill No. 7113

who has not attained tenure and who is employed by a local board of education or as part of a cooperative arrangement, pursuant to section 10-158a, and such board or cooperative arrangement joins a regional school district, such teacher may count the previous continuous employment with such local board or cooperative arrangement immediately prior to employment by the regional board of education towards tenure.

(B) For a teacher who has attained tenure prior to layoff, tenure shall resume if such teacher is reemployed by the same board of education within five calendar years of the layoff.

(C) Except as provided in subparagraphs (B) [L] and (D) [and (E)] of this subdivision, any teacher who has attained tenure with any one board of education and whose employment with such board ends for any reason and who is reemployed by such board or is subsequently employed by any other board, shall attain tenure after completion of twenty school months of continuous employment, provided the superintendent offers the teacher a contract to return for the following school year on the basis of effective practice as informed by performance evaluations conducted pursuant to section 10-151b. The provisions of this subparagraph shall not apply if, (i) prior to completion of the twentieth school month following commencement of employment by such board such teacher has been notified in writing that his or her contract will not be renewed for the following school year, or (ii) for a period of five or more calendar years immediately prior to such subsequent employment, such teacher has not been employed by any board of education.

[(D) Any certified teacher or administrator employed by a local or regional board of education for a school district identified as a priority school district pursuant to section 10-266p may attain tenure after ten months of employment in such priority school district, if such certified teacher or administrator previously attained tenure with another local

House Bill No. 7113

or regional board of education in this state or another state.]

[(E)] (D) For a teacher who has attained tenure and is employed by a local or regional board of education that enters into a cooperative arrangement pursuant to section 10-158a, such teacher shall not experience a break in continuous employment for purposes of tenure as a result of such cooperative arrangement.

[(F)] (E) For a teacher who has attained tenure and is employed by a local board of education or as part of a cooperative arrangement, pursuant to section 10-158a, and such board or cooperative arrangement joins a regional school district, such teacher shall not experience a break in continuous employment for purposes of tenure as a result of joining such regional school district.

Sec. 3. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a working group to study issues relating to the implementation of the pre-service performance assessment, edTPA, as adopted by the State Board of Education on December 7, 2016, as part of teacher preparation programs, as defined in section 10-10a of the general statutes. The working group shall examine how such assessment is being implemented in teacher preparation programs in the state, the financial costs associated with such assessment on institutions of higher education and students enrolled in teacher preparation programs, whether such assessment is evidence-based or a best practice, whether other states are using such assessment as part of teacher preparation programs or requiring completion of such assessment for professional certification, and any effect on world languages instruction.

(b) The working group shall consist of the following members:

(1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, who is a professor in a teacher preparation program in the state;

House Bill No. 7113

(2) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who is a dean of a teacher preparation program in the state;

(3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives, who has expertise in pre-service performance assessments for teacher preparation programs;

(4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who is a student who is currently enrolled in a teacher preparation program in the state;

(5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, who is a student currently enrolled in a teacher preparation program in the state;

(6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who is a recent graduate of a teacher preparation program in the state; and

(7) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee.

(c) All appointments to the working group shall be made not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.

(d) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee, shall schedule the first meeting of the working group, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section. The members of the working group shall elect the chairperson of the working group from among the members of the working group at the first meeting.

(e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education shall serve as administrative staff of the working group.

(f) Not later than January 1, 2020, the working group shall submit a

House Bill No. 7113

report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The working group shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 1, 2020, whichever is later.

Sec. 4. Section 10-264q of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

Notwithstanding subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of section 10-264l, an interdistrict magnet school program that (1) does not assist the state in meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, and (2) is not in compliance with the enrollment requirements for students of racial minorities, pursuant to section 10-264l, following the submission of student information data of such interdistrict magnet school program to the state-wide public school information system, pursuant to section 10-10a, on or before October 1, [2015] 2019, shall remain eligible for an interdistrict magnet school operating grant pursuant to section 10-264l for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, if such interdistrict magnet school program submits a compliance plan to the Commissioner of Education and the commissioner approves such plan.

Approved July 9, 2019