



Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, Inc.

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**Testimony
submitted to the
Education Committee**

March 18, 2019

**SB 1069 AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REVISIONS AND ADDITIONS TO THE EDUCATION
STATUTES**

CABE is supportive of many of the provisions in SB 1069 which deal with a variety of education issues. Sections 1 through 5 contain many of the recommendations of the Task Force to Study the Processing and Retention of Fingerprint Records and Criminal History Records for Educators. This Task Force was convened to address a number of concerns related to the process and costs for fingerprinting for educators.

Specifically, the bill:

- Makes changes in CGS 10-221d to ensure Connecticut law complies with federal law and FBI regulations.
- Waives the State fee for individuals required to be fingerprinted for placement through a Connecticut teacher preparation program.
- Maintains the current statutory language stating districts “may” fingerprint volunteers, to allow for district discretion in this area.

There are some minor revisions to these sections that are necessary and will be presented to the Committee by other representatives of the Task Force.

CABE also supports section 6, which provides for a study to identify any necessary statutory changes to enable school districts to engage in cooperative arrangements in order to maximize efficiencies and enhance educational quality.

CABE opposes section 7, which adds additional specific content to the subject matter curriculum requirements. While recognizing the importance of this issue, CABE urges you to refrain from the addition of a specific item to the existing curriculum mandates. Resources are available from the State Department of Education to enable districts to incorporate this topic into the curriculum, and a specific mandate is unnecessary.

Thank you for your attention to this issue.