



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 890**

January Session, 2019

Substitute House Bill No. 7110

*House of Representatives, May 16, 2019*

The Committee on Appropriations reported through REP. WALKER of the 93rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING RESOURCES TO ASSIST SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN IMPROVING SCHOOL CLIMATE.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2019*) The Department of  
2 Education may, within available appropriations, (1) develop and  
3 disseminate strategies to assist local and regional boards of education  
4 in (A) enhancing their safe school climate plans, developed pursuant to  
5 section 10-222d of the general statutes, (B) reducing incidents of school  
6 violence, and (C) promoting trauma sensitivity in schools, and (2)  
7 make available to school districts designated as alliance districts  
8 pursuant to section 10-262u of the general statutes, resources to  
9 promote systemic improvement of school climate through training,  
10 strategies for connecting youth to appropriate services and fostering  
11 trauma-sensitive school communities.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	July 1, 2019	New section
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**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

A section was deleted to conform with the deletion of former section 2, and in Section 1(1)(A), "and classroom safety plans, developed pursuant to section 1 of this act" was deleted for consistency.

**ED**          *Joint Favorable Subst. C/R*                          APP

**APP**          *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 20 \$	FY 21 \$
Education, Dept.	GF - Potential Cost	Up to 100,000	Up to 100,000

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill could result in a potential cost to the State Department of Education (SDE) of up to \$100,000 in both FY 20 and FY 21, associated with additional staff and consulting costs. The bill allows, but does not require SDE to develop and disseminate strategies to help local and regional boards of education with the following efforts: reducing incidents of school violence, promoting trauma sensitivity in schools, and enhancing their safe school climate plans. The bill also allows SDE to make available to alliance districts: resources to promote systemic school climate improvement through training, strategies for connecting youth to appropriate services, and fostering trauma-sensitive school communities.

**The Out Years**

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

**OLR Bill Analysis****sHB 7110*****AN ACT CONCERNING RESOURCES TO ASSIST SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN IMPROVING SCHOOL CLIMATE.*****SUMMARY**

This bill allows the State Department of Education (SDE) to develop and disseminate, within available appropriations, strategies to help local and regional boards of education with the following efforts: reducing incidents of school violence, promoting trauma sensitivity in schools, and enhancing their safe school climate plans. By law, local and regional boards of education must develop and implement safe school climate plans to address the existence of bullying and teen dating violence in their schools.

The bill also allows SDE to make available to alliance districts, within available appropriations, resources to promote systemic school climate improvement through training, strategies for connecting youth to appropriate services, and fostering trauma-sensitive school communities.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2019

**BACKGROUND*****Alliance Districts***

Alliance districts are the 30 districts in the state with the lowest accountability index scores (CGS § 10-262u). Calculated by SDE, these scores take into account mastery test scores and high school graduation rates, and they may include academic growth over time, attendance, and postsecondary education and career readiness, among other things (CGS § 10-223e).

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference - APP  
Yea 35 Nay 0 (03/25/2019)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute  
Yea 48 Nay 0 (05/02/2019)