



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

Raised Bill No. 7352

LCO No. 5832



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING MINOR REVISIONS AND ADDITIONS TO THE EDUCATION STATUTES.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 10-91j of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2019*):

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

16 private provider of special education services.

17 Sec. 2. Section 10-16b of the general statutes is repealed and the
18 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

19 (a) In the public schools the program of instruction offered shall
20 include at least the following subject matter, as taught by legally
21 qualified teachers, the arts; career education; consumer education;
22 health and safety, including, but not limited to, human growth and
23 development, nutrition, first aid, including cardiopulmonary
24 resuscitation training in accordance with the provisions of section 10-
25 16qq, disease prevention and cancer awareness, including, but not
26 limited to, age and developmentally appropriate instruction in
27 performing self-examinations for the purposes of screening for breast
28 cancer and testicular cancer, community and consumer health,
29 physical, mental and emotional health, including youth suicide
30 prevention, substance abuse prevention, including instruction relating
31 to opioid use and related disorders, safety, which shall include the safe
32 use of social media, as defined in section 9-601, and may include the
33 dangers of gang membership, and accident prevention; language arts,
34 including reading, writing, grammar, speaking and spelling;
35 mathematics; physical education; science, [which may include the]
36 including climate change beginning in elementary school and through
37 the secondary level and, where applicable, in accordance with the
38 curriculum described in subsection (d) of this section; social studies,
39 including, but not limited to, citizenship, economics, geography,
40 government, history and Holocaust and genocide education and
41 awareness in accordance with the provisions of section 10-18f;
42 computer programming instruction; and in addition, on at least the
43 secondary level, one or more world languages and vocational
44 education. For purposes of this subsection, world languages shall
45 include American Sign Language, provided such subject matter is
46 taught by a qualified instructor under the supervision of a teacher who
47 holds a certificate issued by the State Board of Education. For purposes
48 of this subsection, the "arts" means any form of visual or performing
49 arts, which may include, but not be limited to, dance, music, art and

50 theatre.

51 (b) If a local or regional board of education requires its pupils to
52 take a course in a world language, the parent or guardian of a pupil
53 identified as deaf or hard of hearing may request in writing that such
54 pupil be exempted from such requirement and, if such a request is
55 made, such pupil shall be exempt from such requirement.

56 (c) Each local and regional board of education shall on September 1,
57 1982, and annually thereafter at such time and in such manner as the
58 Commissioner of Education shall request, attest to the State Board of
59 Education that such local or regional board of education offers at least
60 the program of instruction required pursuant to this section, and that
61 such program of instruction is planned, ongoing and systematic.

62 (d) The State Board of Education shall make available curriculum
63 materials and such other materials as may assist local and regional
64 boards of education in developing instructional programs pursuant to
65 this section. The State Board of Education, within available
66 appropriations and utilizing available resource materials, shall assist
67 and encourage local and regional boards of education to include: (1)
68 Holocaust and genocide education and awareness; (2) the historical
69 events surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (3) African-American
70 history; (4) Puerto Rican history; (5) Native American history; (6)
71 personal financial management, including, but not limited to, financial
72 literacy as developed in the plan provided under section 10-16pp; (7)
73 training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of automatic
74 external defibrillators; (8) labor history and law, including organized
75 labor, the collective bargaining process, existing legal protections in the
76 workplace, the history and economics of free market capitalism and
77 entrepreneurialism, and the role of labor and capitalism in the
78 development of the American and world economies; (9) climate
79 change consistent with the Next Generation Science Standards; (10)
80 topics approved by the state board upon the request of local or
81 regional boards of education as part of the program of instruction
82 offered pursuant to subsection (a) of this section; [and] (11) instruction

83 relating to the Safe Haven Act, sections 17a-57 to 17a-61, inclusive, and
84 (12) social-emotional learning. The Department of Energy and
85 Environmental Protection shall be available to each local and regional
86 board of education for the development of curriculum on climate
87 change as described in this subsection.

88 Sec. 3. Subdivision (6) of subsection (a) of section 10-151 of the
89 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
90 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

91 (6) "Tenure" means:

92 (A) The completion of forty school months of full-time continuous
93 employment for the same board of education, provided the
94 superintendent offers the teacher a contract to return for the following
95 school year on the basis of effective practice as informed by
96 performance evaluations conducted pursuant to section 10-151b. For
97 purposes of calculating continuous employment towards tenure, the
98 following shall apply: (i) For a teacher who has not attained tenure,
99 two school months of part-time continuous employment by such
100 teacher shall equal one school month of full-time continuous
101 employment except, for a teacher employed in a part-time position at a
102 salary rate of less than twenty-five per cent of the salary rate of a
103 teacher in such position, if such position were full-time, three school
104 months of part-time continuous employment shall equal one school
105 month of full-time continuous employment; (ii) a teacher who has not
106 attained tenure shall not count layoff time towards tenure, except that
107 if such teacher is reemployed by the same board of education within
108 five calendar years of the layoff, such teacher may count the previous
109 continuous employment immediately prior to the layoff towards
110 tenure; (iii) a teacher who has not attained tenure shall not count
111 authorized leave time towards tenure if such time exceeds ninety
112 student school days in any one school year, provided only the student
113 school days worked that year by such teacher shall count towards
114 tenure and shall be computed on the basis of eighteen student school
115 days or the greater fraction thereof equaling one school month; (iv) for

116 a teacher who has not attained tenure and who is employed by a local
117 or regional board of education that enters into a cooperative
118 arrangement pursuant to section 10-158a, such teacher may count the
119 previous continuous employment with such board immediately prior
120 to such cooperative arrangement towards tenure; and (v) for a teacher
121 who has not attained tenure and who is employed by a local board of
122 education or as part of a cooperative arrangement, pursuant to section
123 10-158a, and such board or cooperative arrangement joins a regional
124 school district, such teacher may count the previous continuous
125 employment with such local board or cooperative arrangement
126 immediately prior to employment by the regional board of education
127 towards tenure.

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

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

147 [(D) Any certified teacher or administrator employed by a local or
148 regional board of education for a school district identified as a priority

149 school district pursuant to section 10-266p may attain tenure after ten
150 months of employment in such priority school district, if such certified
151 teacher or administrator previously attained tenure with another local
152 or regional board of education in this state or another state.]

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

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

164 Sec. 4. (*Effective from passage*) On and after July 1, 2019, the
165 Department of Education shall cease state-wide implementation of the
166 pre-service performance assessment, edTPA, as adopted by the State
167 Board of Education on December 7, 2016.

168 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) On and after July 1, 2019,
169 each institution of higher education that offers a teacher preparation
170 program, as defined in section 10-10a of the general statutes, shall
171 develop and administer a pre-service performance assessment for
172 students enrolled in such teacher preparation program. Each
173 institution of higher education shall submit such pre-service
174 performance assessment to the Commissioner of Education for
175 approval.

176 (b) On and after July 1, 2019, the Commissioner of Education may
177 approve the pre-service performance assessment for a teacher
178 preparation program developed by an institution of higher education,
179 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section. Upon approval of such
180 assessment, the commissioner shall establish a passing score required

181 for successful completion of the teacher preparation program for
182 purposes of professional certification under chapter 166 of the general
183 statutes.

184 Sec. 6. Section 10-155k of the general statutes is repealed and the
185 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

186 On and after July 1, 2013, the Commissioner of Education shall
187 establish a School [Paraprofessional] Paraeducator Advisory Council
188 consisting of (1) one school [paraprofessional] paraeducator from each
189 state-wide bargaining representative organization that represents
190 school [paraprofessionals] paraeducators with instructional
191 responsibilities, (2) one representative from each of the exclusive
192 bargaining units for certified employees, chosen pursuant to section
193 10-153b, (3) the most recent recipient of the Connecticut
194 [Paraprofessional] Paraeducator of the Year Award, (4) two
195 representatives from the regional educational service centers,
196 appointed by the Commissioner of Education, and (5) a school
197 administrator, appointed by the Connecticut Federation of School
198 Administrators. The council shall hold quarterly meetings and advise,
199 at least quarterly, the Commissioner of Education, or the
200 commissioner's designee, of the needs for (A) professional
201 development and the training of [paraprofessionals] paraeducators
202 and the effectiveness of the content and the delivery of existing
203 training for such [paraprofessionals] paraeducators, (B) appropriate
204 staffing strategies for [paraprofessionals] paraeducators, and (C) other
205 relevant issues relating to [paraprofessionals] paraeducators. The
206 council shall report, annually, in accordance with the provisions of
207 section 11-4a, on the recommendations given to the commissioner, or
208 the commissioner's designee, pursuant to the provisions of this section,
209 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
210 cognizance of matters relating to education.

211 Sec. 7. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than January 1, 2020, the
212 School Paraeducator Advisory Council, established pursuant to section
213 10-155k of the general statutes, as amended by this act, shall conduct a

214 study concerning the following: (1) Safety issues relating to
215 paraeducators who work with students who have behavioral issues,
216 including the availability of appropriate safety equipment for
217 paraeducators at each school, (2) issues relating to the assignment of
218 substitute teaching duties to paraeducators, including emergency
219 situations when a paraeducator is asked to serve as a substitute
220 teacher, and (3) issues relating to the duties of paraeducators who
221 work with students who have individualized education programs. The
222 council shall submit such study and any recommendations to the joint
223 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
224 matters relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of
225 section 11-4a of the general statutes.

226 Sec. 8. (*Effective July 1, 2019*) For the fiscal years ending June 30,
227 2020, and June 30, 2021, the Department of Education shall establish
228 and administer a principal induction pilot program. Such pilot
229 program shall provide opportunities for peer mentoring for new
230 school principals and include executive leadership and workforce
231 development as key principles in the professional development for
232 new school principals. In developing the pilot program, the
233 department shall standardize existing principal induction programs
234 being administered by local and regional boards of education across
235 the state. The department shall permit any local or regional board of
236 education to participate in the pilot program, and may select up to five
237 additional boards of education to participate. A local or regional board
238 of education participating in the pilot program may partner with
239 businesses in the state to implement the pilot program. Not later than
240 January 1, 2022, the department shall submit an evaluation of the pilot
241 program to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
242 having cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with
243 the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-91j(b)

Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-16b
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-151(a)(6)
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-155k
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To make minor revisions and additions to the education statutes.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]