

**Proposed Substitute
Bill No. 1018**

LCO No. 7617

AN ACT CONCERNING THE OPPORTUNITY GAP.

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

1 Section 1. Section 10-266q of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

3 (a) On or before September fifteenth of each fiscal year in which
4 payment is to be made, the State Board of Education shall authorize
5 grant awards. Grant awards shall be authorized only after proposals
6 for such grants have been submitted to the commissioner by the school
7 districts described in section 10-266p, as amended by this act, at such
8 time and in such manner as the commissioner shall prescribe, and after
9 the commissioner and each such school district have reached
10 agreement regarding how such grant shall be utilized. Each proposal
11 shall be based on a three-year project plan and include, but not be
12 limited to, an explanation of project goals, objectives, evaluation
13 strategies and budget which shall identify local funding and other
14 resource contributions for the three-year period provided proposals
15 shall give priority to the development or expansion of extended-day
16 kindergarten programs.

17 (b) [A] Except as otherwise provided in subsection (d) of this
18 section, a priority school district grant shall be payable to the local
19 board of education for the school districts described in section 10-266p,
20 as amended by this act, which shall use the funds for any of the
21 following: (1) The creation or expansion of programs or activities
22 related to dropout prevention, (2) alternative and transitional
23 programs for students having difficulty succeeding in traditional

24 educational programs, (3) academic enrichment, tutorial and recreation
25 programs or activities in school buildings during nonschool hours and
26 during the summer, (4) development or expansion of extended-day
27 kindergarten programs, (5) [development or expansion of early
28 reading intervention programs] implementation of the intensive
29 reading instruction program, in accordance with the provisions of
30 section 10-14u, including summer and after-school programs, (6)
31 enhancement of the use of technology to support instruction or
32 improve parent and teacher communication, (7) initiatives to
33 strengthen parent involvement in the education of children, and parent
34 and other community involvement in school and school district
35 programs, activities and educational policies, which may be in
36 accordance with the provisions of section 10-4g, [or] (8) for purposes of
37 obtaining accreditation for elementary and middle schools from the
38 New England Association of Schools and Colleges, or (9) support to
39 chronically absent children, as defined in section 10-198c, and reducing
40 the district chronic absenteeism rate, as defined in section 10-198c.
41 Each such board of education shall use at least twenty per cent of its
42 grant [for early reading intervention programs] for implementation of
43 the intensive reading instruction program. Each such board of
44 education shall use its grant to supplement existing programs or create
45 new programs. If the State Board of Education finds that any such
46 grant is being used for other purposes or is being used to decrease the
47 local share of support for schools, it may require repayment of such
48 grant to the state.

49 (c) Each priority school district grant shall be awarded by the State
50 Board of Education on an annual basis. Funding in subsequent years
51 shall be based on funds available, annual application and program
52 evaluation.

53 (d) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year
54 thereafter, the State Board of Education shall award grants under this
55 section as follows:

56 (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, the Commissioner of

57 Education shall determine whether the performance index, as defined
58 in section 10-223e, for English language arts and the accountability
59 index, as defined in section 10-223e, for attendance and chronic
60 absenteeism for a local board of education for a school district
61 described in section 10-266p, as amended by this act, has consistently
62 and continually improved during the fiscal years ending June 30, 2017,
63 to June 30, 2019, inclusive.

64 (2) Any such board whose performance index for English language
65 arts and the accountability index for attendance and chronic
66 absenteeism has consistently and continually improved during the
67 fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, shall
68 receive one hundred per cent of the amount of the priority school
69 district grant such board is entitled under section 10-266p, as amended
70 by this act. Such board shall continue to receive one hundred per cent
71 of the amount of the priority school district grant such board is entitled
72 under section 10-266p, as amended by this act, in each subsequent
73 fiscal year if such board's performance index for English language arts
74 and the accountability index for attendance and chronic absenteeism
75 improves from the prior fiscal year. If such board's performance index
76 for English language arts and the accountability index for attendance
77 and chronic absenteeism does not improve from the prior fiscal year,
78 the priority school district grant shall be awarded in a manner similar
79 to the process described in subdivision (3) of this subsection.

80 (3) Any such board whose performance index for English language
81 arts and the accountability index for attendance and chronic
82 absenteeism has not consistently and continually improved during the
83 fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, shall be
84 awarded a grant under this section as follows:

85 (A) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, such board shall receive
86 one hundred per cent of the amount of the priority school district grant
87 such board is entitled under section 10-266p, as amended by this act,
88 provided such board expends fifty per cent of such grant for the
89 purpose of implementing the intensive reading instruction program, in

90 accordance with the provisions of section 10-14u, and the other fifty
91 per cent to provide support to chronically absent children, as defined
92 in section 10-198c, and reducing the district chronic absenteeism rate,
93 as defined in section 10-198c.

94 (B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, (i) if the performance
95 index for English language arts and the accountability index for
96 attendance and chronic absenteeism for such board has improved from
97 the prior fiscal year, such board shall receive one hundred per cent of
98 the amount of the priority school district grant such board is entitled
99 under section 10-266p, as amended by this act, provided such board
100 shall continue to expend fifty per cent of such grant for the purpose of
101 implementing the intensive reading instruction program, and (ii) if the
102 performance index for English language arts and the accountability
103 index for attendance and chronic absenteeism for such board has not
104 improved from the prior fiscal year, such board shall receive fifty per
105 cent of the amount of the priority school district grant such board is
106 entitled under section 10-266p, as amended by this act, provided such
107 board expends one hundred per cent of such grant received for the
108 purpose of implementing the intensive reading instruction program.

109 (C) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, (i) if the performance
110 index for English language arts and the accountability index for
111 attendance and chronic absenteeism for such board has improved from
112 the prior fiscal year, such board shall receive one hundred per cent of
113 the amount of the priority school district grant such board is entitled
114 under section 10-266p, as amended by this act, provided such board
115 expends fifty per cent of such grant for the purpose of implementing
116 the intensive reading instruction program, and (ii) if the performance
117 index for English language arts and the accountability index for
118 attendance and chronic absenteeism for such board has not improved
119 from the prior fiscal year, such board shall not receive any of the
120 priority school district grant such board is entitled under section 10-
121 266p, as amended by this act.

122 (4) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and each fiscal year

123 thereafter, any such board that (A) did not receive a priority school
124 district grant for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, or (B) did not
125 receive a priority school district grant for the prior fiscal year, shall no
126 longer be eligible to receive a priority school district grant.

127 (e) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, and each fiscal year
128 thereafter, the State Board of Education shall award any unallocated
129 priority school district grant funds on a pro rata basis to each local
130 board of education for a school district described in section 10-266p, as
131 amended by this act, whose performance index for English language
132 arts and the accountability index for attendance and chronic
133 absenteeism has improved from the prior fiscal year.

134 Sec. 2. Subsection (d) of section 10-266u of the general statutes is
135 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
136 *1, 2019*):

137 (d) Each such district shall prepare an annual program report which
138 describes and documents program operation, student participation
139 and [other indicators of success and] whether such program is
140 improving student achievement and enhancing educational
141 opportunities in such district. Each such district shall submit the report
142 to the Commissioner of Education in such form and at such time as
143 [he] the commissioner prescribes.

144 Sec. 3. Section 10-266r of the general statutes is repealed and the
145 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

146 (a) The State Board of Education shall prepare an evaluation of the
147 priority school district grant program not later than December 15, 1990,
148 and triennially thereafter.

149 (b) Each school district participating in the [project] program shall
150 prepare an annual [project] program evaluation, which shall include a
151 description of program activities and [documentation of program
152 improvement and student achievement] whether such program is
153 improving student achievement and enhancing educational

154 opportunities in such district. Each such evaluation shall be submitted
155 to the [commissioner] Commissioner of Education on or before August
156 fifteenth of the fiscal year following each fiscal year in which the
157 school district participated in the priority school district program.

158 (c) [Within] Not later than sixty days after the close of the school
159 year, each local board of education which received a priority school
160 district grant shall file with the commissioner a financial statement of
161 expenditures in such form as the commissioner shall prescribe. The
162 State Board of Education shall periodically review grant payments
163 made pursuant to this section in order to determine that such state
164 funds received are being used for the purposes specified in the
165 application. On or before December thirty-first of the fiscal year
166 following the fiscal year in which payment was received, each local
167 board which received a priority school district grant shall file with the
168 commissioner a financial audit in such form as prescribed by the
169 commissioner.

170 Sec. 4. Section 10-266p of the general statutes is repealed and the
171 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

172 (a) The State Board of Education shall administer a priority school
173 district grant program to assist certain school districts to improve
174 student achievement and enhance educational opportunities. The
175 grant program shall include the priority school district portions of the
176 grant programs established pursuant to sections 10-265f, 10-265m and
177 10-266t. [The] Subject to the provisions of section 10-266q, as amended
178 by this act, the grant program and its component parts shall be for
179 school districts in (1) the eight towns in the state with the largest
180 population, based on the most recent federal decennial census, (2)
181 towns which rank for the first fiscal year of each biennium from one to
182 eleven when all towns are ranked in descending order from one to one
183 hundred sixty-nine based on the number of children under the
184 temporary family assistance program, as defined in subdivision (17) of
185 section 10-262f, plus the mastery count of the town, as defined in
186 subdivision (13) of section 10-262f, and (3) towns which rank for the

187 first fiscal year of each biennium one to eleven when all towns are
188 ranked in descending order from one to one hundred sixty-nine based
189 on the ratio of the number of children under the temporary family
190 assistance program as so defined to the resident students of such town,
191 as defined in subdivision (22) of section 10-262f, plus the grant mastery
192 percentage of the town, as defined in subdivision (12) of section 10-
193 262f. The State Board of Education shall utilize the categorical grant
194 program established under this section and sections 10-266q, as
195 amended by this act, and 10-266r, as amended by this act, and other
196 educational resources of the state to work cooperatively with such
197 school districts during any school year to improve their educational
198 programs or early reading intervention programs. The component
199 parts of the grant shall be allocated according to the provisions of
200 sections 10-265f, 10-265m and 10-266t. Subject to the provisions of
201 subsection (c) of section 10-276a and section 10-266q, as amended by
202 this act, the State Board of Education shall allocate one million dollars
203 to each of the eight towns described in subdivision (1) of this
204 subsection and five hundred thousand dollars to each of the towns
205 described in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection, except the
206 towns described in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not receive
207 any additional allocation if they are also described in subdivision (2) or
208 (3) of this subsection.

209 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,
210 any town which received a grant pursuant to this section for the fiscal
211 year ending June 30, 1999, and which does not qualify for a grant
212 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section for the fiscal year ending June
213 30, 2000, shall receive grants for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2000,
214 June 30, 2001, and June 30, 2002, in amounts determined in accordance
215 with this subsection. (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000, in an
216 amount equal to the difference between (A) the amount of the grant
217 such town received pursuant to this section for the fiscal year ending
218 June 30, 1999, and (B) an amount equal to twenty-five per cent of the
219 difference between (i) the amount of the grant such town received
220 pursuant to this section for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999, and (ii)
221 the amount of the grants received by transitional school districts

222 pursuant to section 10-263c. (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001,
223 in an amount equal to the difference between (A) the amount of the
224 grant such town received pursuant to this section for the fiscal year
225 ending June 30, 1999, and (B) an amount equal to fifty per cent of the
226 difference between (i) the amount of the grant such town received
227 pursuant to this section for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999, and (ii)
228 the amount of the grants received by transitional school districts
229 pursuant to section 10-263c. (3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002,
230 in an amount equal to the difference between (A) the amount of the
231 grant such town received pursuant to this section for the fiscal year
232 ending June 30, 1999, and (B) an amount equal to seventy-five per cent
233 of the difference between (i) the amount of the grant such town
234 received pursuant to this section for the fiscal year ending June 30,
235 1999, and (ii) the amount of the grants received by transitional school
236 districts pursuant to section 10-263c.

237 (c) [In] Subject to the provisions of section 10-266q, as amended by
238 this act, in addition to the amount allocated pursuant to subsection (a)
239 of this section, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1997, and each fiscal
240 year thereafter, the State Board of Education shall allocate (1) seven
241 hundred fifty thousand dollars to each town which ranks from one to
242 three, inclusive, in population pursuant to subdivision (1) of said
243 subsection (a) and three hundred thirty-four thousand dollars to each
244 town which ranks from four to eight, inclusive, in population pursuant
245 to said subdivision and (2) one hundred eighty thousand dollars to
246 each of the towns described in subdivisions (2) and (3) of said
247 subsection (a), except that the towns described in subdivision (1) of
248 said subsection (a) shall not receive any additional allocation pursuant
249 to subdivision (2) of this subsection if they are also described in
250 subdivision (2) or (3) of said subsection (a).

251 (d) [In] Subject to the provisions of section 10-266q, as amended by
252 this act, in addition to the amounts allocated pursuant to subsections
253 (a) and (c) of this section, the State Board of Education shall allocate a
254 share, in the same proportion as the total amount allocated pursuant to
255 said subsections, of two million five hundred thousand dollars for the

256 fiscal year ending June 30, 1998, and three million dollars for the fiscal
257 year ending June 30, 1999, and each fiscal year thereafter, to each of the
258 towns receiving a grant pursuant to this section.

259 (e) [In] Subject to the provisions of section 10-266q, as amended by
260 this act, in addition to the amounts allocated pursuant to subsections
261 (a), (c) and (d) of this section, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005,
262 and each fiscal year thereafter, the State Board of Education shall
263 allocate (1) one million five hundred thousand dollars to the town
264 which ranks one in population pursuant to subdivision (1) of said
265 subsection (a), (2) one million dollars to each town which ranks from
266 two to four, inclusive, in population pursuant to said subdivision (1),
267 (3) six hundred thousand dollars to the town which ranks five in
268 population pursuant to said subdivision (1), (4) five hundred thousand
269 dollars to each town which ranks from six to eight, inclusive, in
270 population pursuant to said subdivision (1), and (5) two hundred fifty
271 thousand dollars to each of the towns described in subdivisions (2) and
272 (3) of said subsection (a), except that the towns described in
273 subdivision (1) of said subsection (a) shall not receive any additional
274 allocation pursuant to subdivision (5) of this subsection if they are also
275 described in subdivision (2) or (3) of said subsection (a).

276 (f) [In] Subject to the provisions of section 10-266q, as amended by
277 this act, in addition to the amounts allocated in subsection (a), and
278 subsections (c) to (e), inclusive, of this section, for the fiscal year
279 ending June 30, 2006, the State Board of Education shall allocate two
280 million thirty-nine thousand six hundred eighty-six dollars to the
281 towns that rank one to three, inclusive, in population pursuant to
282 subdivision (1) of said subsection (a), and for the fiscal year ending
283 June 30, 2007, and each fiscal year thereafter, the State Board of
284 Education shall allocate two million six hundred ten thousand seven
285 hundred ninety-eight dollars to the towns that rank one to three,
286 inclusive, in population pursuant to subdivision (1) of said subsection
287 (a).

288 (g) [In] Subject to the provisions of section 10-266q, as amended by

289 this act, in addition to the amounts allocated in subsection (a) and
290 subsections (c) to (f), inclusive, of this section, for the fiscal year ending
291 June 30, 2015, and each fiscal year thereafter, the State Board of
292 Education shall allocate two million eight hundred eighty-two
293 thousand three hundred sixty-eight dollars as follows: Each priority
294 school district shall receive an allocation based on the ratio of the
295 amount it is eligible to receive pursuant to subsection (a) of this section
296 and subsections (c) to (f), inclusive, of this section to the total amount
297 all priority school districts are eligible to receive pursuant to
298 subsection (a) of this section and subsections (c) to (f), inclusive, of this
299 section. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, a priority school
300 district may carry forward any unexpended funds allocated after May
301 1, 2016, pursuant to this subsection, into the fiscal year ending June 30,
302 2017.

303 (h) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section and subject to the
304 provisions of section 10-266q, as amended by this act, for the fiscal year
305 ending June 30, 2008, and for each fiscal year thereafter, no town
306 receiving a grant pursuant to this section shall receive a grant that is in
307 an amount that is less than one hundred fifty dollars per pupil. For the
308 purposes of this subsection, the amount of the grant on a per pupil
309 basis shall be determined by dividing the total amount that a town
310 receives for a grant under this section by the number of resident
311 students, as defined in subdivision (22) of section 10-262f, of the local
312 or regional school district for which the town receives a grant under
313 this section.

314 (i) [In] Subject to the provisions of section 10-266q, as amended by
315 this act, in addition to the amounts allocated in subsection (a) and
316 subsections (c) to (h), inclusive, of this section, for the fiscal year
317 ending June 30, 2008, and each fiscal year thereafter, the State Board of
318 Education shall allocate two million twenty thousand dollars to the
319 town ranked sixth when all towns are ranked from highest to lowest in
320 population, based on the most recent federal decennial census, except
321 that for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, and each fiscal year
322 thereafter, the State Board of Education shall allocate two million two

323 hundred seventy thousand dollars to said town.

324 (j) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal year
325 ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount of the
326 grants payable to local or regional boards of education in accordance
327 with this section and section 10-266q, as amended by this act, shall be
328 reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds
329 the amount appropriated for the purposes of this section for such year.

330 Sec. 5. Section 10-262u of the general statutes is repealed and the
331 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

332 (a) As used in this section and section 10-262i:

333 (1) "Alliance district" means a school district for a town that (A) is
334 among the towns with the thirty lowest accountability index₂ [scores,]
335 as calculated by the Department of Education, or (B) was previously
336 designated as an alliance district by the Commissioner of Education for
337 the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, to June 30, 2017, inclusive.

338 (2) "Accountability index" has the same meaning as provided in
339 section 10-223e.

340 (3) "Mastery test data of record" has the same meaning as provided
341 in section 10-262f.

342 (4) "Educational reform district" means a school district that is in a
343 town that is among the ten lowest accountability index [scores] when
344 all towns are ranked highest to lowest in accountability index₂ [scores.]

345 [(b) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, the Commissioner of
346 Education shall designate thirty school districts as alliance districts.
347 Any school district designated as an alliance district shall be so
348 designated for a period of five years. On or before June 30, 2016, the
349 Department of Education shall determine if there are any additional
350 alliance districts.]

351 [(2)] (b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, the commissioner

352 shall designate thirty-three school districts as alliance districts. Any
353 school district designated as an alliance district shall be so designated
354 for a period of five years.

355 (c) (1) [(A) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, the Comptroller
356 shall withhold from a town designated as an alliance district any
357 increase in funds received over the amount the town received for the
358 prior fiscal year pursuant to section 10-262h. The Comptroller shall
359 transfer such funds to the Commissioner of Education. (B) For the
360 fiscal years ending June 30, 2014, to June 30, 2016, inclusive, the
361 Comptroller shall withhold from a town designated as an alliance
362 district any increase in funds received over the amount the town
363 received for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, pursuant to
364 subsection (a) of section 10-262i. (C) For the fiscal year ending June 30,
365 2017, the Comptroller shall withhold from a town designated as an
366 alliance district any increase in funds received over the amount the
367 town received for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, pursuant to
368 subsection (a) of section 10-262i, minus the aid reduction, as described
369 in subsection (d) of section 10-262i. (D)] For the fiscal year ending June
370 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, the Comptroller shall withhold
371 from a town designated as an alliance district any increase in funds
372 received over the amount the town received for the fiscal year ending
373 June 30, 2012, pursuant to subsection (a) of section 10-262i. The
374 Comptroller shall transfer such funds to the Commissioner of
375 Education.

376 (2) Upon receipt of an application pursuant to subsection (d) of this
377 section, the Commissioner of Education shall determine whether the
378 accountability index for the local or regional board of education for a
379 town designated as an alliance district has consistently and continually
380 improved during the previous three fiscal years, and may pay such
381 funds to the town designated as an alliance district. [and such] Such
382 town shall pay all such funds to the local or regional board of
383 education for such town on the condition that such funds shall be
384 expended in accordance with the plan described in subsection (d) of
385 this section, the provisions of subsection (c) of section 10-262i, [and]

386 any guidelines developed by the State Board of Education for such
387 funds, and in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (3) of this
388 subsection. Such funds shall be used to improve student achievement
389 in such alliance district and to offset any other local education costs
390 approved by the commissioner.

391 (3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year
392 thereafter, if the commissioner determines that the accountability
393 index for the local or regional board of education for a town
394 designated as an alliance district has not consistently and continually
395 improved during the previous three fiscal years, such board shall
396 expend fifty per cent of the funds paid to such board by such town
397 pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection for the purpose of
398 implementing the intensive reading instruction program, in
399 accordance with the provisions of section 10-14u, and the other fifty
400 per cent on evidence-based strategies described in the evidence-based
401 practice guides developed by the Department of Education.

402 (d) The local or regional board of education for a town designated
403 as an alliance district may apply to the Commissioner of Education, at
404 such time and in such manner as the commissioner prescribes, to
405 receive any increase in funds received over the amount the town
406 received for the prior fiscal year pursuant to subsection (a) of section
407 10-262i. Applications pursuant to this subsection shall include
408 objectives and performance targets and a plan that are developed, in
409 part, on the strategic use of student academic performance data. Such
410 plan may include, but not be limited to, the following: (1) A tiered
411 system of interventions for the schools under the jurisdiction of such
412 board based on the needs of such schools, (2) ways to strengthen the
413 foundational programs in reading, through the intensive reading
414 instruction program pursuant to section 10-14u, to ensure reading
415 mastery in kindergarten to grade three, inclusive, with a focus on
416 standards and instruction, proper use of data, intervention strategies,
417 current information for teachers, parental engagement, and teacher
418 professional development, (3) additional learning time, including
419 extended school day or school year programming administered by

420 school personnel or external partners, (4) a talent strategy that
421 includes, but is not limited to, teacher and school leader recruitment
422 and assignment, career ladder policies that draw upon guidelines for a
423 model teacher evaluation program adopted by the State Board of
424 Education, pursuant to section 10-151b, and adopted by each local or
425 regional board of education. Such talent strategy may include
426 provisions that demonstrate increased ability to attract, retain,
427 promote and bolster the performance of staff in accordance with
428 performance evaluation findings and, in the case of new personnel,
429 other indicators of effectiveness, (5) training for school leaders and
430 other staff on new teacher evaluation models, (6) provisions for the
431 cooperation and coordination with early childhood education
432 providers to ensure alignment with district expectations for student
433 entry into kindergarten, including funding for an existing local Head
434 Start program, (7) provisions for the cooperation and coordination
435 with other governmental and community programs to ensure that
436 students receive adequate support and wraparound services, including
437 community school models, (8) provisions for implementing and
438 furthering state-wide education standards adopted by the State Board
439 of Education and all activities and initiatives associated with such
440 standards, (9) strategies for attracting and recruiting minority teachers
441 and administrators, (10) provisions for the enhancement of bilingual
442 education programs, pursuant to section 10-17f, or other language
443 acquisition services to English language learners, including, but not
444 limited to, participation in the English language learner pilot program,
445 established pursuant to section 10-17n, (11) entering into the model
446 school district responsibilities agreement, described in section 10-223l,
447 (12) leadership succession plans that provide training and learning
448 opportunities for administrators and are designed to assist in the
449 seamless transition of school and district personnel in and out of
450 leadership positions in the school district and the continuous
451 implementation of plans developed under this subsection, and (13) any
452 additional categories or goals as determined by the commissioner.
453 Such plan shall demonstrate collaboration with key stakeholders, as
454 identified by the commissioner, with the goal of achieving efficiencies

455 and the alignment of intent and practice of current programs with
456 conditional programs identified in this subsection. The commissioner
457 may (A) require changes in any plan submitted by a local or regional
458 board of education before the commissioner approves an application
459 under this subsection, and (B) permit a local or regional board of
460 education, as part of such plan, to use a portion of any funds received
461 under this section for the purposes of paying tuition charged to such
462 board pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (k) of section 10-264l or
463 subsection (b) of section 10-264o.

464 (e) The State Board of Education may develop guidelines and
465 criteria for the administration of such funds under this section.

466 (f) The commissioner may withhold such funds if the local or
467 regional board of education fails to comply with the provisions of this
468 section. The commissioner may renew such funding if the local or
469 regional board of education provides evidence that the school district
470 of such board is achieving the objectives and performance targets
471 approved by the commissioner stated in the plan submitted under this
472 section.

473 (g) (1) Any local or regional board of education receiving funding
474 under this section shall submit an annual expenditure report to the
475 commissioner on such form and in such manner as requested by the
476 commissioner. The commissioner shall determine if (1) the local or
477 regional board of education shall repay any funds not expended in
478 accordance with the approved application, or (2) such funding should
479 be reduced in a subsequent fiscal year up to an amount equal to the
480 amount that the commissioner determines is out of compliance with
481 the provisions of this subsection.

482 (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year
483 thereafter, any local or regional board of education receiving funding
484 under this section shall submit an annual academic performance
485 evaluation report to the commissioner on such form and in such
486 manner as requested by the commissioner. Such report shall indicate
487 whether the school district of such board is achieving the objectives

488 and performance targets approved by the commissioner as stated in
489 the plan submitted under this section.

490 (h) Any balance remaining for each local or regional board of
491 education at the end of any fiscal year shall be carried forward for such
492 local or regional board of education for the next fiscal year.

493 Sec. 6. Subsection (h) of section 10-223h of the general statutes is
494 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
495 *1, 2019*):

496 (h) Each school participating in the commissioner's network of
497 schools shall participate for three school years, and may continue such
498 participation for an additional year, not to exceed two additional years,
499 upon approval from the State Board of Education. Before the end of
500 the third year that a school is participating in the commissioner's
501 network of schools, the commissioner shall conduct an evaluation to
502 determine whether such school is prepared to exit the commissioner's
503 network of schools. In determining whether such school may exit the
504 commissioner's network of schools, the commissioner shall determine
505 whether the accountability index for such school has consistently and
506 continually improved during such school's participation and consider
507 whether the local or regional board of education has the capacity to
508 ensure that such school will maintain or improve its student academic
509 performance. If the commissioner determines that such school is ready
510 to exit the commissioner's network of schools, the local or regional
511 board of education for such school shall develop, in consultation with
512 the commissioner, a plan, subject to the approval by the State Board of
513 Education, for the transition of such school back to full control by the
514 local or regional board of education. If the commissioner determines
515 that such school's participation in the commissioner's network of
516 schools is not likely to improve such school's accountability index,
517 such school may exit the commissioner's network of schools and the
518 local or regional board of education for such school shall develop, in
519 consultation with the commissioner, a plan, subject to the approval by
520 the State Board of Education, for the transition of such school back to

521 full control by the local or regional board of education. If the
522 commissioner determines that such school is not ready to exit the
523 commissioner's network of schools, [and participates] but would
524 benefit from an additional year of participation in the commissioner's
525 network of schools, [for an additional year,] the commissioner shall
526 conduct an evaluation in accordance with the provisions of this
527 subsection. Before the end of the fifth year that a school is participating
528 in the commissioner's network of schools, the commissioner shall
529 develop, in consultation with the local or regional board of education
530 for such school, a plan, subject to the approval by the State Board of
531 Education, for the transition of such school back to full control by the
532 local or regional board of education.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-266q
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-266u(d)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-266r
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-266p
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-262u
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-223h(h)