

**Proposed Substitute  
Bill No. 874**

LCO No. 6736

**AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATION INITIATIVES AND SERVICES IN  
CONNECTICUT.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a  
2 Commission on Shared School Services that shall develop  
3 recommendations in accordance with the provisions of section 2 of this  
4 act.

5 (b) The commission shall consist of the following members:

6 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,  
7 one of whom is a representative of the American Federation of  
8 Teachers-Connecticut and one of whom is a representative of the  
9 Connecticut Association of Boards of Education;

10 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one  
11 of whom is a representative of the Connecticut Education Association  
12 and one of whom is a chief elected official of a municipality;

13 (3) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
14 Representatives who shall be a representative of the Connecticut  
15 School Transportation Association;

16 (4) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate who shall be  
17 a representative of a regional school district;

18 (5) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
19 Representatives who shall be a representative of the RESC Alliance;

20 (6) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate who shall be  
21 a representative of the Connecticut Association of Public School  
22 Superintendents;

23 (7) Six appointed by the Governor, each such appointment shall be a  
24 resident from each of the regions served by a regional educational  
25 service center, and at least one of whom is a parent of a student  
26 enrolled in a public school, one of whom is a representative of the  
27 Connecticut Association of Schools and one of whom is a  
28 representative of the Connecticut Association of School Business  
29 Officials;

30 (8) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee;

31 (9) The Commissioner of Administrative Services, or the  
32 commissioner's designee; and

33 (10) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the  
34 secretary's designee.

35 (c) All appointments to the commission shall be made not later than  
36 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be  
37 filled by the appointing authority. The Commissioner of Education  
38 shall schedule the first meeting of the commission, which shall be held  
39 not later than forty-five days after the effective date of this section.

40 (d) There shall be two chairpersons of the commission as follows: (1)  
41 The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee, and  
42 (2) a member of the commission who is selected by a majority of  
43 members of the commission at the first meeting of the commission.

44 (e) The Department of Education shall provide administrative  
45 support to the commission, including, but not limited to,  
46 administrative staff and supplies. The department may retain  
47 consultants, as necessary, to assist the commission in carrying out its  
48 duties.

49 (f) The commission shall terminate on June 30, 2027.

50       Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commission on Shared  
51 School Services, established pursuant to section 1 of this act, shall  
52 develop recommendations for the sharing of school services and  
53 additional collaborations within and among school districts. In  
54 developing such recommendations and to assist in the completion of  
55 the reports required pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the  
56 chairpersons of the commission may, as needed, (1) establish  
57 subcommittees and working groups of the members, and (2) hold  
58 public hearings or conduct any other outreach, including consultations  
59 with the Connecticut Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental  
60 Relations, established pursuant to section 2-79a of the general statutes.

61       (b) The commission shall:

62       (1) Not later than December 1, 2019, develop a report concerning  
63 existing school districts, including, but not limited to, (A) the sizes of  
64 existing school districts, including enrollment data and the number of  
65 certified and noncertified employees, (B) the types and administrative  
66 structures of existing school districts, such as local boards of education,  
67 regional boards of education, regional educational services centers,  
68 state and local charter schools, incorporated or endowed high schools  
69 or academies, the Technical Education and Career System and regional  
70 agricultural science and technology education centers, (C) the number  
71 of schools, including school building size and capacity, enrollment  
72 data and grade ranges, as reported to the Department of  
73 Administrative Services in such form and manner as prescribed by the  
74 office of school grants and review within the department.

75       (2) Not later than November 1, 2019, develop a report concerning  
76 existing shared services between school districts and employment of  
77 superintendents of schools, including, but not limited to, existing  
78 cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a of the general  
79 statutes and instances of the joint employment of a superintendent of  
80 schools pursuant to section 10-157a of the general statutes;

81       (3) Not later than November 15, 2019, develop a report concerning  
82 academic and support services provided by school districts, as

83 reported to the Department of Education in such form and manner as  
84 prescribed by the Commissioner of Education;

85 (4) Not later than February 1, 2020, develop a report containing  
86 preliminary recommendations concerning additional collaborations  
87 among school districts and with municipalities;

88 (5) Not later than April 1, 2020, develop a report containing a review  
89 of the current services provided by regional educational service centers  
90 and preliminary recommendations concerning the role of regional  
91 educational service centers in shared service efforts;

92 (6) Not later than April 15, 2020, develop a report containing a  
93 review of existing labor contracts within each of the various types of  
94 school districts described in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this  
95 subsection, and preliminary recommendations concerning how future  
96 labor contracts should be negotiated as additional education services  
97 are shared and additional collaboration occurs;

98 (7) Not later than June 1, 2020, develop, in consultation with the  
99 Connecticut Association of School Business Officials, a report  
100 containing a review of existing school transportation service contracts  
101 within each of the various types of school districts described in  
102 subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, and preliminary  
103 recommendations concerning the establishment of shared school  
104 transportation contracts, including time spent by students on school  
105 buses, hours of such transportation services, tiers of schools and any  
106 other related issues;

107 (8) Not later than July 1, 2020, develop, in consultation with the  
108 Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference, a report containing a  
109 review of interscholastic athletic schedules and arrangements within  
110 and among each of the various types of school districts described in  
111 subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, and preliminary  
112 recommendations concerning the development of interscholastic  
113 athletic schedules and related issues, including transportation services  
114 to interscholastic athletic events and school hours;

115 (9) Not later than July 1, 2020, develop, in consultation with the  
116 Connecticut After School Network, a report containing a review of  
117 existing after-school programs and arrangements within and among  
118 each of the various types of school districts described in subparagraph  
119 (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, and preliminary  
120 recommendations concerning the potential impact and changes to such  
121 after-school programs and arrangements following the sharing of  
122 services, on such issues as transportation and school hours;

123 (10) Not later than August 1, 2020, develop a report containing a  
124 review of the current school choice program structures and unified  
125 enrollment systems, and preliminary recommendations on those  
126 programs in a system of shared services and additional school district  
127 collaborations;

128 (11) Not later than August 15, 2020, develop a report containing  
129 preliminary recommendations concerning the impact that additional  
130 collaborations may have on the provision of special education services  
131 not otherwise addressed in any of the previous preliminary  
132 recommendations required under this section;

133 (12) Not later than August 15, 2020, develop a report containing  
134 preliminary recommendations concerning the impact that additional  
135 collaborations may have on early childhood care and education  
136 programs within and among each of the various types of school  
137 districts described in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this  
138 subsection;

139 (13) Not later than September 1, 2020, develop a report containing  
140 preliminary recommendations concerning school building usage  
141 within and among each of the various types of school districts  
142 described in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection;

143 (14) Not later than October 1, 2020, develop a report containing  
144 preliminary recommendations concerning the use of incentives, grants  
145 or tax changes to accomplish any of the other preliminary  
146 recommendations developed pursuant to this section; and

147 (15) Not later than December 1, 2020, develop a comprehensive  
148 report concerning the preliminary recommendations developed  
149 pursuant to this section, including financial projections on savings and  
150 costs resulting from additional collaborations among school districts.

151 (c) Not later than December 15, 2020, the chairpersons of the  
152 commission shall hold a public hearing on the comprehensive report  
153 developed pursuant to subdivision (15) of subsection (b) of this  
154 section.

155 (d) The commission may continue to develop additional  
156 recommendations following the submission of any report required  
157 under subsection (b) of this section.

158 (e) All reports and recommendations developed pursuant to this  
159 section shall be submitted to the Governor, State Board of Education  
160 and the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having  
161 cognizance of matters relating to education and appropriations, in  
162 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

163 (f) The Commissioner of Education shall make all such reports and  
164 recommendations available to the public on the Internet web site of the  
165 Department of Education.

166 Sec. 3. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than March 1, 2020, the  
167 Commissioner of Education shall solicit proposals, through a request  
168 for information, for cooperative and additional collaborative  
169 arrangements of education services and incentives for the  
170 establishment of such cooperative and additional collaborative  
171 arrangements of education services. The commissioner shall submit a  
172 report on the results of such request for information to the  
173 Commission on Shared School Services, established pursuant to  
174 section 1 of this act.

175 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) (1) Not later than September  
176 15, 2019, each municipality and the local or regional board of  
177 education for such municipality shall develop a report on which

178 services have been shared or consolidated (A) between the  
179 municipality and its local or regional board of education, and (B) with  
180 other municipalities or local and regional boards of education,  
181 including, but not limited to, human resources, accounting, payroll,  
182 procurement, finance, information technology, risk management,  
183 health care and retirement benefits, insurance and claims  
184 administration and buildings and grounds. Such report shall include a  
185 detailed cost-benefit analysis of such consolidations.

186 (2) Each municipality shall submit such report, on a form and in a  
187 manner prescribed by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
188 Management, to the secretary, Commissioner of Education and  
189 Commissioner of Administrative Services. The Secretary of the Office  
190 of Policy and Management shall forward such reports to the  
191 Commission on Shared School Services, established pursuant to  
192 section 1 of this act, and the Connecticut Advisory Commission on  
193 Intergovernmental Relations, established pursuant to section 2-79a of  
194 the general statutes.

195 (b) (1) Not later than January 1, 2020, each municipality and the  
196 local or regional board of education for such municipality shall, in  
197 consultation with the Commission on Shared School Services and the  
198 Connecticut Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations,  
199 develop a report on which services will be shared or consolidated (A)  
200 between the municipality and its local or regional board of education,  
201 and (B) with other municipalities or local and regional boards of  
202 education, including, but not limited to, human resources, accounting,  
203 payroll, procurement, finance, information technology, risk  
204 management, health care and retirement benefits, insurance and claims  
205 administration, and buildings and grounds. Such report shall include a  
206 (i) detailed cost-benefit analysis of such consolidations, (ii) a schedule  
207 for implementation to be completed on or before July 1, 2022, and (iii)  
208 an explanation of when services and consolidations are not being  
209 implemented.

210 (2) Each municipality shall submit such report, on a form and in a

211 manner prescribed by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
212 Management, to the secretary, Commissioner of Education and  
213 Commissioner of Administrative Services. The Secretary of the Office  
214 of Policy and Management shall forward such reports to the  
215 Commission on Shared School Services and the Connecticut Advisory  
216 Commission on Intergovernmental Relations.

217 Sec. 5. Section 10-15e of the general statutes is repealed and the  
218 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

219 (a) All provisions of the general statutes concerning teachers shall  
220 apply to teachers employed by incorporated or endowed high schools  
221 or academies approved under the provisions of section 10-34, as  
222 amended by this act. Teachers who are not certified and employed by  
223 such high schools or academies prior to June 30, 1983, shall be  
224 excluded from the provisions of this section until certified.

225 (b) All provisions of the general statutes concerning education,  
226 except those provisions relating to the eligibility for noncompetitive  
227 state aid unless otherwise provided, shall apply to the operation of an  
228 incorporated or endowed high school or academy.

229 Sec. 6. Section 10-34 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
230 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

231 (a) The State Board of Education may examine any incorporated or  
232 endowed high school or academy in this state and, if it appears that  
233 such school or academy meets the requirements of the State Board of  
234 Education for the approval of public high schools, said board may  
235 approve such school or academy under the provisions of this part, and  
236 any town in which a high school is not maintained shall pay the whole  
237 of the tuition fees of pupils attending such school or academy, except if  
238 it is a school under ecclesiastical control.

239 (b) Each incorporated or endowed high school or academy  
240 approved by the State Board of Education shall be operated by a  
241 governing board. The membership of such governing board shall



242 include, but need not be limited to, a representative selected by each  
243 local or regional board of education that sends more than fifty students  
244 to such incorporated or endowed high school or academy. Such  
245 representative may be the superintendent of schools employed by such  
246 board of education.

247 (c) The governing board of each incorporated or endowed high  
248 school or academy approved by the State Board of Education shall post  
249 on any Internet web site the governing board operates the (1) schedule,  
250 (2) agenda, and (3) minutes of each meeting, including any meeting of  
251 subcommittees of the governing board.

252 (d) Each incorporated or endowed high school or academy  
253 approved by the State Board of Education shall submit annually, to the  
254 Commissioner of Education, (1) a certified audit statement of all  
255 revenues from public and private sources and expenditures related to  
256 such governing board's function as a governing board of an  
257 incorporated or endowed high school or academy in this state, and (2)  
258 a complete copy of such governing board's most recently completed  
259 Internal Revenue Service form 990, including all parts and schedules,  
260 other than Schedule B of such form.

261 (e) The Commissioner of Education shall post any reports, certified  
262 audit statements and forms submitted to the Department of Education  
263 regarding an incorporated or endowed high school or academy  
264 approved by the State Board of Education on the department's Internet  
265 web site not later than thirty days after receiving such reports,  
266 statements or forms. The commissioner shall identify any governing  
267 board of an incorporated or endowed high school or academy that did  
268 not submit a report, certified audit statement or form for the current  
269 reporting period and post such information on the department's  
270 Internet web site not later than thirty days after failing to receive such  
271 reports, statements or forms.

272 (f) Prior to the adoption of an annual budget by the governing board  
273 of an incorporated or endowed high school or academy approved by  
274 the State Board of Education, the sections of such budget that receive

275 public funds shall be (1) reviewed by the local and regional boards of  
276 education that send students to such incorporated or endowed high  
277 school or academy, and (2) subject to a public hearing.

278       Sec. 7. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 10-233d of the  
279 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
280 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

281       (a) (1) Any local or regional board of education, at a meeting at  
282 which three or more members of such board are present, or the  
283 impartial hearing board established pursuant to subsection (b) of this  
284 section, may expel, subject to the provisions of this subsection, any  
285 pupil in grades three to twelve, inclusive, whose conduct on school  
286 grounds or at a school-sponsored activity is violative of a publicized  
287 policy of such board [or] and is seriously disruptive of the educational  
288 process or endangers persons or property or whose conduct off school  
289 grounds is violative of such policy and is seriously disruptive of the  
290 educational process, provided a majority of the board members sitting  
291 in the expulsion hearing vote to expel and that at least three  
292 affirmative votes for expulsion are cast. In making a determination as  
293 to whether conduct is seriously disruptive of the educational process,  
294 the board of education or impartial hearing board may consider, but  
295 such consideration shall not be limited to: (A) Whether the incident  
296 occurred within close proximity of a school; (B) whether other students  
297 from the school were involved or whether there was any gang  
298 involvement; (C) whether the conduct involved violence, threats of  
299 violence or the unlawful use of a weapon, as defined in section 29-38,  
300 and whether any injuries occurred; and (D) whether the conduct  
301 involved the use of alcohol.

302       Sec. 8. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Department of Education, in  
303 consultation with the Office of Early Childhood, Department of  
304 Children and Families, Department of Public Health, Office of Higher  
305 Education, parents of students receiving special education services and  
306 representatives from school districts, regional educational service  
307 centers, the Connecticut Chapter of the American Academy of

308 Pediatrics and the Connecticut Parent Advocacy Center, shall, within  
309 available appropriations, conduct a study and make recommendations  
310 concerning the (1) development of training and reporting requirements  
311 for pediatricians and child care providers to better identify a child's  
312 need for special education services, (2) incorporation of training on  
313 trauma, behavior and social-emotional learning into teacher  
314 preparation programs and professional development for certified  
315 teachers, and (3) improvement of efforts to meet the needs of students  
316 with special needs and students receiving special education services.

317 (b) Not later than December 15, 2019, the Commissioner of  
318 Education shall submit the study conducted pursuant to subsection (a)  
319 of this section and any recommendations accompanying such study to  
320 the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having  
321 cognizance of matters relating to education and appropriations, in  
322 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

323 (c) As part of the study conducted pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
324 section, the Department of Education shall collaborate with local and  
325 regional boards of education and regional educational service centers  
326 to improve efforts to meet the needs of students receiving special  
327 education and related services. The department shall evaluate existing  
328 models and services and cooperative models and funding mechanisms  
329 for the provision of special education services, including special  
330 education services provided by a board of education individually or  
331 cooperatively or by a regional educational service center. Following  
332 such evaluation, the department shall make any recommendations for  
333 (1) improving the provision of special education services to students,  
334 (2) enhancing cooperation among boards of education and regional  
335 educational service centers, (3) creating cost efficiencies for such  
336 services, (4) establishing Centers for Excellence, which may include  
337 arrangements between and among boards of education and regional  
338 educational service centers, (5) expanding the regional model for the  
339 provision of special education services related to transportation,  
340 training and therapeutic services developed pursuant to section 10-66r  
341 of the general statutes, and (6) establishing a process by which the

342 Department of Education reviews and approves programs for the  
343 provision of special education services and the Department of  
344 Administrative Services reviews and approves the construction of  
345 schools and spaces for the provision of cooperative and regional  
346 special education services to meet the needs of such programs  
347 approved by the Department of Education.

348 (d) Not later than December 15, 2019, the department shall submit  
349 its evaluation and recommendations to the Governor, State Board of  
350 Education, Office of Policy and Management and the joint standing  
351 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
352 relating to education and appropriations, in accordance with the  
353 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

354 (e) The department shall make the study conducted pursuant to  
355 subsection (a) of this section and any recommendations accompanying  
356 such study, and the evaluation conducted pursuant to subsection (c) of  
357 this section and any recommendations accompanying such evaluation,  
358 available on its Internet web site.

359 Sec. 9. Section 10-66b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
360 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

361 (a) The operation and management of any regional educational  
362 service center shall be the responsibility of the board of such center to  
363 be composed of the Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's  
364 designee, and at least one member from each participating board of  
365 education, selected by such board of education. The board of the  
366 regional educational service center may designate from its  
367 membership an executive board which shall have such powers as the  
368 board of the regional educational service center may delegate and  
369 which are consistent with this part. The term of office of members of  
370 the board of the regional educational service center shall not exceed  
371 four years. Members of the board of the regional educational service  
372 center shall receive no compensation for services rendered as such, but  
373 may be reimbursed for necessary expenses in the course of their duties.  
374 The director of the regional educational service center shall serve as

375 the executive agent of the board of the regional educational service  
376 center.

377 (b) Prior to the submission of an application for a school building  
378 project grant, pursuant to section 10-283, as amended by this act, the  
379 board of the regional educational service center and the Commissioner  
380 of Education shall consult with the Department of Administrative  
381 Services on the proposed school building project.

382 Sec. 10. Subsection (a) of section 10-220a of the general statutes is  
383 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
384 *1, 2019*):

385 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall provide an in-  
386 service training program for its teachers, administrators and pupil  
387 personnel who hold the initial educator, provisional educator or  
388 professional educator certificate. Such program shall provide such  
389 teachers, administrators and pupil personnel with information on (1)  
390 the nature and the relationship of alcohol and drugs, as defined in  
391 subdivision (17) of section 21a-240, to health and personality  
392 development, and procedures for discouraging their abuse, (2) health  
393 and mental health risk reduction education that includes, but need not  
394 be limited to, the prevention of risk-taking behavior by children and  
395 the relationship of such behavior to substance abuse, pregnancy,  
396 sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV-infection and AIDS, as  
397 defined in section 19a-581, violence, teen dating violence, domestic  
398 violence and child abuse, (3) school violence prevention, conflict  
399 resolution, the prevention of and response to youth suicide and the  
400 identification and prevention of and response to bullying, as defined in  
401 subsection (a) of section 10-222d, except that those boards of education  
402 that implement any evidence-based model approach that is approved  
403 by the Department of Education and is consistent with subsection (c)  
404 of section 10-145a, sections 10-222d, 10-222g and 10-222h, subsection  
405 (g) of section 10-233c and sections 1 and 3 of public act 08-160, shall not  
406 be required to provide in-service training on the identification and  
407 prevention of and response to bullying, (4) cardiopulmonary

408 resuscitation and other emergency life saving procedures, (5) the  
409 requirements and obligations of a mandated reporter, [and] (6) the  
410 detection and recognition of, and evidence-based structured literacy  
411 interventions for, students with dyslexia, as defined in section 10-3d,  
412 and (7) social-emotional learning, trauma-informed instruction and  
413 behavior management strategies, in accordance with the provisions of  
414 section 11 of this act. Each local or regional board of education may  
415 allow any paraprofessional or noncertified employee to participate, on  
416 a voluntary basis, in any in-service training program provided  
417 pursuant to this section.

418 Sec. 11. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2019*) For the school year  
419 commencing July 1, 2019, and each school year thereafter, each local  
420 and regional board of education shall include social-emotional  
421 learning, trauma-informed instruction and behavior management  
422 strategies as part of its in-service training program for the school  
423 district, pursuant to section 10-220a of the general statutes, as amended  
424 by this act. Such in-service training shall (1) align with professional  
425 learning guidelines adopted by the State Board of Education, (2)  
426 include deescalation techniques, (3) outline of how mentor teachers  
427 will train teachers in social-emotional learning, and (4) inform school  
428 principals on how to evaluate classrooms and teacher performance in  
429 implementing strategies provided through such in-service training.

430 Sec. 12. Section 10-148c of the general statutes is repealed and the  
431 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

432 The State Board of Education, within available appropriations and  
433 utilizing available materials, shall make the following subject matter  
434 available to local and regional boards of education: (1) Holocaust and  
435 genocide education and awareness; (2) the historical events  
436 surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (3) African-American  
437 history; (4) Puerto Rican history; (5) Native American history; (6)  
438 personal financial management; (7) domestic violence and teen dating  
439 violence; (8) mental health first aid training; (9) [trauma-informed  
440 practices] social-emotional learning, trauma-informed instruction and

441 behavior management strategies, including evidence-based best  
442 practices, for the school setting to enable teachers, administrators and  
443 pupil personnel to more adequately respond to students with mental,  
444 emotional or behavioral health needs; (10) second language  
445 acquisition, including, but not limited to, language development and  
446 culturally responsive pedagogy; and (11) topics approved by the state  
447 board upon the request of local or regional boards of education as part  
448 of in-service training programs pursuant to this subsection. A local or  
449 regional board of education may include any of the items described in  
450 subdivisions (1) to (11), inclusive, of this section in the in-service  
451 training program provided by such board, pursuant to section 10-220a,  
452 as amended by this act.

453 Sec. 13. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2019*) Each local and regional board  
454 of education shall utilize evidence-based best practices to promote  
455 social-emotional learning, trauma-informed instruction, behavior  
456 management and deescalation techniques for its teachers,  
457 administrators and pupil personnel who hold the initial educator,  
458 provisional educator or professional educator certificate.

459 Sec. 14. Section 10-1600 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
460 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

461 Not later than July 1, 2012, the Department of Education shall  
462 approve and make available model curricula and frameworks in  
463 reading and mathematics for grades prekindergarten to grade four,  
464 inclusive, for use by local and regional boards of education for school  
465 districts, [or] individual schools identified by the department as  
466 having academic achievement gaps. Such curricula and frameworks  
467 shall be culturally relevant, research-based and aligned with student  
468 achievement standards adopted by the State Board of Education. The  
469 department shall make such curricula and frameworks available on its  
470 Internet web site. For purposes of this section, "achievement gaps"  
471 means the existence of a significant disparity in the academic  
472 performance of students among and between (1) racial groups, (2)  
473 ethnic groups, (3) socioeconomic groups, (4) genders, and (5) English

474 language learners and students whose primary language is English.

475 Sec. 15. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2020*) Not later than August first of  
476 each year, each local and regional board of education shall make its  
477 grade level curriculum available on its Internet web site.

478 Sec. 16. Subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 10-283 of the  
479 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
480 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

481 (2) The Commissioner of [Education] Administrative Services shall  
482 assign each school building project to a category on the basis of  
483 whether such project is primarily required to: (A) Create new facilities  
484 or alter existing facilities to provide for mandatory instructional  
485 programs pursuant to this chapter, for physical education facilities in  
486 compliance with Title IX of the Elementary and Secondary Education  
487 Act of 1972 where such programs or such compliance cannot be  
488 provided within existing facilities or for the correction of code  
489 violations which cannot be reasonably addressed within existing  
490 program space; (B) create new facilities or alter existing facilities to  
491 enhance mandatory instructional programs pursuant to this chapter or  
492 provide comparable facilities among schools to all students at the same  
493 grade level or levels within the school district unless such project is  
494 otherwise explicitly included in another category pursuant to this  
495 section; and (C) create new facilities or alter existing facilities to  
496 provide supportive services, provided in no event shall such  
497 supportive services include swimming pools, auditoriums, outdoor  
498 athletic facilities, tennis courts, elementary school playgrounds, site  
499 improvement or garages or storage, parking or general recreation  
500 areas. All applications submitted prior to July first shall be reviewed  
501 promptly by the Commissioner of Administrative Services. The  
502 Commissioner of Administrative Services shall estimate the amount of  
503 the grant for which such project is eligible, in accordance with the  
504 provisions of section 10-285a, as amended by this act, provided an  
505 application for a school building project determined by the  
506 Commissioner of Education to be a project that will assist the state in



507 meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al.  
508 v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013  
509 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al.,  
510 as extended, shall have until September first to submit an application  
511 for such a project and may have until December first of the same year  
512 to secure and report all local and state approvals required to complete  
513 the grant application. The Commissioner of Administrative Services  
514 shall annually prepare a listing of all such eligible school building  
515 projects listed by category together with the amount of the estimated  
516 grants for such projects and shall submit the same to the Governor, the  
517 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and the General  
518 Assembly on or before the fifteenth day of December, except as  
519 provided in section 10-283a, with a request for authorization to enter  
520 into grant commitments. On or before December thirty-first annually,  
521 the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management [shall] may  
522 submit comments and recommendations regarding each eligible  
523 project on such listing of eligible school building projects to the school  
524 construction committee, established pursuant to section 10-283a. Each  
525 such listing shall include a report on the following factors for each  
526 eligible project: (i) An enrollment projection and the capacity of the  
527 school, (ii) a substantiation of the estimated total project costs, (iii) the  
528 readiness of such eligible project to begin construction, (iv) efforts  
529 made by the local or regional board of education to redistrict,  
530 reconfigure, merge or close schools under the jurisdiction of such  
531 board prior to submitting an application under this section, (v)  
532 enrollment and capacity information for all of the schools under the  
533 jurisdiction of such board for the five years prior to application for a  
534 school building project grant, (vi) enrollment projections and capacity  
535 information for all of the schools under the jurisdiction of such board  
536 for the eight years following the date such application is submitted,  
537 [and] (vii) efforts made by such board to collaborate with other local or  
538 regional boards of education to reduce underenrollment in the schools  
539 under the jurisdiction of such board, (viii) the state's education  
540 priorities relating to reducing racial and economic isolation for the  
541 school district, (ix) documentation that the application meets evidence-

542 based practices on a school's size, enrollment and academic program,  
543 and (x) documentation of the existing condition of the building that is  
544 the subject of a renovation, alteration or extension application. For the  
545 period beginning July 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2012, no project,  
546 other than a project for a technical education and career school, may  
547 appear on the separate schedule of authorized projects which have  
548 changed in cost more than twice. On and after July 1, 2012, no project,  
549 other than a project for a technical education and career school, may  
550 appear on the separate schedule of authorized projects which have  
551 changed in cost more than once, except the Commissioner of  
552 Administrative Services may allow a project to appear on such  
553 separate schedule of authorized projects a second time if the town or  
554 regional school district for such project can demonstrate that exigent  
555 circumstances require such project to appear a second time on such  
556 separate schedule of authorized projects. Notwithstanding any  
557 provision of this chapter, no projects which have changed in scope or  
558 cost to the degree determined by the Commissioner of Administrative  
559 Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of Education, shall be  
560 eligible for reimbursement under this chapter unless it appears on such  
561 list. The percentage determined pursuant to section 10-285a, as  
562 amended by this act, at the time a school building project on such  
563 schedule was originally authorized shall be used for purposes of the  
564 grant for such project. On and after July 1, 2006, a project that was not  
565 previously authorized as an interdistrict magnet school shall not  
566 receive a higher percentage for reimbursement than that determined  
567 pursuant to section 10-285a, as amended by this act, at the time a  
568 school building project on such schedule was originally authorized.  
569 The General Assembly shall annually authorize the Commissioner of  
570 Administrative Services to enter into grant commitments on behalf of  
571 the state in accordance with the commissioner's categorized listing for  
572 such projects as the General Assembly shall determine. The  
573 Commissioner of Administrative Services may not enter into any such  
574 grant commitments except pursuant to such legislative authorization.  
575 Any regional school district which assumes the responsibility for  
576 completion of a public school building project shall be eligible for a

577 grant pursuant to subdivision (5) or (6), as the case may be, of  
578 subsection (a) of section 10-286 when such project is completed and  
579 accepted by such regional school district.

580 Sec. 17. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2019*) Any school building committee  
581 established by a town or regional school district to undertake a school  
582 building project, as defined in section 10-282 of the general statutes,  
583 shall include at least one member who has experience in the  
584 construction industry.

585 Sec. 18. Section 10-285a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
586 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

587 (a) The percentage of school building project grant money a local  
588 board of education may be eligible to receive, under the provisions of  
589 section 10-286, shall be assigned by the Commissioner of  
590 Administrative Services in accordance with the percentage calculated  
591 by the Commissioner of Education as follows: (1) For grants approved  
592 pursuant to subsection (b) of section 10-283 for which application is  
593 made on and after July 1, 1991, and before July 1, 2011, (A) each town  
594 shall be ranked in descending order from one to one hundred sixty-  
595 nine according to such town's adjusted equalized net grand list per  
596 capita, as defined in section 10-261; and (B) based upon such ranking, a  
597 percentage of not less than twenty nor more than eighty shall be  
598 determined for each town on a continuous scale; (2) for grants  
599 approved pursuant to subsection (b) of section 10-283 for which  
600 application is made on and after July 1, 2011, and before July 1, 2017,  
601 (A) each town shall be ranked in descending order from one to one  
602 hundred sixty-nine according to such town's adjusted equalized net  
603 grand list per capita, as defined in section 10-261, and (B) based upon  
604 such ranking, (i) a percentage of not less than ten nor more than  
605 seventy shall be determined for new construction or replacement of a  
606 school building for each town on a continuous scale, and (ii) a  
607 percentage of not less than twenty nor more than eighty shall be  
608 determined for renovations, extensions, code violations, roof  
609 replacements and major alterations of an existing school building and

610 the new construction or replacement of a school building when a town  
611 or regional school district can demonstrate that a new construction or  
612 replacement is less expensive than a renovation, extension or major  
613 alteration of an existing school building for each town on a continuous  
614 scale; and (3) for grants approved pursuant to subsection (b) of section  
615 10-283 for which application is made on and after July 1, 2017, (A) each  
616 town shall be ranked in descending order from one to one hundred  
617 sixty-nine according to the adjusted equalized net grand list per capita,  
618 as defined in section 10-261, of the town two, three and four years  
619 prior to the fiscal year in which application is made, and (B) based  
620 upon such ranking, (i) a percentage of not less than ten nor more than  
621 seventy shall be determined for new construction or replacement of a  
622 school building for each town on a continuous scale, and (ii) a  
623 percentage of not less than twenty nor more than eighty shall be  
624 determined for renovations, extensions, code violations, roof  
625 replacements and major alterations of an existing school building and  
626 the new construction or replacement of a school building when a town  
627 or regional school district can demonstrate that a new construction or  
628 replacement is less expensive than a renovation, extension or major  
629 alteration of an existing school building for each town on a continuous  
630 scale.

631 (b) (1) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (2) of this  
632 subsection, the percentage of school building project grant money a  
633 regional board of education may be eligible to receive under the  
634 provisions of section 10-286 shall be determined by its ranking. Such  
635 ranking shall be determined by (A) multiplying the total population, as  
636 defined in section 10-261, of each town in the district by such town's  
637 ranking, as determined in subsection (a) of this section, (B) adding  
638 together the figures determined under subparagraph (A) of this  
639 subdivision, and (C) dividing the total computed under subparagraph  
640 (B) of this subdivision by the total population of all towns in the  
641 district. The ranking of each regional board of education shall be  
642 rounded to the next higher whole number and each such board shall  
643 receive the same reimbursement percentage as would a town with the  
644 same rank plus (i) ten per cent, except that no such percentage shall

645 exceed eighty-five per cent, or (ii) if such school building project is for  
646 the establishment or expansion of such regional school district, twenty-  
647 five per cent, except that no such percentage shall exceed ninety-five  
648 per cent.

649 (2) Any board of education of a regional school district established  
650 or expanded on or after July 1, 2016, that submits an application for a  
651 school building project (A) not later than ten years after the  
652 establishment or expansion of such regional school district, and (B)  
653 that is related to such establishment or expansion, may be eligible to  
654 receive a percentage of school building project grant money, under the  
655 provisions of section 10-286, as follows: The reimbursement percentage  
656 of the town in such regional school district with the greatest  
657 reimbursement percentage, as determined in subsection (a) of this  
658 section, plus [ten] twenty-five per cent, except that no such percentage  
659 shall exceed ninety-five per cent.

660 (c) The percentage of school building project grant money a regional  
661 educational service center may be eligible to receive shall be  
662 determined by its ranking. Such ranking shall be determined by (1)  
663 multiplying the population of each member town in the regional  
664 educational service center by such town's ranking, as determined in  
665 subsection (a) of this section; (2) adding together the figures for each  
666 town determined under subdivision (1) of this subsection, and (3)  
667 dividing the total computed under subdivision (2) of this subsection by  
668 the total population of all member towns in the regional educational  
669 service center. The ranking of each regional educational service center  
670 shall be rounded to the next higher whole number and each such  
671 center shall receive the same reimbursement percentage as would a  
672 town with the same rank, except such reimbursement percentage may  
673 be increased by twenty-five percentage points if such school building  
674 project is for the purpose of sharing or consolidating education  
675 services of member towns, provided no such percentage shall exceed  
676 ninety-five per cent.

677 (d) The percentage of school building project grant money a

678 cooperative arrangement pursuant to section 10-158a, may be eligible  
679 to receive shall be determined by its ranking. Such ranking shall be  
680 determined by (1) multiplying the total population, as defined in  
681 section 10-261, of each town in the cooperative arrangement by such  
682 town's ranking, as determined in subsection (a) of this section, (2)  
683 adding the products determined under subdivision (1) of this  
684 subsection, and (3) dividing the total computed under subdivision (2)  
685 of this subsection by the total population of all towns in the  
686 cooperative arrangement. The ranking of each cooperative  
687 arrangement shall be rounded to the next higher whole number and  
688 each such cooperative arrangement shall receive the same  
689 reimbursement percentage as would a town with the same rank plus  
690 [ten percentage points] twenty-five per cent.

691 (e) If an elementary school building project for a new building or for  
692 the expansion of an existing building includes space for a school  
693 readiness program, the percentage determined pursuant to this section  
694 shall be increased by five percentage points, but shall not exceed one  
695 hundred per cent, for the portion of the building used primarily for  
696 such purpose. Recipient districts shall maintain full-day preschool  
697 enrollment for at least ten years.

698 (f) The percentage determined pursuant to this section for a school  
699 building project grant for the expansion, alteration or renovation of an  
700 existing public school building to convert such building for use as a  
701 lighthouse school, as defined in section 10-266cc, shall be increased by  
702 ten percentage points.

703 (g) The percentage determined pursuant to this section for a school  
704 building project grant shall be increased by the percentage of the total  
705 projected enrollment of the school attributable to the number of spaces  
706 made available for out-of-district students participating in the program  
707 established pursuant to section 10-266aa, provided the maximum  
708 increase shall not exceed ten percentage points.

709 (h) Subject to the provisions of section 10-285d, if an elementary  
710 school building project for a school in a priority school district or for a

711 priority school is necessary in order to offer a full-day kindergarten  
712 program or a full-day preschool program or to reduce class size  
713 pursuant to section 10-265f, the percentage determined pursuant to  
714 this section shall be increased by ten percentage points for the portion  
715 of the building used primarily for such full-day kindergarten program,  
716 full-day preschool program or such reduced size classes. Recipient  
717 districts that receive an increase pursuant to this subsection in support  
718 of a full-day preschool program, shall maintain full-day preschool  
719 enrollment for at least ten years.

720 (i) For all projects authorized on or after July 1, 2007, all attorneys'  
721 fees and court costs related to litigation shall be eligible for state school  
722 construction grant assistance only if the grant applicant is the  
723 prevailing party in any such litigation.

724 (j) The percentage determined pursuant to this section for a school  
725 building project grant for a diversity school, approved pursuant to  
726 section 10-286h, as amended by this act, shall be increased by ten  
727 percentage points.

728 Sec. 19. Subsection (b) of section 10-285b of the general statutes is  
729 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
730 *1, 2019*):

731 (b) The percentage of school building project grant money each  
732 incorporated or endowed high school or academy may be eligible to  
733 receive under the provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall be  
734 determined by its ranking. The ranking shall be determined by (1)  
735 multiplying the total population, as defined in section 10-261, of each  
736 town which at the time of application for such school construction  
737 grant commitment has designated such school as the high school for  
738 such town for a period of not less than five years from the date of such  
739 application, by such town's percentile ranking, as determined in  
740 subsection (a) of section 10-285a, as amended by this act, (2) adding  
741 together the figures for each town determined under subdivision (1) of  
742 this subsection, and (3) dividing the total computed under subdivision  
743 (2) of this subsection by the total population of all towns which

744 designate the school as their high school under subdivision (1) of this  
745 subsection. The ranking determined pursuant to this subsection shall  
746 be rounded to the next higher whole number. Such high school or  
747 academy shall receive the reimbursement percentage of a town with  
748 the same rank increased by five per cent, except that the  
749 reimbursement percentage of such high school or academy shall not  
750 exceed [eighty-five per cent] the average of the reimbursement  
751 percentages of the towns that do not maintain a high school and pay  
752 tuition to such high school or academy.

753 Sec. 20. Section 10-285c of the general statutes is repealed and the  
754 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

755 For school building projects approved by the General Assembly  
756 after July 1, 1993, if state reimbursement pursuant to the provisions of  
757 this chapter or any public or special act, for the acquisition, purchase  
758 or construction of a building was for ninety-five or more per cent of  
759 the eligible costs of such acquisition, purchase or construction or for  
760 any amount that was provided to a regional educational service center  
761 and such building ceases to be used for the purpose for which the  
762 grant was provided within twenty years of the date of approval by the  
763 General Assembly of the project, title to the building shall revert to the  
764 state unless the Commissioner of [Education] Administrative Services  
765 decides otherwise for good cause.

766 Sec. 21. Subsection (c) of section 10-286h of the general statutes is  
767 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
768 *1, 2019*):

769 (c) [Eligible local or regional boards of education, for purposes of a  
770 diversity school, shall be eligible for reimbursement of eighty per cent  
771 of the] The percentage determined pursuant to section 10-285a, as  
772 amended by this act, for a school building project grant, shall be  
773 increased by ten percentage points for the reasonable cost of any  
774 capital expenditure for the purchase, construction, extension,  
775 replacement, leasing or major alteration of diversity school facilities,  
776 including any expenditure for the purchase of equipment, in



777 accordance with this section. To be eligible for reimbursement under  
 778 this section, a diversity school construction project shall meet the  
 779 requirements for a school building project established in this chapter,  
 780 except that the Commissioner of Administrative Services may waive  
 781 any requirement in this chapter for good cause.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-15e
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-34
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-233d(a)(1)
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-66b
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-220a(a)
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	New section
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-148c
Sec. 13	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	New section
Sec. 14	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-1600
Sec. 15	<i>July 1, 2020</i>	New section
Sec. 16	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-283(a)(2)
Sec. 17	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	New section
Sec. 18	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-285a
Sec. 19	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-285b(b)
Sec. 20	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-285c
Sec. 21	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-286h(c)