



General Assembly

**Amendment**

January Session, 2021

LCO No. 9536



Offered by:  
REP. FOX, 148<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. **6444**

File No. 501

Cal. No. 368

**"AN ACT CONCERNING THE MODERNIZATION OF STATE SERVICES."**

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- 1 In line 507, strike "certified" and insert "registered" in lieu thereof
- 2 Strike line 508 in its entirety and substitute the following in lieu
- 3 thereof:
- 4 "a small business in the federal database maintained by the United
- 5 States General Services Administration, as required to do business with
- 6 the federal government,"
- 7 Strike lines 539 and 540 and insert the following in lieu thereof:
- 8 "of registration as a small business in the federal database maintained
- 9 by the United States General Services Administration, as required to do
- 10 business with the federal government."
- 11 Strike section 22 in its entirety and renumber the remaining sections

12 accordingly

13 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and  
14 internal references accordingly:

15 "Sec. 501. Section 4d-80 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
16 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

17 (a) There is established a Commission for Educational Technology  
18 within the Department of Administrative Services. The commission  
19 shall consist of the following members or their designees: (1) The  
20 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the Commissioner of  
21 Administrative Services, the Commissioner of Education, the  
22 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, the  
23 president of The University of Connecticut and the president of the  
24 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, the State Librarian and the  
25 Consumer Counsel, (2) one member each representing the Connecticut  
26 Conference of Independent Colleges, the Connecticut Association of  
27 Boards of Education, the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities, the  
28 Connecticut Council of Small Towns, [and] the Connecticut Library  
29 Association, [(3)] the Connecticut Association of Public School  
30 Superintendents and the Connecticut Educators Computer Association,  
31 (3) a secondary school teacher designated by the Connecticut Education  
32 Association and an elementary school teacher designated by the  
33 American Federation of Teachers-Connecticut, (4) four members who  
34 represent business or have expertise in information technology, two of  
35 whom shall be appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be  
36 appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives and one of  
37 whom shall be appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate,  
38 [(4)] (5) one member who is a chief elected official of a municipality, who  
39 shall be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, and [(5)] (6) one  
40 member who is a representative of small business who shall be  
41 appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives. The  
42 commission shall convene a meeting at least once during each calendar  
43 quarter.

44 (b) The Governor shall appoint a chairperson from among the  
45 members of the commission or their designees. Subject to the provisions  
46 of chapter 67, and within available appropriations, the commission may  
47 appoint an executive director and such other employees as may be  
48 necessary for the discharge of the duties of the commission.  
49 Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the executive  
50 director shall have the option to elect participation in the state  
51 employees retirement system, or the alternate retirement program  
52 established for eligible employees in higher education or the teachers'  
53 retirement system.

54 (c) The commission shall:

55 (1) Be the principal educational technology policy advisor for state  
56 government;

57 (2) Develop, oversee and direct the attainment of state-wide  
58 technology goals including:

59 (A) Connecting all institutions of higher education, libraries, public  
60 elementary and secondary schools, regional educational service centers  
61 and other parties through a state-wide high speed, flexible network that  
62 will allow for video, voice and data transmission;

63 (B) Wiring all school classrooms and connecting them to the Internet  
64 and to the state-wide [high speed] high-speed network through wired,  
65 wireless, or any other digital transmission technology providing [high  
66 speed] high-speed connectivity;

67 (C) Providing access for all public schools, public libraries and  
68 libraries at institutions of higher education to a core set of on-line full  
69 text resources and to the ability to purchase collaboratively for other  
70 collections in order to maximize buying power;

71 (D) Ensuring, in cooperation with the State Board of Education,  
72 competency in computing skills by the sixth grade for all students;

73 (E) Ensuring competency in specific computing skills and the

74 integration of technology into the curriculum for all public school  
75 teachers;

76 (F) Ensuring that institutions of higher education offer a wide range  
77 of course and degree programs via the Internet and through other  
78 synchronous and asynchronous methods;

79 (3) Coordinate the activities of all state agencies, educational  
80 institutions and other parties involved in the creation and management  
81 of a reliable and secure network that will offer connectivity and allow  
82 for the transmission of video, voice and data transmission to every  
83 library, school, regional educational service center and institution of  
84 higher education;

85 (4) Be the liaison between the Governor and the General Assembly  
86 and local, state and federal organizations and entities with respect to  
87 educational technology matters;

88 (5) Develop and maintain a long-range plan and make related  
89 recommendations for the coordination of educational technology. The  
90 plan shall (A) establish clear goals and a strategy for using  
91 telecommunications and information technology to improve education,  
92 (B) include a professional development strategy to ensure that teachers  
93 and faculty know how to use the new technologies to improve  
94 education, (C) include an assessment of the telecommunications,  
95 hardware, software and other services that will be needed to improve  
96 education, and (D) include an evaluation process that monitors progress  
97 towards the specified goals;

98 (6) Measure the availability and usage of Internet access sites  
99 available to the public, including, but not limited to, those maintained  
100 by state and local government agencies, libraries, schools, institutions of  
101 higher education, nonprofit organizations, businesses and other  
102 organizations and recommend strategies for reducing the disparities in  
103 Internet accessibility and usage across the state and among all potential  
104 users;

105 (7) Establish methods and procedures to ensure the maximum  
106 involvement of members of the public, educators, librarians,  
107 representatives of higher education, the legislature and local officials in  
108 educational technology matters and organize, as necessary, advisory  
109 boards consisting of individuals with expertise in a particular discipline  
110 significant to the work of the commission;

111 (8) [On] Report, on or before January [1, 2001, and] first, annually,  
112 [thereafter, the commission shall report,] in accordance with section 11-  
113 4a, on its activities, progress made in the attainment of the state-wide  
114 technology goals as outlined in the long-range plan and any  
115 recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General  
116 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and  
117 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, the State Board of  
118 Education, and the Board of Regents for Higher Education. The report  
119 shall include recommendations for adjustments to the funding formula  
120 for grants pursuant to section 10-262n if there are school districts that  
121 are at a disadvantage in terms of wiring their schools and the use of  
122 technology in their schools;

123 (9) Enter into such contractual agreements, in accordance with  
124 established procedures, as may be necessary to carry out the provisions  
125 of this section;

126 (10) Take any other action necessary to carry out the provisions of this  
127 section.

128 (d) The Commission for Educational Technology may request any  
129 office, department, board, commission or other agency of the state to  
130 supply such reports, information and assistance as may be necessary or  
131 appropriate in order to carry out its duties and requirements.

132 (e) For purposes of this section, educational technology [shall  
133 include] includes, but is not [be] limited to: (1) Computer-assisted  
134 instruction; (2) information retrieval and data transfer; (3)  
135 telecommunications related to voice, data and video transmission of  
136 instruction related materials and courses; (4) the development and

137 acquisition of educational software; and (5) the instructional uses of the  
138 Internet and other technologies."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Sec. 501	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	4d-80