



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2021

LCO No. 9449



Offered by:
REP. FOX, 148th 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 section 22 in its entirety and renumber the remaining sections
- 8 accordingly
- 9 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
- 10 internal references accordingly:
- 11 "Sec. 501. Section 4d-80 of the general statutes is repealed and the

12 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

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

40 (b) The Governor shall appoint a chairperson from among the
41 members of the commission or their designees. Subject to the provisions
42 of chapter 67, and within available appropriations, the commission may
43 appoint an executive director and such other employees as may be
44 necessary for the discharge of the duties of the commission.
45 Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the executive

46 director shall have the option to elect participation in the state
47 employees retirement system, or the alternate retirement program
48 established for eligible employees in higher education or the teachers'
49 retirement system.

50 (c) The commission shall:

51 (1) Be the principal educational technology policy advisor for state
52 government;

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

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

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

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

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

69 (E) Ensuring competency in specific computing skills and the
70 integration of technology into the curriculum for all public school
71 teachers;

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

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

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

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

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

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

107 (8) [On] Report, on or before January [1, 2001, and] first, annually,
 108 [thereafter, the commission shall report,] in accordance with section 11-
 109 4a, on its activities, progress made in the attainment of the state-wide
 110 technology goals as outlined in the long-range plan and any
 111 recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General
 112 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and
 113 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, the State Board of
 114 Education, and the Board of Regents for Higher Education. The report
 115 shall include recommendations for adjustments to the funding formula
 116 for grants pursuant to section 10-262n if there are school districts that
 117 are at a disadvantage in terms of wiring their schools and the use of
 118 technology in their schools;

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

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

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

128 (e) For purposes of this section, educational technology [shall
 129 include] includes, but is not [be] limited to: (1) Computer-assisted
 130 instruction; (2) information retrieval and data transfer; (3)
 131 telecommunications related to voice, data and video transmission of
 132 instruction related materials and courses; (4) the development and
 133 acquisition of educational software; and (5) the instructional uses of the
 134 Internet and other technologies."

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

