AN ACT CONCERNING THE PIPELINE FOR CONNECTICUT’S FUTURE PROGRAM AND THE PROVISION OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE AVAILABILITY OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND CAREER SCHOOLS AND REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION CENTERS.

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

Section 1. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2022) Not later than July 1, 2023, the Department of Education shall develop best practices that may be used by local and regional boards of education when establishing a pathways program with local businesses under the Pipeline for Connecticut's Future program, pursuant to section 10-21k of the general statutes. In developing such best practices, the department shall collaborate with stakeholders and boards of education that have implemented a successful pathways program. The department shall make such best practice available upon request of a local or regional board of education.

Sec. 2. (Effective from passage) The Commissioner of Education shall review existing state laws and regulations related to the establishment of pathways programs by local and regional boards of education to identify any obstacles or prohibitions that may limit the ability of a board of education to build partnerships with local businesses for the purpose of establishing a successful pathways program. Such laws and regulations may include, but need not be limited to, those governing
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attendance, course credit for school work performed out of the classroom or in an apprenticeship setting and educator certification. Not later than January 1, 2023, the commissioner shall submit any recommendations for legislation to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and employment advancement, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

Sec. 3. Section 10-220d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof [(Effective July 1, 2022)]:

Each local and regional board of education shall provide full access to technical education and career schools, regional agricultural science and technology education centers, interdistrict magnet schools, charter schools and interdistrict student attendance programs for the recruitment of students attending the schools under the board's jurisdiction, provided such recruitment is not for the purpose of interscholastic athletic competition. Each local and regional board of education shall provide information relating to technical education and career schools, regional agricultural science and technology education centers, interdistrict magnet schools, charter schools, alternative high schools and interdistrict student attendance programs on the board's web site. Each local and regional board of education shall [inform] require school counselors to provide information to students and parents of students in middle and high schools within such board's jurisdiction of the availability of (1) vocational, technical, technological and postsecondary education and training at technical education and career schools, and (2) agricultural science and technology education at regional agricultural science and technology education centers, and publish such information on the Internet web site of such board.

Approved May 27, 2022