



General Assembly

February Session, 2022

Raised Bill No. 427

LCO No. 3206



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REVISIONS AND ADDITIONS TO THE EDUCATION STATUTES.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 10-266aa of the 2022 supplement
2 to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

4 (c) The program shall be phased in as provided in this subsection. (1)
5 For the school year commencing in 1998, and for each school year
6 thereafter, the program shall be in operation in the Hartford, New
7 Haven and Bridgeport regions. The Hartford program shall operate as
8 a continuation of the program described in section 10-266j. Students
9 who reside in Hartford, New Haven or Bridgeport may attend school in
10 another school district in the region and students who reside in such
11 other school districts may attend school in Hartford, New Haven or
12 Bridgeport, provided, beginning with the 2001-2002 school year, the
13 proportion of students who are not minority students to the total
14 number of students leaving Hartford, Bridgeport or New Haven to
15 participate in the program shall not be greater than the proportion of

16 students who were not minority students in the prior school year to the
17 total number of students enrolled in Hartford, Bridgeport or New
18 Haven in the prior school year. The regional educational service center
19 operating the program shall make program participation decisions in
20 accordance with the requirements of this subdivision. (2) For the school
21 year commencing in 2000, and for each school year thereafter, the
22 program shall be in operation in New London, provided beginning with
23 the 2001-2002 school year, the proportion of students who are not
24 minority students to the total number of students leaving New London
25 to participate in the program shall not be greater than the proportion of
26 students who were not minority students in the prior year to the total
27 number of students enrolled in New London in the prior school year.
28 The regional educational service center operating the program shall
29 make program participation decisions in accordance with this
30 subdivision. (3) The Department of Education may provide, within
31 available appropriations, grants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003,
32 to the remaining regional educational service centers to assist school
33 districts in planning for a voluntary program of student enrollment in
34 every priority school district, pursuant to section 10-266p, which is
35 interested in participating in accordance with this subdivision. For the
36 school year commencing in 2003, and for each school year thereafter, the
37 voluntary enrollment program may be in operation in every priority
38 school district in the state. Students from other school districts in the
39 area of a priority school district, as determined by the regional
40 educational service center pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, may
41 attend school in the priority school district, provided such students
42 bring racial, ethnic and economic diversity to the priority school district
43 and do not increase the racial, ethnic and economic isolation in the
44 priority school district. (4) For the school year commencing July 1, 2022,
45 there shall be a pilot program in operation in Danbury and Norwalk.
46 The pilot program shall serve (A) up to fifty students who reside in
47 Danbury, and such students may attend school in the school districts for
48 the towns of New Fairfield, Brookfield, Bethel, Ridgefield and Redding,
49 and (B) up to fifty students who reside in Norwalk, and such students
50 may attend school in the school districts for the towns of Darien, New

51 Canaan, Wilton, Weston and Westport. School districts which receive
52 students from Danbury and Norwalk under the pilot program during
53 the school year commencing July 1, 2022, shall allow such students to
54 attend school in the district until they graduate from high school. (5) For
55 the school year commencing July 1, 2022, and each school year
56 thereafter, the town of Guilford shall be eligible to participate in the
57 program as a receiving district and a sending district with New Haven.

58 Sec. 2. *(Effective July 1, 2022)* For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2023,
59 and June 30, 2024, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall use funds
60 deposited in the school bus seat belt account to provide a rebate to an
61 individual who has obtained a commercial driver's license with a school
62 bus endorsement and submitted to a criminal history records check for
63 purposes of employment as a school bus driver. Such rebate shall be in
64 an amount equal to the fees charged to such individual for obtaining
65 such commercial driver's license with a school bus endorsement and
66 submitting to such criminal history records check. Such individual may
67 submit an application, at a time and in a manner prescribed by the
68 commissioner, for a rebate under this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	10-266aa(c)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To include Guilford as a participant in the open choice program for the New Haven region, and to create a school bus driver rebate program as an incentive to recruit new school bus drivers.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]