
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5287

AN ACT CONCERNING REMOTE LEARNING IN CONNECTICUT.

SUMMARY

This bill permits local or regional boards of education to authorize remote learning for students in grades kindergarten to 12 beginning with the 2023-24 school year. Under current law, boards have the option to provide remote learning only for grades nine-12 beginning in the 2022-23 school year.

In order to provide remote learning in grades kindergarten to eight, the bill requires school districts to meet requirements in current law for high school remote learning. The districts must:

1. instruct in compliance with the standards developed by the education commissioner under existing law, and
2. adopt a policy on student attendance requirements during remote learning, which must (a) comply with the commissioner's guidance and (b) count attendance of any student who spends at least half of the day during virtual instruction engaged in virtual classes, virtual meetings, activities on time-logged electronic systems, and turning in assignments.

By law and unchanged by the bill, remote learning is defined as instruction by means of one or more Internet-based software platforms as part of a remote learning model.

The bill also removes a provision in current law that states the commissioner's remote learning standards must not be considered regulations. It also makes a conforming change.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2022

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 39 Nay 0 (03/11/2022)