

**AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE  
SCHOOL INDOOR AIR QUALITY WORKING GROUP.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 370 of public act 22-118 is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) There is established a working group to study and make  
4 recommendations related to indoor air quality within school buildings.  
5 Such recommendations shall include, but need not be limited to:

6 (1) The optimal humidity and temperature ranges to ensure healthy  
7 air and promote student learning;

8 (2) Threshold school air quality emergency conditions warranting  
9 temporary school closures based on the presence of insufficient heat, an  
10 excessive combination of indoor temperature and humidity levels, or  
11 some other thresholds;

12 (3) Criteria for rating the priority of heating, ventilation and air  
13 conditioning repair and remediation needs, including the public health  
14 condition and needs of the students attending a school;

15 (4) Optimal heating, ventilation and air conditioning system  
16 performance benchmarks for minimizing the spread of infectious  
17 disease;

18 (5) Protocols to be used by school districts to receive, investigate and

19 address complaints or evidence of mold, pest infestation, hazardous  
20 odors or chemicals and poor indoor air-quality;

21 (6) The frequency with which local and regional boards of education  
22 should be providing for a uniform inspection and evaluation program  
23 of the indoor air quality within school buildings, such as the  
24 Environmental Protection Agency's Indoor Air Quality Tools for  
25 Schools Program, and whether such program should be provided for at  
26 all schools or only at those constructed before or after a certain date;

27 (7) Best practices for the proper maintenance of heating, ventilation  
28 and air conditions systems in school buildings, including the frequency  
29 and scope of such maintenance;

30 (8) A system of equitable distribution of funds, based on need, under  
31 the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system grant program  
32 pursuant to section 10-265r of the general statutes;

33 ~~[(8)]~~ (9) Any other criteria affecting school indoor air quality; and

34 ~~[(9)]~~ (10) Proposals for legislation to carry out any of the  
35 recommendations of the working group.

36 (b) The working group shall consist of the following members:

37 (1) Three appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one  
38 of whom is a representative of ConnectiCOSH, one of whom is a  
39 representative of the Associated Sheet Metal and Roofing Contractors of  
40 Connecticut, and one of whom is a member of the Senate;

41 (2) Three appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,  
42 one of whom is a specialist in the field of children's health, one of whom  
43 [shall] is a representative of the Connecticut State Building Trades  
44 Council, and one of whom is a member of the House of Representatives;

45 (3) Two appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, one of whom  
46 is a representative of the American Federation of Teachers-Connecticut

47 and one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut Association of  
48 Public School Superintendents;

49 (4) Two appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
50 Representatives, one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut  
51 Education Association and one of whom is a representative of the  
52 Connecticut Association of Boards of Education;

53 (5) Two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, one of whom  
54 is a specialist in the field of medicine on respiratory health and one of  
55 whom is a representative of the Council of Small Towns;

56 (6) Two appointed by the minority leader of the House, one of whom  
57 is an industrial hygienist and one of whom is a representative of the  
58 Mechanical Contractors of Connecticut;

59 (7) Two appointed by the Governor, one of whom is a school nurse  
60 and one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut Conference of  
61 Municipalities;

62 (8) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the  
63 Secretary's designee;

64 (9) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee;

65 (10) The Commissioner of Administrative Services, or the  
66 commissioner's designee;

67 (11) The Labor Commissioner, or the commissioner's designee;

68 (12) The Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's  
69 designee;

70 (13) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection, or the  
71 commissioner's designee; and

72 (14) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, or  
73 the commissioner's designee.

74 (c) All appointments to the working group shall be made not later  
75 than sixty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall  
76 be filled by the appointing authority.

77 (d) The member of the Senate appointed by the president pro  
78 tempore of the Senate pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of  
79 this section and the member of the House of Representative appointed  
80 by the speaker of the House of Representatives pursuant to subdivision  
81 (2) of subsection (b) of this section shall serve as the chairpersons of the  
82 working group. Such chairpersons shall schedule the first meeting of the  
83 working group, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the  
84 effective date of this section.

85 (e) Not later than ~~[January 4, 2023]~~ July 1, 2024, the working group  
86 shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the  
87 Governor and the joint standing committees of the General Assembly  
88 having cognizance of matters relating to education, labor and public  
89 health, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general  
90 statutes. The working group shall terminate on ~~[January 4, 2023]~~ July 1,  
91 2024, or on the submission of the report, whichever is later.

92 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) The Department of  
93 Administrative Services shall establish and maintain a single electronic  
94 portal available on the Internet and located on the department's Internet  
95 web site for the purpose of receiving and posting the report and results  
96 of an inspection and evaluation of the indoor air quality and the heating,  
97 ventilation and air conditioning system of a school building conducted  
98 pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10-220 of the general statutes, as  
99 amended by this act. Such electronic portal shall be known as the School  
100 Indoor Air Quality and HVAC Portal.

101 (b) The department shall prescribe the form and manner in which a  
102 local or regional board of education shall submit the report and results  
103 of an inspection and evaluation of the indoor air quality and the heating,  
104 ventilation and air conditioning system of a school building. The  
105 department may consult with representatives from the indoor air

106 quality and heating, ventilation and air conditioning industry to  
107 develop a standard reporting form for the electronic portal.

108 (c) The School Indoor Air Quality and HVAC Portal shall include, but  
109 need not be limited to: (1) The standard reporting form developed  
110 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section and instructions for the  
111 submission of such form and the report and results of an inspection and  
112 evaluation of the indoor air quality and the heating, ventilation and air  
113 conditioning system of a school building, (2) a searchable database of  
114 the reports and results of such inspections and evaluations, and (3)  
115 aggregated data of such results.

116 Sec. 3. Subsection (d) of section 10-220 of the general statutes is  
117 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
118 *2023*):

119 (d) (1) As used in this subsection:

120 (A) "Certified testing, adjusting and balancing technician" means a  
121 technician certified to perform testing, adjusting and balancing of  
122 heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems by the Associated Air  
123 Balance Council, the National Environmental Balancing Bureau or the  
124 Testing, Adjusting and Balancing Bureau, or an individual training  
125 under the supervision of a Testing, Adjusting and Balancing Bureau  
126 certified technician or a person certified to perform ventilation  
127 assessments of heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems  
128 through a certification body accredited by the American National  
129 Standards Institute;

130 (B) "Heating, ventilation and air conditioning system" means the  
131 equipment, distribution network, controls and terminals that provide,  
132 either collectively or individually, heating, ventilation or air  
133 conditioning to a building; and

134 (C) "Indoor air quality" has the same meaning as used by the United  
135 States Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health

136 Administration Standard Number 1910.1000 "OSHA Policy on Indoor  
137 Air Quality".

138 (2) [Prior to January 1, 2008, and every three years] On and after  
139 January 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, for every school building that  
140 is or has been constructed, extended, renovated or replaced on or after  
141 January 1, 2003, a local or regional board of education shall provide for  
142 a uniform inspection and evaluation program of the indoor air quality  
143 within such buildings [, such as] using the Environmental Protection  
144 Agency's Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools Program. The inspection  
145 and evaluation program shall include, but not be limited to, a review,  
146 inspection or evaluation of the following: (A) The heating, ventilation  
147 and air conditioning systems; (B) radon levels in the air; (C) potential for  
148 exposure to microbiological airborne particles, including, but not  
149 limited to, fungi, mold and bacteria; (D) chemical compounds of concern  
150 to indoor air quality including, but not limited to, volatile organic  
151 compounds; (E) the degree of pest infestation, including, but not limited  
152 to, insects and rodents; (F) the degree of pesticide usage; (G) the  
153 presence of and the plans for removal of any hazardous substances that  
154 are contained on the list prepared pursuant to Section 302 of the federal  
155 Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, 42 USC 9601  
156 et seq.; (H) ventilation systems; (I) plumbing, including water  
157 distribution systems, drainage systems and fixtures; (J) moisture  
158 incursion; (K) the overall cleanliness of the facilities; (L) building  
159 structural elements, including, but not limited to, roofing, basements or  
160 slabs; (M) the use of space, particularly areas that were designed to be  
161 unoccupied; and (N) the provision of indoor air quality maintenance  
162 training for building staff. Local and regional boards of education  
163 conducting evaluations pursuant to this subsection shall (i) make  
164 available for public inspection the results of the inspection and  
165 evaluation at a regularly scheduled board of education meeting and on  
166 the board's or each individual school's web site, and (ii) submit the  
167 report and results of such inspection and evaluation to the Department  
168 of Administrative Services in accordance with the provisions of section  
169 2 of this act.

170 (3) Prior to January 1, [2024] 2025, and every five years thereafter, a  
171 local or regional board of education shall provide for a uniform  
172 inspection and evaluation of the heating, ventilation and air  
173 conditioning system within each school building under its jurisdiction.  
174 Such inspection and evaluation shall be performed by a certified testing,  
175 adjusting and balancing technician, an industrial hygienist certified by  
176 the American Board of Industrial Hygiene or the Board for Global EHS  
177 Credentialing, or a mechanical engineer. Such heating, ventilation and  
178 air conditioning systems inspection and evaluation shall include, but  
179 need not be limited to: (A) Testing for maximum filter efficiency, (B)  
180 physical measurements of outside air delivery rate, (C) verification of  
181 the appropriate condition and operation of ventilation components, (D)  
182 measurement of air distribution through all system inlets and outlets,  
183 (E) verification of unit operation and that required maintenance has  
184 been performed in accordance with the most recent indoor ventilation  
185 standards promulgated by the American Society of Heating,  
186 Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, (F) verification of control  
187 sequences, (G) verification of carbon dioxide sensors and acceptable  
188 carbon dioxide concentrations indoors, and (H) collection of field data  
189 for the installation of mechanical ventilation if none exist. The  
190 ventilation systems inspection and evaluation shall identify to what  
191 extent each school's current ventilation system components, including  
192 any existing central or noncentral mechanical ventilation system, are  
193 operating in such a manner as to provide appropriate ventilation to the  
194 school building in accordance with most recent indoor ventilation  
195 standards promulgated by the American Society of Heating,  
196 Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers. The inspection and  
197 evaluation shall result in a written report, and such report shall include  
198 any corrective actions necessary to be performed to the mechanical  
199 ventilation system or the heating, ventilation and air conditioning  
200 infrastructure, including installation of filters meeting the most optimal  
201 level of filtration available for a given heating, ventilation and air  
202 conditioning system, installation of carbon dioxide sensors and  
203 additional maintenance, repairs, upgrades or replacement. Any such

204 corrective actions shall be performed, where appropriate, by a  
205 contractor, who is licensed in accordance with chapter 393. Any local or  
206 regional board of education conducting an inspection and evaluations  
207 pursuant to this subsection shall (i) make available for public inspection  
208 the results of such inspection and evaluation at a regularly scheduled  
209 meeting of such board and on the Internet web site of such board and  
210 on the Internet web site, if any, of each individual school, and (ii) submit  
211 the report and results of such inspection and evaluation to the  
212 Department of Administrative Services in accordance with the  
213 provisions of section 2 of this act. A local or regional board of education  
214 shall not be required to provide for a uniform inspection and evaluation  
215 under this subdivision for any school building that will cease to be used  
216 as a school building within the three years from when such inspection  
217 and evaluation is to be performed. The Department of Administrative  
218 Services may, upon request of a local or regional board of education,  
219 grant a waiver of the January 1, 2025, deadline for the provision of a  
220 uniform inspection and evaluation under this subdivision if the  
221 department finds that (I) there is an insufficient number of certified  
222 testing, adjusting and balancing technicians, industrial hygienists  
223 certified by the American Board of Industrial Hygiene or the Board for  
224 Global EHS Credentialing, or mechanical engineers to perform such  
225 inspection and evaluation, (II) such board has provided for an  
226 inspection that was performed in a different format, but is deemed  
227 equivalent by the department, or (III) such board has scheduled such  
228 inspection and evaluation for a date after January 1, 2025.

229 Sec. 4. Section 10-265t of the general statutes is repealed and the  
230 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

231 (a) For the purposes described in subsection (b) of this section, the  
232 State Bond Commission shall have the power from time to time to  
233 authorize the issuance of bonds of the state in one or more series and in  
234 principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate [seventy-five million  
235 dollars] three hundred seventy-five million dollars, provided one  
236 hundred fifty million dollars of said authorization shall be effective July



237 1, 2024.

238 (b) The proceeds of the sale of said bonds, to the extent of the amount  
239 stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be used by the Department  
240 of Administrative Services for the purpose of providing grants-in-aid  
241 for school air quality improvements [including, but not limited to,  
242 upgrades to, replacement of or installation of heating, ventilation and  
243 air conditioning equipment] under the heating, ventilation and air  
244 conditioning system grant program pursuant to section 10-265r,  
245 provided not more than fifty million dollars of such proceeds may be  
246 used to provide reimbursements for such improvements that were  
247 completed not earlier than March 1, 2020, and not later than July 1, 2022.

248 (c) All provisions of section 3-20, or the exercise of any right or power  
249 granted thereby, which are not inconsistent with the provisions of this  
250 section are hereby adopted and shall apply to all bonds authorized by  
251 the State Bond Commission pursuant to this section, and temporary  
252 notes in anticipation of the money to be derived from the sale of any  
253 such bonds so authorized may be issued in accordance with said section  
254 3-20 and from time to time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such  
255 time or times not exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as  
256 may be provided in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the  
257 State Bond Commission authorizing such bonds. None of said bonds  
258 shall be authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond  
259 Commission that there has been filed with it a request for such  
260 authorization which is signed by or on behalf of the Secretary of the  
261 Office of Policy and Management and states such terms and conditions  
262 as said commission, in its discretion, may require. Said bonds issued  
263 pursuant to this section shall be general obligations of the state and the  
264 full faith and credit of the state of Connecticut are pledged for the  
265 payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds as the same  
266 become due, and accordingly and as part of the contract of the state with  
267 the holders of said bonds, appropriation of all amounts necessary for  
268 punctual payment of such principal and interest is hereby made, and  
269 the State Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the same

270 become due.

271       Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) On or before July 1, 2024, the  
272 Commissioner of Public Health shall develop guidelines regarding the  
273 establishment of an optimal thermal comfort range of sixty-five to  
274 eighty degrees Fahrenheit for school buildings and facilities, except that  
275 gymnasiums and natatoriums may have a larger optimal thermal  
276 comfort range.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	PA 22-118, Sec. 370
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10-220(d)
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10-265t
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	New section