



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 548**

February Session, 2024

Substitute Senate Bill No. 153

*Senate, April 18, 2024*

The Committee on Appropriations reported through SEN. OSTEN of the 19th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE  
TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND CAREER SYSTEM.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 10-95i of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
3 *2024*):

4 (b) During the five-year period beginning January 1, 2020, and during  
5 each five-year period thereafter, the board shall evaluate each existing  
6 technical education and career school trade program in accordance with  
7 a schedule which the board shall establish. A trade program may be  
8 reauthorized for a period of not more than five years following each  
9 evaluation on the basis of: The projected employment demand for  
10 students enrolled in the trade program, including consideration of the  
11 employment of graduates of the program during the preceding five  
12 years; anticipated technological changes; the availability of qualified  
13 instructors; the existence of similar programs at other educational  
14 institutions; and student interest in the trade program. As part of the

15 evaluation, the board shall consider geographic differences that may  
16 make a trade program feasible at one school and not another and  
17 whether certain combinations of program offerings shall be required.  
18 Prior to any final decision on the reauthorization of a trade program, the  
19 board shall consult with the [craft] program advisory committees for the  
20 trade program being evaluated.

21 Sec. 2. Section 10-95j of the general statutes is repealed and the  
22 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

23 The Technical Education and Career System board shall include in  
24 the report required pursuant to section 10-95k, a summary of the  
25 following:

26 (1) Admissions policies for the Technical Education and Career  
27 System;

28 (2) Recruitment and retention of faculty;

29 (3) Efforts to strengthen consideration of the needs of and to develop  
30 greater public awareness of the Technical Education and Career System;  
31 and

32 (4) Efforts to strengthen the role of [career and technical education]  
33 program advisory committees and increase employer participation.

34 Sec. 3. Section 10-96c of the general statutes is repealed and the  
35 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

36 The executive director of the Technical Education and Career System  
37 may indemnify and hold harmless any person, as defined in section 1-  
38 79, who makes a gift of tangible property or properties with a fair  
39 market value in excess of one thousand dollars to the Technical  
40 Education and Career System for instructional purposes. Any  
41 indemnification under this section shall be solely for any damages  
42 caused as a result of the use of such tangible property, provided there  
43 shall be no indemnification for any liability resulting from (1)  
44 intentional or wilful misconduct by the person providing such tangible

45 property to [the department or] the Technical Education and Career  
46 System, or (2) hidden defects in such tangible property that are known  
47 to and not disclosed by the person providing such tangible property to  
48 [the department or] the Technical Education and Career System at the  
49 time the gift is made.

50 Sec. 4. Section 10-95 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
51 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

52 There is established a state-wide system of technical education and  
53 career schools to be known as the Technical Education and Career  
54 System. The Technical Education and Career System shall offer (1) full-  
55 time comprehensive secondary education at technical high schools  
56 located throughout the state, and [may offer] (2) part-time, [and]  
57 evening [,] and extracurricular programs in vocational, technical,  
58 technological and postsecondary education and training.

59 Sec. 5. Section 10-95p of the general statutes is repealed and the  
60 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

61 (a) There is established a division of postsecondary educational  
62 programs within the Technical Education and Career System. The  
63 division shall administer any postsecondary educational program that  
64 (1) was offered at a technical education and career school during the  
65 school year commencing July 1, 2016, or (2) is approved by the Technical  
66 Education and Career System board. [on or after July 5, 2017.]

67 (b) Any student admitted for enrollment in a postsecondary  
68 educational program administered by the division shall have a high  
69 school diploma or its equivalent, or [be twenty-one years of age or older]  
70 have completed the school year in which such student reaches twenty-  
71 two years of age.

72 Sec. 6. Section 10-76q of the general statutes is repealed and the  
73 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

74 (a) The Technical Education and Career System, established pursuant  
75 to section 10-95, as amended by this act, shall: (1) Provide the

76 professional services necessary to identify, in accordance with section  
 77 10-76a, children requiring special education who are enrolled at a  
 78 technical education and career school; (2) identify each such child; (3)  
 79 determine the appropriateness of the technical education and career  
 80 school for the educational needs of each such child; (4) provide an  
 81 appropriate educational program for each such child, including, but not  
 82 limited to, transition programs, as defined in section 10-74o; (5)  
 83 maintain a record thereof; and (6) annually evaluate the progress and  
 84 accomplishments of special education programs provided by the  
 85 Technical Education and Career System.

86 (b) Where it is deemed appropriate that a child enrolled in a technical  
 87 education and career school receive special education, the parents or  
 88 guardian of such child shall have a right to the hearing and appeal  
 89 process as provided for in section 10-76h.

90 (c) Prior to a student's enrollment in a technical education and career  
 91 school, the local or regional board of education for the town in which  
 92 such student resides shall convene a planning and placement team  
 93 meeting, except the planning and placement team meeting for a student  
 94 who has been educated in a home shall be convened by the Technical  
 95 Education and Career System. The purpose of such meeting shall be to  
 96 address such student's transition to such technical education and career  
 97 school and ensure that such student's individualized education  
 98 program reflects the current supports and services that such student  
 99 requires in order to access a free and appropriate public education in the  
 100 least restrictive environment. A representative from such technical  
 101 education and career school shall be invited to such meeting.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-95i(b)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-95j
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-96c
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	10-95
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	10-95p

Sec. 6	July 1, 2024	10-76q
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**ED**      *Joint Favorable Subst. C/R*      APP

**APP**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

*The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.*

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**OFA Fiscal Note****State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

The bill makes various procedural and technical changes that have no fiscal impact.

**The Out Years****State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

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**OLR Bill Analysis****sSB 153*****AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND CAREER SYSTEM.*****SUMMARY**

This bill makes several changes affecting the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS), including the services it must provide students who need special education. Existing law requires CTECS to, among other things, provide an appropriate educational program for each child requiring special education. The bill explicitly requires CTECS to provide transition services as part of this requirement (i.e., services facilitating the student's transition from school to postsecondary activities such as postsecondary education and training, employment, or independent living) (§ 6).

The bill also requires CTECS (rather than the local or regional board of education) to convene a planning and placement team meeting for home-schooled special education students before they enroll in a CTECS school. As under existing law, the meeting must address the student's transition to a CTECS school and ensure that his or her individualized education program (IEP) reflects the current supports and services he or she requires (§ 6).

The bill also makes several changes to conform the law to current practice. It requires, rather than allows, CTECS to offer part-time and evening programs and requires it to offer extracurricular programs in vocational, technical, technological, and postsecondary education and training. The bill also requires that students admitted to a CTECS postsecondary education program without a high school diploma have completed the school year in which they turn 22 (rather than be age 21 or older) (§§ 4 & 5).

Additionally, the bill removes obsolete references to conform the law to CTECS’s establishment as an independent state agency. Specifically, it removes references to the (1) State Department of Education (SDE) in a statute requiring CTECS to indemnify certain donors of tangible property and (2) effective date of the 2017 legislation that established CTECS (§§ 3 & 5).

Lastly, the bill makes other technical and conforming changes (§§ 1 & 2).

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, except that the provisions on transition services, SDE reference, and other technical and conforming changes are effective July 1, 2024.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference - APP  
Yea 45 Nay 0 (03/06/2024)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute  
Yea 52 Nay 0 (04/04/2024)