



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

***Raised Bill No. 5348***

LCO No. 2360



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:  
(ED)

***AN ACT CONCERNING PARAEDUCATORS.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2024*) (a) Any person hired by a local  
2 or regional board of education as a paraeducator shall have (1) earned a  
3 secondary school diploma, or its equivalent, and (2) (A) completed at  
4 least two years of study at an institution of higher education, (B) earned  
5 at least an associate degree from an institution of higher education, or  
6 (C) achieved a satisfactory score, as determined by the Commissioner of  
7 Education, on a paraeducator assessment approved by the  
8 commissioner. Each paraeducator shall be under the direct supervision  
9 of a teacher or other certified or licensed professional and be a member  
10 of an exclusive bargaining unit representing paraeducators.

11 (b) A paraeducator shall be responsible for providing assistance and  
12 support in one or more areas including, but not limited to, (1) classroom  
13 management, (2) instruction, (3) translation, bilingual instruction and  
14 other language supports, (4) one-on-one tutoring, and (5) services  
15 mandated by a student's individualized education program or plan  
16 pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended

17 from time to time.

18 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 10-66r of the general statutes is  
19 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
20 *2024*):

21 (a) Each regional educational service center shall develop, in  
22 consultation with the Department of Education, a regional model for the  
23 provision of special education services related to transportation,  
24 training and therapeutic services to be used for the provision of such  
25 special education services to all school districts served by such regional  
26 educational service center. Each regional model shall take into account  
27 the least restrictive environment for students receiving special  
28 education and related services and include (1) a regional transportation  
29 plan, developed in consultation with public transit districts, that  
30 provides transportation to children requiring special education and  
31 related services, (2) a regional educator training plan that provides  
32 special education training to teachers, [school paraprofessionals]  
33 paraeducators and administrators that includes, but need not be limited  
34 to, instruction regarding classroom techniques to improve the provision  
35 of special education and related services to children and the  
36 implementation of scientific research-based interventions, (3) a regional  
37 plan for the provision of therapeutic services, including, but not limited  
38 to, speech therapy, physical therapy and occupational therapy, and (4)  
39 a plan for the provision of transportation, training and therapeutic  
40 services in a manner that makes such services readily available to each  
41 school district served by the regional educational service center rather  
42 than by request of a school district.

43 Sec. 3. Section 10-74q of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes  
44 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
45 *1, 2024*):

46 (a) Not later than July 1, 2024, the Department of Education, in  
47 consultation with the Departments of Developmental Services and  
48 Aging and Disability Services and the regional educational service

49 centers, shall develop a training program for transition coordinators,  
50 educators and [school paraprofessionals] paraeducators. Such training  
51 program shall comply with the minimum standards established by the  
52 State-wide Transition Services Coordinator pursuant to section 10-74o.

53 (b) Each regional educational service center shall provide the training  
54 program developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section at no cost  
55 to transition coordinators, educators and [school paraprofessionals]  
56 paraeducators who provide transition services and any other educators  
57 or school staff interested in becoming a transition coordinator or  
58 providing transition services.

59 Sec. 4. Subsection (b) of section 10-74r of the 2024 supplement to the  
60 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
61 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

62 (b) Each educator and [school paraprofessional] paraeducator who  
63 provides special education for students fourteen years of age or older  
64 shall complete the training program developed by the Department of  
65 Education pursuant to subsection (a) of section 10-74q, as amended by  
66 this act, provided (1) each such educator and [school paraprofessional]  
67 paraeducator hired prior to the date upon which the training program  
68 commences shall complete such training program during the five-year  
69 period immediately following such date, and (2) each such educator and  
70 [school paraprofessional] paraeducator hired after such date shall  
71 complete such training program not later than one year from the date  
72 such educator or [school paraprofessional] paraeducator is hired to  
73 provide such services.

74 Sec. 5. Subdivision (10) of subsection (a) of section 10-76d of the 2024  
75 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is  
76 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

77 (10) (A) Each local and regional board of education responsible for  
78 providing special education and related services to a child or pupil shall  
79 notify the parent or guardian of a child who requires or who may  
80 require special education, a pupil if such pupil is an emancipated minor

81 or eighteen years of age or older who requires or who may require  
82 special education or a surrogate parent appointed pursuant to section  
83 10-94g, in writing, at least five school days before such board proposes  
84 to, or refuses to, initiate or change the child's or pupil's identification,  
85 evaluation or educational placement or the provision of a free  
86 appropriate public education to the child or pupil.

87 (B) Upon request by a parent, guardian, pupil or surrogate parent,  
88 the responsible local or regional board of education shall provide such  
89 parent, guardian, pupil or surrogate parent an opportunity to meet with  
90 a member of the planning and placement team designated by such  
91 board prior to the referral planning and placement team meeting at  
92 which the assessments and evaluations of the child or pupil who  
93 requires or may require special education is presented to such parent,  
94 guardian, pupil or surrogate parent for the first time. Such meeting shall  
95 be for the sole purpose of discussing the planning and placement team  
96 process and any concerns such parent, guardian, pupil or surrogate  
97 parent has regarding the child or pupil who requires or may require  
98 special education.

99 (C) Such parent, guardian, pupil or surrogate parent shall (i) be given  
100 at least five school days' prior notice of any planning and placement  
101 team meeting conducted for such child or pupil, (ii) have the right to be  
102 present at and participate in all portions of such meeting at which an  
103 educational program for such child or pupil is developed, reviewed or  
104 revised, (iii) have the right to have (I) advisors of such person's own  
105 choosing and at such person's own expense, (II) the [school  
106 paraprofessional] paraeducator assigned to such child or pupil, if any,  
107 (III) such child or pupil's birth-to-three service coordinator, if any, and  
108 (IV) a language interpreter, including a registered interpreter for  
109 persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or deafblind, who is present in  
110 person or available by telephone or through an online technology  
111 platform, or through an Internet web site or other electronic application  
112 approved by the State Board of Education, provided by the responsible  
113 local or regional board of education if there is an apparent need or upon  
114 the request of such parent, guardian, pupil or surrogate parent, who

115 shall attend and participate or be available in all portions of such  
116 meeting at which an educational program for such child or pupil is  
117 developed, reviewed or revised, and (iv) have the right to have each  
118 recommendation made in such child or pupil's birth-to-three  
119 individualized transition plan, as required by section 17a-248e, if any,  
120 addressed by the planning and placement team during such meeting at  
121 which an educational program for such child or pupil is developed.

122 (D) Immediately upon the formal identification of any child as a child  
123 requiring special education and at each planning and placement team  
124 meeting for such child, the responsible local or regional board of  
125 education shall inform the parent or guardian of such child or surrogate  
126 parent or, in the case of a pupil who is an emancipated minor or eighteen  
127 years of age or older, the pupil of (i) the laws relating to special  
128 education, (ii) the rights of such parent, guardian, surrogate parent or  
129 pupil under such laws and the regulations adopted by the State Board  
130 of Education relating to special education, including the right of a  
131 parent, guardian or surrogate parent to (I) withhold from enrolling such  
132 child in kindergarten, in accordance with the provisions of section 10-  
133 184, (II) have advisors and the [school paraprofessional] paraeducator  
134 assigned to such child or pupil attend and participate in all portions of  
135 such meeting at which an educational program for such child or pupil  
136 is developed, reviewed or revised, in accordance with the provisions of  
137 subparagraph (C) of this subdivision, (III) obtain the plain language  
138 resources available on the Department of Education's Internet web site  
139 pursuant to subsection (g) of section 10-76h explaining the hearing and  
140 appeals process, as provided in section 10-76h, available to such child or  
141 pupil if there is a disagreement about the individualized education  
142 program, identification, evaluation or educational placement of or the  
143 provision of a free appropriate public education to such child or pupil,  
144 and (IV) receive information regarding free and low-cost legal  
145 assistance, and (iii) any relevant information and resources relating to  
146 individualized education programs created by the Department of  
147 Education, including, but not limited to, information relating to  
148 transition resources and services for high school students and the

149 Parent's Guide to Special Education in Connecticut developed by the  
150 department. If such parent, guardian, surrogate parent or pupil does not  
151 attend a planning and placement team meeting, the responsible local or  
152 regional board of education shall mail such information to such person.  
153 Each responsible local or regional board of education shall provide a  
154 child or pupil's individualized education program, any documents  
155 relating to such program and all the information required pursuant to  
156 this subparagraph translated into the primary language spoken by such  
157 parent, guardian, surrogate parent or pupil if there is an apparent need  
158 or upon the request of the parent guardian, surrogate parent or pupil.

159 (E) Each local and regional board of education shall have in effect at  
160 the beginning of each school year an educational program for each child  
161 or pupil who has been identified as eligible for special education, and  
162 shall provide (i) the informational handout described in section 10-74v  
163 to each child with an individualized education program or plan  
164 pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and (ii) the  
165 Parent's Guide to Special Education in Connecticut developed by the  
166 Department of Education and the rights and resources available to such  
167 child in the provision of special education and related services.

168 (F) (i) At each initial planning and placement team meeting for a child  
169 or pupil, the responsible local or regional board of education shall  
170 inform the parent, guardian, surrogate parent or pupil of the laws  
171 relating to physical restraint and seclusion pursuant to section 10-236b<sub>2</sub>  
172 as amended by this act, and the rights of such parent, guardian,  
173 surrogate parent or pupil under such laws and the regulations adopted  
174 by the State Board of Education relating to physical restraint and  
175 seclusion and the right of such parent, guardian, surrogate parent or  
176 pupil, during such meeting at which an educational program for such  
177 child or pupil is developed, to have (I) such child or pupil's birth-to-  
178 three service coordinator attend and participate in all portions of such  
179 meeting, and (II) each recommendation made in the transition plan, as  
180 required by section 17a-248e, by such child or pupil's birth-to-three  
181 service coordinator addressed by the planning and placement team.

182 (ii) At the first planning and placement team meeting after a child  
183 who requires special education and related services reaches the age of  
184 fourteen, each responsible local or regional board of education shall  
185 provide information to the child and the parent, guardian or surrogate  
186 parent about the full range of decision-making supports, including  
187 alternatives to guardianship and conservatorship, and the online  
188 resource developed by the Department of Education pursuant to section  
189 10-74s. The responsible local or regional board of education shall  
190 continue to provide such information to the child and the parent,  
191 guardian or surrogate parent at least annually thereafter.

192 (iii) Each responsible local or regional board of education shall  
193 provide the notice created by the Mediation Services Coordinator  
194 pursuant to subdivision (7) of subsection (a) of section 10-76z to each  
195 parent, guardian or surrogate parent of any child who requires special  
196 education by (I) distributing such notice to such parents, guardians or  
197 surrogate parents at the beginning of each school year, and (II) reading  
198 such notice out loud at the conclusion of the first planning and  
199 placement team meeting at the beginning of each school year.

200 (G) Upon request by a parent, guardian, pupil or surrogate parent,  
201 the responsible local or regional board of education shall provide the  
202 results of the assessments and evaluations used in the determination of  
203 eligibility for special education for a child or pupil to such parent,  
204 guardian, surrogate parent or pupil at least three school days before the  
205 referral planning and placement team meeting at which such results of  
206 the assessments and evaluations will be discussed for the first time.

207 (H) Each local or regional board of education shall monitor the  
208 development of each child who, pursuant to subsection (a) of section  
209 17a-248e, has been (i) referred for a registration on a mobile application  
210 designated by the Commissioner of Early Childhood, in partnership  
211 with such child's parent, guardian or surrogate parent, or (ii) provided  
212 a form for such child's parent, guardian or surrogate parent to complete  
213 and submit to such local or regional board of education that screens for  
214 developmental and social-emotional delays using a validated screening

215 tool, such as the Ages and Stages Questionnaire and the Ages and Stages  
216 Social-Emotional Questionnaire, or its equivalent. If such monitoring  
217 results in suspecting a child of having a developmental delay, the board  
218 shall schedule a planning and placement team meeting with such child's  
219 parent, guardian or surrogate parent for the purposes of identifying  
220 services for which such child may be eligible, including, but not limited  
221 to, a preschool program under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities  
222 Act, 20 USC 1471 et seq. If a parent, guardian or surrogate parent of any  
223 child referred for a registration on the mobile application or provided a  
224 form to complete and submit, pursuant to subsection (a) of section 17a-  
225 248e, fails to complete such registration or complete and submit such  
226 form after a period of six months from the date of such referral or  
227 provision of such form, the board shall send a reminder, in the form and  
228 manner determined by the board, to such parent, guardian or surrogate  
229 parent to complete such registration or complete and submit such form.  
230 The board shall send another reminder after a period of one year from  
231 such referral or provision of such form if such registration remains  
232 incomplete or such form is not submitted.

233 (I) Prior to any planning and placement team meeting for a child or  
234 pupil in which an educational program for such child or pupil is  
235 developed, reviewed or revised, if the parent, guardian, pupil or  
236 surrogate parent has requested that the [school paraprofessional]  
237 paraeducator assigned to such child or pupil attend such meeting, then  
238 the responsible local or regional board of education shall provide (i)  
239 adequate notice of such meeting to such [school paraprofessional]  
240 paraeducator so that such [school paraprofessional] paraeducator may  
241 adequately prepare for such meeting, and (ii) training, upon request of  
242 such [school paraprofessional] paraeducator, on the role of such [school  
243 paraprofessional] paraeducator at such meeting. Following such  
244 meeting, such [school paraprofessional] paraeducator, or any other  
245 paraprofessional who is providing special education or related services  
246 to such child, shall review such educational program with a supervisor,  
247 as needed, and be permitted to view such educational program in order  
248 to be able to provide special education or related services to such child



249 or pupil in accordance with such educational program.

250 Sec. 6. Subsection (a) of section 10-145t of the general statutes is  
251 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
252 *2024*):

253 (a) For purposes of this section, "school support staff" means any  
254 person employed by a local or regional board of education as a behavior  
255 analyst or an assistant behavior analyst, as such terms are defined in  
256 section 20-185i, an athletic coach, as defined in section 10-149d, or a  
257 [school paraprofessional] paraeducator.

258 Sec. 7. Section 10-155j of the general statutes is repealed and the  
259 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

260 The Department of Education shall, within available appropriations,  
261 promote and encourage professional development activities for [school  
262 paraprofessionals] paraeducators with instructional responsibilities.  
263 Such activities may include, but shall not be limited to, providing local  
264 and regional boards of education with training modules and curricula  
265 for professional development for [paraprofessionals] paraeducators and  
266 assisting boards of education in the effective use of [paraprofessionals]  
267 paraeducators and the development of strategies to improve  
268 communications between teachers and [paraprofessionals]  
269 paraeducators in the provision of effective student instruction.

270 Sec. 8. Section 10-155k of the general statutes is repealed and the  
271 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

272 On and after July 1, 2013, the Commissioner of Education shall  
273 establish a School Paraprofessional Advisory Council, which on and  
274 after July 1, 2021, shall be known as the School Paraeducator Advisory  
275 Council, consisting of (1) one [school paraprofessional] paraeducator  
276 from each state-wide bargaining representative organization that  
277 represents [school paraprofessionals] paraeducators with instructional  
278 responsibilities, (2) one representative from each of the exclusive  
279 bargaining units for certified employees, chosen pursuant to section 10-

280 153b, (3) the most recent recipient of the Connecticut [Paraprofessional]  
281 Paraeducator of the Year Award, (4) two representatives from the  
282 regional educational service centers, appointed by the Commissioner of  
283 Education, and (5) a school administrator, appointed by the Connecticut  
284 Federation of School Administrators. The council shall hold quarterly  
285 meetings and advise, at least quarterly, the Commissioner of Education,  
286 or the commissioner's designee, of the needs for (A) professional  
287 development and the training of [paraprofessionals] paraeducators and  
288 the effectiveness of the content and the delivery of existing training for  
289 such [paraprofessionals] paraeducators, (B) appropriate staffing  
290 strategies for [paraprofessionals] paraeducators, and (C) other relevant  
291 issues relating to [paraprofessionals] paraeducators. The council shall  
292 report, annually, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, on  
293 the recommendations given to the commissioner, or the commissioner's  
294 designee, pursuant to the provisions of this section, to the joint standing  
295 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
296 relating to education.

297       Sec. 9. Subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 10-156gg of the 2024  
298 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is  
299 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

300       (2) "Minority candidate" means an individual who is a minority and  
301 employed by a local or regional board of education as a [school  
302 paraprofessional] paraeducator or an associate instructor;

303       Sec. 10. Section 10-212a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
304 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

305       (a) (1) A school nurse or, in the absence of such nurse, any other nurse  
306 licensed pursuant to the provisions of chapter 378, including a nurse  
307 employed by, or providing services under the direction of a local or  
308 regional board of education at, a school-based health clinic, who shall  
309 administer medical preparations only to students enrolled in such  
310 school-based health clinic in the absence of a school nurse, the principal,  
311 any teacher, licensed athletic trainer, licensed physical or occupational

312 therapist employed by a school district, or coach of intramural and  
313 interscholastic athletics of a school may administer, subject to the  
314 provisions of subdivision (2) of this subsection, medicinal preparations,  
315 including such controlled drugs as the Commissioner of Consumer  
316 Protection may, by regulation, designate, to any student at such school  
317 pursuant to the written order of a physician licensed to practice  
318 medicine, or a dentist licensed to practice dental medicine in this or  
319 another state, or an optometrist licensed to practice optometry in this  
320 state under chapter 380, or an advanced practice registered nurse  
321 licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-94a, or a physician  
322 assistant licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-12d, and the  
323 written authorization of a parent or guardian of such child. The  
324 administration of medicinal preparations by a nurse licensed pursuant  
325 to the provisions of chapter 378, a principal, teacher, licensed athletic  
326 trainer, licensed physical or occupational therapist employed by a  
327 school district, or coach shall be under the general supervision of a  
328 school nurse. No such school nurse or other nurse, principal, teacher,  
329 licensed athletic trainer, licensed physical or occupational therapist  
330 employed by a school district, coach or [school paraprofessional]  
331 paraeducator administering medication pursuant to this section shall be  
332 liable to such student or a parent or guardian of such student for civil  
333 damages for any personal injuries that result from acts or omissions of  
334 such school nurse or other nurse, principal, teacher, licensed athletic  
335 trainer, licensed physical or occupational therapist employed by a  
336 school district, coach or [school paraprofessional] paraeducator  
337 administering medication pursuant to this section in administering such  
338 preparations that may constitute ordinary negligence. This immunity  
339 does not apply to acts or omissions constituting gross, wilful or wanton  
340 negligence.

341 (2) Each local and regional board of education that allows a school  
342 nurse or, in the absence of such nurse, any other nurse licensed pursuant  
343 to the provisions of chapter 378, including a nurse employed by, or  
344 providing services under the direction of a local or regional board of  
345 education at, a school-based health clinic, who shall administer medical

346 preparations only to students enrolled in such school-based health clinic  
347 in the absence of a school nurse, the principal, any teacher, licensed  
348 athletic trainer, licensed physical or occupational therapist employed by  
349 a school district, coach of intramural and interscholastic athletics or  
350 [school paraprofessional] paraeducator of a school to administer  
351 medicine or that allows a student to possess, self-administer or possess  
352 and self-administer medicine, including medicine administered  
353 through the use of an asthmatic inhaler or an automatic prefilled  
354 cartridge injector or similar automatic injectable equipment, shall adopt  
355 written policies and procedures, in accordance with this section and the  
356 regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, that shall  
357 be approved by the school medical advisor, if any, or other qualified  
358 licensed physician. Once so approved, such administration of  
359 medication shall be in accordance with such policies and procedures.

360 (3) A director of a school readiness program as defined in section 10-  
361 16p or a before or after school program exempt from licensure by the  
362 Department of Public Health pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection  
363 (b) of section 19a-77, or the director's designee, may administer  
364 medications to a child enrolled in such a program in accordance with  
365 regulations adopted by the State Board of Education in accordance with  
366 the provisions of chapter 54. No individual administering medications  
367 pursuant to this subdivision shall be liable to such child or a parent or  
368 guardian of such child for civil damages for any personal injuries that  
369 result from acts or omissions of such individual in administering such  
370 medications which may constitute ordinary negligence. This immunity  
371 shall not apply to acts or omissions constituting gross, wilful or wanton  
372 negligence.

373 (b) Each school wherein any controlled drug is administered under  
374 the provisions of this section shall keep such records thereof as are  
375 required of hospitals under the provisions of subsections (f) and (h) of  
376 section 21a-254 and shall store such drug in such manner as the  
377 Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall, by regulation, require.

378 (c) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the

379 Commissioner of Public Health, shall adopt regulations, in accordance  
380 with the provisions of chapter 54, determined to be necessary by the  
381 board to carry out the provisions of this section, including, but not  
382 limited to, regulations that (1) specify conditions under which a coach  
383 of intramural and interscholastic athletics may administer medicinal  
384 preparations, including controlled drugs specified in the regulations  
385 adopted by the commissioner, to a child participating in such intramural  
386 and interscholastic athletics, (2) specify conditions and procedures for  
387 the administration of medication by school personnel to students,  
388 including, but not limited to, (A) the conditions and procedures for the  
389 storage and administration of epinephrine by school personnel to  
390 students for the purpose of emergency first aid to students who  
391 experience allergic reactions and who do not have a prior written  
392 authorization for the administration of epinephrine, in accordance with  
393 the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of this section, and (B)  
394 the conditions and procedures for the storage and administration of  
395 opioid antagonists by school personnel to students who experience an  
396 opioid-related drug overdose and who do not have a prior written  
397 authorization for the administration of an opioid antagonist, in  
398 accordance with the provisions of subdivision (1) of subsection (g) of  
399 this section, and (3) specify conditions for the possession, self-  
400 administration or possession and self-administration of medication by  
401 students, including permitting a child diagnosed with: (A) Asthma to  
402 retain possession of an asthmatic inhaler at all times while attending  
403 school for prompt treatment of the child's asthma and to protect the  
404 child against serious harm or death provided a written authorization for  
405 self-administration of medication signed by the child's parent or  
406 guardian and an authorized prescriber is submitted to the school nurse;  
407 and (B) an allergic condition to retain possession of an automatic  
408 prefilled cartridge injector or similar automatic injectable equipment at  
409 all times, including while attending school or receiving school  
410 transportation services, for prompt treatment of the child's allergic  
411 condition and to protect the child against serious harm or death  
412 provided a written authorization for self-administration of medication  
413 signed by the child's parent or guardian and an authorized prescriber is

414 submitted to the school nurse. The regulations shall require  
415 authorization pursuant to: (i) The written order of a physician licensed  
416 to practice medicine in this or another state, a dentist licensed to practice  
417 dental medicine in this or another state, an advanced practice registered  
418 nurse licensed under chapter 378, a physician assistant licensed under  
419 chapter 370, a podiatrist licensed under chapter 375, or an optometrist  
420 licensed under chapter 380; and (ii) the written authorization of a parent  
421 or guardian of such child.

422 (d) (1) (A) With the written authorization of a student's parent or  
423 guardian, and (B) pursuant to the written order of a qualified medical  
424 professional, a school nurse and a school medical advisor, if any, may  
425 jointly approve and provide general supervision to an identified [school  
426 paraprofessional] paraeducator to administer medication, including,  
427 but not limited to, medication administered with a cartridge injector, to  
428 a specific student with a medically diagnosed allergic condition that  
429 may require prompt treatment in order to protect the student against  
430 serious harm or death.

431 (2) A school nurse or, in the absence of a school nurse, a qualified  
432 school employee shall maintain epinephrine in cartridge injectors for the  
433 purpose of emergency first aid to students who experience allergic  
434 reactions and do not have a prior written authorization of a parent or  
435 guardian or a prior written order of a qualified medical professional for  
436 the administration of epinephrine. A school nurse or a school principal  
437 shall select qualified school employees to administer such epinephrine  
438 under this subdivision, and there shall be at least one such qualified  
439 school employee on the grounds of the school during regular school  
440 hours in the absence of a school nurse. A school nurse or, in the absence  
441 of such school nurse, such qualified school employee may administer  
442 such epinephrine under this subdivision, provided such administration  
443 of epinephrine is in accordance with policies and procedures adopted  
444 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section. Such administration of  
445 epinephrine by a qualified school employee shall be limited to situations  
446 when the school nurse is absent or unavailable. No qualified school  
447 employee shall administer such epinephrine under this subdivision

448 unless such qualified school employee annually completes the training  
449 program described in section 10-212g. The parent or guardian of a  
450 student may submit, in writing, to the school nurse and school medical  
451 advisor, if any, that epinephrine shall not be administered to such  
452 student under this subdivision.

453 (3) In the case of a student with a medically diagnosed life-  
454 threatening allergic condition, (A) with the written authorization of  
455 such student's parent or guardian, and (B) pursuant to the written order  
456 of a qualified medical professional, such student may possess, self-  
457 administer or possess and self-administer medication, including, but  
458 not limited to, medication administered with a cartridge injector, to  
459 protect such student against serious harm or death.

460 (4) For purposes of this subsection, (A) "cartridge injector" means an  
461 automatic prefilled cartridge injector or similar automatic injectable  
462 equipment used to deliver epinephrine in a standard dose for  
463 emergency first aid response to allergic reactions, (B) "qualified school  
464 employee" means a principal, teacher, licensed athletic trainer, licensed  
465 physical or occupational therapist employed by a school district, coach  
466 or [school paraprofessional] paraeducator, and (C) "qualified medical  
467 professional" means (i) a physician licensed under chapter 370, (ii) an  
468 optometrist licensed to practice optometry under chapter 380, (iii) an  
469 advanced practice registered nurse licensed to prescribe in accordance  
470 with section 20-94a, or (iv) a physician assistant licensed to prescribe in  
471 accordance with section 20-12d.

472 (e) (1) With the written authorization of a student's parent or  
473 guardian, and (2) pursuant to a written order of the student's physician  
474 licensed under chapter 370 or the student's advanced practice registered  
475 nurse licensed under chapter 378, a school nurse or a school principal  
476 shall select, and a school nurse shall provide general supervision to, a  
477 qualified school employee to administer medication with injectable  
478 equipment used to administer glucagon to a student with diabetes that  
479 may require prompt treatment in order to protect the student against  
480 serious harm or death. Such authorization shall be limited to situations

481 when the school nurse is absent or unavailable. No qualified school  
482 employee shall administer medication under this subsection unless (A)  
483 such qualified school employee annually completes any training  
484 required by the school nurse and school medical advisor, if any, in the  
485 administration of medication with injectable equipment used to  
486 administer glucagon, (B) the school nurse and school medical advisor,  
487 if any, have attested, in writing, that such qualified school employee has  
488 completed such training, and (C) such qualified school employee  
489 voluntarily agrees to serve as a qualified school employee. For purposes  
490 of this subsection, "injectable equipment used to administer glucagon"  
491 means an injector or injectable equipment used to deliver glucagon in  
492 an appropriate dose for emergency first aid response to diabetes. For  
493 purposes of this subsection, "qualified school employee" means a  
494 principal, teacher, licensed athletic trainer, licensed physical or  
495 occupational therapist employed by a school district, coach or [school  
496 paraprofessional] paraeducator.

497 (f) (1) (A) With the written authorization of a student's parent or  
498 guardian, and (B) pursuant to the written order of a physician licensed  
499 under chapter 370 or an advanced practice registered nurse licensed  
500 under chapter 378, a school nurse and a school medical advisor, if any,  
501 shall select, and a school nurse shall provide general supervision to, a  
502 qualified school employee to administer antiepileptic medication,  
503 including by rectal syringe, to a specific student with a medically  
504 diagnosed epileptic condition that requires prompt treatment in  
505 accordance with the student's individual seizure action plan. Such  
506 authorization shall be limited to situations when the school nurse is  
507 absent or unavailable. No qualified school employee shall administer  
508 medication under this subsection unless (i) such qualified school  
509 employee annually completes the training program described in  
510 subdivision (2) of this subsection, (ii) the school nurse and school  
511 medical advisor, if any, have attested, in writing, that such qualified  
512 school employee has completed such training, (iii) such qualified school  
513 employee receives monthly reviews by the school nurse to confirm such  
514 qualified school employee's competency to administer antiepileptic



515 medication under this subsection, and (iv) such qualified school  
516 employee voluntarily agrees to serve as a qualified school employee. For  
517 purposes of this subsection, "qualified school employee" means a  
518 principal, teacher, licensed athletic trainer, licensed physical or  
519 occupational therapist employed by a school district, coach or [school  
520 paraprofessional] paraeducator.

521 (2) The Department of Education, in consultation with the School  
522 Nurse Advisory Council, established pursuant to section 10-212f, and  
523 the Association of School Nurses of Connecticut, shall develop an  
524 antiepileptic medication administrating training program. Such training  
525 program shall include instruction in (A) an overview of childhood  
526 epilepsy and types of seizure disorders, (B) interpretation of individual  
527 student's emergency seizure action plan and recognition of individual  
528 student's seizure activity, (C) emergency management procedures for  
529 seizure activity, including administration techniques for emergency  
530 seizure medication, (D) when to activate emergency medical services  
531 and postseizure procedures and follow-up, (E) reporting procedures  
532 after a student has required such delegated emergency seizure  
533 medication, and (F) any other relevant issues or topics related to  
534 emergency interventions for students who experience seizures.

535 (g) (1) A school nurse or, in the absence of a school nurse, a qualified  
536 school employee may maintain opioid antagonists for the purpose of  
537 emergency first aid to students who experience an opioid-related drug  
538 overdose and do not have a prior written authorization of a parent or  
539 guardian or a prior written order of a qualified medical professional for  
540 the administration of such opioid antagonist. A school nurse or a school  
541 principal shall select qualified school employees to administer such  
542 opioid antagonist under this subdivision, and there shall be at least one  
543 such qualified school employee on the grounds of the school during  
544 regular school hours in the absence of a school nurse. A school nurse or,  
545 in the absence of such school nurse, such qualified school employee may  
546 administer such opioid antagonist under this subdivision, provided  
547 such administration of the opioid antagonist is in accordance with  
548 policies and procedures adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of this

549 section. Such administration of an opioid antagonist by a qualified  
550 school employee shall be limited to situations when the school nurse is  
551 absent or unavailable. No school nurse or qualified school employee  
552 shall administer such opioid antagonist under this subdivision unless  
553 such school nurse or qualified school employee completes a training  
554 program in the distribution and administration of an opioid antagonist  
555 developed by the Department of Education, Department of Public  
556 Health and the Department of Consumer Protection, or under an  
557 agreement entered into pursuant to section 21a-286. The parent or  
558 guardian of a student may submit a request, in writing, to the school  
559 nurse and school medical advisor, if any, that an opioid antagonist shall  
560 not be administered to such student under this subdivision.

561 (2) Not later than October 1, 2022, the Department of Education, in  
562 consultation with the Departments of Consumer Protection and Public  
563 Health, shall develop guidelines for use by local and regional boards of  
564 education on the storage and administration of opioid antagonists in  
565 schools in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.

566 (3) For purposes of this subsection, (A) "opioid antagonist" means  
567 naloxone hydrochloride or any other similarly acting and equally safe  
568 drug approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration for the  
569 treatment of a drug overdose, (B) "qualified school employee" means a  
570 principal, teacher, licensed athletic trainer, licensed physical or  
571 occupational therapist employed by a school district, coach or [school  
572 paraprofessional] paraeducator, and (C) "qualified medical  
573 professional" means (i) a physician licensed under chapter 370, (ii) an  
574 optometrist licensed to practice optometry under chapter 380, (iii) an  
575 advanced practice registered nurse licensed to prescribe in accordance  
576 with section 20-94a, or (iv) a physician assistant licensed to prescribe in  
577 accordance with section 20-12d.

578 Sec. 11. Subsection (a) of section 10-220a of the 2024 supplement to  
579 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
580 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

581 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall provide an in-  
582 service training program for its teachers, administrators and pupil  
583 personnel who hold the initial educator, provisional educator or  
584 professional educator certificate. Such program shall provide such  
585 teachers, administrators and pupil personnel with information on (1)  
586 the nature and the relationship of alcohol and drugs, as defined in  
587 section 21a-240, to health and personality development, and procedures  
588 for discouraging their abuse, (2) health and mental health risk reduction  
589 education that includes, but need not be limited to, the prevention of  
590 risk-taking behavior by children and the relationship of such behavior  
591 to substance abuse, pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, including  
592 HIV-infection and AIDS, as defined in section 19a-581, violence, teen  
593 dating violence, domestic violence and child abuse, (3) school violence  
594 prevention, conflict resolution, the prevention of and response to youth  
595 suicide and the identification and prevention of and response to  
596 bullying, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10-222d, as amended by  
597 this act, except that (A) those boards of education that implement any  
598 evidence-based model approach that is approved by the Department of  
599 Education and is consistent with subsection (c) of section 10-145a,  
600 sections 10-222d, as amended by this act, 10-222g and 10-222h,  
601 subsection (g) of section 10-233c and sections 1 and 3 of public act 08-  
602 160, shall not be required to provide in-service training on the  
603 identification and prevention of and response to bullying, and (B) such  
604 school violence prevention training shall be in a manner prescribed in a  
605 school security and safety plan, in accordance with the provisions of  
606 section 10-222n, (4) cardiopulmonary resuscitation and other emergency  
607 life saving procedures, (5) the requirements and obligations of a  
608 mandated reporter, (6) the detection and recognition of, and evidence-  
609 based structured literacy interventions for, students with dyslexia, as  
610 defined in section 10-3d, (7) culturally responsive pedagogy and  
611 practice, including, but not limited to, the video training module  
612 relating to implicit bias and anti-bias in the hiring process in accordance  
613 with the provisions of section 10-156hh, (8) the principles and practices  
614 of social-emotional learning and restorative practices, (9) the laws  
615 governing the implementation of planning and placement team

616 meetings and concerning plans pursuant to Section 504 of the  
617 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended from time to time, (10) an annual  
618 update of the new state and federal policies concerning special  
619 education, recommendations and best practices, and (11) emergency  
620 response to students who experience a seizure in a school, including,  
621 but not limited to, the recognition of the signs and symptoms of  
622 seizures, the appropriate steps for seizure first aid, information about  
623 seizure action plans for students and, for those authorized to administer  
624 medication under section 10-212a, as amended by this act, the  
625 administration of seizure rescue medication or prescribed electrical  
626 stimulation using a Vagus Nerve Stimulator magnet. Each local or  
627 regional board of education shall allow any [school] paraeducator or  
628 noncertified employee to participate, on a voluntary basis, in any in-  
629 service training program provided pursuant to this section.

630       Sec. 12. Subsection (a) of section 10-220a of the 2024 supplement to  
631 the general statutes, as amended by section 60 of public act 23-167, is  
632 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
633 *2025*):

634       (a) Each local or regional board of education shall provide an in-  
635 service training program for its teachers, administrators and pupil  
636 personnel who hold the initial educator, provisional educator or  
637 professional educator certificate. Such program shall provide such  
638 teachers, administrators and pupil personnel with information on (1)  
639 the nature and the relationship of alcohol and drugs, as defined in  
640 [subdivision (17) of] section 21a-240, to health and personality  
641 development, and procedures for discouraging their abuse, (2) health  
642 and mental health risk reduction education that includes, but need not  
643 be limited to, the prevention of risk-taking behavior by children and the  
644 relationship of such behavior to substance abuse, pregnancy, sexually  
645 transmitted diseases, including HIV-infection and AIDS, as defined in  
646 section 19a-581, violence, teen dating violence, domestic violence and  
647 child abuse, (3) school violence prevention, conflict resolution, the  
648 prevention of and response to youth suicide and the identification and  
649 prevention of and response to bullying, as defined in section 10-222aa,

650 except that (A) those boards of education that implement any evidence-  
651 based model approach that is approved by the Department of Education  
652 and is consistent with subsection (c) of section 10-145a, subsection (g) of  
653 section 10-233c and sections 1 and 3 of public act 08-160, shall not be  
654 required to provide in-service training on the identification and  
655 prevention of and response to bullying, and (B) such school violence  
656 prevention training shall be in a manner prescribed in a school security  
657 and safety plan, in accordance with the provisions of section 10-222n, (4)  
658 cardiopulmonary resuscitation and other emergency life saving  
659 procedures, (5) the requirements and obligations of a mandated  
660 reporter, (6) the detection and recognition of, and evidence-based  
661 structured literacy interventions for, students with dyslexia, as defined  
662 in section 10-3d, (7) culturally responsive pedagogy and practice,  
663 including, but not limited to, the video training module relating to  
664 implicit bias and anti-bias in the hiring process in accordance with the  
665 provisions of section 10-156hh, [and] (8) the principles and practices of  
666 social-emotional learning and restorative practices, (9) the laws  
667 governing the implementation of planning and placement team  
668 meetings and concerning plans pursuant to Section 504 of the  
669 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended from time to time, (10) an annual  
670 update of the new state and federal policies concerning special  
671 education, recommendations and best practices, and (11) emergency  
672 response to students who experience a seizure in a school, including,  
673 but not limited to, the recognition of the signs and symptoms of  
674 seizures, the appropriate steps for seizure first aid, information about  
675 seizure action plans for students and, for those authorized to administer  
676 medication under section 10-212a, as amended by this act, the  
677 administration of seizure rescue medication or prescribed electrical  
678 stimulation using a Vagus Nerve Stimulator magnet. Each local or  
679 regional board of education may allow any [paraprofessional]  
680 paraeducator or noncertified employee to participate, on a voluntary  
681 basis, in any in-service training program provided pursuant to this  
682 section.

683       Sec. 13. Subsection (b) of section 10-221o of the general statutes is

684 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
685 *2024*):

686 (b) For the school year commencing July 1, 2022, and each school year  
687 thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall adopt a  
688 policy, as the board deems appropriate, concerning the circumstances  
689 when a school employee may prevent or otherwise restrict a student  
690 from participating in the entire time devoted to physical exercise in the  
691 regular school day, pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, as a form  
692 of discipline. Such policy shall (1) permit such prevention or restriction  
693 (A) when a student poses a danger to the health or safety of other  
694 students or school personnel, or (B) when such prevention or restriction  
695 is limited to the period devoted to physical exercise that is the shortest  
696 in duration if there are two or more periods devoted to physical exercise  
697 in a school day, provided the period of time devoted to physical exercise  
698 that such student may participate in during such school day is at least  
699 twenty minutes in duration, (2) only permit such prevention or  
700 restriction once during a school week, unless such student is a danger  
701 to the health or safety of other students or school personnel, (3) not  
702 include any provisions that such board determines are unreasonably  
703 restrictive or punitive, (4) distinguish between (A) discipline imposed  
704 prior to the start of such time devoted to physical exercise and discipline  
705 imposed during such time devoted to physical exercise, and (B)  
706 discipline that (i) prevents or otherwise restricts a student from  
707 participating in such time devoted to physical exercise prior to such time  
708 devoted to physical exercise, and (ii) methods used to redirect a  
709 student's behavior during such time devoted to physical exercise, and  
710 (5) not permit such prevention or restriction if a student does not  
711 complete such student's work on time or for such student's academic  
712 performance. For purposes of this section, "school employee" means (A)  
713 a teacher, substitute teacher, school administrator, school  
714 superintendent, guidance counselor, school counselor, psychologist,  
715 social worker, nurse, physician, [school paraprofessional] paraeducator  
716 or coach employed by a local or regional board of education or working  
717 in a public elementary, middle or high school; or (B) any other

718 individual who, in the performance of his or her duties, has regular  
719 contact with students and who provides services to or on behalf of  
720 students enrolled in a public elementary, middle or high school,  
721 pursuant to a contract with the local or regional board of education.

722 Sec. 14. Section 10-221u of the general statutes is repealed and the  
723 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

724 Not later than October 1, 2013, each local and regional board of  
725 education shall adopt a policy, as the board deems appropriate,  
726 concerning the issue regarding any school employee being involved in  
727 requiring any student enrolled in grades kindergarten to twelve,  
728 inclusive, to engage in physical activity as a form of discipline during  
729 the regular school day. For purposes of this section, "school employee"  
730 means (1) a teacher, substitute teacher, school administrator, school  
731 superintendent, guidance counselor, school counselor, psychologist,  
732 social worker, nurse, physician, [school paraprofessional] paraeducator  
733 or coach employed by a local or regional board of education or working  
734 in a public elementary, middle or high school; or (2) any other  
735 individual who, in the performance of his or her duties, has regular  
736 contact with students and who provides services to or on behalf of  
737 students enrolled in a public elementary, middle or high school,  
738 pursuant to a contract with the local or regional board of education.

739 Sec. 15. Subdivision (8) of subsection (a) of section 10-222d of the  
740 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
741 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

742 (8) "School employee" means (A) a teacher, substitute teacher, school  
743 administrator, school superintendent, guidance counselor, school  
744 counselor, psychologist, social worker, nurse, physician, [school  
745 paraprofessional] paraeducator or coach employed by a local or regional  
746 board of education or working in a public elementary, middle or high  
747 school; or (B) any other individual who, in the performance of his or her  
748 duties, has regular contact with students and who provides services to  
749 or on behalf of students enrolled in a public elementary, middle or high

750 school, pursuant to a contract with the local or regional board of  
751 education;

752 Sec. 16. Subsections (d) to (g), inclusive, of section 10-223e of the  
753 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
754 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

755 (d) (1) For those schools classified as category three schools, the  
756 department may require such schools to (A) develop and implement  
757 plans consistent with this section and federal law to elevate the school  
758 from low achieving status, and (B) be the subject of actions as described  
759 in the state-wide performance management and support plan, prepared  
760 in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of  
761 this section.

762 (2) For those schools classified as category three schools, the  
763 department may require the local or regional board of education for  
764 such schools to collaborate with the regional educational service center  
765 that serves the area in which such schools are located to develop plans  
766 to ensure such schools provide (A) early education opportunities, (B)  
767 summer school, (C) extended school day or year programming, (D)  
768 weekend classes, (E) tutorial assistance to their students, or (F)  
769 professional development to their administrators, principals, teachers  
770 and [paraprofessionals] paraeducators. In requiring any educational  
771 program authorized by this subdivision, the Commissioner of  
772 Education may limit the offering of such program to the subgroup of  
773 students that have failed to reach performance benchmarks or those in  
774 transitional or milestone grades or those who are otherwise at  
775 substantial risk of educational failure as described in the state-wide  
776 performance management and support plan, prepared in accordance  
777 with the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section.

778 (e) (1) (A) Any school or school district identified as in need of  
779 improvement pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this  
780 section and requiring corrective action pursuant to the requirements of  
781 the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110, shall be designated and



782 listed as a low achieving school or school district and shall be subject to  
783 intensified supervision and direction by the State Board of Education.

784 (B) Any school classified as a category four school or category five  
785 school or a school designated as a focus school shall be designated as  
786 low achieving and shall be subject to intensified supervision and  
787 direction by the State Board of Education.

788 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of this title or any regulation  
789 adopted pursuant to said title, except as provided in subdivision (3) of  
790 this subsection, in carrying out the provisions of subdivision (1) of this  
791 subsection and this subdivision, the State Board of Education shall take  
792 any of the following actions to improve student performance of the  
793 school district, a particular school in the district or among student  
794 subgroups, and remove the school or district from the list of schools or  
795 districts designated and listed as a low achieving school or district  
796 pursuant to said subdivision (1), and to address other needs of the  
797 school or district: (A) Require an operations audit to identify possible  
798 programmatic savings and an instructional audit to identify any deficits  
799 in curriculum and instruction or in the learning environment of the  
800 school or district; (B) require the local or regional board of education for  
801 such school or district to use state and federal funds for critical needs,  
802 as directed by the State Board of Education; (C) provide incentives to  
803 attract highly qualified teachers and principals; (D) direct the transfer  
804 and assignment of teachers and principals; (E) require additional  
805 training and technical assistance for parents and guardians of children  
806 attending the school or a school in the district and for teachers,  
807 principals, and central office staff members hired by the district; (F)  
808 require the local or regional board of education for the school or district  
809 to implement model curriculum, including, but not limited to,  
810 recommended textbooks, materials and supplies approved by the  
811 Department of Education; (G) identify schools for reconstitution, as may  
812 be phased in by the commissioner, as state or local charter schools,  
813 schools established pursuant to section 10-74g, innovation schools  
814 established pursuant to section 10-74h, or schools based on other models  
815 for school improvement, or for management by an entity other than the

816 local or regional board of education for the district in which the school  
817 is located; (H) direct the local or regional board of education for the  
818 school or district to develop and implement a plan addressing deficits  
819 in achievement and in the learning environment as recommended in the  
820 instructional audit; (I) assign a technical assistance team to the school or  
821 district to guide school or district initiatives and report progress to the  
822 Commissioner of Education; (J) establish instructional and learning  
823 environment benchmarks for the school or district to meet as it  
824 progresses toward removal from the list of low achieving schools or  
825 districts; (K) provide funding to any proximate district to a district  
826 designated as a low achieving school district so that students in a low  
827 achieving district may attend public school in a neighboring district; (L)  
828 direct the establishment of learning academies within schools that  
829 require continuous monitoring of student performance by teacher  
830 groups; (M) require a local or regional board of education to (i) undergo  
831 training designed to improve the operational efficiency and  
832 effectiveness of the board of education as leaders of its district  
833 improvement plans by distinguishing and making clear the proper roles  
834 and different functions of the board of education, including the  
835 responsibility of developing the improvement plans and education  
836 policy for the district, and the school and district-level administrators,  
837 including the responsibility of implementing such improvement plans  
838 and policies, and (ii) submit an annual action plan to the Commissioner  
839 of Education outlining how, when and in what manner their  
840 effectiveness shall be monitored; (N) require the appointment of (i) a  
841 superintendent, approved by the Commissioner of Education, or (ii) a  
842 district improvement officer, selected by the commissioner, whose  
843 authority is consistent with the provisions of section 138 of public act  
844 11-61, and whose term shall be for one school year, except that the State  
845 Board of Education may extend such period; or (O) any combination of  
846 the actions described in this subdivision or similar, closely related  
847 actions.

848 (3) If a directive of the State Board of Education pursuant to  
849 subparagraph (C), (D), (E), (G) or (L) of subdivision (2) of this subsection

850 or a directive to implement a plan pursuant to subparagraph (H) of said  
851 subdivision (2) affects working conditions, such directive shall be  
852 carried out in accordance with the provisions of sections 10-153a to 10-  
853 153n, inclusive.

854 (f) The State Board of Education shall monitor the progress of each  
855 school or district designated as a low achieving school or district  
856 pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of this section and provide  
857 notice to the local or regional board of education for each such school or  
858 district of the school or district's progress toward meeting the  
859 benchmarks established by the State Board of Education pursuant to  
860 subsection (e) of this section. If a school or district fails to make  
861 acceptable progress toward meeting such benchmarks established by  
862 the State Board of Education or fails to make adequate yearly progress  
863 pursuant to the requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-  
864 110, for two consecutive years while designated as a low achieving  
865 school district, the State Board of Education, after consultation with the  
866 Governor and chief elected official or officials of the district, may (1)  
867 request that the General Assembly enact legislation authorizing that  
868 control of the district be reassigned to the State Board of Education or  
869 other authorized entity, or (2) notwithstanding the provisions of chapter  
870 146, any special act, charter or ordinance, grant the Commissioner of  
871 Education the authority to reconstitute the local or regional board of  
872 education for such school district in accordance with the provisions of  
873 subsection (i) of this section.

874 (g) Any school district or elementary school after two successive  
875 years of failing to make adequate yearly progress shall be designated as  
876 a low achieving school district or school and shall be evaluated by the  
877 Commissioner of Education. After such evaluation, the commissioner  
878 may require that such school district or school provide full-day  
879 kindergarten classes, summer school, extended school day, weekend  
880 classes, tutorial assistance to its students or professional development  
881 to its administrators, principals, teachers and [paraprofessional teacher  
882 aides] paraeducators if (1) on any subpart of the mastery examination  
883 administered to students in grade three, pursuant to section 10-14n,

884 thirty per cent or more of the students in any subgroup, as defined by  
885 the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110, do not achieve the level of  
886 proficiency or higher, or (2) the commissioner determines that it would  
887 be in the best educational interests of the school or the school district to  
888 have any of these programs. In ordering any educational program  
889 authorized by this subsection, the commissioner may limit the offering  
890 of the program to the subgroup of students that have failed to achieve  
891 proficiency as determined by this subsection, those in particular grades  
892 or those who are otherwise at substantial risk of educational failure. The  
893 costs of instituting the ordered educational programs shall be borne by  
894 the identified low achieving school district or the school district in  
895 which an identified low achieving school is located. The commissioner  
896 shall not order an educational program that costs more to implement  
897 than the total increase in the amount of the grant that a town receives  
898 pursuant to section 10-262i in any fiscal year above the prior fiscal year.

899 Sec. 17. Subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 10-223j of the  
900 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
901 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

902 (4) The provisions of subdivisions (1) to (3), inclusive, of this  
903 subsection shall not apply to a school described in said subdivisions if  
904 (A) such school consists of a single grade level, or (B) such school is  
905 under the jurisdiction of a local or regional board of education that has  
906 adopted a similar school governance council model on or before July 1,  
907 2011, that consists of parents, teachers from each grade level or subject  
908 area, administrators and [paraprofessionals] paraeducators and such  
909 school governance council model is being administered at such school  
910 at the time such school is so identified as in need of improvement or so  
911 designated as a low achieving school.

912 Sec. 18. Subsection (o) of section 10-236b of the 2024 supplement to  
913 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
914 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

915 (o) (1) Each local or regional board of education shall provide training

916 regarding the physical restraint and seclusion of students to the  
917 members of the crisis intervention team for each school in the district,  
918 identified pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection. A local or  
919 regional board of education may provide such training to any teacher,  
920 as defined in section 10-144d, administrator, as defined in section 10-  
921 144e, [school paraprofessional] paraeducator or other school employee,  
922 as defined in section 10-222d, as amended by this act, designated by the  
923 school principal and who has direct contact with students. Such training  
924 shall be provided during the school year commencing July 1, 2017, and  
925 each school year thereafter, and shall include, but not be limited to:

926 (A) An overview of the relevant laws and regulations regarding the  
927 use of physical restraint and seclusion on students and the proper uses  
928 of physical restraint and seclusion. For the school year commencing July  
929 1, 2017, and annually thereafter, such overview shall be provided by the  
930 Department of Education, in a manner and form as prescribed by the  
931 Commissioner of Education;

932 (B) The creation of a plan by which each local and regional board of  
933 education shall provide training regarding the prevention of incidents  
934 requiring physical restraint or seclusion of students. Such plan shall be  
935 implemented not later than July 1, 2018. The Department of Education  
936 may, within available appropriations, provide ongoing monitoring and  
937 support to local or regional boards of education regarding the  
938 formulation and implementation of the plan; and

939 (C) The creation of a plan by which each local or regional board of  
940 education shall provide training regarding the proper means of physical  
941 restraint or seclusion of a student, including, but not limited to, (i)  
942 various types of physical restraint and seclusion; (ii) the differences  
943 between life-threatening physical restraint and other varying levels of  
944 physical restraint; (iii) the differences between permissible physical  
945 restraint and pain compliance techniques; and (iv) monitoring methods  
946 to prevent harm to a student who is physically restrained or in seclusion.  
947 Such plan shall be implemented not later than July 1, 2018;

948       (2) For the school year commencing July 1, 2017, and each school year  
949 thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall require each  
950 school in the district to identify a crisis intervention team consisting of  
951 any teacher, as defined in section 10-144d, administrator, as defined in  
952 section 10-144e, [school paraprofessional] paraeducator or other school  
953 employee, as defined in section 10-222d, as amended by this act,  
954 designated by the school principal and who has direct contact with  
955 students. Such teams shall respond to any incident in which the use of  
956 physical restraint or seclusion may be necessary as an emergency  
957 intervention to prevent immediate or imminent injury to a student or to  
958 others. Each member of the crisis intervention team shall be recertified  
959 in the use of physical restraint and seclusion pursuant to subparagraph  
960 (C) of subdivision (1) of this subsection or chapter 814e on an annual  
961 basis. Each local and regional board of education shall maintain a list of  
962 the members of the crisis intervention team for each school.

963       Sec. 19. Subsection (o) of section 10-236b of the 2024 supplement to  
964 the general statutes, as amended by section 67 of public act 23-167, is  
965 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
966 *2025*):

967       (o) (1) Each local or regional board of education shall provide training  
968 regarding the physical restraint and seclusion of students to the  
969 members of the crisis intervention team for each school in the district,  
970 identified pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection. A local or  
971 regional board of education may provide such training to any teacher,  
972 as defined in section 10-144d, administrator, as defined in section 10-  
973 144e, [school paraprofessional] paraeducator or other school employee,  
974 as defined in section 10-222aa, designated by the school principal and  
975 who has direct contact with students. Such training shall be provided  
976 during the school year commencing July 1, 2017, and each school year  
977 thereafter, and shall include, but not be limited to:

978       (A) An overview of the relevant laws and regulations regarding the  
979 use of physical restraint and seclusion on students and the proper uses  
980 of physical restraint and seclusion. For the school year commencing July

981 1, 2017, and annually thereafter, such overview shall be provided by the  
982 Department of Education, in a manner and form as prescribed by the  
983 Commissioner of Education;

984 (B) The creation of a plan by which each local and regional board of  
985 education shall provide training regarding the prevention of incidents  
986 requiring physical restraint or seclusion of students. Such plan shall be  
987 implemented not later than July 1, 2018. The Department of Education  
988 may, within available appropriations, provide ongoing monitoring and  
989 support to local or regional boards of education regarding the  
990 formulation and implementation of the plan; and

991 (C) The creation of a plan by which each local or regional board of  
992 education shall provide training regarding the proper means of physical  
993 restraint or seclusion of a student, including, but not limited to, (i)  
994 various types of physical restraint and seclusion; (ii) the differences  
995 between life-threatening physical restraint and other varying levels of  
996 physical restraint; (iii) the differences between permissible physical  
997 restraint and pain compliance techniques; and (iv) monitoring methods  
998 to prevent harm to a student who is physically restrained or in seclusion.  
999 Such plan shall be implemented not later than July 1, 2018;

1000 (2) For the school year commencing July 1, 2017, and each school year  
1001 thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall require each  
1002 school in the district to identify a crisis intervention team consisting of  
1003 any teacher, as defined in section 10-144d, administrator, as defined in  
1004 section 10-144e, [school paraprofessional] paraeducator or other school  
1005 employee, as defined in section 10-222aa, designated by the school  
1006 principal and who has direct contact with students. Such teams shall  
1007 respond to any incident in which the use of physical restraint or  
1008 seclusion may be necessary as an emergency intervention to prevent  
1009 immediate or imminent injury to a student or to others. Each member of  
1010 the crisis intervention team shall be recertified in the use of physical  
1011 restraint and seclusion pursuant to subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1)  
1012 of this subsection or chapter 814e on an annual basis. Each local and  
1013 regional board of education shall maintain a list of the members of the

1014 crisis intervention team for each school.

1015 Sec. 20. Subsection (a) of section 10-239e of the general statutes is  
1016 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
1017 *2024*):

1018 (a) The demonstration board shall authorize the parents or legal  
1019 guardian of scholarship recipients to use the demonstration  
1020 scholarships at any public or private school in which the scholarship  
1021 recipient is enrolled provided such public or private school: (1) Meets  
1022 all educational, fiscal, health and safety standards required by law, (2)  
1023 does not discriminate against the admission of students and the hiring  
1024 of teachers on the basis of race, color or economic status and has filed a  
1025 certificate with the State Board of Education that the school is in  
1026 compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, (3) in no case  
1027 levies or requires any tuition, fee or charge above the value of the  
1028 education scholarship, (4) is free from sectarian control or influence  
1029 except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, (5) provides public  
1030 access to all financial and administrative records and provides to the  
1031 parent or guardian of each eligible child in the demonstration area  
1032 comprehensive information, in written form, on the courses of study  
1033 offered, curriculum, materials and textbooks, the qualifications of  
1034 teachers, administrators and [paraprofessionals] paraeducators, the  
1035 minimum school day, the salary schedules, financial reports of money  
1036 spent per pupil and such other information as may be required by the  
1037 demonstration board, (6) provides periodic reports to the parents on the  
1038 average progress of the pupils enrolled, and (7) meets any additional  
1039 requirements established for all participating schools by the  
1040 demonstration board.

1041 Sec. 21. Subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 17a-812 of the  
1042 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
1043 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

1044 (1) The Commissioner of Aging and Disability Services shall provide,  
1045 upon written request from any interested school district, the services of



1046 teachers who instruct students who are visually impaired, based on the  
1047 levels established in the individualized education or service plan. The  
1048 Commissioner of Aging and Disability Services shall also make  
1049 available resources, including, but not limited to, the braille and large  
1050 print library, to all teachers of public and nonpublic school children. The  
1051 commissioner may also provide vision-related professional  
1052 development and training to all school districts and cover the actual cost  
1053 for [paraprofessionals] paraeducators from school districts to  
1054 participate in agency-sponsored braille training programs. The  
1055 commissioner shall utilize education consultant positions, funded by  
1056 moneys appropriated from the General Fund, to supplement new  
1057 staffing that will be made available through the educational aid for  
1058 children who are blind or visually impaired account, which shall be  
1059 governed by formal written policies established by the commissioner.

1060       Sec. 22. Section 31-51rr of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1061 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

1062       (a) Each political subdivision of the state shall grant any employee of  
1063 such political subdivision who is (1) a party to a marriage in which the  
1064 other party is of the same sex as the employee, and who has been  
1065 employed for at least twelve months by such employer and for at least  
1066 one thousand two hundred fifty hours of service with such employer  
1067 during the previous twelve-month period the same family and medical  
1068 leave benefits under the federal Family and Medical Leave Act, P.L. 103-  
1069 3, and 29 CFR 825.112, as are provided to an employee who is a party to  
1070 a marriage in which the other party is of the opposite sex of such  
1071 employee, or (2) on or after the effective date of regulations adopted  
1072 pursuant to subsection (f) of this section, a [school paraprofessional in  
1073 an educational setting] paraeducator who has been employed in an  
1074 educational setting for at least twelve months by such employer and for  
1075 at least nine hundred fifty hours of service with such employer during  
1076 the previous twelve-month period the same family and medical leave  
1077 benefits provided under subdivision (1) of this subsection to an  
1078 employee who has been employed for at least twelve months by such  
1079 employer and for at least one thousand two hundred fifty hours of

1080 service with such employer during the previous twelve-month period.

1081 (b) (1) Any employee of a political subdivision of the state who has  
1082 worked at least twelve months and one thousand two hundred fifty  
1083 hours for such employer during the previous twelve-month period, or  
1084 (2) on or after the effective date of regulations adopted pursuant to  
1085 subsection (f) of this section, a [school paraprofessional in an  
1086 educational setting] paraeducator who has been employed in an  
1087 educational setting for at least twelve months by such employer and for  
1088 at least nine hundred fifty hours of service with such employer during  
1089 the previous twelve-month period may request leave in order to serve  
1090 as an organ or bone marrow donor, provided such employee may be  
1091 required, prior to the inception of such leave, to provide sufficient  
1092 written certification from the physician of such employee, a physician  
1093 assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse of the proposed organ  
1094 or bone marrow donation and the probable duration of the employee's  
1095 recovery from such donation.

1096 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed as authorizing leave in  
1097 addition to the total of twelve workweeks of leave during any twelve-  
1098 month period provided under the federal Family and Medical Leave  
1099 Act, P.L. 103-3.

1100 (d) The Labor Department shall enforce compliance with the  
1101 provisions of this section.

1102 (e) For the purposes of subdivision (2) of subsections (a) and (b) of  
1103 this section, no hours of service worked by a [paraprofessional]  
1104 paraeducator prior to the effective date of regulations adopted pursuant  
1105 to subsection (f) of this section shall be included in the requisite nine  
1106 hundred fifty hours of service.

1107 (f) The Labor Commissioner shall adopt regulations for the provision  
1108 of family and medical leave benefits to [school paraprofessionals]  
1109 paraeducators employed in an educational setting pursuant to this  
1110 section.

1111 Sec. 23. Subsection (a) of section 46a-11b of the general statutes is  
1112 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
1113 *2024*):

1114 (a) Any physician or surgeon licensed under the provisions of chapter  
1115 370, any resident physician or intern in any hospital in this state,  
1116 whether or not so licensed, any registered nurse, any person paid for  
1117 caring for persons in any facility and any licensed practical nurse,  
1118 medical examiner, dental hygienist, dentist, occupational therapist,  
1119 optometrist, chiropractor, psychologist, podiatrist, social worker, school  
1120 teacher, school principal, school guidance counselor, school counselor,  
1121 [school paraprofessional] paraeducator, licensed behavior analyst,  
1122 mental health professional, physician assistant, licensed or certified  
1123 substance abuse counselor, licensed marital and family therapist, speech  
1124 and language pathologist, clergyman, police officer, pharmacist,  
1125 physical therapist, licensed professional counselor or sexual assault  
1126 counselor or domestic violence counselor, as defined in section 52-146k,  
1127 who has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that any person with  
1128 intellectual disability or any person who receives services from the  
1129 Department of Social Services' Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder  
1130 Services has been abused or neglected shall, as soon as practicable but  
1131 not later than forty-eight hours after such person has reasonable cause  
1132 to suspect or believe that a person with intellectual disability or any  
1133 person who receives services from the Department of Social Services'  
1134 Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services has been abused or  
1135 neglected, report such information or cause a report to be made in any  
1136 reasonable manner to the commissioner, or the commissioner's  
1137 designee. An unsuccessful attempt to make an initial report to the  
1138 commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, on a weekend, holiday  
1139 or after normal business hours shall not be construed as a violation of  
1140 this section if reasonable attempts are made by a person required to  
1141 report under this subsection to reach the commissioner, or the  
1142 commissioner's designee, as soon as practicable after the initial attempt.  
1143 The initial report shall be followed up by a written report not later than  
1144 five calendar days after the initial report was made. Any person

1145 required to report under this subsection who fails to make such report  
1146 shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars. For purposes of this  
1147 subsection, "reasonable manner" and "reasonable attempts" mean efforts  
1148 that include, but are not limited to, efforts to reach the commissioner, or  
1149 the commissioner's designee, by phone, in person or by electronic mail.

1150 Sec. 24. Subdivision (13) of section 53a-65 of the 2024 supplement to  
1151 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
1152 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

1153 (13) "School employee" means: (A) A teacher, substitute teacher,  
1154 school administrator, school superintendent, guidance counselor,  
1155 school counselor, psychologist, social worker, nurse, physician, [school  
1156 paraprofessional] paraeducator or coach employed by a local or regional  
1157 board of education or a private elementary, middle or high school or  
1158 working in a public or private elementary, middle or high school; or (B)  
1159 any other person who, in the performance of his or her duties, has  
1160 regular contact with students and who provides services to or on behalf  
1161 of students enrolled in (i) a public elementary, middle or high school,  
1162 pursuant to a contract with the local or regional board of education, or  
1163 (ii) a private elementary, middle or high school, pursuant to a contract  
1164 with the supervisory agent of such private school.

1165 Sec. 25. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than September 1, 2024, the  
1166 Department of Education shall distribute the amount allocated to the  
1167 department for paraeducator professional development for the fiscal  
1168 year ending June 30, 2023, from the federal funds designated for the  
1169 state pursuant to the provisions of Section 602 of Subtitle M of Title IX  
1170 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, as amended from  
1171 time to time, to each local or regional board of education, on a pro rata  
1172 basis for the number of paraeducators employed by such board, to cover  
1173 the cost of providing professional development and in-service training  
1174 to paraeducators.

1175 Sec. 26. Section 203 of public act 23-204 is repealed and the following  
1176 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

1177 (a) As used in this section:

1178 (1) "Health benefit plan" has the same meaning as provided in section  
1179 38a-1080 of the general statutes, and

1180 (2) "Partnership plan" has the same meaning as provided in section 3-  
1181 123aaa of the general statutes.

1182 (b) For the fiscal [year] years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025,  
1183 the Comptroller shall establish a program to provide a subsidy, within  
1184 available appropriations, to each paraeducator who (1) opens a health  
1185 savings account, pursuant to Section 223 of the Internal Revenue Code  
1186 of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the  
1187 United States, as amended from time to time, or is eligible for Medicare  
1188 and enrolls in a high deductible health plan, and (2) is employed by a  
1189 local or regional board of education. [, and (3) applies for such program  
1190 in the form and manner prescribed by the Comptroller.] Such subsidy  
1191 shall be in an amount up to a certain percentage, as specified by the  
1192 Comptroller, of the [initial investment made by such paraeducator to  
1193 open a health savings account,] deductible for the health plan in which  
1194 such paraeducator is enrolled, minus the amount of any employer  
1195 contributions to a health savings account or health reimbursement  
1196 account, and not exceeding an amount specified by the Comptroller. No  
1197 paraeducator may receive more than one subsidy pursuant to this  
1198 section. The Comptroller may work with the local or regional board of  
1199 education that employs such paraeducator to distribute such subsidy.

1200 (c) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, the Comptroller shall  
1201 establish a program to provide a subsidy, from any funds appropriated  
1202 for such purpose, to each local or regional board of education that  
1203 provides coverage to paraeducators and their dependents under a  
1204 health benefit plan or a partnership plan for such fiscal year or any  
1205 portion thereof. Such subsidy shall be (1) in an amount not more than  
1206 ten per cent of the aggregate premium cost, inclusive of the employee  
1207 and employer shares, paid by such board of education for coverage  
1208 under such health benefit plan or partnership plan, divided by the

1209 number of paraeducators employed by such board of education and  
1210 enrolled in health coverage, and (2) used to offset the employee's share  
1211 of such premium that is deducted from the payroll check of each  
1212 paraeducator employed by such board of education during any pay  
1213 period during such fiscal year. The provisions of this subsection shall  
1214 not apply to a local or regional board of education that provides  
1215 coverage under a high deductible health plan, as that term is used in  
1216 subsection (f) of section 38a-520 of the general statutes.

1217 (d) Not later than October 1, 2024, each local and regional board of  
1218 education shall report to the Comptroller information concerning the  
1219 health benefit plan through which it provides coverage to employees.  
1220 Such information shall include (1) the premium cost for coverage under  
1221 such plan, (2) the level of coverage provided under such plan, (3) the  
1222 number of employees covered under such plan, and (4) any other  
1223 information requested by the Comptroller.

1224 (e) The Comptroller shall conduct a cost-benefit analysis of each local  
1225 or regional board of education providing coverage for employees under  
1226 a partnership plan in lieu of the coverage provided by such board of  
1227 education under its current health benefit plan. Such analysis shall  
1228 include, but need not be limited to, a comparison of the costs incurred  
1229 by such board of education and its employees and the level of coverage  
1230 provided under each plan. Not later than January 1, 2025, the  
1231 Comptroller shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of  
1232 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of  
1233 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
1234 education and to each local or regional board of education on such cost-  
1235 benefit analysis.

1236 Sec. 27. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2024*) Any collective bargaining  
1237 agreement entered into, amended or extended on and after July 1, 2025,  
1238 between a local or regional board of education and the representatives  
1239 of the exclusive bargaining unit for paraeducators shall establish a  
1240 minimum salary for a full-time paraeducator that is not less than forty-  
1241 five thousand dollars annually.

1242       Sec. 28. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2024*) For the fiscal year ending June  
 1243 30, 2026, and annually thereafter, the Office of Policy and Management  
 1244 shall create an independent appropriation for the purposes of providing  
 1245 a paraeducator salary enhancement subsidy to local and regional boards  
 1246 of education. The office shall use the funds available in such  
 1247 independent appropriation to provide a subsidy to each local or  
 1248 regional board of education in an amount equal to the difference  
 1249 between the annual salary, as of July 1, 2024, of a paraeducator  
 1250 employed by such board on said date and the minimum salary required  
 1251 pursuant to section 27 of this act for each paraeducator employed by  
 1252 such board of education. Any such subsidy provided to a local or  
 1253 regional board of education under this section shall not be combined  
 1254 with any other state grant provided to local or regional boards of  
 1255 education under any provision of the general statutes.

1256       Sec. 29. Section 3-123l of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes  
 1257 is repealed. (*Effective from passage*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-66r(a)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-74q
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-74r(b)
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-76d(a)(10)
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-145t(a)
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-155j
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-155k
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-156gg(a)(2)
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-212a
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-220a(a)
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-220a(a)
Sec. 13	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-221o(b)
Sec. 14	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-221u
Sec. 15	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-222d(a)(8)
Sec. 16	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-223e(d) to (g)
Sec. 17	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-223j(a)(4)
Sec. 18	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-236b(o)

Sec. 19	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-236b(o)
Sec. 20	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-239e(a)
Sec. 21	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	17a-812(b)(1)
Sec. 22	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	31-51rr
Sec. 23	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	46a-11b(a)
Sec. 24	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	53a-65(13)
Sec. 25	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 26	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	PA 23-204, Sec. 203
Sec. 27	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	New section
Sec. 28	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	New section
Sec. 29	<i>from passage</i>	Repealer section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To (1) specify the duties and qualifications of paraeducators, (2) change references to "paraprofessional" to "paraeducator", (3) require the Department of Economic and Community Development to distribute ARPA funds allocated to the department for paraeducator professional development, (4) extend the health savings account subsidy program to the next fiscal year, (5) require the Comptroller to (A) establish a premium subsidy program for paraeducators who are covered by a health benefit plan that is not a high deductible health plan, and (B) conduct a cost-benefit analysis of boards of education providing coverage through a partnership plan, (6) establish a minimum salary for paraeducators, (7) require the Office of Policy and Management to pay the difference between the current and required minimum salary for paraeducators, and (8) repeal a program to provide a stipend to paraeducators to purchase a qualified health plan through the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange.

*[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.]*