



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 5416**

February Session, 2024



**AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE EDUCATION STATUTES.**

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2024*) The Department of Education shall  
2 develop a plan to replace the state-wide mastery examination currently  
3 approved by the State Board of Education pursuant to section 10-14n of  
4 the general statutes. Such plan shall include, but not be limited to, (1) a  
5 recommendation for an assessment tool or examination that reduces the  
6 amount of instructional time used to prepare for and administer a state-  
7 wide mastery examination and is capable of assessing a larger array of  
8 student abilities, and (2) the costs and timeline required for  
9 implementing such assessment tool or examination as the new state-  
10 wide mastery examination. Not later than January 1, 2026, the  
11 Department of Education shall submit, in accordance with the  
12 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing  
13 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
14 relating to education the plan developed pursuant to this section.

15 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2024*) In determining the rights and  
16 benefits earned by a teacher under sections 10-151 and 10-156 of the  
17 general statutes, employment in a school operated by Goodwin  
18 University Magnet Schools, Inc. or Goodwin University Educational  
19 Services, Inc. shall not be deemed to interrupt the continuous

20 employment of a teacher who was employed by a local or regional board  
21 of education during the school year immediately prior to employment  
22 in such school and such teacher shall continue as an employee of  
23 Goodwin University Magnet Schools, Inc. or Goodwin University  
24 Educational Services, Inc., subject to the provisions of section 10-151 of  
25 the general statutes.

26 Sec. 3. Subsections (c) to (g), inclusive, of section 10-266aa of the 2024  
27 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is  
28 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

29 (c) The program shall be phased in as provided in this subsection. (1)  
30 For the school year commencing in 1998, and for each school year  
31 thereafter, the program shall be in operation in the Hartford, New  
32 Haven and Bridgeport regions. The Hartford program shall operate as  
33 a continuation of the program described in section 10-266j. Students  
34 who reside in Hartford, New Haven or Bridgeport may attend school in  
35 another school district in the region and students who reside in such  
36 other school districts may attend school in Hartford, New Haven or  
37 Bridgeport, provided, beginning with the 2001-2002 school year, the  
38 proportion of students who are not minority students to the total  
39 number of students leaving Hartford, Bridgeport or New Haven to  
40 participate in the program shall not be greater than the proportion of  
41 students who were not minority students in the prior school year to the  
42 total number of students enrolled in Hartford, Bridgeport or New  
43 Haven in the prior school year. The regional educational service center  
44 operating the program shall make program participation decisions in  
45 accordance with the requirements of this subdivision. (2) For the school  
46 year commencing in 2000, and for each school year thereafter, the  
47 program shall be in operation in New London, provided beginning with  
48 the 2001-2002 school year, the proportion of students who are not  
49 minority students to the total number of students leaving New London  
50 to participate in the program shall not be greater than the proportion of  
51 students who were not minority students in the prior year to the total  
52 number of students enrolled in New London in the prior school year.

53 The regional educational service center operating the program shall  
54 make program participation decisions in accordance with this  
55 subdivision. (3) The Department of Education may provide, within  
56 available appropriations, grants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003,  
57 to the remaining regional educational service centers to assist school  
58 districts in planning for a voluntary program of student enrollment in  
59 every priority school district, pursuant to section 10-266p, which is  
60 interested in participating in accordance with this subdivision. For the  
61 school year commencing in 2003, and for each school year thereafter, the  
62 voluntary enrollment program may be in operation in every priority  
63 school district in the state. Students from other school districts in the  
64 area of a priority school district, as determined by the regional  
65 educational service center pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, may  
66 attend school in the priority school district, provided such students  
67 bring racial, ethnic and economic diversity to the priority school district  
68 and do not increase the racial, ethnic and economic isolation in the  
69 priority school district. (4) For the school year commencing July 1, 2022,  
70 there shall be a pilot program in operation in Danbury and Norwalk.  
71 The pilot program shall serve (A) up to fifty students who reside in  
72 Danbury, and such students may attend school in the school districts for  
73 the towns of New Fairfield, Brookfield, Bethel, Ridgefield and Redding,  
74 and (B) up to fifty students who reside in Norwalk, and such students  
75 may attend school in the school districts for the towns of Darien, New  
76 Canaan, Wilton, Weston and Westport. School districts which receive  
77 students from Danbury and Norwalk under the pilot program during  
78 the school year commencing July 1, 2022, shall allow such students to  
79 attend school in the district until they graduate from high school. (5) For  
80 the school year commencing July 1, 2022, and each school year  
81 thereafter, the town of Guilford shall be eligible to participate in the  
82 program as a receiving district and a sending district with New Haven.  
83 (6) For the school year commencing July 1, 2024, and each school year  
84 thereafter, the town of Madison shall be eligible to participate in the  
85 program as a receiving district and a sending district with New Haven.

86 (d) School districts which received students from New London under

87 the program during the school year commencing July 1, 2000, shall  
88 allow such students to attend school in the district until they graduate  
89 from high school. The attendance of such students in such program shall  
90 not be supported by grants pursuant to subsections (f) and (g) of this  
91 section but shall be supported, in the same amounts as provided for in  
92 said subsections, by interdistrict cooperative grants pursuant to section  
93 10-74d to the regional educational service centers operating such  
94 programs.

95 (e) Once the program is in operation in the region served by a  
96 regional educational service center pursuant to subsection (c) of this  
97 section, the Department of Education shall provide an annual grant to  
98 such regional educational service center to assist school districts in its  
99 area in administering the program and to provide staff to assist students  
100 participating in the program to make the transition to a new school and  
101 to act as a liaison between the parents of such students and the new  
102 school district. Each regional educational service center shall determine  
103 which school districts in its area are located close enough to a priority  
104 school district to make participation in the program feasible in terms of  
105 student transportation pursuant to subsection (f) of this section,  
106 provided any student participating in the program prior to July 1, 1999,  
107 shall be allowed to continue to attend the same school such student  
108 attended prior to said date in the receiving district until the student  
109 completes the highest grade in such school. If there are more students  
110 who seek to attend school in a receiving district than there are spaces  
111 available, the regional educational service center shall assist the school  
112 district in determining attendance by the use of a lottery or lotteries  
113 designed to preserve or increase racial, ethnic and economic diversity,  
114 except that the regional educational service center shall give preference  
115 to siblings and to students who would otherwise attend a school that  
116 has lost its accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and  
117 Colleges or has been identified as in need of improvement pursuant to  
118 the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110. The admission policies shall  
119 be consistent with section 10-15c and this section. No receiving district  
120 shall recruit students under the program for athletic or extracurricular

121 purposes. Each receiving district shall allow out-of-district students it  
122 accepts to attend school in the district until they graduate from high  
123 school.

124 (f) The Department of Education shall provide grants to regional  
125 educational service centers or local or regional boards of education for  
126 the reasonable cost of transportation for students participating in the  
127 program. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and each fiscal year  
128 thereafter, the department shall provide such grants within available  
129 appropriations, provided the state-wide average of such grants does not  
130 exceed an amount equal to three thousand two hundred fifty dollars for  
131 each student transported, except that the Commissioner of Education  
132 may grant to regional educational service centers or local or regional  
133 boards of education additional sums from funds remaining in the  
134 appropriation for such transportation services if needed to offset  
135 transportation costs that exceed such maximum amount. The regional  
136 educational service centers shall provide reasonable transportation  
137 services to high school students who wish to participate in supervised  
138 extracurricular activities. For purposes of this section, the number of  
139 students transported shall be determined on October first of each fiscal  
140 year.

141 (g) (1) Except as provided in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this  
142 subsection, the Department of Education shall provide, within available  
143 appropriations, an annual grant to the local or regional board of  
144 education for each receiving district (A) for the fiscal year ending June  
145 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars  
146 for each out-of-district student who attends school in the receiving  
147 district under the program, and (B) for the fiscal year ending June 30,  
148 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, in an amount at least two thousand  
149 five hundred dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school  
150 in the receiving district under the program.

151 (2) (A) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year  
152 thereafter, the department shall provide, within available  
153 appropriations, an annual grant to the local or regional board of

154 education for each receiving district if one of the following conditions  
155 are met as follows: (i) (I) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, three  
156 thousand dollars, and (II) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and  
157 each fiscal year thereafter, at least three thousand dollars for each out-  
158 of-district student who attends school in the receiving district under the  
159 program if the number of such out-of-district students is less than two  
160 per cent of the total student population of such receiving district plus  
161 any amount available pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision,  
162 (ii) (I) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, four thousand dollars, and  
163 (II) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year  
164 thereafter, at least four thousand dollars for each out-of-district student  
165 who attends school in the receiving district under the program if the  
166 number of such out-of-district students is greater than or equal to two  
167 per cent but less than three per cent of the total student population of  
168 such receiving district plus any amount available pursuant to  
169 subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, (iii) (I) for the fiscal year ending  
170 June 30, 2024, six thousand dollars, and (II) for the fiscal year ending  
171 June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, at least six thousand  
172 dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the  
173 receiving district under the program if the number of such out-of-  
174 district students is greater than or equal to three per cent but less than  
175 four per cent of the total student population of such receiving district  
176 plus any amount available pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this  
177 subdivision, (iv) (I) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, six thousand  
178 dollars, and (II) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal  
179 year thereafter, at least six thousand dollars for each out-of-district  
180 student who attends school in the receiving district under the program  
181 if the Commissioner of Education determines that the receiving district  
182 has an enrollment of greater than four thousand students and has  
183 increased the number of students in the program by at least fifty per cent  
184 from the previous fiscal year plus any amount available pursuant to  
185 subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, or (v) (I) for the fiscal year ending  
186 June 30, 2024, eight thousand dollars, and (II) for the fiscal year ending  
187 June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, at least eight thousand  
188 dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the

189 receiving district under the program if the number of such out-of-  
190 district students is greater than or equal to four per cent of the total  
191 student population of such receiving district plus any amount available  
192 pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision.

193 (B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and each fiscal year  
194 thereafter, the department shall, in order to assist the state in meeting  
195 its obligations under commitment 9B of the Comprehensive School  
196 Choice Plan pursuant to the settlement in Sheff v. O'Neill, HHD-X07-  
197 CV89-4026240-S, provide, within available appropriations, an  
198 additional grant to the local or regional board of education for each  
199 receiving district in the amount of two thousand dollars for each out-of-  
200 district student who resides in the Hartford region and attends school  
201 in the receiving district under the program.

202 (C) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year  
203 thereafter, the local or regional board of education for each receiving  
204 district shall include the amount of the grants projected to be received  
205 pursuant to this subdivision in such board's annual budget and  
206 projected revenue statement.

207 (3) (A) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the department shall  
208 provide a grant to the local or regional board of education for each  
209 receiving district described in subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this  
210 section in an amount of four thousand dollars for each out-of-district  
211 student who resides in Danbury or Norwalk and attends school in the  
212 receiving district under the pilot program.

213 (B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year  
214 thereafter, the department shall provide an annual grant to the local or  
215 regional board of education for each receiving district described in  
216 subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section for each out-of-district  
217 student who resides in Danbury or Norwalk and attends school in the  
218 receiving district under the pilot program in accordance with the  
219 provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection.

220 (C) Not later than January 1, 2025, the department shall submit a  
221 report on the pilot program in operation in Danbury and Norwalk,  
222 pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section, to the joint  
223 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
224 matters relating to education and appropriations, in accordance with the  
225 provisions of section 11-4a. Such report shall include, but need not be  
226 limited to, the total number of students participating in the pilot  
227 program, the number of students from each town participating in the  
228 pilot program, the total amount of the grant paid under the pilot  
229 program and the amount of the grant paid to each town participating in  
230 the pilot program.

231 (4) Each town which receives funds pursuant to this subsection shall  
232 make such funds available to its local or regional board of education in  
233 supplement to any other local appropriation, other state or federal grant  
234 or other revenue to which the local or regional board of education is  
235 entitled.

236 Sec. 4. (*Effective July 1, 2024*) (a) The State Board of Education shall  
237 study the effectiveness of the method of addressing racial imbalance  
238 specified in sections 10-226a to 10-226e, inclusive, of the general statutes  
239 and the regulations adopted pursuant to said sections. Such study shall  
240 include, but not be limited to, (1) an examination of the effectiveness of  
241 various strategies implemented to correct racial imbalances in the long  
242 term and short term, (2) a cost benefit analysis of implementing such  
243 strategies, (3) the impact on the pupils of racial minorities as a result of  
244 such strategies, such as access to neighborhood schools and educational  
245 outcomes, and (4) suggestions for alternative methods for correcting  
246 racial imbalances. The board shall not enforce any pending or upcoming  
247 actions pursuant to said sections of the general statutes and regulations  
248 until the completion of such study.

249 (b) Not later than January 1, 2026, the State Board of Education shall  
250 submit, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general  
251 statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly  
252 having cognizance of matters relating to education a report on the



253 findings of the study conducted pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
254 section.

255 Sec. 5. Section 10-212g of the general statutes is repealed and the  
256 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

257 Not later than December 31, 2014, the Departments of Education and  
258 Public Health shall jointly develop, in consultation with the School  
259 Nurse Advisory Council, established pursuant to section 10-212f, an  
260 annual training program regarding emergency first aid to students who  
261 experience allergic reactions and do not have a prior written order of a  
262 physician licensed to practice medicine, a dentist licensed to practice  
263 dental medicine, an optometrist licensed to practice under chapter 380,  
264 an advanced practice registered nurse licensed to prescribe in  
265 accordance with section 20-94a or a physician assistant licensed to  
266 prescribe in accordance with section 20-12d, and the written  
267 authorization of a parent or guardian of such child. Such annual training  
268 program shall include instruction in (1) cardiopulmonary resuscitation,  
269 (2) first aid, (3) food allergies, (4) the signs and symptoms of  
270 anaphylaxis, (5) prevention and risk-reduction strategies regarding  
271 allergic reactions, (6) emergency management and administration of  
272 epinephrine, (7) follow-up and reporting procedures after a student has  
273 experienced an allergic reaction, (8) carrying out the provisions of  
274 subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of section 10-212a, and (9) any other  
275 relevant issues and topics related to emergency first aid to students who  
276 experience allergic reactions. The Department of Education shall make  
277 such annual training program available to local and regional boards of  
278 education.

279 Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2024*) No local or regional board of  
280 education shall require a parent or guardian of a student to participate  
281 in school activities, such as through volunteering, as a condition for the  
282 enrollment of such student in a school under the jurisdiction of such  
283 board.

284 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2024*) Each regional community-

285 technical college shall consult with the school counselors and school  
286 administrators at public high schools located within the region of the  
287 state in which such college is located for the purpose of establishing  
288 collaborative partnerships between such schools and such college. Such  
289 partnerships may include, but not be limited to, collaborative  
290 counseling programs for students interested in specific careers,  
291 evaluation and alignment of curricula and offering support or  
292 educational programs to improve student outcomes.

293       Sec. 8. Section 19a-900a of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes  
294 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
295 *1, 2024*):

296       Any provider of child care services, as described in section 19a-77,  
297 that is licensed by the Office of Early Childhood [ , that] or is exempt  
298 from licensure pursuant to subsection (b) of section 19a-77, and  
299 maintains a supply of epinephrine cartridge injectors pursuant to  
300 section 19a-909, may administer such epinephrine for the purpose of  
301 emergency first aid to a child in the care of such provider who  
302 experiences an allergic reaction and does not have a prior written  
303 authorization of a parent or guardian or a prior written order of a  
304 qualified medical professional for the administration of epinephrine,  
305 provided the person administering such epinephrine is a person with  
306 training, as defined in section 19a-909. The parent or guardian of a child  
307 may submit, in writing, to such child's provider of child care services,  
308 that epinephrine shall not be administered to such child pursuant to this  
309 section.

310       Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Not later than December 31,  
311 2024, and each December thirty-first thereafter, the Department of  
312 Education shall calculate an estimated amount that each town is entitled  
313 to receive under the provisions of section 10-262h of the general statutes,  
314 for the next fiscal year using data collected during the current fiscal year,  
315 and notify each such town of such estimated amount.

316       Sec. 10. Subsection (h) of section 10-236b of the 2024 supplement to

317 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
318 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

319 (h) Each local or regional board of education shall notify a parent or  
320 guardian of a student who is placed in physical restraint or seclusion  
321 [not later than twenty-four hours after] on the day the student was  
322 placed in physical restraint or seclusion and shall make a reasonable  
323 effort to provide such notification immediately after such physical  
324 restraint or seclusion is initiated. Such notice shall, if possible, be  
325 provided by means of electronic communication, including, but not  
326 limited to, electronic mail or cellular mobile telephone.

327 Sec. 11. Section 10-236c of the general statutes is repealed and the  
328 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

329 (a) A school principal or other school administrator shall notify a  
330 parent or guardian of a student whose behavior has caused a serious  
331 disruption to the instruction of other students, caused self-harm or  
332 caused physical harm to a teacher, another student or other school  
333 employee on the same day such behavior occurs. Such notice shall  
334 include, but not be limited to, informing such parent or guardian that  
335 the teacher of record in the classroom in which such behavior occurred  
336 may request a behavior intervention meeting, as described in subsection  
337 (b) of this section.

338 (b) For the school year commencing July 1, 2022, and each school year  
339 thereafter, any teacher of record in a classroom may request a behavior  
340 intervention meeting with the crisis intervention team for the school, as  
341 described in section 10-236b, as amended by this act, for any student  
342 whose behavior has caused a serious disruption to the instruction of  
343 other students, or caused self-harm or physical harm to such teacher or  
344 another student or staff member in such teacher's classroom. The crisis  
345 intervention team shall, upon the request of such teacher and notifying  
346 such student's parent or guardian, convene a behavior intervention  
347 meeting regarding such student. The participants of such behavior  
348 intervention meeting shall identify resources and supports to address

349 such student's social, emotional and instructional needs. Not later than  
350 seven days after the behavior intervention meeting, the crisis  
351 intervention team shall submit to the parent or guardian of such student  
352 a written summary of such meeting, including, but not limited to, the  
353 resources and supports identified.

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>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-266aa(c) to (g)
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-212g
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	19a-900a
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-236b(h)
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-236c

**ED**

*Joint Favorable Subst. C/R*

APP