



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 594

January Session, 2025

Substitute House Bill No. 7012

House of Representatives, April 8, 2025

The Committee on Education reported through REP. LEEPER of the 132nd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO ADDRESS ANTISEMITISM IN SCHOOLS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) There is established a
2 working group to address antisemitism in public schools. The working
3 group shall provide assistance and resources to the Department of
4 Education, local and regional boards of education and other education
5 stakeholders and associations, to address issues relating to antisemitism
6 that affect students, families, educators and school personnel. Such
7 assistance and resources may include, but need not be limited to, (1)
8 working with boards of education to amend school district policies to
9 ensure that all students, educators and school personnel feel safe inside
10 and outside of the school setting, (2) offering training relating to
11 antisemitism for educators and administrators, and (3) assisting in the
12 creation or provision of curriculum materials and resources relating to
13 antisemitism and Jewish heritage and Holocaust and genocide
14 education and awareness, in accordance with the provisions of section

15 10-18f of the general statutes.

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

17 (1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
18 who shall be a representative from the Jewish Federation of Greater
19 Hartford;

20 (2) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who
21 shall be a professor from a university in the state;

22 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
23 Representatives, who shall be a social studies teacher in a public school
24 in the state;

25 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall be
26 a representative from an anti-defamation league who has expertise in
27 addressing and combatting antisemitism;

28 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
29 Representatives, who shall be a representative from Voices of Hope who
30 represents a Jewish community organization that specializes in
31 Holocaust and genocide education;

32 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be
33 a curriculum specialist with experience working for a Jewish nonprofit
34 organization; and

35 (7) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing
36 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
37 relating to education, or their designees.

38 (c) All initial appointments to the working group shall be made not
39 later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy
40 shall be filled by the appointing authority.

41 (d) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president
42 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairperson of the working
43 group from among the members of the working group. Such

44 chairperson shall schedule the first meeting of the working group,
45 which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of
46 this section.

47 (e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
48 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education
49 shall serve as administrative staff of the working group.

50 (f) Not later than February 1, 2026, the working group shall submit a
51 report on its activities, and any recommendations for legislation, to the
52 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
53 matters relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of
54 section 11-4a of the general statutes. The working group may submit
55 additional reports as needed.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2025	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Subsec. (a), subdivision designators were added for clarity.

ED *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill establishes a working group to address antisemitism in schools, resulting in no fiscal impact to the state because the working group has the expertise to carry out the bill's requirements.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 7012

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO ADDRESS ANTISEMITISM IN SCHOOLS.

SUMMARY

This bill establishes a 10-member working group to address antisemitism in public schools. Under the bill, the group must assist and provide resources to the State Department of Education, local and regional boards of education, and other education stakeholders and associations to address antisemitism that affects students, families, educators, and school personnel.

The assistance and resources may include, but are not limited to:

1. working with school boards to amend school district policies to ensure that all students, educators, and school personnel feel safe inside and outside of the school setting;
2. offering antisemitism-related training for educators and administrators; and
3. creating or providing curriculum materials and resources about antisemitism, Jewish heritage, and Holocaust and genocide education and awareness.

The curriculum materials and resources must be appropriate for school districts to use in meeting the existing requirement that Holocaust and genocide education and awareness be part of every school district's social studies curriculum.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2025

WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIP

In addition to the Education Committee chairs and ranking members, or their respective designees, the working group includes six members appointed by the legislative leaders. The table below shows the appointing authority and qualifying description for each of these appointed working group members.

Table: Working Group to Address Antisemitism

<i>Appointing Authority</i>	<i>Qualifying Description</i>
House speaker	a Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford representative
Senate president pro tempore	a professor from a university in Connecticut
House majority leader	a social studies teacher in a Connecticut public school
Senate majority leader	an Anti-Defamation League representative who has expertise in addressing and combatting antisemitism
House minority leader	a Voices of Hope representative who also represents a Jewish community organization that specializes in Holocaust and genocide education
Senate minority leader	a curriculum specialist with experience working for a Jewish nonprofit organization

All initial working group appointments must be made by July 31, 2025. Any vacancy is filled by the appointing authority.

The House speaker and the Senate president pro tempore select the working group chairperson from among the members. The chairperson must schedule the first meeting of the working group by August 30, 2025.

The administrative staff of the Education Committee serves as the working group’s administrative staff.

By February 1, 2026, the working group must submit a report on its activities, and any recommendations for legislation, to the Education Committee. The working group may submit additional reports as needed.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 44 Nay 0 (03/21/2025)