



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 10676



Offered by:

REP. LEEPER, 132nd Dist.

SEN. MCCRORY, 2nd Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 7167

File No. 886

Cal. No. 580

"AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATION FUNDING."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 10-223h of the general statutes is
4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
5 *passage*):

6 (a) [The] For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, to June 30, 2028,
7 inclusive, the Commissioner of Education shall establish, within
8 available appropriations, a commissioner's network of schools to
9 improve student academic achievement in low-performing schools. The
10 commissioner may select not more than twenty-five schools in any
11 single school year that have been classified as a category four school or
12 a category five school pursuant to section 10-223e to participate in the
13 commissioner's network of schools, except the commissioner shall not
14 select any additional school to participate in the commissioner's
15 network of schools on or after July 1, 2025. The commissioner shall issue

16 guidelines regarding the development of turnaround plans, and such
17 guidelines shall include, but not be limited to, annual deadlines for the
18 submission or nonsubmission of a turnaround plan and annual
19 deadlines for approval or rejection of turnaround plans. The
20 commissioner shall give preference for selection in the commissioner's
21 network of schools to such schools (1) that volunteer to participate in
22 the commissioner's network of schools, provided the local or regional
23 board of education for such school and the representatives of the
24 exclusive bargaining unit for certified employees chosen pursuant to
25 section 10-153b mutually agree to participate in the commissioner's
26 network of schools, (2) in which an existing collective bargaining
27 agreement between the local or regional board of education for such
28 school and the representatives of the exclusive bargaining unit for
29 certified employees chosen pursuant to section 10-153b will have
30 expired for the school year in which a turnaround plan will be
31 implemented, or (3) that are located in school districts that (A) have
32 experience in school turnaround reform, or (B) previously received a
33 school improvement grant pursuant to Section 1003(g) of Title I of the
34 Elementary and Secondary Education Act, 20 USC 6301 et seq. [The
35 commissioner may select not more than five schools in any single school
36 year from a single school district to participate in the commissioner's
37 network of schools.] Each school so selected shall begin implementation
38 of a turnaround plan, as described in subsection (d) of this section. Each
39 school so selected shall participate in the commissioner's network of
40 schools for three school years, and may continue such participation for
41 an additional year, not to exceed two additional years, upon approval
42 from the State Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of
43 subsection (h) of this section, except a school that is participating in the
44 commissioner's network of schools on the effective date of this section
45 may continue such participation for an additional year or an additional
46 two years. The commissioner shall provide funding, technical assistance
47 and operational support to schools participating in the commissioner's
48 network of schools and may provide financial support to teachers and
49 administrators working at a school that is participating in the
50 commissioner's network of schools. All costs attributable to developing

51 and implementing a turnaround plan in excess of the ordinary operating
52 expenses for such school shall be paid by the State Board of Education.

53 Sec. 2. Subsection (h) of section 10-223h of the general statutes is
54 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
55 *passage*):

56 (h) Each school participating in the commissioner's network of
57 schools shall participate for three school years, and may continue such
58 participation for an additional year, not to exceed two additional years,
59 upon approval from the State Board of Education, ~~[. Before]~~ except a
60 school that is participating in the commissioner's network of schools on
61 the effective date of this section may continue such participation for an
62 additional year or an additional two years. On and after July 1, 2025,
63 before the end of the third year that a school is participating in the
64 commissioner's network of schools, the commissioner shall conduct an
65 evaluation [to determine whether such school is prepared to exit the
66 commissioner's network of schools. In determining whether such school
67 may exit the commissioner's network of schools, the commissioner shall
68 consider whether the local or regional board of education has the
69 capacity to ensure that such school will maintain or improve its student
70 academic performance. If the commissioner determines that such school
71 is ready to exit the commissioner's network of schools, the] of the
72 school's participation in the commissioner's network of schools. The
73 local or regional board of education for such school shall develop, in
74 consultation with the commissioner, a plan, subject to the approval by
75 the State Board of Education, for the transition of such school back to
76 full control by the local or regional board of education. [If such school is
77 not ready to exit the commissioner's network of schools and participates
78 in the commissioner's network of schools for an additional year, the
79 commissioner shall conduct an evaluation in accordance with the
80 provisions of this subsection. Before the end of the fifth year that a
81 school is participating in the commissioner's network of schools, the
82 commissioner shall develop, in consultation with the local or regional
83 board of education for such school, a plan, subject to the approval by the

84 State Board of Education, for the transition of such school back to full
85 control by the local or regional board of education.]

86 Sec. 3. Section 10-248a of the general statutes is repealed and the
87 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

88 (a) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year
89 thereafter, notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes or any
90 special act, municipal charter, home rule ordinance or other ordinance,
91 a local board of education may deposit into a nonlapsing account any
92 unexpended funds from the prior fiscal year from the budgeted
93 appropriation for education, provided (1) such deposited amount does
94 not exceed two per cent of the total budgeted appropriation for
95 education for such prior fiscal year, (2) each expenditure from such
96 account shall be made only for educational purposes, and (3) each such
97 expenditure shall be authorized by the local board of education for such
98 town.

99 (b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and each fiscal year
100 thereafter, each local board of education shall compile a report
101 regarding the nonlapsing, unexpended funds account described in this
102 section, including, but not limited to, the total balance of the account,
103 the amount deposited into such account in a fiscal year and an
104 accounting of the expenditures made from such account and submit
105 such report to the Department of Education.

106 Sec. 4. Subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of section 10-51 of the general
107 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
108 (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

109 (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year
110 thereafter, a regional board of education, by a majority vote of its
111 members, may create a reserve fund for educational expenditures. Such
112 fund shall thereafter be termed "reserve fund for educational
113 expenditures". The aggregate amount of annual and supplemental
114 appropriations by a district to such fund shall not exceed two per cent

115 of the annual district budget for such fiscal year. Annual appropriations
 116 to such fund shall be included in the share of net expenses to be paid by
 117 each member town. Supplemental appropriations to such fund may be
 118 made from estimated fiscal year end surplus in operating funds. Interest
 119 and investment earnings received with respect to amounts held in the
 120 fund shall be credited to such fund. The board shall annually submit a
 121 complete and detailed report of the condition of such fund to the
 122 member towns. Upon the recommendation and approval by the
 123 regional board of education, any part or the whole of such fund may be
 124 used for educational expenditures. Upon the approval of any such
 125 expenditure an appropriation shall be set up, plainly designated for the
 126 educational expenditure for which it has been authorized. Any
 127 unexpended portion of such appropriation remaining shall revert to
 128 said fund. If any authorized appropriation is set up pursuant to the
 129 provisions of this subsection and through unforeseen circumstances the
 130 board is unable to expend the total amount of such appropriation, the
 131 board, by a majority vote of its members, may terminate such
 132 appropriation which then shall no longer be in effect. Such fund may be
 133 discontinued, after the recommendation and approval by the regional
 134 board of education, and any amounts held in the fund shall be
 135 transferred to the general fund of the district. For the fiscal year ending
 136 June 30, 2026, and each fiscal year thereafter, each board shall make
 137 available, and annually update, information regarding such fund,
 138 including, but not limited to, the total balance of the fund, the amount
 139 deposited into such fund in a fiscal year and an accounting of the
 140 expenditures made from such fund.

141 Sec. 5. Sections 36, 37, 41 and 42 of substitute senate bill 1 of the
 142 current session, as amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A" are
 143 repealed. (*Effective from passage*)"

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	10-223h(a)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	10-223h(h)

Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-248a
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-51(d)(2)
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	Repealer section