

Education Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-1346

AN ACT REQUIRING BOARDS OF EDUCATION TO POST CURRICULUM

Title: ONLINE.

Vote Date: 3/21/2025

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 2/26/2025

File No.: 578

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Education Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill would amend subsection (e) of section 10-220 of the general statutes to require the district curriculum committees to post all approved curriculum on the Internet website. The purpose of altering the general statutes is to ensure families can easily access the subjects and materials students will be taught in school. In effect, this bill promotes transparency and accessibility because it expands the opportunities for parents and guardians to be present and engaged with their child's academic career.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

[State Department of Education, Commissioner Charlene M. Russell-Tucker](#) submitted testimony in support of this bill. She stated requiring local and regional boards of education to post curriculum on the internet represents a significant step towards transparency and community engagement. Ms. Russell-Tucker stated this bill will in effect allow more families and community members to stay informed and present for their children's education. In addition, she believes this policy will foster collaboration between educators, parents, and stakeholders ultimately strengthening the quality and integrity of Connecticut's school systems.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

[Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Matthew Conway Jr](#) submitted testimony in support of this bill stating, transparency in education is essential for building trust with families and

communities. He argued this bill empowers parents because they are aware of what their child is learning and can find ways to better support them outside of the classroom. Dr. Conway Jr. also stated that being required to post curriculum promotes accountability by ensuring curriculum decisions are visible to the public we serve. In addition, he contended this bill increases opportunities for greater collaboration between respective school districts. He stated that by sharing curriculum resources, we can identify best practices and refine our educational quality throughout Connecticut. Dr. Conway Jr. concluded by urging the committee to support this legislation as a meaningful step towards strengthening relationships between schools and the communities they serve.

[Senate Minority Leader, Stephen G. Harding](#): On behalf of the Senate Republican Caucus, Senator Harding submitted testimony in support of this bill. He stated providing easy access to curriculum is an important part of parental involvement in their children's education. There are many challenges parents face to attend parent-teacher conferences, curriculum nights, or to regularly review their child's schoolwork. Thus, as Sen. Harding argued, it is important a digital record is kept so parents can remotely access their child's schoolwork whenever is most convenient.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

[Vice President of Connecticut Education Association, Joslyn DeLancey](#): provided testimony in opposition to this bill, stating this legislation is unnecessary considering school districts already post curricula online. In addition, she worries the language of the bill could result in loose interpretations of the proposed legislation that negatively impact educators by creating more work for them.

[Timothy Gabriele](#): submitted testimony in opposition to this bill, stating the intention of SB-1346 is to scrutinize and interrogate the curriculum approved by the district curriculum committees. This bill would empower the "parent's choice" movement to undermine and disable the autonomy of educators. Mr. Gabriele states that while transparency in education is wonderful, this can be achieved by adults who engage with their children. Mr. Gabriele argues that this legislation has the potential to transform the public education system into an a la carte service doled out to fussy parents. He fears this will leave school districts vulnerable up to hate groups and harassment.

[Member of the Cheshire Board of Education, Tony Perugini](#): provided testimony in opposition to this bill, stating educators must have the ability to broadly pursue curriculum without being confined to what they set out on paper.

[Executive Director of the Connecticut Association of Public-School Superintendents, Fran Rabinowitz](#): submitted testimony in opposition to this bill, stating in its current form SB 1346 is a burdensome, unfunded mandate. While the intent of this legislation may be to increase transparency, Ms. Rabinowitz states this process would place significant administrative and financial strains on districts.

Reported by: Lucy Sheldon

Date: 3-31-25