



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Raised Bill No. 7009

LCO No. 4563



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:
(ED)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
CONNECTICUT STATE SEAL OF CIVICS EDUCATION AND
ENGAGEMENT.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 10-5 of the general statutes is amended by adding
2 subsection (g) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

3 (NEW) (g) The Department of Education shall establish criteria by
4 which a local or regional board of education, or the governing board of
5 any other school that awards diplomas, may affix the Connecticut State
6 Seal of Civics Education and Engagement on a diploma awarded to a
7 student who has achieved a high level of proficiency in civics education
8 and engagement. Such criteria shall include, but need not be limited to,
9 (1) successful completion of history or social science courses for at least
10 two school years, one of which shall be a course on the United States
11 government or civics, (2) participation in at least one civic engagement
12 project, such as community service, participation in student
13 government or involvement in a civic organization, and (3)
14 demonstrated proficiency in civics knowledge through a standardized

15 assessment, portfolio of work that includes essays, projects or
16 presentations related to civics or other mastery-based assessment or
17 process.

18 Sec. 2. Section 10-221a of the general statutes is amended by adding
19 subsection (m) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

20 (NEW) (m) Commencing with classes graduating in 2026, and for
21 each graduating class thereafter, a local or regional board of education
22 may affix the Connecticut State Seal of Civics Education and
23 Engagement, as described in subsection (g) of section 10-5, as amended
24 by this act, to a diploma awarded to a student who has achieved a high
25 level of proficiency in civics education and engagement. The local or
26 regional board of education shall include on such student's transcript a
27 designation that the student received the Connecticut State Seal of
28 Civics Education and Engagement.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-5(g)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-221a(m)

Statement of Purpose:

To require the State Board of Education to establish a Connecticut State Seal of Civics Education and Engagement to affix on the high school diploma of any student demonstrating a high level of proficiency in such subject matter.

[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.]