

General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 7123

January Session, 2025

Referred to Committee on VETERANS' AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Introduced by: (VA)

AN ACT CONCERNING MILITARY FAMILIES AND EDUCATION POLICIES REGARDING ENROLLMENT FOR PURPOSES OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND PLACEMENT STABILITY.

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

Section 1. Subparagraph (E) of subdivision (10) of subsection (a) of
 section 10-76d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is
 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

4 (E) (i) Each local and regional board of education shall have in effect 5 at the beginning of each school year an educational program for each 6 child or pupil who has been identified as eligible for special education, 7 and shall provide [(i)] (I) the informational handout described in section 8 10-74v to each child with an individualized education program or plan 9 pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and [(ii)] (II) 10 the Parent's Guide to Special Education in Connecticut developed by the 11 Department of Education and the rights and resources available to such 12 child in the provision of special education and related services.

13 (ii) If, after the start of a school year, a child of a member of the armed

14 forces enrolls in a school under the jurisdiction of a local or regional 15 board of education, as a result of such member having received military 16 orders directing such member to the state or any other documents from 17 the armed forces indicating the transfer of such member to the state, and 18 such child enrolls with an individualized education program or plan 19 pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 from such 20 child's prior school, such board shall take necessary steps, including, but 21 not limited to, the transfer of any records and prior evaluations, the 22 performance of any reevaluations, not later than thirty days after such 23 child's enrollment, and the holding of any meetings, to ensure a 24 minimally disruptive transition to the provision of comparable services.

Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 10-186 of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1*,
2025):

28 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall furnish, by 29 transportation or otherwise, school accommodations so that each child 30 five years of age and over and under twenty-one years of age who is not 31 a graduate of a high school or technical education and career school may 32 attend public school, except as provided in section 10-233c and subsection (d) of section 10-233d. For purposes of establishing the 33 34 residency of a child of a member of the armed forces, as defined in section 27-103, and who is seeking enrollment in a school under the 35 36 jurisdiction of a local or regional board of education for a town in which 37 such child is not yet a resident, such board shall accept the military 38 orders directing such member to the state or any other documents from 39 the armed forces indicating the transfer of such member to the state as 40 proof of residency. If a child of a member of the armed forces is enrolled 41 in a school under the jurisdiction of a local or regional board of 42 education for a town, and such member has received military orders 43 directing such member from such town or any other documents from 44 the armed forces indicating a change of residency from such town 45 during the school year, such child may continue to be enrolled in such 46 school while such member remains a member of the armed forces. Any

47 board of education which denies school accommodations, including a 48 denial based on an issue of residency, to any such child shall inform the 49 parent or guardian of such child or the child, in the case of an 50 emancipated minor, a pupil eighteen years of age or older or an 51 unaccompanied youth, as described in 42 USC 11434a, as amended from 52 time to time, of his or her right to request a hearing by the board of 53 education in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (1) of 54 subsection (b) of this section. A board of education which has denied 55 school accommodations shall advise the board of education under whose jurisdiction it claims such child should be attending school of the 56 57 denial. For purposes of this section, (1) a "parent or guardian" shall 58 include a surrogate parent appointed pursuant to section 10-94g, and (2) 59 a child residing in a dwelling located in more than one town in this state 60 shall be considered a resident of each town in which the dwelling is 61 located and may attend school in any one of such towns. For purposes 62 of this subsection, "dwelling" means a single, two or three-family house 63 or a condominium unit.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2025	10-76d(a)(10)(E)
Sec. 2	July 1, 2025	10-186(a)

Statement of Purpose:

To (1) ease transitions for students of military families who require special education services when enrolling in new schools due to servicemembers' relocation orders, and (2) allow students of military families to remain enrolled in schools when servicemembers are relocated away from such schools.

[[]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.]