



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Governor's Bill No. 1244

LCO No. 4373



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:

Request of the Governor Pursuant
to Joint Rule 9

***AN ACT MAKING INVESTMENTS IN IN-DISTRICT SPECIAL
EDUCATION.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) Not later than July 1, 2026,
2 the Department of Education shall develop a methodology for
3 calculating the maximum rates of tuition that may be charged by a
4 provider of special education services to a local or regional board of
5 education. The department shall publish and make such methodology
6 available on its Internet web site.

7 (b) Not later than July 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, the
8 Department of Education shall establish, and annually update, a tuition
9 rate schedule that is based on the methodology for calculating the
10 maximum rates of tuition that may be charged by a provider of special
11 education services developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

12 Sec. 2. Section 10-91j of the general statutes is repealed and the
13 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

14 (a) (1) Any agreement entered into or amended on or after July 1,

15 2018, but prior to June 30, 2019, or any contract entered into or amended
16 on or after July 1, 2019, but prior to June 30, 2027, pursuant to section 10-
17 76d, between a local or regional board of education and a private
18 provider of special education services, as defined in section 10-91g, shall
19 include an explanation of how the tuition or costs for services provided
20 under the agreement or contract are to be calculated.

21 (2) Any contract entered into or amended on or after July 1, 2027,
22 pursuant to section 10-76d, between a local or regional board of
23 education and a private provider of special education services shall be
24 in accordance with the tuition rate schedule established pursuant to
25 subsection (b) of section 1 of this act.

26 (3) Any such agreement or contract may include the following
27 provisions: [(1)] (A) A requirement that such private provider of special
28 education services submit monthly or quarterly reports to such board
29 regarding the specific services and frequency of such services being
30 provided by such private provider of special education services to
31 students under the agreement or contract, and [(2)] (B) authorization for
32 such board to [(A)] (i) review and reconcile such reports to the
33 contracted services described in the agreement or contract, or [(B)] (ii)
34 conduct periodic site visits at the location where such private provider
35 of special education services provides services.

36 (b) On and after July 1, 2019, a local or regional board of education
37 shall not be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to subsection (b) of
38 section 10-76g for any costs of special education paid by such board of
39 education to a private provider of special education services unless such
40 board of education has entered into a written contract with such private
41 provider of special education services for the provision of such special
42 education services. The individualized education program of a child
43 shall not be considered a contract between a local or regional board of
44 education and a private provider of special education services for
45 purposes of this section. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed
46 to limit or interrupt the provision of special education and related

47 services to a child by a local or regional board of education or private
48 provider of special education services.

49 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) Not later than June 30, 2026, and
50 every five years thereafter, each local and regional board of education
51 shall conduct, in a manner and form prescribed by the Commissioner of
52 Education, a comprehensive review of all spending by such board on
53 the provision of special education and related services. Each such board
54 shall submit a report of the results of such review to the commissioner
55 and make such report available on the Internet web site of such board.

56 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) For the fiscal year ending June
57 30, 2027, and each fiscal year thereafter, the Department of Education
58 shall, within available appropriations, administer a competitive grant
59 program for local and regional boards of education to support in-district
60 or regionalized programming for students with disabilities. Grants
61 awarded to local and regional boards of education under the program
62 may be used to enhance and improve existing specialized programming
63 in the school district or start-up costs related to the creation of in-district
64 or regional programming for students who are currently enrolled in a
65 program operated by a provider of special education services.

66 (b) The Commissioner of Education shall develop the application to
67 be used by local and regional boards of education in applying for a grant
68 under this section. The application shall include, but need not be limited
69 to, a description of (1) the program location, (2) the student population
70 who will be served, (3) the staffing needs for the programming, (4) any
71 assistive technology and materials necessary to implement the
72 programming, (5) any capital improvement needs, (6) the budget
73 allocation for the programming, and (7) any professional development
74 necessary for implementation of the programming. A local or regional
75 board of education shall submit such application in a form and manner
76 prescribed by the Commissioner of Education.

77 (c) The commissioner shall develop criteria for reviewing and

78 approving grant applications. Such criteria shall be based upon (1)
 79 increasing students' access to high-quality general education
 80 instruction, and (2) enhancing in-district or regional programming for
 81 students with intensive needs, including giving priority to those
 82 applications that demonstrate collaboration between multiple boards of
 83 education or between boards of education and regional education
 84 service centers.

85 (d) Not later than September 30, 2027, and annually thereafter, any
 86 local or regional board of education that has received a grant under the
 87 program in the prior fiscal year shall submit a report to the
 88 commissioner that assesses the impact of the grant on student outcomes
 89 and district expenditures. The report shall contain any information and
 90 data requested by the commissioner.

91 (e) Not later than December 31, 2027, and annually thereafter, the
 92 department shall submit a report on the progress of the program to the
 93 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
 94 matters relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of
 95 section 11-4a of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-91j
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

[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.]