



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Raised Bill No. 1511

LCO No. 6291



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING DISCONNECTED YOUTH.

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision (9) of section 10-262f of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
3 *2025*):

4 (9) "Foundation" means (A) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1990,
5 three thousand nine hundred eighteen dollars, (B) for the fiscal year
6 ending June 30, 1991, four thousand one hundred ninety-two dollars,
7 (C) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1992, four thousand four hundred
8 eighty-six dollars, (D) for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1993, June 30,
9 1994, and June 30, 1995, four thousand eight hundred dollars, (E) for the
10 fiscal years ending June 30, 1996, June 30, 1997, and June 30, 1998, five
11 thousand seven hundred eleven dollars, (F) for the fiscal year ending
12 June 30, 1999, five thousand seven hundred seventy-five dollars, (G) for
13 the fiscal years ending June 30, 2000, to June 30, 2007, inclusive, five
14 thousand eight hundred ninety-one dollars, (H) for the fiscal years
15 ending June 30, 2008, to June 30, 2013, inclusive, nine thousand six
16 hundred eighty-seven dollars, [and] (I) for the fiscal [year] years ending

17 June 30, 2014, [and each fiscal year thereafter] to June 30, 2025, inclusive,
18 eleven thousand five hundred twenty-five dollars, and (J) for the fiscal
19 year ending June 30, 2026, and each fiscal year thereafter, twelve
20 thousand four hundred eighty-eight dollars.

21 Sec. 2. Subdivision (25) of section 10-262f of the general statutes is
22 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
23 *2025*):

24 (25) "Total need students" means the sum of (A) the number of
25 resident students of the town for the school year, (B) for the school year
26 commencing July 1, [2021] 2026, and each school year thereafter, (i)
27 [thirty] forty per cent of the number of children eligible for free or
28 reduced price meals or free milk, (ii) [fifteen] twenty per cent of the
29 number of children eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk
30 in excess of the number of children eligible for free or reduced price
31 meals or free milk that is equal to sixty per cent of the total number of
32 resident students of the town for the school year, [and] (iii) [twenty-five]
33 thirty-five per cent of the number of resident students who are
34 multilingual learners, as defined in section 10-76kk, and (iv) fifty per
35 cent of the number of resident students who are children requiring
36 special education and related services, as such terms are defined in
37 section 10-76a.

38 Sec. 3. Section 10a-57g of the general statutes is repealed and the
39 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

40 (a) As used in this section:

41 (1) "Connecticut Preschool through Twenty and Workforce
42 Information Network" or "CP20 WIN" means the Preschool through
43 Twenty and Workforce Information Network maintained in the state.

44 (2) "Data definitions" means the plain language descriptions of data
45 elements.

46 (3) "Data dictionary" means a listing of the names of a set of data
47 elements, their definitions and additional meta-data that does not
48 contain any actual data, but provides information about the data in a
49 data set.

50 (4) "Data elements" mean units of information that are stored or
51 accessed in any data system, such as a student identification number,
52 course code or cumulative grade point average.

53 (5) "Meta-data" means the information about a data element that
54 provides context for that data element, such as its definition, storage
55 location, format and size.

56 (6) "Participating agency" means the Connecticut State Colleges and
57 Universities, Department of Education, Labor Department, [the] Office
58 of Early Childhood, The University of Connecticut, [the] Connecticut
59 Conference of Independent Colleges, Department of Correction, Court
60 Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch or any entity that has
61 executed an enterprise memorandum of understanding for
62 participation in the CP20 WIN and has been approved for participation
63 pursuant to the terms of the enterprise memorandum of understanding.

64 (7) "Preschool through Twenty and Workforce Information Network"
65 or "P20 WIN" means a state data system for the purpose of matching
66 and linking longitudinally data of state agencies and other
67 organizations to inform policy and practice for education, workforce
68 and supportive service efforts, including, but not limited to, the purpose
69 of conducting audits and evaluations of federal and state education
70 programs.

71 (8) "Enterprise memorandum of understanding" means a
72 foundational multiparty agreement that sets forth the details of how
73 data is shared and the respective legal rights and responsibilities of each
74 party within the data sharing process, by which the same foundational
75 agreement may be used for new agencies to sign on to the data sharing
76 process and without having to re-sign as agencies sign on or off of such

77 agreement.

78 (9) "Disconnected youth" means individuals who are fourteen to
79 eighteen years of age, inclusive, and are at risk of dropping out of school
80 or have dropped out of school.

81 (10) "Disconnected young person" means individuals who are
82 nineteen to twenty-six years of age, inclusive, and are not engaged in
83 the workforce, pursuing further education or developing a skill to
84 improve employment opportunities.

85 (b) There is established a Connecticut Preschool through Twenty and
86 Workforce Information Network. The purpose of the CP20 WIN is to
87 establish processes and structures governing the secure sharing of
88 critical longitudinal data across participating agencies through
89 implementation of the standards and policies of the Preschool through
90 Twenty and Workforce Information Network.

91 (c) The CP20 WIN shall be governed by an executive board that shall
92 provide oversight of such network. Said executive board shall include,
93 but need not be limited to, the chief executive officer of each
94 participating agency, or their respective designees, the Chief Workforce
95 Officer, or the officer's designee, and the Secretary of the Office of Policy
96 and Management, or the secretary's designee. The duties of the
97 executive board shall be to:

98 (1) Advance a vision for the CP20 WIN including a prioritized
99 research agenda with support from the Office of Policy and
100 Management.

101 (2) Convene as needed to respond to issues from the data governing
102 board.

103 (3) Identify and work to secure resources necessary to sustain CP20
104 WIN funding.

105 (4) Support system implementation, maintenance and improvement

106 by advocating for the CP20 WIN in regard to policy, legislation and
107 resources.

108 (5) Advocate and support the state's vision for the CP20 WIN.

109 (6) Have overall fiscal and policy responsibility for the CP20 WIN.

110 (7) Ensure that, in any circumstances in which public funds or
111 resources are to be jointly utilized with those from private entities, such
112 arrangements are governed by appropriate agreements approved by the
113 Attorney General.

114 (8) Establish a data governing board to establish and implement
115 policies related to cross-agency data management, including, but not
116 limited to, data confidentiality and security in alignment with the vision
117 for CP20 WIN and any applicable law. In establishing such policies, the
118 data governing board shall consult with the Office of Policy and
119 Management, in accordance with the provisions of section 4-67n and
120 other applicable statutes and policies.

121 (d) The executive board established pursuant to this section may
122 appoint advisory committees to make recommendations on data
123 stewardship, data system expansion and processes, and such other areas
124 that will advance the work of CP20 WIN.

125 (e) On or before January 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the Chief
126 Workforce Officer may, in consultation with the Chief Data Officer and
127 the Labor Commissioner, submit to the administrator of CP20 WIN a
128 request for data and analysis of such data for the purposes of assessing
129 performance and outcomes of the state's workforce system. Such data
130 and analysis request shall be completed by the administrator of CP20
131 WIN not later than August 15, 2022, and annually thereafter.

132 (f) On or before January 1, 2027, the executive board shall develop a
133 data sharing process by which data may be shared that is relevant to
134 identifying populations of disconnected youth and disconnected young

135 people and measuring the effectiveness of programs designed to
 136 support such populations. Such data sharing process shall include, but
 137 not be limited to, (1) specifying the data elements relevant to identifying
 138 such populations, such as rates of school suspension or expulsion, rates
 139 of arrests and convictions and employment rates, (2) establishing
 140 metrics to measure the effectiveness of programs designed to support
 141 disconnected youth and disconnected young people, and (3) developing
 142 a public dashboard by which such program effectiveness measures may
 143 be publicly accessible in a manner that does not disclose personally
 144 identifiable information and is in accordance with the Family
 145 Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, 20 USC 1232g, as amended
 146 from time to time.

147 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) Not later than July 1, 2027, each
 148 regional council of governments shall establish a youth success
 149 oversight board within such council to oversee the needs of and services
 150 available for disconnected youth and disconnected young people, as
 151 defined in section 10a-57g of the general statutes, as amended by this
 152 act, who reside in the planning region governed by such regional
 153 council of governments. The membership of such board shall include,
 154 but need not be limited to, representatives of public and private
 155 organizations that engage with such disconnected youth and
 156 disconnected young people. Each board shall be responsible for (1)
 157 mapping regional needs and maintaining a current database of service
 158 providers, (2) ensuring engagement around the planning region
 159 concerning the populations of disconnected youth and disconnected
 160 young people, (3) providing resources to implement integrated case
 161 management between service providers, (4) establishing service
 162 provider accountability by setting a rate schedule for services based on
 163 the program effectiveness reported through CP20 WIN pursuant to the
 164 provisions of subsection (f) of section 10a-57g of the general statutes, as
 165 amended by this act, and (5) any other duties specified by such regional
 166 council of governments.

167 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) The Department of Public

168 Health shall partner with an operator of a school-based health center
169 that provides mental health services to establish a program for the
170 provision of such services to students in the state through telehealth.
171 The department shall partner with an operator that (1) has experience
172 providing mental health services through telehealth to at least one
173 school district with a student population of fifty thousand or more, (2)
174 has experience providing culturally competent pediatric mental health
175 services, (3) is able to provide high quality mental health services, (4)
176 employs a sufficient number of providers to meet the needs of such
177 program, (5) uses a technology platform that can be made available to
178 each school district that participates in such program at no charge, (6)
179 agrees to bill health carriers for the provision of mental health services
180 through telehealth, and (7) agrees to provide mental health services
181 through telehealth free of charge to students with no health coverage
182 and to waive costs or reimburse such students for costs incurred in
183 receiving services through such program. The department and such
184 operator shall develop a model contract for local and regional boards of
185 education to participate in such telehealth mental health services
186 program that includes the terms specified in subdivisions (5), (6) and (7)
187 of this subsection.

188 (b) Any local or regional board of education may participate in the
189 telehealth mental health services program, provided such board (1)
190 enters into a contract with the operator based on the model contract
191 developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, (2) does not charge
192 students for access to such telehealth services, and (3) participates with
193 the Department of Public Health and the operator in any record-keeping
194 and reporting requirements specified by the department.

195 Sec. 6. Section 31-3mm of the general statutes is repealed and the
196 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

197 (a) The Labor Department, within available appropriations, shall
198 establish a program to distribute youth employment and training funds
199 to regional workforce development boards.

200 (b) Funds provided for in this section shall be allocated [as follows:
201 (1) Thirty-two and five-tenths per cent to Capitol Workforce Partners;
202 (2) twenty-two and five-tenths per cent to The Workforce Alliance; (3)
203 twelve and five-tenths per cent to The Workplace, Inc.; (4) twenty-two
204 and five-tenths per cent to the Northwest Regional Workforce
205 Investment Board, Inc.; and (5) ten per cent to the Eastern Connecticut
206 Workforce Investment Board.] to the regional workforce development
207 boards by the Labor Commissioner based on the percentage of
208 disadvantaged youth, as defined in 29 USC 3162(b)(2), in each
209 workforce development region. The percentage of disadvantaged youth
210 in each workforce development region shall be based on the census data
211 for persons defined as disadvantaged youth and adults, as published by
212 the United States Department of Labor, Employment and Training
213 Administration, or any successor data.

214 (c) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and any fiscal year
215 thereafter in which new census data is released, if any regional
216 workforce development board faces a reduction in such board's
217 allocation of funds pursuant to subsection (b) of this section that exceeds
218 fifteen per cent of the prior fiscal year's allocation, the funding for the
219 other regional workforce development boards shall be reduced
220 proportionately so that the reduction for such board's allocation may
221 not exceed fifteen per cent.

222 (d) Each regional workforce development board shall expand
223 existing (1) apprenticeship programs, (2) transitional employment
224 programs for individuals who were involved with the juvenile justice
225 system or have been released from incarceration, and (3) summer or
226 seasonal youth employment programs for disconnected youth or
227 disconnected young people, as defined in section 10a-57g, as amended
228 by this act.

<p>This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:</p>
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Section 1	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-262f(9)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-262f(25)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10a-57g
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	31-3mm

Statement of Purpose:

To (1) increase the foundation amount for equalization aid grants and add weight for students eligible for free or reduced price meals, multilingual learners and students requiring special education, (2) add the Department of Correction and Court Support Services to P20 WIN and require data collection and sharing concerning disconnected youth, (3) require establishment of a youth success oversight board within a regional council of governments, (4) require the establishment of a program to provide school-based telehealth mental health services, and (5) require the distribution of youth employment funds to regional workforce development boards based on the percentage of disadvantaged youth in such region.

[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.]