



Substitute House Bill No. 6921

Public Act No. 25-143

***AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
AND THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND CAREER SYSTEM AND
CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF EPINEPHRINE AND
GLUCAGON.***

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

Section 1. Section 10-550g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Office of Early Childhood funded early care and education program" means an early care and education program that accepts state funds directly from the office or indirectly through office subcontractors, for any combination of infant, toddler [,] and preschool, and any before and after school program for infant, toddler and preschool-age children, but does not include the child care subsidy program established pursuant to section 17b-749.

(2) "Designated staff member" means the person assigned the primary responsibility for a classroom of children in an Office of Early Childhood funded early care and education program.

(3) "Designated qualified staff member" means a designated staff

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member who possesses at least one of the following:

(A) A bachelor's degree or higher with a concentration in early childhood education from an institution of higher education that is (i) regionally accredited and accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, (ii) regionally accredited and working toward achieving accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children, or (iii) regionally accredited;

(B) A certificate issued pursuant to section 10-145b with an endorsement in early childhood education or early childhood special education;

(C) Deemed to meet the bachelor's degree requirements by the office without a concentration in early childhood education, but with at least twelve early childhood credits from an institution of higher education that is regionally accredited;

(D) A bachelor's degree from an institution of higher education that is regionally accredited, without a concentration in early childhood education, but with at least twelve applicable early childhood credits as determined by the office;

(E) Permission from the office if such designated staff member is enrolled in an institution of higher education and engaged in and making progress in an early childhood planned program of study leading to an early childhood bachelor's degree and under supervision in accordance with the provisions of subsections (b) to (d), inclusive, of this section.

(b) When a bachelor's degree designated qualified staff member is not assigned, a person may be deemed a designated qualified staff member if such person possesses at least one of the qualifications included in subsection [(c)] (d) of this section and is under the supervision of an on-site [bachelor's degree designated qualified staff member, except any

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family child care home provider that accepts state funds shall meet the designated qualified staff member qualifications] staff member who is in a teacher or administrator role and meets the bachelor's degree or higher with a concentration in early childhood education requirement.

(c) [When a bachelor's degree designated qualified staff member supervises an associate degree designated qualified staff member, the person possessing a bachelor's degree may supervise such associate degree designated qualified staff member at an off-site location.] In the case of a family child care home that is an Office of Early Childhood funded early care and education program, if the designated qualified staff member is working toward an early childhood associate degree or higher, such designated qualified staff member may be supervised by an individual from an off-site location who meets the bachelor's degree requirements for a designated qualified staff member and who provides coaching at the family child care home.

(d) The associate degree designated qualified staff member, under the supervision of a bachelor's degree qualified staff member, shall possess at least one of the following:

(1) An associate degree or higher with a concentration in early childhood education from an institution of higher education that is [(i)] (A) regionally accredited and accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, [(ii)] (B) regionally accredited and working toward achieving accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children, or [(iii)] (C) regionally accredited;

(2) Deemed to meet the associate degree requirements by the office without a concentration in early childhood education, but with at least twelve early childhood credits from an institution of higher education that is regionally accredited;

(3) An associate degree from an institution of higher education that is

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regionally accredited, without a concentration in early childhood education, but with at least twelve applicable early childhood credits as determined by the office;

(4) Permission from the office if such associate degree designated qualified staff member is enrolled in an institution of higher education and engaged in an early childhood planned program of study leading to an early childhood associate degree.

[(d)] (e) (1) From July 1, [2024] 2025, to June 30, 2027, inclusive, twenty-five per cent of the designated staff members at each Office of Early Childhood funded early childhood education program shall be designated qualified staff members meeting one of the criteria at the bachelor's degree level. If the Office of Early Childhood funded early care and education program is a family child care home, the designated qualified staff member for such family child care home shall have achieved or be working toward an early childhood associate degree or [bachelor's degree] higher.

(2) From July 1, 2027, to June 30, 2030, inclusive, fifty per cent of the designated qualified members at each Office of Early Childhood funded early childhood education program shall be designated qualified staff members meeting one of the criteria at the bachelor's degree level. If the Office of Early Childhood funded early care and education program is a family child care home, the designated qualified staff member for such family child care home shall have achieved or be working toward an early childhood associate degree or [bachelor's degree] higher.

(3) On and after July 1, 2030, sixty per cent of the designated qualified members at each Office of Early Childhood funded child care program shall be designated qualified staff members meeting one of the criteria at the bachelor's degree level. If the Office of Early Childhood funded early care and education program is a family child care home, the designated qualified staff member for such family child care home shall

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have achieved or be working toward an early childhood associate degree or [bachelor's degree] higher, except on and after July 1, 2035, the designated qualified staff member for such family child care home shall hold an early childhood associate degree or higher.

Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 19a-421 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(a) No person shall establish, conduct or maintain a youth camp without a license issued by the office. Applications for such license shall be made in writing at least thirty days prior to the opening of the youth camp on forms provided and in accordance with procedures established by the commissioner and shall be accompanied by a fee of eight hundred fifteen dollars or, if the applicant is a nonprofit, nonstock corporation or association, a fee of three hundred fifteen dollars or, if the applicant is a day camp affiliated with a nonprofit organization, for no more than five days duration and for which labor and materials are donated, no fee. All such licenses shall be valid for a period of one year from the date of issuance unless surrendered for cancellation or suspended or revoked by the commissioner for violation of this chapter or any regulations adopted under section 19a-428, shall be nontransferable and shall be renewable upon receipt by the commissioner of a renewal application and payment of an eight-hundred-fifteen-dollar license fee or, if the licensee is a nonprofit, nonstock corporation or association, a three-hundred-fifteen-dollar license fee or, if the applicant is a day camp affiliated with a nonprofit organization, for no more than five days duration and for which labor and materials are donated, no fee.

Sec. 3. Section 19a-420 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

As used in this chapter:

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(1) "Youth camp" means any regularly scheduled program or organized group activity advertised as a camp or operated only during school vacations or on weekends, conducted on a parcel of land that has dwelling units or buildings intended to accommodate five or more children, by a person, partnership, corporation, association, the state or a municipal agency for recreational or educational purposes and accommodating for profit or under philanthropic or charitable auspices five or more children, who are at least three years of age and under sixteen years of age, who are (A) not bona fide personal guests in the private home of an individual, and (B) living apart from their relatives, parents or legal guardian, for a period of three days or more per week or portions of three or more days per week, provided any such relative, parent or guardian who is an employee of such camp shall not be considered to be in the position of loco parentis to such employee's child for the purposes of this chapter, but does not include (i) classroom-based summer instructional programs operated by any person, provided no activities that may pose a health risk or hazard to participating children are conducted at such programs, (ii) public schools, or private schools in compliance with section 10-188 and approved by the State Board of Education or accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the State Board of Education, which operate a summer educational program, (iii) licensed child care centers, or (iv) drop-in programs for children who are at least six years of age administered by a nationally chartered boys' and girls' club;

(2) "Resident camp" means any youth camp which is established, conducted or maintained [on any parcel or parcels of land on which there are located dwelling units or buildings intended to accommodate five or more children who are at least three years of age and under sixteen years of age] for at least seventy-two consecutive hours and in which the campers attending such camps eat and sleep;

(3) "Day camp" means any youth camp which is established,

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conducted or maintained [on any parcel or parcels of land on which there are located dwelling units or buildings intended to accommodate five or more children who are at least three years of age and under sixteen years of age] during daylight hours for at least three days a week with the campers eating and sleeping at home, except for one meal per day, but does not include programs operated by a municipal agency;

(4) "Person" means the state or any municipal agency, individual, partnership, association, organization, limited liability company or corporation;

(5) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Early Childhood; and

(6) "Office" means the Office of Early Childhood.

Sec. 4. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 17a-248b of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(a) The lead agency shall establish a State Interagency Birth-to-Three Coordinating Council and shall provide staff assistance and other resources to the council. The council shall consist of the following members, appointed by the Governor: (1) Parents, including [minority] parents [,] of children with disabilities twelve years of age or younger representing culturally diverse communities, with knowledge of, or experience with, programs for children with disabilities from birth to thirty-six months of age, the total number of whom shall equal not less than twenty per cent of the total membership of the council, and at least one of whom shall be a parent of a child six years of age or younger, with a disability; (2) two members of the General Assembly at the time of their appointment, one of whom shall be designated by the speaker of the House of Representatives and one of whom shall be designated by the president pro tempore of the Senate; (3) one person involved in

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the training of personnel who provide early intervention services; (4) one person who is a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics; (5) the state coordinator of education for homeless children and youth, the state coordinator for early childhood special education and one person from each of the participating agencies, except the Department of Education, who shall be designated by the commissioner or executive director of the participating agency and who have authority to engage in policy planning and implementation on behalf of the participating agency; (6) public or private providers of early intervention services, the total number of whom shall equal not less than twenty per cent of the total membership of the council; and (7) a representative of a Head Start program or agency. The Governor shall designate the chairperson of the council who shall not be the designee of the lead agency.

(b) The Governor shall appoint all members of the council for terms of three years. [No appointed member of the council] Members appointed to the council pursuant to subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, and (6) and (7) of subsection (a) of this section may serve not more than two consecutive terms, except a member may continue to serve until a successor is appointed.

Sec. 5. Subsection (c) of section 10-16z of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(c) Within available resources, the Early Childhood Cabinet shall (1) advise the Office of Early Childhood, established pursuant to section 10-500, and (2) not later than December 1, 2009, and annually thereafter, develop an annual plan of action that assigns the appropriate state agency to complete the tasks specified in the federal Head Start Act of 2007, P.L. 110-134, as amended from time to time.], and (3) not later than March 1, 2010, and annually thereafter, submit an annual state-wide strategic report, pursuant to said federal Head Start Act, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, addressing the progress such

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agencies have made toward the completion of such tasks outlined under said federal Head Start Act and this subsection to the Governor and the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and human services.]

Sec. 6. Subsection (a) of section 10-550c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(a) There shall be established, within available appropriations, a local or regional governance [partners] partner to assist in the provision of early care and education in a community under Early Start CT. A town or school district and appropriate representatives of groups or entities interested in early care and education in such town or school district may establish a local governance partner. Two or more towns or school districts and appropriate representatives of groups or entities interested in early care and education in a region may establish a regional governance partner.

Sec. 7. Section 10-550d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

[The] Not later than July 1, 2027, the Office of Early Childhood shall establish a sliding fee scale for families that are enrolled in an early care and education program under Early Start CT. Such sliding scale shall be based on family income and be consistent with the sliding fee scale used in the child care subsidy program described in section [17b-249] 17b-749.

Sec. 8. Subsection (c) of section 10-550b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(c) The office, in operating and administering Early Start CT, may allocate an amount up to ten per cent of the total [financial assistance under the contract with] Early Start CT funding for child care spaces

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awarded to providers supported by each local or regional governance partner established pursuant to section 10-550c, as amended by this act, but not more than [one] three hundred fifty thousand dollars, for coordination, program evaluation and administration. Such amount shall be increased by an amount equal to local funding provided for early childhood education coordination, program evaluation and administration, not to exceed fifty thousand dollars. Each local or regional governance partner shall designate a staff person to be responsible for such coordination, program evaluation and administration and to act as a liaison between the town or towns and the commissioner.

Sec. 9. Subsection (b) of section 10-264*l* of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(b) (1) Applications for interdistrict magnet school program operating grants awarded pursuant to this section shall be submitted annually to the Commissioner of Education at such time and in such manner as the commissioner prescribes, except that on and after July 1, 2009, applications for such operating grants for new interdistrict magnet schools, other than those that the commissioner determines will assist the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner, shall not be accepted until the commissioner develops a comprehensive state-wide interdistrict magnet school plan. The commissioner shall submit such comprehensive state-wide interdistrict magnet school plan on or before October 1, 2016, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and appropriations.

(2) In determining whether an application shall be approved and funds awarded pursuant to this section, the commissioner shall

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consider, but such consideration shall not be limited to: (A) Whether the program offered by the school is likely to increase student achievement; (B) whether the program is likely to reduce racial, ethnic and economic isolation; (C) the percentage of the student enrollment in the program from each participating district; and (D) the proposed operating budget and the sources of funding for the interdistrict magnet school. For a magnet school not operated by a local or regional board of education, the commissioner shall only approve a proposed operating budget that, on a per pupil basis, does not exceed the maximum allowable threshold established in accordance with this subdivision. The maximum allowable threshold shall be an amount equal to one hundred twenty per cent of the state average of the quotient obtained by dividing net current expenditures, as defined in section 10-261, by average daily membership, as defined in said section, for the fiscal year two years prior to the fiscal year for which the operating grant is requested. The Department of Education shall establish the maximum allowable threshold no later than December fifteenth of the fiscal year prior to the fiscal year for which the operating grant is requested. If requested by an applicant that is not a local or regional board of education, the commissioner may approve a proposed operating budget that exceeds the maximum allowable threshold if the commissioner determines that there are extraordinary programmatic needs. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, [to June 30, 2025, inclusive] and each fiscal year thereafter, in the case of an interdistrict magnet school that will assist the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner, the commissioner shall also consider whether the school is meeting the enrollment standards for interdistrict magnet school programs, developed by the commissioner pursuant to section 10-264r. If such school has not met such enrollment standards, it shall not be entitled to receive a grant pursuant to this section unless the commissioner finds that it is appropriate to award a grant for an additional year or years and approves a plan to bring such school into

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compliance with such enrollment standards. If requested by the commissioner, the applicant shall meet with the commissioner or the commissioner's designee to discuss the budget and sources of funding.

(3) For the fiscal [years] year ending June 30, 2018, [to June 30, 2025, inclusive] and each fiscal year thereafter, the commissioner shall not award a grant to an interdistrict magnet school program that (A) has more than seventy-five per cent of the total school enrollment from one school district, or (B) does not maintain a total school enrollment that is in accordance with the enrollment standards for interdistrict magnet school programs, developed by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to section 10-264r, except the commissioner may award a grant to such school for an additional year or years if the commissioner finds it is appropriate to do so and approves a plan to bring such school into compliance with such residency or enrollment standards.

(4) For the fiscal [years] year ending June 30, 2018, [to June 30, 2025, inclusive] and each fiscal year thereafter, if an interdistrict magnet school program does not maintain a total school enrollment that is in accordance with the enrollment standards for interdistrict magnet school programs, developed by the commissioner pursuant to section 10-264r, for two or more consecutive years, the commissioner may impose a financial penalty on the operator of such interdistrict magnet school program, or take any other measure, in consultation with such operator, as may be appropriate to assist such operator in complying with such enrollment standards.

(5) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, for the purposes of equalization aid under section 10-262h, a student enrolled in an interdistrict magnet school program shall be counted as a resident student, as defined in section 10-262f, of the town in which such student resides.

Sec. 10. Subsection (i) of section 10-266aa of the general statutes is

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repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(i) (1) In the case of an out-of-district student who requires special education and related services, the sending district shall pay the receiving district an amount equal to the difference between the reasonable cost of providing such special education and related services to such student and the amount received by the receiving district pursuant to subsection (g) of this section and in the case of students participating pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, the per pupil amount received pursuant to section 10-74d. The sending district shall be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g. The receiving district shall (A) hold the planning and placement team meeting for each out-of-district student who requires special education and related services and invite representatives from the sending district to participate in such meeting, and (B) ensure that such students receive the services mandated by the student's individualized education program whether such services are provided by the sending district or the receiving district.

(2) In the case of a student with a plan pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended from time to time, the receiving district shall (A) ensure that such student receives the services mandated by the student's plan, and (B) pay for the costs of providing such services to such student.

Sec. 11. Subsection (f) of section 13 of public act 23-205 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(f) For the Department of Education:

(1) Grants-in-aid to local and regional boards of education to assist targeted local and regional school districts for alterations, repairs, improvements, technology and equipment in low-performing schools,

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not exceeding \$5,000,000;

(2) Grants-in-aid to regional educational service centers and Goodwin University Education Services for capital expenses at interdistrict magnet schools, not exceeding \$8,500,000.

Sec. 12. Subsection (e) of section 32 of public act 23-205 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(e) For the Department of Education:

(1) Grants-in-aid to local and regional boards of education to assist targeted local and regional school districts for alterations, repairs, improvements, technology and equipment in low-performing schools, not exceeding \$5,000,000;

(2) Grants-in-aid to regional educational service centers and Goodwin University Education Services for capital expenses at interdistrict magnet schools, not exceeding \$12,500,000.

Sec. 13. Section 10-264i of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(a) (1) The following entities shall be eligible, pursuant to section 10-264e, to receive a transportation grant for the cost of transporting a child to an interdistrict magnet school program, as defined in section 10-264l, as amended by this act, located in a town other than the town in which such child resides: (A) A local or regional board of education, (B) a regional educational service center, (C) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of Quinebaug Valley Community College and Three Rivers Community College, (D) a cooperative arrangement pursuant to section 10-158a, [or] and (E) to assist the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, (i) the Board

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of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college, (ii) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on behalf of a state university, (iii) the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of the university, (iv) the board of governors for an independent institution of higher education, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent institution of higher education, and (v) any other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the commissioner. [which transports a child to an interdistrict magnet school program, as defined in section 10-264l, in a town other than the town in which the child resides shall be eligible pursuant to section 10-264e to receive a grant for the cost of transporting such child in accordance with this section.]

(2) Except as provided in [subdivisions] subdivision (3) [and (4)] of this subsection, the amount of such transportation grant shall not exceed an amount equal to the number of such children transported multiplied by one thousand three hundred dollars.

(3) For districts assisting the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner, (A) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, the amount of such transportation grant shall not exceed an amount equal to the number of such children transported multiplied by one thousand four hundred dollars, and (B) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount of such transportation grant shall not exceed an amount equal to the number of such children transported multiplied by two thousand dollars. For regional educational service centers located in the Sheff region, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount of such transportation grant shall equal the cost of reasonable transportation services, subject to a comprehensive financial audit and documentation process pursuant to

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subdivision (4) of this subsection.

(4) [In addition to the grants otherwise provided pursuant to this section, the Commissioner of Education may provide supplemental transportation grants to regional educational service centers for the purposes of transportation to interdistrict magnet schools. Any such grant shall be provided within available appropriations and after the commissioner has reviewed and approved the total interdistrict magnet school transportation budget for a regional educational service center, including all revenue and expenditure estimates. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, to June 30, 2018, inclusive, in addition to the grants otherwise provided pursuant to this section, the Commissioner of Education may provide supplemental transportation to interdistrict magnet schools that assist the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner. Any such grant] Any transportation grant to a regional educational service center located in the Sheff region pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection shall be provided [within available appropriations and] upon a comprehensive financial review, by an auditor selected by the Commissioner of Education, the costs of such review may be paid from funds that are part of the [supplemental] transportation grant. [Any such grant shall be paid as follows: For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, up to seventy per cent of the grant on or before June thirtieth of the fiscal year, and the balance on or before September first of the following fiscal year upon completion of the comprehensive financial review, provided any unpaid balance of eligible transportation costs incurred on or before December thirty-first of the fiscal year based on documentation, including, but not limited to, vendor bills dated on or before February first of the fiscal year, and any unpaid balance of eligible transportation costs incurred on or before March thirty-first of the fiscal year based on documentation, including, but not limited to, vendor bills on or before May first of the fiscal year, and the balance of

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the grant on or before September first of the following fiscal year upon completion of the comprehensive financial review. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, up to one hundred per cent of the grant on or before June thirtieth of the fiscal year and any remaining balance on or before September first of the following fiscal year upon completion of the comprehensive financial review. If, upon completion of the comprehensive financial review, the commissioner determines that there was an overpayment of the grant in the prior fiscal year, such funds shall be refunded to the department.] For the fiscal year ending June 30, [2023] 2026, and each fiscal year thereafter, [up] any such transportation grant shall be paid as follows: Up to ninety-five per cent of the grant on or before June thirtieth of the fiscal year based on documentation provided prior to May thirty-first of the fiscal year, with an amount equal to one-half of the total estimated transportation cost on or before October thirty-first of the fiscal year, and the remaining total balance on or before [September] March first of the following fiscal year upon completion of the comprehensive financial review. If, upon completion of the comprehensive financial review, the commissioner determines there was an overpayment of the grant in the prior fiscal year, such funds shall be refunded to the department.

(5) [The] Except as provided in subdivision (4) of this subsection, the Department of Education shall provide such grants within available appropriations. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent a local or regional board of education, regional educational service center or cooperative arrangement from receiving reimbursement under section 10-266m for reasonable transportation expenses for which such board, service center or cooperative arrangement is not reimbursed pursuant to this section.

(b) Grants under this section shall be contingent on documented costs of providing such transportation. [Eligible entities] Each eligible entity identified in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section shall submit

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[applications for grants under] an application to receive a transportation grant pursuant to this section to the Commissioner of Education in such form and at such times as [he] the commissioner prescribes. [Grants] Except as provided in subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of this section, grants pursuant to this section shall be paid as follows: [In October one-half] One-half of the estimated eligible transportation costs on or before October thirty-first and the balance of such costs [in] on or before May thirty-first.

(c) Each eligible entity identified in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section participating in the transportation grant program shall prepare a financial statement of expenditures which shall be submitted to the Department of Education on or before September first of the fiscal year immediately following each fiscal year in which the school district, regional educational service center or cooperative arrangement participates in the transportation grant program. Based on such statement, any underpayment or overpayment may be calculated and adjusted by the Department of Education in the transportation grant for any subsequent year.

Sec. 14. Section 10-145r of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

[For the school year commencing July 1, 2014, and biennially thereafter, the local or regional board of education that employs a certified individual who holds an initial, provisional or professional educator certificate with an early childhood nursery through grade three or an elementary endorsement in a position requiring such an endorsement in kindergarten to grade three, inclusive, shall require each such certified individual to take a survey on reading instruction, developed by the Department of Education that is based on the reading instruction examination approved by the State Board of Education on April 1, 2009, or a comparable reading instruction examination with minimum standards that are equivalent to the examination approved by

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the State Board of Education on April 1, 2009. The department shall design such survey in a manner that identifies the strengths and weaknesses of such certified individuals in reading instruction practices and knowledge on an individual, school and district level. Such survey shall be administered at no financial cost to such certified individual. The results of such survey shall be confidential and shall not be included as part of any summative ratings for performance evaluations, conducted pursuant to section 10-151b, and not be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in section 1-200, except such results shall be (1) distributed to such certified individual and the supervisor of such certified individual who is responsible for designing and facilitating the program of professional development conducted pursuant to section 10-148b for such certified individual, and (2) used for the purpose of improving reading instruction by developing student learning objectives and teacher practice goals that will be included in the professional development conducted pursuant to section 10-148b for such certified individuals.] The results from any survey on reading instruction developed by the Department of Education and administered from the school year commencing July 1, 2014, to the school year commencing July 1, 2024, inclusive, shall be confidential and not subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in section 1-200.

Sec. 15. Section 10-145o of the general statutes, as amended by section 58 of public act 23-167, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(a) The Department of Education, with cooperation from local and regional school districts, regional educational service centers, representatives of the exclusive bargaining representative for certified employees chosen pursuant to section 10-153b, and public institutions of higher education, shall establish and administer a teacher education and mentoring program that includes guided teacher support and

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coaching and the completion of instructional modules, pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, for beginning teachers. The program shall be aligned with the principles of teaching approved by the State Board of Education. As part of the program, each beginning teacher shall develop a two-year individualized mentoring plan.

(b) In administering the teacher education and mentoring program under this section:

(1) The Department of Education shall (A) develop a statement for the teacher education and mentoring program that includes the state's goals for state-wide teacher induction, mentoring, professional development and evaluation, using state-wide data and national research findings; (B) distribute state funding to local and regional school districts to assist with implementation of district teacher education and mentoring plans; (C) manage and make accessible to local and regional school districts the data systems needed to document that teachers and mentors have satisfactorily completed the instructional modules; (D) monitor district implementation of the teacher education and mentoring program to ensure fidelity to the program's plan and goals, including random district audits and observations by state personnel; (E) issue [provisional] professional educator certificates to teachers [that] who have satisfactorily completed the induction program and the other requirements set forth in subdivision (3) of subsection (g) of section 10-145b; (F) develop guidelines for the creation and approval of district teacher education and mentoring plans, based on input and recommendations from stakeholder groups; and (G) oversee an outside evaluation of the teacher education and mentoring program every three to five years;

(2) The Department of Education, in collaboration with EASTCONN, the RESC Alliance, institutions of higher education and other stakeholders, shall (A) develop instructional modules for beginning teachers to complete; (B) train mentors to carry out responsibilities at

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the district level; (C) provide professional development and training for regional mentors working at the district level; (D) provide professional development and training for district teams and principals in managing, designing and administering teacher education and mentoring plans; and (E) provide technical assistance to districts based on district size and needs;

(3) The Department of Education and public institutions of higher education shall (A) work with regional educational service centers to align modules with National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education approved preservice teacher preparation programs; (B) develop and deliver regional strategies for supporting mentor assistance programs; and (C) train cooperating teachers to work with teacher preparation candidates during student teaching and internships;

(4) Local and regional boards of education shall (A) develop a three-year teacher education and mentoring plan in accordance with subsection (c) of this section; (B) form a local or regional coordinating committee or committees, with representatives of the exclusive bargaining representative for certified employees chosen pursuant to section 10-153b, based on district size, to guide the activities outlined in the three-year teacher education and mentoring plan; (C) develop an annual budget to support the activities detailed in the three-year teacher education and mentoring plan and submit such budget annually to the Department of Education to receive state assistance for such activities; (D) recruit and pair mentors from within and outside of the district to work with beginning teachers; (E) ensure substitute teacher coverage for mentors and beginning teachers to participate in the activities and modules required in the three-year teacher education and mentoring plan; (F) communicate regularly with beginning teachers about training opportunities, state-wide workshops and support group work; (G) coordinate the teacher education and mentoring program and teacher

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evaluation and supervision program, provided they are kept separate; (H) verify, through the local or regional coordinating committee, that the work of beginning teachers and instructional modules has been successfully completed; [to warrant provisional certification;] (I) when a beginning teacher has satisfactorily completed all modules, attest to that fact and that the teacher is eligible for [provisional certification] professional certification upon completion of the other requirements set forth in subdivision (3) of subsection (g) of section 10-145b; and (J) ensure that schools under the board's jurisdiction (i) administer the state's on-line needs assessment to establish the goals and priorities of each beginning teacher as such teacher develops an individualized mentoring plan, (ii) review and approve beginning teachers' individualized, two-year mentoring plan, (iii) organize mentoring opportunities by grade, department or specialty area, (iv) take steps to make time available, as needed, to help teachers achieve the goals of their mentoring plans, (v) coordinate the activities and schedules of mentors and beginning teachers to ensure faithful implementation of the district plan, and (vi) submit annual report on mentor-teacher activities to the district coordinating committee for review and approval.

(c) Local and regional school districts shall develop a three-year teacher education and mentoring plan that incorporates the Department of Education's goals and instructional priorities, as well as any local considerations based on community and student needs. Such plan shall include: (1) Background information about the district that includes a community profile, district profile, student profile, faculty profile, mentor profile and beginning teacher profile; (2) a statement of three-year objectives related to the state's goal statement for the teacher education and mentoring program; (3) a general timeline for district coordinating teams to meet with central office personnel, principals, mentors or district facilitators; (4) a description of the process used to select mentors and assign them to beginning teachers, based on subject

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areas, levels and need; (5) a description of the process used to train and update mentors in best practices and essential knowledge; (6) a timeline of district-wide mentoring days for observations, individual discussion, small group meetings, professional development days, regional educational service center training sessions and beginning teachers' completion of tasks associated with each module; (7) a description of the process used to collect, review and coordinate teachers' mentoring plans; (8) a description of the process to resolve internal disputes over the district's recommendations to the state concerning which individuals have satisfactorily completed the instructional modules; and (9) a description of the resources and budget needed to carry out the activities described in the plan.

(d) Local and regional boards of education shall not consider a teacher's completion of the teacher education and mentoring program as a factor in its decision to continue a teacher's employment in the district.

(e) (1) Beginning teachers shall satisfactorily complete instructional modules in the following areas: (A) Classroom management and climate, which shall include training regarding the prevention, identification and response to bullying, as defined in section 10-222aa, and the prevention of and response to youth suicide; (B) lesson planning and unit design; (C) delivering instruction; (D) assessing student learning; and (E) professional practice. Beginning teachers shall complete two modules in their first year in the program and three modules in their second year in the program, except as otherwise provided by the Commissioner of Education, or as provided for in subsection (h) of this section.

(2) Beginning teachers shall work with their mentors in developing a planned set of activities, based on the topics offered within each instructional module, to complete each such instructional module, and such activities shall be reflected in the beginning teacher needs

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assessment. Such activities may be presented in person by mentors, offered in workshops, through on-line courses or through the completion of a set of readings. For each instructional module, beginning teachers shall (A) apply the knowledge gained through such activities in a lesson, project or demonstration of how the activity impacted student learning, and (B) submit a reflection paper or project, to be signed by the mentor, that summarizes, describes or analyzes what has been learned by the beginning teacher and their students throughout the module and how the learning contributed to the development of such beginning teacher. Such reflection paper or project shall be forwarded to the district's coordinating committee for approval.

(3) Upon successful completion of the instructional modules and final review by the coordinating committee, the superintendent of the school district shall submit to the State Board of Education the names of the beginning teachers eligible for receipt of a [provisional] professional educator certificate [to the State Board of Education] upon completion of the other requirements set forth in subdivision (3) of subsection (g) of section 10-145b.

(f) Local and regional boards of education, in cooperation with the Department of Education, institutions of higher education and regional educational service centers, shall recruit mentors for their teacher education and mentoring program. Those persons eligible to serve as mentors for such programs shall hold a [provisional educator certificate or a] professional educator certificate [,] or a distinguished educator designation pursuant to section 10-145s, and have at least three years teaching experience in Connecticut, including at least one year of experience in the district in which they are presently employed. Retired certified teachers may also serve as mentors, provided they successfully complete a mentor training program offered by a regional educational service center. Each mentor shall be assigned two beginning teachers, except that in certain circumstances, a mentor may be assigned three

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beginning teachers. Such assignment shall be reflected in each district's three-year plan. Each mentor shall provide fifty contact hours to each beginning teacher during the program, with the expectation of approximately ten contact hours per module. Mentors shall receive a minimum of a five-hundred-dollar annual stipend for each beginning teacher assigned to such mentor from the local or regional board of education for participation in the teacher education and mentoring program. Such stipend shall be included in a person's total earnings for purposes of retirement.

(g) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (h) of this section, for the school year commencing July 1, 2010, beginning teachers who hold an initial educator certificate and have not participated in any beginning educator program as of July 1, 2009, shall participate in the teacher education and mentoring programs as follows:

(1) Beginning teachers in the following subject areas and endorsement areas shall be required to successfully complete the teacher education and mentoring program in full: Elementary education, English and language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, special education, bilingual education, music, physical education, visual arts, world languages and teachers of English as a second language.

(2) Beginning teachers in any other endorsement area and whose primary function is providing direct instruction to students shall be required to successfully complete one year of mentorship and two instructional modules.

(h) Teachers who began in a beginning educator program, pursuant to section 10-145b of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2009, but have not completed that program as of July 1, 2009, and teach during the 2009-2010 school year, shall be granted a one-year extension of their initial educator certificates, if necessary, and shall

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participate in the teacher education and mentoring program, pursuant to this section, through the completion of two instructional modules during the 2010-2011 school year. Such teachers shall exit the program at the end of the 2010-2011 school year upon the successful completion of the two instructional modules.

(i) The Department of Education, in consultation with EASTCONN, shall create a data system for local and regional school districts to access the resources and record-keeping tools to manage the teacher education and mentoring program at the local level. Such data system shall include (1) templates for (A) writing and updating each district's plan, (B) recording each teacher's completion of each of the five instructional modules, and (C) teachers to record the completion of instructional module activities and submit written reflection papers or projects, and (2) links to on-line programs or workshops that are part of the five modules.

(j) Not later than July 1, 2010, the State Board of Education shall adopt guidelines to provide for the implementation of the teacher education and mentoring program in accordance with this section and the Report of the Beginning Educator Support and Training Program (BEST)/Mentor Assistance Program (MAP) Task Force dated December 29, 2008.

Sec. 16. Section 10-91j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

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

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include the following provisions: (1) A requirement that such private provider of special education services submit monthly or quarterly reports to such board regarding the specific services and frequency of such services being provided by such private provider of special education services to students under the agreement or contract, and (2) authorization for such board to (A) review and reconcile such reports to the contracted services described in the agreement or contract, or (B) conduct periodic site visits at the location where such private provider of special education services provides services.

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

(c) Any written contract entered into or amended on or after July 1, 2025, between a local or regional board of education and a private provider of special education services shall include a provision that requires such private provider of special education services to submit a base tuition and cost for services for each school year in which services are to be provided pursuant to such contract to such local or regional board of education not later than December thirty-first preceding the school year in which services are to be provided.

Sec. 17. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) Each regional educational

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resource center providing special education services for a local or regional board of education shall submit a base tuition and cost for services for each school year in which services are to be provided for such local or regional board of education not later than December thirty-first preceding the school year in which services are to be provided.

Sec. 18. Section 10-95r of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(a) The Technical Education and Career System shall be under the direction of the executive director of the Technical Education and Career System, whose appointment shall be made by the Governor. Such appointment shall be in accordance with the provisions of sections 4-5 to 4-8, inclusive. Any person appointed to be the executive director shall have experience with educational systems. The executive director of the Technical Education and Career System shall be responsible for the operation, supervision and administration and the financial accountability and oversight of the Technical Education and Career System in matters relating to the central office, system-wide management and other noneducational matters. The executive director shall organize the Technical Education and Career System into such bureaus, divisions and other units as may be necessary for the efficient conduct of the business of the system, and may, from time to time, create, abolish, transfer or consolidate within the system any bureau, division or other unit as may be necessary for the efficient conduct of the business of the system. The executive director may appoint, and may prescribe the duties of any subordinates, agents and employees as he or she finds necessary in the conduct of the system.

(b) The executive director shall review and approve all contracts for the Technical Education and Career System.

(c) The executive director may enter into cooperative arrangements with local and regional boards of education, private career schools,

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nonprofit career schools, a nonprofit training institute in the state that provides training in the building trades to underserved populations, institutions of higher education, job training agencies and employers in order to provide (1) general education, (2) vocational, technical, technological or postsecondary education, and (3) work experience.

(d) The executive director may, upon approval of the board, accept gifts, grants and donations on behalf of the system, including, but not limited to, in-kind donations, designated for the purchase of equipment or materials, the hiring of teachers at a technical education and career school or the acquisition of real property and the construction of facilities, except no employee of the system may accept any gift, grant or donation as an individual, or on behalf of the system, that is for personal use. Any gift, grant or donation accepted on behalf of the system shall be in accordance with the state code of ethics for public officials set forth in chapter 10. The executive director shall submit quarterly reports to the Office of Policy and Management concerning all gifts, grants or donations received pursuant to this subsection.

(e) The executive director shall ensure that the superintendent of the Technical Education and Career System establishes a master schedule for the Technical Education and Career System and may amend such master schedule from time to time.

(f) The executive director shall communicate directly with the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management when requesting the creation or filling of staff positions included in the operating budget for the Technical Education and Career System. When reviewing such requests, priority shall be given to any request for instructional staff, as identified in the statement of staffing needs submitted by the superintendent of the Technical Education and Career System pursuant to section 10-99g, and every effort shall be made to avoid interruption to instructional time during such review. The secretary shall review and approve a request for the filling of instructional staff positions not later

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than thirty days after the date the statement of staffing needs is submitted for such positions by the superintendent.

(g) If the New England Association of Schools and Colleges places a technical education and career school on probation or otherwise notifies the superintendent of the Technical Education and Career System that a technical education and career school is at risk of losing its accreditation, the executive director shall notify the Commissioner of Education and the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education of such placement or problems relating to accreditation.

Sec. 19. Subsections (d) and (e) of section 10-212a of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(d) (1) (A) With the written authorization of a student's parent or guardian, and (B) pursuant to the written order of a qualified medical professional, a school nurse and a school medical advisor, if any, may jointly approve and provide general supervision to an identified paraeducator to administer medication, including, but not limited to, medication administered with a cartridge injector, to a specific student with a medically diagnosed allergic condition that may require prompt treatment in order to protect the student against serious harm or death. Each such paraeducator and any qualified school employee authorized to administer epinephrine in the absence of a school nurse pursuant to policies and procedures adopted by a board of education in accordance with subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section shall annually complete the training program described in section 10-212g.

(2) A school nurse or, in the absence of a school nurse, a qualified school employee shall maintain epinephrine [in cartridge injectors] for the purpose of emergency first aid to students who experience allergic reactions and do not have a prior written authorization of a parent or

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guardian or a prior written order of a qualified medical professional for the administration of epinephrine. A school nurse or a school principal shall select qualified school employees to administer such epinephrine under this subdivision, and there shall be at least one such qualified school employee on the grounds of the school during regular school hours in the absence of a school nurse. A school nurse or, in the absence of such school nurse, such qualified school employee may administer such epinephrine under this subdivision, provided such administration of epinephrine is in accordance with policies and procedures adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section. Such administration of epinephrine by a qualified school employee shall be limited to situations when the school nurse is absent or unavailable. No qualified school employee shall administer such epinephrine under this subdivision unless such qualified school employee annually completes the training program described in section 10-212g. The parent or guardian of a student may submit, in writing, to the school nurse and school medical advisor, if any, that epinephrine shall not be administered to such student under this subdivision.

(3) In the case of a student with a medically diagnosed life-threatening allergic condition, (A) with the written authorization of such student's parent or guardian, and (B) pursuant to the written order of a qualified medical professional, such student may possess, self-administer or possess and self-administer medication, including, but not limited to, medication administered with a cartridge injector, to protect such student against serious harm or death.

(4) For purposes of this subsection, (A) ["cartridge injector"] "epinephrine" means an automatic prefilled cartridge injector or similar automatic injectable equipment, a nasal spray or any other medical equipment approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration that is used to deliver epinephrine in a standard dose for emergency first aid response to allergic reactions, (B) "qualified

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school employee" means a principal, teacher, licensed athletic trainer, licensed physical or occupational therapist employed by a school district, coach or paraeducator, and (C) "qualified medical professional" means (i) a physician licensed under chapter 370, (ii) an optometrist licensed to practice optometry under chapter 380, (iii) an advanced practice registered nurse licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-94a, or (iv) a physician assistant licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-12d.

(e) (1) With the written authorization of a student's parent or guardian, and (2) pursuant to a written order of the student's physician licensed under chapter 370 or the student's advanced practice registered nurse licensed under chapter 378, a school nurse or a school principal shall select, and a school nurse shall provide general supervision to, a qualified school employee to administer medication with [injectable] equipment used to administer glucagon to a student with diabetes that may require prompt treatment in order to protect the student against serious harm or death. Such authorization shall be limited to situations when the school nurse is absent or unavailable. No qualified school employee shall administer medication under this subsection unless (A) such qualified school employee annually completes any training required by the school nurse and school medical advisor, if any, in the administration of medication with [injectable] equipment used to administer glucagon, (B) the school nurse and school medical advisor, if any, have attested, in writing, that such qualified school employee has completed such training, and (C) such qualified school employee voluntarily agrees to serve as a qualified school employee. For purposes of this subsection, ["injectable equipment used to administer glucagon"] "equipment used to administer glucagon" means an injector or injectable equipment, nasal spray or any other medical equipment approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration that is used to deliver glucagon in an appropriate dose for emergency first aid response to diabetes. For purposes of this subsection, "qualified school employee"

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means a principal, teacher, licensed athletic trainer, licensed physical or occupational therapist employed by a school district, coach or paraeducator.

Sec. 20. Subsection (a) of section 19a-79 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(a) The Commissioner of Early Childhood shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to carry out the purposes of sections 19a-77 to 19a-80, inclusive, and 19a-82 to 19a-87, inclusive, and to assure that child care centers and group child care homes meet the health, educational and social needs of children utilizing such child care centers and group child care homes. Such regulations shall (1) specify that before being permitted to attend any child care center or group child care home, each child shall be protected as age-appropriate by adequate immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, haemophilus influenzae type B and any other vaccine required by the schedule of active immunization adopted pursuant to section 19a-7f, (2) specify conditions under which child care center directors and teachers and group child care home providers may administer tests to monitor glucose levels in a child with diagnosed diabetes mellitus, and administer medicinal preparations, including controlled drugs specified in the regulations by the commissioner, to a child receiving child care services at such child care center or group child care home pursuant to the written order of a physician licensed to practice medicine or a dentist licensed to practice dental medicine in this or another state, or an advanced practice registered nurse licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-94a, or a physician assistant licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-12d, and the written authorization of a parent or guardian of such child, (3) specify that an operator of a child care center or group child care home, licensed before January 1, 1986, or an operator who receives

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a license after January 1, 1986, for a facility licensed prior to January 1, 1986, shall provide a minimum of thirty square feet per child of total indoor usable space, free of furniture except that needed for the children's purposes, exclusive of toilet rooms, bathrooms, coatrooms, kitchens, halls, isolation room or other rooms used for purposes other than the activities of the children, (4) specify that a child care center or group child care home licensed after January 1, 1986, shall provide thirty-five square feet per child of total indoor usable space, (5) establish appropriate child care center staffing requirements for employees certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, the National Safety Council, American Safety and Health Institute, Medic First Aid International, Inc. or an organization using guidelines for cardiopulmonary resuscitation and emergency cardiovascular care published by the American Heart Association and International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation, (6) specify that a child care center or group child care home (A) shall not deny services to a child on the basis of a child's known or suspected allergy or because a child has a prescription for an automatic prefilled cartridge injector or similar automatic injectable equipment, nasal spray or any other medical equipment approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration that is used to treat an allergic reaction, or for injectable equipment, nasal spray or any other medical equipment approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration that is used to administer glucagon, (B) shall, not later than three weeks after such child's enrollment in such a center or home, have staff trained in the use of such equipment on-site during all hours when such a child is on-site, (C) shall require such child's parent or guardian to provide the [injector or injectable] equipment and a copy of the prescription for such medication [and injector or injectable equipment] upon enrollment of such child, and (D) shall require a parent or guardian enrolling such a child to replace such medication and equipment prior to its expiration date, (7) specify that a child care center or group child care home (A) shall not deny services to a child on the basis of a child's diagnosis of

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asthma or because a child has a prescription for an inhalant medication to treat asthma, and (B) shall, not later than three weeks after such child's enrollment in such a center or home, have staff trained in the administration of such medication on-site during all hours when such a child is on-site, (8) establish physical plant requirements for licensed child care centers and licensed group child care homes that exclusively serve school-age children, (9) specify that a child care center or group child care home shall immediately notify the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in such center or home if such child exhibits or develops an illness or is injured while in the care of such center or home, (10) specify that a child care center or group child care home shall create a written record of any such illness or injury, which shall, (A) include, but not be limited to, (i) a description of such illness or injury, (ii) the date, time of occurrence and location of such illness or injury, (iii) any responsive action taken by an employee of such center or home, and (iv) whether such child was transported to a hospital emergency room, doctor's office or other medical facility as a result of such illness or injury, (B) be provided to the parent or guardian of such child not later than the next business day, and (C) be maintained by such center or home for a period of not less than two years and be made immediately available upon the request of the Office of Early Childhood, and (11) specify that a child care center or group child care home shall maintain any video recordings created at such center or home for a period of not less than thirty days, and make such recordings immediately available upon the request of the Office of Early Childhood. When establishing such requirements, the Office of Early Childhood shall give consideration to child care centers and group child care homes that are located in private or public school buildings. With respect to subdivision (8) of this subsection, the commissioner shall implement policies and procedures necessary to implement the physical plant requirements established pursuant to this subdivision while in the process of adopting such policies and procedures in regulation form. Until replaced by policies and procedures implemented pursuant to this

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subdivision, any physical plant requirement specified in the office's regulations that is generally applicable to child care centers and group child care homes shall continue to be applicable to such centers and homes that exclusively serve school-age children. The commissioner shall post notice of the intent to adopt regulations pursuant to this subdivision on the eRegulations System not later than twenty days after the date of implementation of such policies and procedures. Policies and procedures implemented pursuant to this subdivision shall be valid until the time final regulations are adopted. For purposes of this subsection, "illness" means fever, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, headache, persistent coughing, persistent crying or any other condition deemed an illness by the Commissioner of Early Childhood.

Sec. 21. Section 10-220i of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

No local or regional board of education shall deny a student access to school transportation solely due to such student's need to carry [a cartridge injector] epinephrine while traveling on a vehicle used for school transportation. For purposes of this section, ["cartridge injector"] "epinephrine" means an automatic prefilled cartridge injector or similar automatic injectable equipment, nasal spray or any other medical equipment approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration that is used to deliver epinephrine in a standard dose for emergency first aid response to allergic reactions.

Sec. 22. Subsection (c) of section 14-276b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(c) The training required under this section shall include, but need not be limited to, instruction on (1) the identification of the signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis, (2) the administration of epinephrine by a cartridge injector, nasal spray and any other medical equipment

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approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for the administration of epinephrine, (3) the notification of emergency personnel, and (4) the reporting of an incident involving a student and a life-threatening allergic reaction. Such training may be completed using an online module, provided such online module meets the requirements of this section.

Sec. 23. Section 19a-900 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(a) For the purposes of this section:

(1) "Before or after school program" means any educational or recreational program for children administered in any building or on the grounds of any school by a local or regional board of education or other municipal agency, before or after regular school hours, or both, but does not include a program that is licensed by the Department of Public Health;

(2) ["Cartridge injector"] "Epinephrine" means an automatic prefilled cartridge injector or similar automatic injectable equipment, nasal spray or any other medical equipment approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration that is used to deliver epinephrine in a standard dose for emergency first aid response to allergic reactions;

(3) "Day camp" means any recreational camp program operated by a municipal agency; and

(4) "Child care facility" means any child care center or group child care home, as described in subdivisions (1) and (2) of subsection (a) of section 19a-77, that is excluded from the licensing requirements of sections 19a-77 to 19a-87, inclusive, by subsection (b) of section 19a-77.

(b) Upon the request and with the written authorization of the parent or guardian of a child attending any before or after school program, day

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camp or child care facility, and pursuant to the written order of (1) a physician licensed to practice medicine, (2) a physician assistant licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-12d, or (3) an advanced practice registered nurse licensed to prescribe in accordance with sections 20-94a and 20-94b, the owner or operator of such before or after school program, day camp or child care facility shall approve and provide general supervision to an identified staff member trained to administer [medication with a cartridge injector] epinephrine to such child if the child has a medically diagnosed allergic condition that may require prompt treatment in order to protect the child against serious harm or death. Such staff member shall be trained in the use of [a cartridge injector] epinephrine by a licensed physician, physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse or registered nurse or shall complete a course in first aid offered by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, the National Ski Patrol, the Department of Public Health, any director of health or an organization using guidelines for first aid and published by the American Heart Association and the American Red Cross.

Sec. 24. Section 19a-900a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

Any provider of child care services, as described in section 19a-77, that is licensed by the Office of Early Childhood or is exempt from licensure pursuant to subsection (b) of section 19a-77, and maintains a supply of epinephrine [cartridge injectors] pursuant to section 19a-909, as amended by this act, may administer such epinephrine for the purpose of emergency first aid to a child in the care of such provider who experiences an allergic reaction and does not have a prior written authorization of a parent or guardian or a prior written order of a qualified medical professional for the administration of epinephrine, provided the person administering such epinephrine is a person with training, as defined in section 19a-909, as amended by this act. The

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parent or guardian of a child may submit, in writing, to such child's provider of child care services, that epinephrine shall not be administered to such child pursuant to this section.

Sec. 25. Section 19a-909 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(a) As used in this section: [and sections 21a-70 and 52-557v:]

(1) ["Epinephrine cartridge injector"] "Epinephrine" means an automatic prefilled cartridge injector or similar automatic injectable equipment, nasal spray or any other medical equipment approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration that is used to deliver epinephrine in a standard dose for an emergency first aid response to allergic reactions;

(2) "Person with training" means a person who (A) (i) has completed a course in first aid that includes training in recognizing the signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis, administering epinephrine and following emergency protocol, approved by a prescribing practitioner pursuant to a medical protocol established in accordance with subsection (b) of this section, which course may be offered by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, the National Ski Patrol, the Department of Public Health or any director of health, and (ii) is certified by said organizations, department or director of health offering the course, or (B) who has received training in the recognition of the signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis, the use of [an] epinephrine [cartridge injector] and emergency protocol by a licensed physician, physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse or emergency medical services personnel;

(3) "Documentation evidencing training" includes a certificate issued by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, the National Ski Patrol, the Department of Public Health or any director of

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health or a written statement of acknowledgment of training signed by a licensed physician, physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse or emergency medical services personnel; and

(4) "Authorized entity" means any for-profit or nonprofit entity or organization that employs at least one person with training. "Authorized entity" does not include the state or any political subdivision thereof authorized to purchase epinephrine pursuant to subsection (h) of section 21a-70, as amended by this act, a local or regional board of education required to maintain epinephrine [cartridge injectors] pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of section 10-212a, as amended by this act, or a licensed or a certified ambulance service required to be equipped with epinephrine cartridge injectors pursuant to subsection (b) of section 19a-197a.

(b) An authorized entity and a prescribing practitioner, as defined in section 20-14c, who is authorized to prescribe [an] epinephrine, [cartridge injector,] may establish a medical protocol regarding the administration of [an] epinephrine [cartridge injector] by a person with training who is employed by or an agent of an authorized entity for the purpose of rendering emergency care in accordance with subsection (d) of this section. Such medical protocol shall include, but need not be limited to, (1) any training required, in addition to the training required under subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section, for an employee or agent of an authorized entity to be designated as a person with training, (2) the records to be maintained in accordance with this subsection and subsections (c) and (e) of this section, (3) the proper storage and maintenance of epinephrine, [cartridge injectors,] and (4) the procedure for handling emergency medical situations involving anaphylactic allergic reactions at the authorized entity's place of business. Any such medical protocol shall be deemed established for a legitimate medical purpose in the usual course of the prescribing practitioner's professional practice. An authorized entity shall maintain

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a copy of such medical protocol established under this section at the place of business to which it applies and, not less than annually, review such medical protocol with the designated persons with training and the prescribing practitioner.

(c) An authorized entity that has established a medical protocol with a prescribing practitioner pursuant to subsection (b) of this section may acquire and maintain a supply of epinephrine [cartridge injectors] from a wholesaler, as defined in section 21a-70, as amended by this act. The epinephrine [cartridge injectors] shall be stored in a location readily accessible in an emergency, in accordance with the instructions for use included with such epinephrine [cartridge injectors] and the established medical protocol. An authorized entity shall designate a person or persons with training who are employees or agents of the authorized entity to be responsible for the storage, maintenance and control of the epinephrine. [cartridge injectors.] An authorized entity shall maintain documentation (1) of all epinephrine [cartridge injectors] acquired by such authorized entity, and (2) evidencing the training acquired by each such designated person with training.

(d) A person with training who is an employee or agent of an authorized entity that acquires and maintains a supply of epinephrine [cartridge injectors] pursuant to subsection (c) of this section may, in accordance with the established medical protocol, (1) provide [an] epinephrine [cartridge injector] to an individual or to the parent, guardian or caregiver of an individual, whom the person with training believes in good faith is experiencing anaphylaxis, regardless of whether the individual has a prescription for [an] epinephrine [cartridge injector] or a prior medical diagnosis of an allergic condition, for the purpose of immediate administration of such epinephrine [cartridge injector] by such individual, parent, guardian or caregiver, or (2) administer [an] epinephrine [cartridge injector] to an individual whom the person with training believes in good faith is experiencing

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anaphylaxis, regardless of whether the individual has a prescription for [an] epinephrine [cartridge injector] or a prior medical diagnosis of an allergic condition. The person with training or any other employee or agent of the authorized entity shall promptly notify a local emergency medical services organization after any administration of [an] epinephrine [cartridge injector] acquired and maintained by the authorized entity.

(e) Each authorized entity shall report to the prescribing practitioner with whom it has established a medical protocol any incident that involves the administration of [an] epinephrine [cartridge injector] acquired and maintained by the authorized entity under this section not later than thirty days after the date of such incident and shall maintain a record of such incident.

(f) (1) A prescribing practitioner who is authorized to prescribe epinephrine may establish a medical protocol with an authorized entity in accordance with this section without being liable for damages in a civil action or subject to criminal prosecution for establishing such medical protocol or for any subsequent use of [an] epinephrine [cartridge injector] acquired and maintained by the authorized entity under this section. A prescribing practitioner who has established a medical protocol with an authorized entity in accordance with the provisions of this section shall be deemed not to have violated the standard of care for such licensed health care provider.

(2) A person with training or an authorized entity that employs or has an agent who is a person with training who provides or administers [an] epinephrine [cartridge injector] to an individual whom the person with training believes in good faith is experiencing anaphylaxis in accordance with the provisions of this section shall not be liable to such individual for civil damages or subject to criminal prosecution for any personal injuries that result from acts or omissions by such person with training in using [an] epinephrine, [cartridge injector,] which may

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constitute ordinary negligence. The immunity provided in this subsection shall not apply to wilful or wanton misconduct or acts or omissions constituting gross negligence.

(g) The [Commissioners] Commissioner of Consumer Protection or Public Health may adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this section.

Sec. 26. Subsection (h) of section 21a-70 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(h) No wholesaler or manufacturer shall sell any drugs except to the state or any political subdivision thereof, to another manufacturer or wholesaler, to any hospital recognized by the state as a general or specialty hospital, to any institution having a full-time pharmacist who is actively engaged in the practice of pharmacy in such institution not less than thirty-five hours a week, to a chronic and convalescent nursing home having a pharmacist actively engaged in the practice of pharmacy based upon the ratio of one-tenth of one hour per patient per week but not less than twelve hours per week, to a practicing physician, podiatrist, dentist, optometrist or veterinarian, to a licensed pharmacy or a store to which a permit to sell nonlegend drugs has been issued as provided in section 20-624 or to an authorized entity, as defined in section 19a-909, as amended by this act, that has established a medical protocol with a prescribing practitioner pursuant to section 19a-909, as amended by this act, provided drugs sold to an authorized entity shall be limited to epinephrine, as defined in section 19a-909, as amended by this act. [cartridge injectors.] The commissioner may adopt such regulations as are necessary to administer and enforce the provisions of this section.

Sec. 27. Subsections (f) to (i), inclusive, of section 52-557b of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu

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thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(f) A teacher or other school personnel, on the school grounds or in the school building or at a school function, who has completed both a course in first aid in accordance with subsection (b) of this section and a course given by the medical advisor of the school or by a licensed physician in the administration of medication, [by injection,] who renders emergency care by administration of medication [by injection] to a person in need thereof, shall not be liable to the person assisted for civil damages for any injuries which result from acts or omissions by the person in rendering the emergency care of administration of medication, [by injection,] which may constitute ordinary negligence. The immunity provided in this subsection does not apply to acts or omissions constituting gross, wilful or wanton negligence.

(g) The provisions of this section shall not be construed to require any teacher or other school personnel to render emergency first aid or administer medication. [by injection.]

(h) Any person who has completed a course in first aid offered by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, the National Ski Patrol, the Department of Public Health, any director of health or by an organization using guidelines for first aid published by the American Heart Association and the American Red Cross, that is certified by the organization or director of health offering the course, or has been trained in the use of a cartridge injector by a licensed physician, physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse or registered nurse, and who, voluntarily and gratuitously and other than in the ordinary course of such person's employment or practice, renders emergency assistance by using a cartridge injector on another person in need thereof, or any person who is an identified staff member of a before or after school program, day camp or child care facility, as defined in section 19a-900, as amended by this act, and who renders emergency assistance by [using a cartridge injector] administering epinephrine on

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another person in need thereof, shall not be liable to such person assisted for civil damages for any personal injuries which result from acts or omissions by such person in using a cartridge injector or administering epinephrine, which may constitute ordinary negligence. The immunity provided in this subsection does not apply to acts or omissions constituting gross, wilful or wanton negligence. For the purposes of this subsection, "cartridge injector" has the same meaning as provided in subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of this section and "epinephrine" means an automatic prefilled cartridge injector or similar automatic injectable equipment, nasal spray or any other medical equipment approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration that is used to deliver epinephrine in a standard dose for an emergency first aid response to allergic reactions.

(i) A school bus driver, on or in the immediate vicinity of a school bus during the provision of school transportation services, who renders emergency care by administration of [medication with a cartridge injector] epinephrine to a student in need thereof who has a medically diagnosed allergic condition that may require prompt treatment in order to protect the student against serious harm or death, shall not be liable to the student assisted for civil damages for any injuries which result from acts or omissions by the school bus driver in rendering the emergency care of administration of [medication with a cartridge injector] epinephrine, which may constitute ordinary negligence. The immunity provided in this subsection does not apply to acts or omissions constituting gross, wilful or wanton negligence. For the purposes of this subsection, ["cartridge injector"] "epinephrine" has the same meaning as provided in [subdivision (1) of subsection (e)] subsection (h) of this section.

Sec. 28. Section 52-557v of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(a) A person (1) employed to work for the state or any political

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subdivision thereof that has acquired and maintains a supply of epinephrine, [cartridge injectors] as defined in section 19a-909, as amended by this act, (2) who is trained in the use of [an] epinephrine [cartridge injector] in accordance with subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 19a-909, as amended by this act, and (3) provides or administers [an] epinephrine [cartridge injector] to an individual whom the person believes in good faith is experiencing anaphylaxis during the course of such person's employment, shall not be liable to such individual for civil damages or subject to criminal prosecution for any personal injuries that result from acts or omissions by such person in using [an] epinephrine, [cartridge injector,] which may constitute ordinary negligence. The immunity provided in this subsection shall not apply to wilful or wanton misconduct or acts or omissions constituting gross negligence.

(b) The state or any political subdivision thereof that (1) has acquired and maintains a supply of epinephrine, [cartridge injectors,] and (2) employs a person who (A) is trained in the use of [an] epinephrine [cartridge injector] in accordance with subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 19a-909, as amended by this act, and (B) provides or administers [an] epinephrine [cartridge injector] to an individual whom the person believes in good faith is experiencing anaphylaxis during the course of such person's employment, shall not be liable to such individual for civil damages for any personal injuries that result from acts or omissions by such person in using [an] epinephrine, [cartridge injector,] which may constitute ordinary negligence. The immunity provided in this subsection shall not apply to wilful or wanton misconduct or acts or omissions constituting gross negligence.

Governor's Action:

Approved June 30, 2025