



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 7787



Offered by:

REP. LEEPER, 132nd Dist.

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To: House Bill No. 7009

File No. 317

Cal. No. 219

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

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

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

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

14 project, such as community service, participation in student
15 government, internship with an elected official or involvement in a civic
16 organization, and (3) demonstrated proficiency in civics knowledge
17 through a standardized assessment, portfolio of work that includes
18 essays, projects or presentations related to civics or other mastery-based
19 assessment or process.

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

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

31 Sec. 3. Subsection (c) of section 10-10a of the general statutes is
32 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
33 *1, 2026*):

34 (c) The state-wide public school information system shall:

35 (1) Track and report data relating to student, teacher and school and
36 district performance growth and make such information available to
37 local and regional boards of education for use in evaluating educational
38 performance and growth of teachers and students enrolled in public
39 schools in the state. Such information shall be collected or calculated
40 based on information received from local and regional boards of
41 education and other relevant sources. Such information shall include,
42 but not be limited to:

43 (A) In addition to performance on state-wide mastery examinations
44 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, data relating to students shall

45 include, but not be limited to, (i) the primary language spoken at the
46 home of a student, (ii) student transcripts, (iii) student attendance and
47 student mobility, (iv) reliable, valid assessments of a student's readiness
48 to enter public school at the kindergarten level, [and] (v) data collected,
49 if any, from the preschool experience survey, described in section 10-
50 515, and (vi) data required pursuant to section 10-17m concerning the
51 academic progress of students in bilingual education programs;

52 (B) Data relating to teachers shall include, but not be limited to, (i)
53 teacher credentials, such as master's degrees, teacher preparation
54 programs completed and certification levels and endorsement areas, (ii)
55 teacher assessments, such as whether a teacher is deemed highly
56 qualified pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110, or
57 deemed to meet such other designations as may be established by
58 federal law or regulations for the purposes of tracking the equitable
59 distribution of instructional staff, (iii) the presence of substitute teachers
60 in a teacher's classroom, (iv) class size, (v) numbers relating to
61 absenteeism in a teacher's classroom, and (vi) the presence of a teacher's
62 aide. The department shall assign a unique teacher identifier to each
63 teacher prior to collecting such data in the public school information
64 system;

65 (C) Data relating to schools and districts shall include, but not be
66 limited to, (i) school population, (ii) annual student graduation rates,
67 (iii) annual teacher retention rates, (iv) school disciplinary records, such
68 as data relating to suspensions, expulsions and other disciplinary
69 actions, (v) the percentage of students whose primary language is not
70 English, (vi) the number of and professional credentials of support
71 personnel, (vii) information relating to instructional technology, such as
72 access to computers, [and] (viii) disaggregated measures of school-
73 based arrests pursuant to section 10-233n, and (ix) the measures and
74 data required pursuant to section 10-17g for the evaluation of bilingual
75 education programs.

76 (2) Collect data relating to student enrollment in and graduation from
77 institutions of higher education for any student who had been assigned

78 a unique student identifier pursuant to subsection (b) of this section,
79 provided such data is available.

80 (3) Develop means for access to and data sharing with the data
81 systems of public institutions of higher education in the state.

82 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 10-17o of the general statutes is
83 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
84 *1, 2026*):

85 (a) The State Board of Education shall draft a written bill of rights for
86 parents or guardians of students who are multilingual learners to
87 guarantee that the rights of such parents and students are adequately
88 safeguarded and protected in the provision of bilingual education under
89 chapter 164. Such bill of rights shall include, but need not be limited to,
90 the following declarations:

91 (1) The right of a multilingual learner student to attend a public
92 school in the state regardless of such student's immigration status or the
93 immigration status of such student's parent or guardian;

94 (2) The right of a parent or guardian of a multilingual learner student
95 to enroll such student in a public school without being required to
96 submit immigration documentation, including, but not limited to, a
97 Social Security number, visa documentation or proof of citizenship;

98 (3) The right of a multilingual learner student to have translation
99 services provided (A) by an interpreter who is present in person or
100 available by telephone or through an online technology platform, or (B)
101 through an Internet web site or other electronic application approved
102 by the State Board of Education, during critical interactions with
103 teachers and administrators, including, but not limited to, parent-
104 teacher conferences, meetings with administrators of the school in
105 which such student is attending, and at properly noticed regular or
106 special meetings of the board of education or scheduled meetings with
107 a member or members of the board of education responsible for
108 educating such student, in accordance with section 10-218b;

109 (4) The right of a multilingual learner student to participate in a
110 program of bilingual education offered by the local or regional board of
111 education when there are twenty or more eligible students classified as
112 dominant in a language, other than English, as such student, in
113 accordance with the provisions of section 10-17f;

114 (5) The right of a parent or guardian of a multilingual learner student
115 to receive written notice, in both English and the dominant language of
116 such parent or guardian, that such student is eligible to participate in a
117 program of bilingual education or English as a new language program
118 offered by the local or regional board of education;

119 (6) The right of a multilingual learner student and the parent or
120 guardian of such student to receive a high-quality orientation session,
121 in the dominant language of such student and parent or guardian, from
122 the local or regional board of education that provides information
123 relating to state standards, tests and expectations at the school for
124 multilingual learner students, as well as the goals and requirements for
125 programs of bilingual education and English as a new language, prior
126 to participation in such program of bilingual education or English as a
127 new language;

128 (7) The right of the parent or guardian of a multilingual learner
129 student to receive information about the progress of such student's
130 English language development and acquisition;

131 (8) The right of a multilingual learner student and the parent or
132 guardian of such student to meet with school personnel to discuss such
133 student's English language development and acquisition;

134 (9) The right of a multilingual learner student to be placed in a
135 program of bilingual education or English as a new language, if offered
136 by the local or regional board of education;

137 (10) The right of a multilingual learner student to have equal access
138 to all grade-level school programming;

139 (11) The right of a multilingual learner student to have equal access
140 to all core grade-level subject matter;

141 (12) The right of a multilingual learner student to receive annual
142 language proficiency testing;

143 (13) The right of a multilingual learner student to receive support
144 services aligned with any intervention plan that the school or school
145 district provides to all students;

146 (14) The right of a multilingual learner student to be continuously
147 and annually enrolled in a program of bilingual education or English as
148 a new language while such student remains an eligible student, as
149 defined in section 10-17e; [and]

150 (15) The right of a parent or guardian of a multilingual learner
151 student to contact the Department of Education with any questions or
152 concerns regarding such student's right to receive multilingual learner
153 services or accommodations available to such student or parent or
154 guardian, including information regarding any recourse for failure of
155 the board of education to provide or ensure such services or
156 accommodations; and

157 (16) The right of a multilingual learner student and a parent or
158 guardian of a multilingual learner student to access publicly available
159 data related to the academic progress of students in bilingual education
160 programs and the quality of bilingual education programs on the state-
161 wide public school information system implemented pursuant to
162 section 10-10a, as amended by this act.

163 Sec. 5. Section 10-233j of the general statutes is repealed and the
164 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

165 (a) No student in a public school in the state shall possess or use a
166 remotely activated paging device unless such student obtains the
167 written permission of the school principal for such possession and use.
168 The principal shall grant such permission only if the student or his

169 parent or guardian establishes to the satisfaction of the principal that a
170 reasonable basis exists for the possession and use of the device.

171 (b) A local or regional board of education may restrict the student
172 possession or use of cellular mobile telephones in the schools under its
173 jurisdiction. In determining whether to restrict such possession or use,
174 the local or regional board of education shall consider the special needs
175 of parents and students.

176 (c) For the school year commencing July 1, 2026, and each school year
177 thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall adopt a
178 policy, in addition to any restrictions pursuant to subsection (b) of this
179 section, limiting the use of smart devices in the schools governed by
180 such board of education using the policy guidance developed by the
181 Department of Education. As used in this subsection, "smart device"
182 means a cellular mobile telephone or other wearable or portable
183 technology that can connect to the Internet, collect, process and transmit
184 data and communicate with other devices and networks.

185 Sec. 6. Subsection (d) of section 10-16b of the general statutes, as
186 amended by section 32 of public act 22-80, section 3 of public act 23-21,
187 section 7 of public act 23-150 and section 19 of public act 23-160, is
188 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
189 *2025*):

190 (d) The State Board of Education shall make available curriculum
191 materials and such other materials as may assist local and regional
192 boards of education in developing instructional programs pursuant to
193 this section. The State Board of Education, within available
194 appropriations and utilizing available resource materials, shall assist
195 and encourage local and regional boards of education to include: (1)
196 Holocaust and genocide education and awareness; (2) the historical
197 events surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (3) African-American
198 and black studies; (4) Puerto Rican and Latino studies; (5) Native
199 American studies; (6) Asian American and Pacific Islander studies; (7)
200 personal financial management, including, but not limited to, financial

201 literacy as developed in the plan provided under section 10-16pp; (8)
202 training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of automatic
203 external defibrillators; (9) labor history and law, including organized
204 labor, the collective bargaining process, existing legal protections in the
205 workplace, the history and economics of free market capitalism and
206 entrepreneurialism, and the role of labor and capitalism in the
207 development of the American and world economies; (10) climate change
208 consistent with the Next Generation Science Standards; (11) topics
209 approved by the state board upon the request of local or regional boards
210 of education as part of the program of instruction offered pursuant to
211 subsection (a) of this section; [and] (12) instruction relating to the Safe
212 Haven Act, sections 17a-57 to 17a-61, inclusive; and (13) Islamic and
213 Arab studies. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
214 shall be available to each local and regional board of education for the
215 development of curriculum on climate change as described in this
216 subsection.

217 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) There is established a working
218 group to address antisemitism in public schools. The working group
219 shall provide assistance and resources to the Department of Education,
220 local and regional boards of education and other education stakeholders
221 and associations, to address issues relating to antisemitism that affect
222 students, families, educators and school personnel. Such assistance and
223 resources may include, but need not be limited to, (1) working with
224 boards of education to amend school district policies to ensure that all
225 students, educators and school personnel feel safe inside and outside of
226 the school setting, (2) offering training relating to antisemitism for
227 educators and administrators, and (3) assisting in the creation or
228 provision of curriculum materials and resources relating to
229 antisemitism and Jewish heritage and Holocaust and genocide
230 education and awareness, in accordance with the provisions of section
231 10-18f of the general statutes.

232 (b) The working group shall consist of the following members:

233 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,

234 one of whom shall be a representative from a national organization with
235 expertise in the study of global antisemitism and an interdisciplinary
236 study of antisemitism, and one of whom shall be a representative of the
237 Jewish Federation Association of Connecticut;

238 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of
239 whom shall have knowledge and national and local expertise and
240 experience in developing innovative and collaborative resources to
241 address antisemitism in elementary and secondary schools, and one of
242 whom shall be a representative of the Jewish Federation Association of
243 Connecticut;

244 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
245 Representatives, who shall be a teacher with professional knowledge
246 and proven experience in addressing and combatting antisemitism in a
247 public school in the state;

248 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall
249 have experience in teaching and school administration and expertise in
250 addressing and combatting antisemitism and teaching Jewish heritage;

251 (5) Two appointed by the minority leader of the House of
252 Representatives, one of whom shall be a current or former faculty
253 member of an institution of higher education with expertise in
254 curriculum development and knowledge and proven experience in
255 addressing antisemitism and teaching Jewish heritage, and one of
256 whom shall have professional experience addressing antisemitism in
257 the state;

258 (6) Two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, one of whom
259 shall be a leader at an institution of higher education in the state with
260 knowledge and expertise in program development addressing
261 antisemitism curriculum, and one of whom shall have professional
262 experience addressing antisemitism in the state; and

263 (7) One appointed by the Governor, who shall be a school
264 administrator with expertise and knowledge in developing and

265 implementing curricula in public schools in the state.

266 (c) All initial appointments to the working group shall be made not
267 later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy
268 shall be filled by the appointing authority.

269 (d) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president
270 pro tempore of the Senate shall each select a cochairperson of the
271 working group from among the members of the working group. Such
272 cochairpersons shall jointly schedule the first meeting of the working
273 group, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective
274 date of this section.

275 (e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
276 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education
277 shall serve as administrative staff of the working group.

278 (f) Not later than February 1, 2026, the working group shall submit a
279 report on its activities, and any recommendations for legislation, to the
280 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
281 matters relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of
282 section 11-4a of the general statutes. The working group may submit
283 additional reports as needed.

284 Sec. 8. Section 10-15c of the general statutes is repealed and the
285 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

286 (a) The public schools shall be open to all children five years of age
287 and over who reach age five on or before the first day of September of
288 any school year, and each such child shall have, and shall be so advised
289 by the appropriate school authorities, an equal opportunity to
290 participate in the activities, programs and courses of study offered in
291 such public schools, at such time as the child becomes eligible to
292 participate in such activities, programs and courses of study, without
293 discrimination on account of race, as defined in section 46a-51, color,
294 sex, gender identity or expression, religion, national origin, sexual
295 orientation or disability; provided a child who has not reached the age

296 of five on or before the first day of September of the school year may be
297 admitted if the local or regional board of education adopts an early
298 admission policy that permits such child to be admitted (1) upon a
299 written request by the parent or guardian of such child to the principal
300 of the school in which such child would be enrolled, and (2) following
301 an assessment of such child, conducted by such principal and an
302 appropriate certified staff member of the school, to ensure that
303 admitting such child is developmentally appropriate.

304 (b) Nothing in subsection (a) of this section shall be deemed to amend
305 other provisions of the general statutes with respect to curricula,
306 facilities or extracurricular activities.

307 Sec. 9. Subdivision (2) of section 10-76a of the general statutes is
308 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
309 *2026*):

310 (2) "Child" means any person twenty-two years of age or younger,
311 [or, for children requiring special education, until such child is
312 graduated from high school or at the end of the school year during
313 which such child reaches age twenty-two, whichever occurs first.]

314 Sec. 10. Subparagraph (C) of subdivision (9) of subsection (a) of
315 section 10-76d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is
316 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

317 (C) Not later than the planning and placement team meeting that
318 occurs approximately two years prior to a child's anticipated graduation
319 from high school or the end of the school year in which a child will reach
320 [twenty-two] twenty-one years of age, whichever is expected to occur
321 first based on such child's individualized education program, the
322 planning and placement team shall (i) upon the approval of the parent
323 or guardian of such child, or a surrogate parent of such child appointed
324 pursuant to section 10-94g or such child if such child is an emancipated
325 minor or eighteen years of age or older, (I) notify any state agency that
326 provides a program for adults for which such child may be eligible

327 about the potential eligibility of such child, (II) invite a representative
328 from each such agency to attend the planning and placement team
329 meeting for the purpose of establishing contact with and counseling the
330 parent, guardian, surrogate parent or child on the process for the
331 anticipated transfer of services upon such child graduating from high
332 school or upon [the end of the school year in which] such child [reaches]
333 reaching twenty-two years of age, whichever is sooner, and (III) permit
334 and facilitate contact and coordination between each such agency and
335 such parent, guardian, surrogate parent or child for the purpose of
336 easing the process for the transfer of services, (ii) provide such parent,
337 guardian, surrogate parent or child a listing of each program for adults
338 for which such child may be eligible that includes, but is not limited to,
339 (I) a plain language description of such program, (II) eligibility
340 requirements for such program, and (III) deadlines and instructions for
341 applications to such programs, and (iii) assist such parent, guardian,
342 surrogate parent or child in completing an application to any such
343 programs.

344 Sec. 11. Subsection (b) of section 10-76d of the general statutes is
345 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
346 *2026*):

347 (b) In accordance with the regulations of the State Board of Education,
348 each local and regional board of education shall: (1) Provide special
349 education for school-age children requiring special education who are
350 described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (5) of section 10-76a. The
351 obligation of the school district under this subsection shall terminate
352 when such child is graduated from high school or [at the end of the
353 school year during which] upon such child [reaches] reaching age
354 twenty-two, whichever occurs first; and (2) provide special education
355 for children requiring special education who are described in
356 subparagraph (A) or (C) of subdivision (5) of section 10-76a. The State
357 Board of Education shall define the criteria by which each local or
358 regional board of education shall determine whether a given child is
359 eligible for special education pursuant to this subdivision, and such

determination shall be made by the board of education when requested by a parent or guardian, or upon referral by a physician, clinic or social worker, provided the parent or guardian so permits. To meet its obligations under this subdivision, each local or regional board of education may, with the approval of the State Board of Education, make agreements with any private school, agency or institution to provide the necessary preschool special education program, provided such private facility has an existing program which adequately meets the special education needs, according to standards established by the State Board of Education, of the preschool children for whom such local or regional board of education is required to provide such an education and provided such district does not have such an existing program in its public schools. Such private school, agency or institution may be a facility which has not been approved by the Commissioner of Education for special education, provided such private facility is approved by the commissioner as an independent school or licensed by the Office of Early Childhood as a child care center, group child care home or family child care home, as described in section 19a-77, or be both approved and licensed. The State Board of Education shall adopt or update regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this subsection.

Sec. 12. Subsection (b) of section 10-76ll of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(b) On or before July 1, 2015, the State Board of Education shall draft a written bill of rights for parents of children receiving special education services to guarantee that the rights of such parents and children are adequately safeguarded and protected during the provision of special education and related services until such children have graduated from high school or [at the end of the school year during which] upon such children [reach] reaching age twenty-two, whichever occurs first, under this chapter. Such bill of rights shall inform parents of: (1) The right to request consideration of the provision of transition services for a child

393 receiving special education services who is eighteen years of age until
394 such child has graduated from high school or [at the end of the school
395 year during which] upon such child [reaches] reaching age twenty-two,
396 whichever occurs first, (2) the right to receive transition resources and
397 materials from the department and the local or regional board of
398 education responsible for such child, (3) the requirement that the local
399 or regional board of education responsible for such child shall create a
400 student success plan for each student enrolled in a public school,
401 beginning in grade six, pursuant to subsection (k) of section 10-221a,
402 [and] (4) the right of such child to receive realistic and specific
403 postgraduation goals as part of such child's individualized education
404 program, and (5) the right to an opportunity to establish contact with
405 and receive information about and assistance with applying for
406 programs provided by any state agency that provides services in
407 attaining the postgraduation goals in a child's individualized education
408 program, pursuant to subparagraph (C) of subdivision (9) of subsection
409 (a) of section 10-76d, as amended by this act.

410 Sec. 13. Section 10-95p of the general statutes is repealed and the
411 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

412 (a) There is established a division of postsecondary educational
413 programs within the Technical Education and Career System. The
414 division shall administer any postsecondary educational program that
415 (1) was offered at a technical education and career school during the
416 school year commencing July 1, 2016, or (2) is approved by the Technical
417 Education and Career System board.

418 (b) Any student admitted for enrollment in a postsecondary
419 educational program administered by the division shall have a high
420 school diploma or its equivalent, or have [completed the school year in
421 which such student reaches] reached twenty-two years of age if such
422 student was receiving special education and related services and did not
423 graduate from high school.

424 Sec. 14. Subsection (a) of section 10-253 of the general statutes is

425 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
426 2026):

427 (a) Children placed out by the Commissioner of Children and
428 Families or by other agencies or persons, including offices of a
429 government of a federally recognized Native American tribe, private
430 child-caring or child-placing agencies licensed by the Department of
431 Children and Families, and eligible residents of facilities operated by the
432 Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services or by the
433 Department of Public Health who are eighteen to twenty-one years of
434 age or, for children requiring special education, when such child is
435 graduated from high school or [at the end of the school year during
436 which] upon such child [reaches] reaching age twenty-two, whichever
437 occurs first, shall be entitled to all free school privileges of the school
438 district where they then reside as a result of such placement, except as
439 provided in subdivision (4) of subsection (e) of section 10-76d. Except as
440 provided in subsection (d) of this section and subdivision (4) of
441 subsection (e) of section 10-76d, payment for such education shall be
442 made by the board of education of the school district under whose
443 jurisdiction such child would otherwise be attending school where such
444 a school district is identified.

445 Sec. 15. Subdivision (3) of subsection (h) of section 10-253 of the
446 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
447 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

448 (3) In each district, the liaison shall assist the school district, the Court
449 Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch and any relevant
450 educational service providers in ensuring that:

451 (A) All persons twenty-two years of age or younger in justice system
452 custody are promptly evaluated for eligibility for special education
453 services to be provided until such child is graduated from high school
454 or [at the end of the school year during which] upon such child [reaches]
455 reaching age twenty-two, whichever occurs first, pursuant to section
456 17a-65 and any other applicable law;

457 (B) Students in justice system custody and returning to the
458 community from justice system custody are promptly enrolled in school
459 pursuant to this section and section 10-186;

460 (C) Students in justice system custody and returning to the
461 community from justice system custody receive appropriate credit for
462 school work completed in custody, pursuant to this section or section
463 10-220h;

464 (D) All relevant school records for students who enter justice system
465 custody and who return to the community from justice system custody
466 are promptly transferred to the appropriate school district or
467 educational service provider, pursuant to section 10-220h.

468 Sec. 16. Section 10-226b of the general statutes is repealed and the
469 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

470 (a) Whenever the State Board of Education finds that racial imbalance
471 exists in a public school, it shall notify in writing the board of education
472 having jurisdiction over said school that such finding has been made,
473 except the State Board of Education shall not notify a board of education
474 of such finding until July 1, [2025] 2029.

475 (b) As used in sections 10-226a to 10-226e, inclusive, "racial
476 imbalance" means a condition wherein the proportion of pupils of racial
477 minorities in all of the grades of a public school of the secondary level
478 or below taken together substantially exceeds or falls substantially short
479 of the proportion of such public school pupils in all of the same grades
480 of the school district in which said school is situated taken together.

481 Sec. 17. Section 10-226c of the general statutes is repealed and the
482 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

483 (a) Any board of education receiving notification of the existence of
484 racial imbalance as specified in section 10-226b, as amended by this act,
485 shall forthwith prepare a plan to correct such imbalance and file a copy
486 of said plan with the State Board of Education, except such board of

487 education shall not be required to prepare and file said plan until July
488 1, [2025] 2029. Said plan may be limited to addressing the imbalance
489 existing at any school and need not result in a district-wide plan or
490 district-wide pupil reassignment. A school district may request an
491 extension of time in cases in which the number of students causing said
492 imbalance is fewer than five students at a school.

493 (b) Any plan submitted by the board of education of any town under
494 sections 10-226a to 10-226e, inclusive, shall include any proposed
495 changes in existing school attendance districts, the location of proposed
496 school building sites as related to the problem, any proposed additions
497 to existing school buildings and all other means proposed for the
498 correction of said racial imbalance. The plan shall include projections of
499 the expected racial composition of all public schools in the district. The
500 plan may include provision for cooperation with other school districts
501 to assist in the correction of racial imbalance.

502 Sec. 18. Section 10-226d of the general statutes is repealed and the
503 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

504 Upon receipt of any plan required under the provisions of subsection
505 (b) of section 10-226c, as amended by this act, the State Board of
506 Education shall review said plan. If it determines that the plan is
507 satisfactory, it shall approve the plan and shall provide to the board of
508 education such assistance and services as may be available. The board
509 of education shall submit annual reports on the implementation of the
510 approved plan, as the State Board of Education may require. The State
511 Board of Education shall not take action on any plan received on or after
512 July 1, 2024, until July 1, [2025] 2029.

513 Sec. 19. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) For the fiscal year ending June
514 30, 2027, and each fiscal year thereafter, during the preparation of the
515 itemized estimate of the cost of maintenance of public schools for the
516 ensuing year pursuant to section 10-222 of the general statutes, as
517 amended by this act, the superintendent of schools shall provide the
518 members of the local board of education the original amount and actual

519 amount of each line item for the two fiscal years immediately preceding
520 the fiscal year in which such itemized estimate is being prepared and
521 the original amount and current amount of each line item for the fiscal
522 year in which such itemized estimate is being prepared. As used in this
523 section, "itemized estimate" means an estimate in which broad
524 budgetary categories including, but not limited to, salaries, fringe
525 benefits, utilities, supplies and grounds maintenance are divided into
526 one or more line items, "original amount" means the amount of a line
527 item that was appropriated to such line item at the start of the fiscal year,
528 and "actual amount" means the amount of a line item at the conclusion
529 of the fiscal year.

530 Sec. 20. Section 10-222 of the general statutes is repealed and the
531 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

532 Each local board of education shall prepare an itemized estimate of
533 the cost of maintenance of public schools for the ensuing year and shall
534 submit such estimate to the board of finance in each town or city having
535 a board of finance, to the board of selectmen in each town having no
536 board of finance or otherwise to the authority making appropriations
537 for the school district, not later than two months preceding the annual
538 meeting at which appropriations are to be made. Such estimate shall
539 include the original amount and actual amount of each line item for the
540 two fiscal years immediately preceding the fiscal year in which such
541 estimate is being prepared and the original amount and current amount
542 of each line item for the fiscal year in which such estimate is being
543 prepared. The board or authority that receives such estimate shall, not
544 later than ten days after the date the board of education submits such
545 estimate, make spending recommendations and suggestions to such
546 board of education as to how such board of education may consolidate
547 noneducational services and realize financial efficiencies. Such board of
548 education may accept or reject the suggestions of the board of finance,
549 board of selectmen or appropriating authority and shall provide the
550 board of finance, board of selectmen or appropriating authority with a
551 written explanation of the reason for any rejection. The money

552 appropriated by any municipality for the maintenance of public schools
553 shall be expended by and in the discretion of the board of education.
554 Except as provided in this subsection, any such board may transfer any
555 unexpended or uncontracted-for portion of any appropriation for
556 school purposes to any other item of such itemized estimate. Boards
557 may, by adopting policies and procedures, authorize designated
558 personnel to make limited transfers under emergency circumstances if
559 the urgent need for the transfer prevents the board from meeting in a
560 timely fashion to consider such transfer. All transfers made in such
561 instances shall be announced at the next regularly scheduled meeting of
562 the board and a written explanation of such transfer shall be provided
563 to the legislative body of the municipality or, in a municipality where
564 the legislative body is a town meeting, to the board of selectmen.
565 Expenditures by the board of education shall not exceed the
566 appropriation made by the municipality, with such money as may be
567 received from other sources for school purposes. If any occasion arises
568 whereby additional funds are needed by such board, the chairman of
569 such board shall notify the board of finance, board of selectmen or
570 appropriating authority, as the case may be, and shall submit a request
571 for additional funds in the same manner as is provided for departments,
572 boards or agencies of the municipality and no additional funds shall be
573 expended unless such supplemental appropriation shall be granted and
574 no supplemental expenditures shall be made in excess of those granted
575 through the appropriating authority. The annual report of the board of
576 education shall, in accordance with section 10-224, include a summary
577 showing (1) the total cost of the maintenance of schools, (2) the amount
578 received from the state and other sources for the maintenance of schools,
579 and (3) the net cost to the municipality of the maintenance of schools.
580 For purposes of this [subsection] section, "meeting" means a meeting, as
581 defined in section 1-200, [and] "itemized estimate" means an estimate in
582 which broad budgetary categories including, but not limited to, salaries,
583 fringe benefits, utilities, supplies and grounds maintenance are divided
584 into one or more line items, "original amount" means the amount of a
585 line item that was appropriated to such line item at the start of the fiscal
586 year, and "actual amount" means the amount of a line item at the

587 conclusion of the fiscal year.

588 Sec. 21. Subsection (a) of section 10-51 of the general statutes is
589 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
590 *2025*):

591 (a) The fiscal year of a regional school district shall be July first to June
592 thirtieth. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, not less than
593 two weeks before the annual meeting held pursuant to section 10-47, the
594 board shall hold a public district meeting to present a proposed budget
595 for the next fiscal year. Any public district meeting held pursuant to this
596 section may be accessible to the public by means of electronic equipment
597 or by means of electronic equipment in conjunction with an in-person
598 meeting, in accordance with the provisions of section 1-225a. Such
599 proposed budget shall include the original amount and actual amount
600 of each line item in the budget for the two fiscal years immediately
601 preceding the fiscal year in which such proposed budget is being
602 presented and the original amount and current amount of each line item
603 for the budget of the fiscal year in which such proposed budget is being
604 presented. Any person may recommend the inclusion or deletion of
605 expenditures at such time. After the public hearing, the board shall
606 prepare an annual budget for the next fiscal year, make available on
607 request copies thereof and deliver a reasonable number to the town
608 clerk of each of the towns in the district at least five days before the
609 annual meeting. At the annual meeting on the first Monday in May, the
610 board shall present a budget which includes a statement of (1) estimated
611 receipts and expenditures for the next fiscal year, (2) estimated receipts
612 and expenditures for the current fiscal year, (3) estimated surplus or
613 deficit in operating funds at the end of the current fiscal year, (4) bonded
614 or other debt, (5) estimated per pupil expenditure for the current and
615 for the next fiscal year, (6) the original amount and actual amount of
616 each line item in the budget for the two fiscal years immediately
617 preceding the fiscal year in which such budget is being presented and
618 the original amount and current amount of each line item for the budget
619 of the fiscal year in which such budget is being presented, and [(6)] (7)

620 such other information as is necessary in the opinion of the board.
621 Persons present and eligible to vote under section 7-6 may accept or
622 reject the proposed budget except as provided below. No person who is
623 eligible to vote in more than one town in the regional school district is
624 eligible to cast more than one vote on any issue considered at a regional
625 school district meeting or referendum held pursuant to this section. Any
626 person who violates this section by fraudulently casting more than one
627 vote or ballot per issue shall be fined not more than three thousand five
628 hundred dollars and shall be imprisoned not more than two years and
629 shall be disenfranchised. The regional board of education may, in the
630 call to the meeting, designate that the vote on the motion to adopt the
631 budget shall be by paper ballots at the district meeting held on the
632 budget or by a "yes" or "no" vote on the voting tabulators in each of the
633 member towns on the day following the district meeting. If submitted
634 to a vote by voting tabulator, questions may be included on the ballot
635 for persons voting "no" to indicate whether the budget is too high or too
636 low, provided the vote on such questions shall be for advisory purposes
637 only and not binding upon the board. Two hundred or more persons
638 qualified to vote in any regional district meeting called to adopt a
639 budget may petition the regional board, in writing, at least three days
640 prior to such meeting, requesting that any item or items on the call of
641 such meeting be submitted to the persons qualified to vote in the
642 meeting for a vote by paper ballot or on the voting tabulators in each of
643 the member towns on the day following the district meeting and in
644 accordance with the appropriate procedures provided in section 7-7. If
645 a majority of such persons voting reject the budget, the board shall,
646 within four weeks thereafter and upon notice of not less than one week,
647 call a district meeting to consider the same or an amended budget. Such
648 meetings shall be convened at such intervals until a budget is approved.
649 If the budget is not approved before the beginning of a fiscal year, the
650 disbursing officer for each member town, or the designee of such officer,
651 shall make necessary expenditures to such district in amounts equal to
652 the total of the town's appropriation to the district for the previous year
653 and the town's proportionate share in any increment in debt service over
654 the previous fiscal year, pursuant to section 7-405 until the budget is

655 approved. The town shall receive credit for such expenditures once the
656 budget is approved for the fiscal year. After the budget is approved, the
657 board shall estimate the share of the net expenses to be paid by each
658 member town in accordance with subsection (b) of this section and
659 notify the treasurer thereof. With respect to adoption of a budget for the
660 period from the organization of the board to the beginning of the first
661 full fiscal year, the board may use the above procedure at any time
662 within such period. If the board needs to submit a supplementary
663 budget, the general procedure specified in this section shall be used. As
664 used in this section, "original amount" and "actual amount" have the
665 same meanings as provided in section 10-222, as amended by this act.

666 Sec. 22. Section 10-233m of the general statutes is repealed and the
667 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

668 Each local or regional board of education that assigns a school
669 resource officer to any school under the jurisdiction of such board shall
670 enter into a memorandum of understanding with a local law
671 enforcement agency regarding the role and responsibility of such school
672 resource officer. [Such] Not later than January 1, 2026, such
673 memorandum of understanding shall (1) be maintained in a central
674 location in the school district and posted on the Internet web site of the
675 school district and each school in which such school resource officer is
676 assigned, (2) include provisions addressing daily interactions between
677 students and school personnel with school resource officers, and (3)
678 include a graduated response model for student discipline. Any such
679 memorandum of understanding entered into, extended, updated or
680 amended [(A)] on or after July 1, 2021, shall include a provision that
681 requires all school resource officers to complete, while in the
682 performance of their duties as school resource officers and during
683 periods when such school resource officers are assigned to be at the
684 school, any separate training specifically related to social-emotional
685 learning and restorative practices provided to certified employees of the
686 school pursuant to section 10-148a, [and (B)] Any such memorandum
687 of understanding entered into, extended, updated or amended on or

688 after July 1, 2023, shall include provisions specifying a school resource
689 officer's duties concerning, and procedures for, the restraint of students,
690 use of firearms, school-based arrests and reporting of any investigations
691 and behavioral interventions of challenging behavior or conflict that
692 escalates to violence or constitutes a crime, pursuant to the provisions
693 of section 10-233p, provided such provisions are in accordance with any
694 laws or policies concerning the duties of police officers. Each such
695 memorandum of understanding shall be updated not less frequently
696 than every three years. For the purposes of this section, "school resource
697 officer" means a sworn police officer of a local law enforcement agency
698 who has been assigned to a school pursuant to an agreement between
699 the local or regional board of education and the chief of police of a local
700 law enforcement agency.

701 Sec. 23. Subsection (a) of section 1-231 of the general statutes is
702 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
703 *2025*):

704 (a) At an executive session of a public agency, attendance shall be
705 limited to (1) members of [said] such body, [and] (2) in the case of a local
706 or regional board of education and upon invitation by such board, the
707 superintendent of schools in the superintendent's capacity as chief
708 executive officer of the board, and (3) persons invited by [said] such
709 body to present testimony or opinion pertinent to matters before [said]
710 such body, provided [that] such persons' attendance shall be limited to
711 the period for which their presence is necessary to present such
712 testimony or opinion and, provided further, [that] the minutes of such
713 executive session shall disclose all persons who are in attendance except
714 job applicants who attend for the purpose of being interviewed by such
715 agency.

716 Sec. 24. Subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of section 10-51 of the
717 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
718 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

719 (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year

720 thereafter, a regional board of education, by a majority vote of its
721 members, may create a reserve fund for educational expenditures. Such
722 fund shall thereafter be termed "reserve fund for educational
723 expenditures". The aggregate amount of annual and supplemental
724 appropriations by a district to such fund shall not exceed two per cent
725 of the annual district budget for such fiscal year. Annual appropriations
726 to such fund shall be included in the share of net expenses to be paid by
727 each member town. Supplemental appropriations to such fund may be
728 made from estimated fiscal year end surplus in operating funds. Interest
729 and investment earnings received with respect to amounts held in the
730 fund shall be credited to such fund. The board shall annually submit a
731 complete and detailed report of the condition of such fund to the
732 member towns. Upon the recommendation and approval by the
733 regional board of education, any part or the whole of such fund may be
734 used for educational expenditures. Upon the approval of any such
735 expenditure an appropriation shall be set up, plainly designated for the
736 educational expenditure for which it has been authorized. Any
737 unexpended portion of such appropriation remaining shall revert to
738 [said] such fund. If any authorized appropriation is set up pursuant to
739 the provisions of this subsection and through unforeseen circumstances
740 the board is unable to expend the total amount of such appropriation,
741 the board, by a majority vote of its members, may terminate such
742 appropriation which then shall no longer be in effect. Such fund may be
743 discontinued, after the recommendation and approval by the regional
744 board of education, and any amounts held in the fund shall be
745 transferred to the general fund of the district. For the fiscal year ending
746 June 30, 2026, and each fiscal year thereafter, a regional board of
747 education may deposit any funds previously appropriated to and
748 currently in a separate reserve fund for capital and nonrecurring
749 expenditures under the control of such board in the reserve fund for
750 educational expenditures.

751 Sec. 25. Subsection (a) of section 10-214 of the general statutes is
752 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
753 *2025*):

754 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall provide annually
755 to each pupil in kindergarten and grades one and three to five, inclusive,
756 a vision screening and may additionally provide such vision screening
757 annually to each pupil in preschool and grade two. Such vision
758 screening may be performed using a Snellen chart or an equivalent
759 screening device, or an automated vision screening device. The
760 superintendent of schools shall give written notice to the parent or
761 guardian of each pupil (1) who is found to have any defect of vision or
762 disease of the eyes, with a brief statement describing such defect or
763 disease and a recommendation for the pupil to be examined by an
764 optometrist licensed under chapter 380 or an ophthalmologist licensed
765 under chapter 370, and (2) who did not receive such vision screening,
766 with a brief statement explaining why such pupil did not receive such
767 vision screening.

768 Sec. 26. Subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 10-287 of the
769 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
770 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

771 (b) (1) All orders and contracts for school building construction
772 receiving state assistance under this chapter, except as provided in
773 subdivisions (2) to (4), inclusive, of this subsection, shall be awarded to
774 the lowest responsible qualified bidder only after a public invitation to
775 bid, except for (A) school building projects for which the town or
776 regional school district is using a state contract pursuant to subsection
777 (d) of section 10-292 or a cooperative purchasing contract offered
778 through a regional education service center, and (B) change orders,
779 those contracts or orders costing less than ten thousand dollars and
780 those of an emergency nature, as determined by the Commissioner of
781 Administrative Services, in which cases the contractor or vendor may be
782 selected by negotiation, provided no local fiscal regulations, ordinances
783 or charter provisions conflict. [Any of the qualified bidders under this
784 subdivision may be a cooperative purchasing contract offered through
785 a regional educational service center or a council of government.]

786 Sec. 27. Subsection (c) of section 10-266aa of the general statutes is

787 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
788 *2025*):

789 (c) The program shall be phased in as provided in this subsection. (1)
790 For the school year commencing in 1998, and for each school year
791 thereafter, the program shall be in operation in the Hartford, New
792 Haven and Bridgeport regions. The Hartford program shall operate as
793 a continuation of the program described in section 10-266j. Students
794 who reside in Hartford, New Haven or Bridgeport may attend school in
795 another school district in the region and students who reside in such
796 other school districts may attend school in Hartford, New Haven or
797 Bridgeport, provided, beginning with the 2001-2002 school year, the
798 proportion of students who are not minority students to the total
799 number of students leaving Hartford, Bridgeport or New Haven to
800 participate in the program shall not be greater than the proportion of
801 students who were not minority students in the prior school year to the
802 total number of students enrolled in Hartford, Bridgeport or New
803 Haven in the prior school year. The regional educational service center
804 operating the program shall make program participation decisions in
805 accordance with the requirements of this subdivision. (2) For the school
806 year commencing in 2000, and for each school year thereafter, the
807 program shall be in operation in New London, provided beginning with
808 the 2001-2002 school year, the proportion of students who are not
809 minority students to the total number of students leaving New London
810 to participate in the program shall not be greater than the proportion of
811 students who were not minority students in the prior year to the total
812 number of students enrolled in New London in the prior school year.
813 The regional educational service center operating the program shall
814 make program participation decisions in accordance with this
815 subdivision. (3) The Department of Education may provide, within
816 available appropriations, grants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003,
817 to the remaining regional educational service centers to assist school
818 districts in planning for a voluntary program of student enrollment in
819 every priority school district, pursuant to section 10-266p, which is
820 interested in participating in accordance with this subdivision. For the

821 school year commencing in 2003, and for each school year thereafter, the
822 voluntary enrollment program may be in operation in every priority
823 school district in the state. Students from other school districts in the
824 area of a priority school district, as determined by the regional
825 educational service center pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, may
826 attend school in the priority school district, provided such students
827 bring racial, ethnic and economic diversity to the priority school district
828 and do not increase the racial, ethnic and economic isolation in the
829 priority school district. (4) For the school year commencing July 1, 2024,
830 and each school year thereafter, there shall be a pilot program in
831 operation in Danbury and Norwalk. The pilot program shall serve (A)
832 up to fifty students who reside in Danbury, and such students may
833 attend school in the school districts for the towns of New Fairfield,
834 Brookfield, Bethel, Ridgefield and Redding, and (B) up to fifty students
835 who (i) reside in Norwalk, and such students may attend school in the
836 school districts for the towns of Darien, New Canaan, Wilton, Weston
837 and Westport, and (ii) reside in Darien, New Canaan, Wilton, Weston
838 and Westport, and such students may attend school in the school district
839 for the town of Norwalk. School districts which receive students under
840 this subdivision as part of the pilot program shall allow such students
841 to attend school in the district until they graduate from high school. (5)
842 For the school year commencing July 1, 2022, and each school year
843 thereafter, the town of Guilford shall be eligible to participate in the
844 program as a receiving district and a sending district with New Haven.
845 (6) For the school year commencing July 1, 2025, and each school year
846 thereafter, the town of Madison shall be eligible to participate in the
847 program as a receiving district and a sending district with New Haven.

848 Sec. 28. Section 10-153b of the general statutes is amended by adding
849 subsection (g) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

850 (NEW) (g) For any negotiation with respect to salaries, hours and
851 other conditions of employment with an organization which has been
852 designated or elected the exclusive representative of an administrators'
853 unit or a teachers' unit occurring on or after July 1, 2025, at least one

854 member of the local or regional board of education which employs such
855 unit shall be present for such negotiations.

856 Sec. 29. Section 10-206 of the general statutes is repealed and the
857 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

858 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall require each pupil
859 enrolled in the public schools to have health assessments pursuant to
860 the provisions of this section. Such assessments shall be conducted by
861 (1) a legally qualified practitioner of medicine, (2) an advanced practice
862 registered nurse or registered nurse, licensed pursuant to chapter 378,
863 (3) a physician assistant, licensed pursuant to chapter 370, (4) a school
864 medical advisor, or (5) a legally qualified practitioner of medicine, an
865 advanced practice registered nurse or a physician assistant stationed at
866 any military base, to ascertain whether such pupil is suffering from any
867 physical disability tending to prevent such pupil from receiving the full
868 benefit of school work and to ascertain whether such school work
869 should be modified in order to prevent injury to the pupil or to secure
870 for the pupil a suitable program of education. No health assessment
871 shall be made of any [child] pupil enrolled in the public schools unless
872 such examination is made in the presence of the parent or guardian or
873 in the presence of another school employee. The parent or guardian of
874 such [child] pupil shall receive prior written notice and shall have a
875 reasonable opportunity to be present at such assessment or to provide
876 for such assessment himself or herself. A local or regional board of
877 education may deny continued attendance in public school to any
878 [child] pupil who fails to obtain the health assessments required under
879 this section.

880 (b) Each local or regional board of education shall require each [child]
881 pupil to have a health assessment prior to public school enrollment. The
882 assessment shall include: (1) A physical examination which shall
883 include hematocrit or hemoglobin tests, height, weight, blood pressure,
884 a medical risk assessment for lead poisoning and, when indicated by
885 such assessment, a test of the [child's] pupil's blood lead level, and,
886 beginning with the 2003-2004 school year, a chronic disease assessment

887 which shall include, but not be limited to, asthma. The assessment form
888 shall include (A) a check box for the provider conducting the
889 assessment, as provided in subsection (a) of this section, to indicate an
890 asthma diagnosis, (B) screening questions relating to appropriate public
891 health concerns to be answered by the parent or guardian, and (C)
892 screening questions to be answered by such provider; (2) an updating
893 of immunizations as required under section 10-204a, provided a
894 registered nurse may only update said immunizations pursuant to a
895 written order by a physician or physician assistant, licensed pursuant to
896 chapter 370, or an advanced practice registered nurse, licensed pursuant
897 to chapter 378; (3) vision, hearing, speech and gross dental screenings;
898 and (4) such other information, including health and developmental
899 history, as the physician feels is necessary and appropriate. The
900 assessment shall also include tests for tuberculosis, sickle cell anemia
901 and Cooley's anemia where the local or regional board of education
902 determines after consultation with the school medical advisor and the
903 local health department, or in the case of a regional board of education,
904 each local health department, that such tests are necessary, provided a
905 registered nurse may only perform said tests pursuant to the written
906 order of a physician or physician assistant, licensed pursuant to chapter
907 370, or an advanced practice registered nurse, licensed pursuant to
908 chapter 378.

909 (c) Each local or regional board of education shall require each pupil
910 enrolled in the public schools to have health assessments in either grade
911 six or grade seven and in either grade nine or grade ten. The assessment
912 shall include: (1) A physical examination which shall include hematocrit
913 or hemoglobin tests, height, weight, blood pressure, and, beginning
914 with the 2003-2004 school year, a chronic disease assessment which shall
915 include, but not be limited to, asthma as defined by the Commissioner
916 of Public Health pursuant to subsection (c) of section 19a-62a. The
917 assessment form shall include (A) a check box for the provider
918 conducting the assessment, as provided in subsection (a) of this section,
919 to indicate an asthma diagnosis, (B) screening questions relating to
920 appropriate public health concerns to be answered by the parent or

921 guardian, and (C) screening questions to be answered by such provider;
922 (2) an updating of immunizations as required under section 10-204a,
923 provided a registered nurse may only update said immunizations
924 pursuant to a written order of a physician or physician assistant,
925 licensed pursuant to chapter 370, or an advanced practice registered
926 nurse, licensed pursuant to chapter 378; (3) vision, hearing, postural and
927 gross dental screenings; and (4) such other information including a
928 health history as the physician feels is necessary and appropriate. The
929 assessment shall also include tests for tuberculosis and sickle cell
930 anemia or Cooley's anemia where the local or regional board of
931 education, in consultation with the school medical advisor and the local
932 health department, or in the case of a regional board of education, each
933 local health department, determines that said screening or test is
934 necessary, provided a registered nurse may only perform said tests
935 pursuant to the written order of a physician or physician assistant,
936 licensed pursuant to chapter 370, or an advanced practice registered
937 nurse, licensed pursuant to chapter 378.

938 (d) The results of each assessment done pursuant to this section and
939 the results of screenings done pursuant to section 10-214, as amended
940 by this act, shall be recorded on forms supplied by the State Board of
941 Education. Each school nurse may reject such results submitted on
942 forms other than the forms supplied by the State Board of Education and
943 require the resubmission of such results on such forms supplied by the
944 State Board of Education. An asthma action plan shall be included with
945 the assessment form of each pupil that indicates an asthma diagnosis
946 pursuant to subsections (b) and (c) of this section. Such information shall
947 be included in the cumulative health record of each pupil and shall be
948 kept on file in the school such pupil attends. If a pupil permanently
949 leaves the jurisdiction of the board of education, the pupil's original
950 cumulative health record shall be sent to the chief administrative officer
951 of the school district to which such student moves. The board of
952 education transmitting such health record shall retain a true copy. Each
953 physician, advanced practice registered nurse, registered nurse, or
954 physician assistant performing health assessments and screenings

955 pursuant to this section and section 10-214, as amended by this act, shall
956 completely fill out and sign each form and any recommendations
957 concerning the pupil shall be in writing.

958 (e) Appropriate school health personnel shall review the results of
959 each assessment and screening as recorded pursuant to subsection (d)
960 of this section. When, in the judgment of such health personnel, a pupil,
961 as defined in section 10-206a, is in need of further testing or treatment,
962 the superintendent of schools shall give written notice to the parent or
963 guardian of such pupil and shall make reasonable efforts to assure that
964 such further testing or treatment is provided. Such reasonable efforts
965 shall include a determination of whether or not the parent or guardian
966 has obtained the necessary testing or treatment for the pupil, and, if not,
967 advising the parent or guardian on how such testing or treatment may
968 be obtained. The results of such further testing or treatment shall be
969 recorded pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, and shall be
970 reviewed by school health personnel pursuant to this subsection.

971 (f) On and after October 1, 2017, each local or regional board of
972 education shall report to the local health department and the
973 Department of Public Health, on an triennial basis, the total number of
974 pupils per school and per school district having a diagnosis of asthma
975 (1) at the time of public school enrollment, (2) in grade six or seven, and
976 (3) in grade nine or ten. The report shall contain the asthma information
977 collected as required under subsections (b) and (c) of this section and
978 shall include pupil age, gender, race, ethnicity and school. Beginning on
979 October 1, 2021, and every three years thereafter, the Department of
980 Public Health shall review the asthma screening information reported
981 pursuant to this section and shall submit a report to the joint standing
982 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
983 relating to public health and education concerning asthma trends and
984 distributions among pupils enrolled in the public schools. The report
985 shall be submitted in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a
986 and shall include, but not be limited to, (A) trends and findings based
987 on pupil age, gender, race, ethnicity, school and the education reference

988 group, as determined by the Department of Education for the town or
989 regional school district in which such school is located, and (B) activities
990 of the asthma screening monitoring system maintained under section
991 19a-62a.

992 Sec. 30. Subsection (g) of section 10-233c of the general statutes is
993 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
994 *2025*):

995 (g) On and after July 1, 2015, all suspensions pursuant to this section
996 shall be in-school suspensions, except a local or regional board of
997 education may authorize the administration of schools under its
998 direction to impose an out-of-school suspension on any pupil in (1)
999 grades three to twelve, inclusive, if, during the hearing held pursuant to
1000 subsection (a) of this section, (A) the administration determines that the
1001 pupil being suspended poses such a danger to persons or property or
1002 such a disruption of the educational process that the pupil shall be
1003 excluded from school during the period of suspension, or (B) the
1004 administration determines that an out-of-school suspension is
1005 appropriate for such pupil based on evidence of (i) previous disciplinary
1006 problems that have led to suspensions or expulsion of such pupil, and
1007 (ii) efforts by the administration to address such disciplinary problems
1008 through means other than out-of-school suspension or expulsion,
1009 including positive behavioral support strategies, or (2) grades preschool
1010 to two, inclusive, if during the hearing held pursuant to subsection (a)
1011 of this section, the administration (A) determines that an out-of-school
1012 suspension is appropriate for such pupil based on evidence that such
1013 pupil's conduct on school grounds is behavior that causes serious
1014 physical harm, (B) requires that such pupil receives services that are
1015 trauma-informed and developmentally appropriate and align with any
1016 behavioral intervention plan, individualized education program or plan
1017 pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended
1018 from time to time, for such pupil upon such pupil's return to school
1019 immediately following the out-of-school suspension, and (C) considers
1020 whether to convene a planning and placement team meeting for the

1021 purposes of conducting an evaluation to determine whether such pupil
1022 may require special education or related services. An out-of-school
1023 suspension imposed under subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not
1024 exceed ten school days, and an out-of-school suspension imposed under
1025 subdivision (2) of this subsection shall not exceed ~~[five]~~ two school days.
1026 An in-school suspension may be served in the school that the pupil
1027 attends, or in any school building under the jurisdiction of the local or
1028 regional board of education, as determined by such board. Nothing in
1029 this section shall limit a person's duty as a mandated reporter pursuant
1030 to section 17-101a to report suspected child abuse or neglect.

1031 Sec. 31. Subsection (d) of section 10-233d of the general statutes is
1032 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1033 *2025*):

1034 (d) No local or regional board of education is required to offer an
1035 alternative educational opportunity, except in accordance with this
1036 section. Any pupil under sixteen years of age who is expelled shall be
1037 offered an alternative educational opportunity, which shall be (1)
1038 alternative education, as defined by section 10-74j, with an
1039 individualized learning plan, if such board provides such alternative
1040 education, or (2) in accordance with the standards adopted by the State
1041 Board of Education, pursuant to section 10-233o, during the period of
1042 expulsion, provided any parent or guardian of such pupil who does not
1043 choose to have such parent's or guardian's child enrolled in an
1044 alternative educational opportunity shall not be subject to the
1045 provisions of section 10-184. Any pupil expelled for the first time and
1046 the second time, who is between the ages of sixteen and eighteen, and
1047 who wishes to continue such pupil's education shall be offered such an
1048 alternative educational opportunity if such pupil complies with
1049 conditions established by such pupil's local or regional board of
1050 education. Such alternative educational opportunity may include, but
1051 shall not be limited to, the placement of a pupil who is at least seventeen
1052 years of age in an adult education program pursuant to section 10-69.
1053 Any pupil participating in any such adult education program during a

1054 period of expulsion shall not be required to withdraw from school under
1055 section 10-184. A local or regional board of education shall count the
1056 expulsion of a pupil when the pupil was under sixteen years of age for
1057 purposes of determining whether an alternative educational
1058 opportunity is required for such pupil when such pupil is between the
1059 ages of sixteen and eighteen. A local or regional board of education may
1060 offer an alternative educational opportunity to a pupil for whom such
1061 alternative educational opportunity is not required pursuant to this
1062 section.

1063 Sec. 32. Subsection (h) of section 10-236b of the general statutes is
1064 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1065 *2025*):

1066 (h) Each local or regional board of education shall notify a parent or
1067 guardian of a student who is placed in physical restraint or seclusion
1068 [not later than twenty-four hours after] on the day the student was
1069 placed in physical restraint or seclusion and shall make a reasonable
1070 effort to provide such notification immediately after such physical
1071 restraint or seclusion is initiated.

1072 Sec. 33. Subsection (b) of section 10-357b of the general statutes is
1073 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1074 *2025*):

1075 (b) The State Education Resource Center shall establish a Connecticut
1076 School Reform Resource Center [either] within the State Education
1077 Resource Center, [or by contract through a regional educational service
1078 center, established pursuant to section 10-66a.] The Connecticut School
1079 Reform Resource Center shall operate year-round and shall focus on
1080 serving the needs of all public schools. The Connecticut School Reform
1081 Resource Center shall (1) publish and distribute reports on the most
1082 effective practices for improving student achievement by successful
1083 schools; (2) provide a program of professional development activities
1084 for (A) school leaders, including curriculum coordinators, principals,
1085 superintendents and board of education members, and (B) teachers to

1086 educate students that includes research-based child development and
1087 reading instruction tools and practices; (3) provide information on
1088 successful models for evaluating student performance and managing
1089 student data; (4) develop strategies for assisting such students who are
1090 in danger of failing; (5) develop culturally relevant methods for
1091 educating multilingual students; [whose primary language is not
1092 English;] and (6) provide other programs and materials to assist in the
1093 improvement of public schools.

1094 Sec. 34. Section 10-357e of the general statutes is repealed and the
1095 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1096 The Commissioner of Education shall allocate funds, as specified in
1097 the annual budget of the Department of Education, to allow the State
1098 Education Resource Center, established pursuant to section 10-357a, to
1099 provide professional development services, technical assistance and
1100 evaluation activities, policy analysis and other forms of assistance to
1101 local and regional boards of education, the Department of Education,
1102 state and local charter schools, as defined in section 10-66aa, the
1103 Technical Education and Career System, established pursuant to section
1104 10-95, providers of school readiness programs, as defined in section 10-
1105 16p, and other educational entities and providers. The State Education
1106 Resource Center shall expend such funds in accordance with procedures
1107 and conditions prescribed by the commissioner.

1108 Sec. 35. Subdivision (3) of subsection (d) of section 10-220 of the
1109 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1110 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1111 (3) (A) For the period commencing July 1, [2026] 2022, and ending
1112 and including June 30, 2031, each local or regional board of education
1113 shall provide for a uniform inspection and evaluation of the heating,
1114 ventilation and air conditioning system within each school building
1115 under its jurisdiction. During such period, the board shall provide such
1116 inspection for at least twenty per cent of the schools under its
1117 jurisdiction in each year until each such school has been inspected. Each

1118 such school shall be so inspected every five years thereafter. The
1119 Department of Administrative Services may, upon request of a local or
1120 regional board of education, grant a waiver of the provisions of this
1121 subparagraph if the department finds that (i) there is an insufficient
1122 number of certified testing, adjusting and balancing technicians,
1123 industrial hygienists certified by the American Board of Industrial
1124 Hygiene or the Board for Global EHS Credentialing, or mechanical
1125 engineers to perform such inspection and evaluation, or (ii) such board
1126 has scheduled such inspection and evaluation for a date in the
1127 subsequent year. Such waiver shall be valid for a period not to exceed
1128 one year.

1129 (B) Such inspection and evaluation shall be performed by a certified
1130 testing, adjusting and balancing technician, an industrial hygienist
1131 certified by the American Board of Industrial Hygiene or the Board for
1132 Global EHS Credentialing, or a mechanical engineer. Such heating,
1133 ventilation and air conditioning systems inspection and evaluation shall
1134 include, but need not be limited to: (i) Testing for maximum filter
1135 efficiency, (ii) physical measurements of outside air delivery rate, (iii)
1136 verification of the appropriate condition and operation of ventilation
1137 components, (iv) measurement of air distribution through all system
1138 inlets and outlets, (v) verification of unit operation and that required
1139 maintenance has been performed in accordance with the most recent
1140 indoor ventilation standards promulgated by the American Society of
1141 Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, (vi) verification
1142 of control sequences, (vii) verification of carbon dioxide sensors and
1143 acceptable carbon dioxide concentrations indoors, and (viii) collection
1144 of field data for the installation of mechanical ventilation if none exist.
1145 The ventilation systems inspection and evaluation shall identify to what
1146 extent each school's current ventilation system components, including
1147 any existing central or noncentral mechanical ventilation system, are
1148 operating in such a manner as to provide appropriate ventilation to the
1149 school building in accordance with most recent indoor ventilation
1150 standards promulgated by the American Society of Heating,
1151 Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers. The inspection and

1152 evaluation shall result in a written report, and such report shall include
1153 any corrective actions necessary to be performed to the mechanical
1154 ventilation system or the heating, ventilation and air conditioning
1155 infrastructure, including installation of filters meeting the most optimal
1156 level of filtration available for a given heating, ventilation and air
1157 conditioning system, installation of carbon dioxide sensors and
1158 additional maintenance, repairs, upgrades or replacement. Any such
1159 corrective actions shall be performed, where appropriate, by a
1160 contractor, who is licensed in accordance with chapter 393. Any local or
1161 regional board of education conducting an inspection and evaluations
1162 pursuant to this subsection shall (I) make available for public inspection
1163 the results of such inspection and evaluation at a regularly scheduled
1164 meeting of such board and on the Internet web site of such board and
1165 on the Internet web site, if any, of each individual school, and (II) submit
1166 the report and results of such inspection and evaluation to the
1167 Department of Administrative Services using the form developed
1168 pursuant to section 10-231h. A local or regional board of education shall
1169 not be required to provide for a uniform inspection and evaluation
1170 under this subdivision for any school building that will cease to be used
1171 as a school building within the three years from when such inspection
1172 and evaluation is to be performed. Any local or regional board of
1173 education that has provided for an inspection that was performed in a
1174 different format, but is deemed equivalent by the department, may use
1175 such inspection in lieu of a uniform inspection and evaluation under this
1176 subdivision.

1177 Sec. 36. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) Not later than April 1, 2026,
1178 the Connecticut Center for School Safety and Crisis Prevention at
1179 Western Connecticut State University, in collaboration with the
1180 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, shall (1)
1181 develop a clear definition for crisis response drills for purposes of
1182 section 10-231 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, (2) develop
1183 standardized terminology for the administration and review of crisis
1184 response drills, (3) develop guidance on (A) standardized responses to
1185 crises, and (B) standardized debriefing protocols following a crisis, and

1186 (4) develop an evaluation template for crisis response drills that allows
1187 school districts to use feedback from participants of the crisis response
1188 drill to assess the efficacy of the crisis response drill and make
1189 adjustments to subsequent crisis response drills to improve
1190 preparedness while preventing emotional harm and supporting
1191 psychological safety.

1192 (b) The Connecticut Center for School Safety and Crisis Prevention at
1193 Western Connecticut State University, in collaboration with the
1194 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, shall conduct
1195 a study of the impact of crisis response drills on the school community.

1196 (c) Not later than July 1, 2028, the Connecticut Center for School
1197 Safety and Crisis Prevention at Western Connecticut State University
1198 shall submit (1) the guidance developed pursuant to subdivision (3) of
1199 subsection (a) of this section, and (2) a report on the study conducted
1200 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, including any
1201 recommendations, to the joint standing committee of the General
1202 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, in
1203 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

1204 Sec. 37. Section 10-231 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1205 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1206 (a) Each local and regional board of education shall provide for a fire
1207 drill to be held in the schools of such board not later than thirty days
1208 after the first day of each school year and at least once each month
1209 thereafter, except as provided in subsection (b) of this section.

1210 (b) Each such board shall substitute a crisis response drill for a fire
1211 drill once every three months and shall develop the format of such crisis
1212 response drill [in consultation] in accordance with the crisis response
1213 protocols described in section 38 of this act and with the appropriate
1214 local law enforcement agency. A representative of such agency may
1215 supervise and participate in any such crisis response drill.

1216 Sec. 38. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) For the school year commencing

1217 July 1, 2026, and each school year thereafter, each crisis response drill
1218 conducted pursuant to section 10-231 of the general statutes, as
1219 amended by this act, shall be conducted as follows: (1) Utilize the (A)
1220 definition for crisis response drills, (B) standardized terminology for the
1221 administration and review of crisis response drills, and (C) guidance on
1222 standardized responses to crises and debriefing protocols following a
1223 crisis, developed by the Department of Emergency Services and Public
1224 Protection pursuant to section 36 of this act, (2) the school security and
1225 safety committee, as described in section 10-222m of the general statutes,
1226 as amended by this act, shall collaborate with the school climate
1227 committee, as described in section 10-222ff of the general statutes, to
1228 plan crisis response drills that prioritize the physical and psychological
1229 safety of students and school personnel, (3) crisis drills shall be trauma-
1230 informed, including utilizing an approach that takes into account prior
1231 traumatic experiences and designed to prevent emotional harm to and
1232 support the psychological safety of students and school personnel, with
1233 mental health professionals' participation integrated throughout the
1234 crisis response drill, (4) prior to conducting a crisis response drill, school
1235 personnel shall provide age-appropriate education for students and
1236 training for school personnel to build knowledge and skills to reduce
1237 the potential for confusion or emotional distress, including a review of
1238 the purpose and procedures for crisis response drills prior to the first
1239 crisis response drill of the school year and notification to students,
1240 school personnel and parents and guardians one week in advance of
1241 conducting a crisis response drill, (5) school personnel shall
1242 communicate, in a clear manner to ensure understanding, the nature
1243 and purpose of crisis response drills to the parents and guardians of
1244 students at the school prior to conducting a crisis response drill, (6) all
1245 communication regarding crisis response drills shall be provided in the
1246 native language of each student, school personnel and parents and
1247 guardians, (7) at the commencement of the crisis response drill, students
1248 and school personnel shall be informed that they are participating in a
1249 crisis response drill to avoid confusion when an actual emergency
1250 situation is occurring, (8) accommodations for students with cognitive,
1251 physical or sensory disability shall be provided, to the extent

1252 practicable, during a crisis response drill to ensure the safety and
1253 participation of such students, (9) crisis response drills conducted with
1254 students shall not include an active assailant simulation or simulated
1255 violence with highly sensorial elements such as fake assailants, firearms,
1256 gunfire sounds, blood or injuries, and a crisis response drill that is
1257 conducted outside of the regular school day and exclusively for school
1258 personnel, first responders and other school volunteers may include an
1259 active assailant simulation or such simulated violence, and (10) evaluate
1260 each crisis response drill using the evaluation template developed
1261 pursuant to section 36 of this act.

1262 Sec. 39. Section 10-222m of the general statutes, as amended by
1263 section 63 of public act 23-167, is repealed and the following is
1264 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1265 (a) For the school year commencing July 1, 2014, and each school year
1266 thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall develop and
1267 implement a school security and safety plan for each school under the
1268 jurisdiction of such board. Such plans shall be based on the school
1269 security and safety plan standards developed by the Department of
1270 Emergency Services and Public Protection, pursuant to section 10-222n.
1271 Each local and regional board of education shall annually review and
1272 update, if necessary, such plans.

1273 (b) For the school year commencing July 1, 2014, and each school year
1274 thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall establish a
1275 school security and safety committee at each school under the
1276 jurisdiction of such board. The school security and safety committee
1277 shall be responsible for assisting in the development of the school
1278 security and safety plan for the school and administering such plan.
1279 Such school security and safety committee shall consist of a local police
1280 officer, a local first responder, a teacher and an administrator employed
1281 at the school, a mental health professional, as defined in section 10-76t,
1282 a parent or guardian of a student enrolled in the school and any other
1283 person the board of education deems necessary. Any parent or guardian
1284 serving as a member of a school security and safety committee shall not

1285 have access to information reported to such committee that would result
 1286 in a violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974,
 1287 20 USC 1232g, as amended from time to time.

1288 (c) Each local and regional board of education shall (1) annually
 1289 submit the school security and safety plan for each school under the
 1290 jurisdiction of such board, developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this
 1291 section, to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection,
 1292 and (2) make any portion of such school security and safety plan that is
 1293 not prohibited from disclosure pursuant to section 1-210 available to
 1294 members of the school community upon request.

1295 Sec. 40. Section 10-234gg of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*
 1296 *from passage*)"

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2025	10-5(g)
Sec. 2	July 1, 2025	10-221a(m)
Sec. 3	January 1, 2026	10-10a(c)
Sec. 4	January 1, 2026	10-17o(a)
Sec. 5	July 1, 2025	10-233j
Sec. 6	July 1, 2025	10-16b(d)
Sec. 7	July 1, 2025	New section
Sec. 8	July 1, 2026	10-15c
Sec. 9	July 1, 2026	10-76a(2)
Sec. 10	July 1, 2026	10-76d(a)(9)(C)
Sec. 11	July 1, 2026	10-76d(b)
Sec. 12	July 1, 2026	10-76ll(b)
Sec. 13	July 1, 2026	10-95p
Sec. 14	July 1, 2026	10-253(a)
Sec. 15	July 1, 2026	10-253(h)(3)
Sec. 16	July 1, 2025	10-226b
Sec. 17	July 1, 2025	10-226c
Sec. 18	July 1, 2025	10-226d
Sec. 19	July 1, 2025	New section
Sec. 20	July 1, 2025	10-222
Sec. 21	July 1, 2025	10-51(a)

Sec. 22	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-233m
Sec. 23	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	1-231(a)
Sec. 24	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-51(d)(2)
Sec. 25	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-214(a)
Sec. 26	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-287(b)(1)
Sec. 27	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-266aa(c)
Sec. 28	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-153b(g)
Sec. 29	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-206
Sec. 30	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-233c(g)
Sec. 31	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-233d(d)
Sec. 32	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-236b(h)
Sec. 33	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-357b(b)
Sec. 34	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-357e
Sec. 35	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-220(d)(3)
Sec. 36	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 37	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-231
Sec. 38	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 39	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-222m
Sec. 40	<i>from passage</i>	Repealer section