



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 7975



Offered by:

REP. LEEPER, 132nd Dist.

SEN. MCCRORY, 2nd Dist.

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32 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*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. Section 10-15c of the general statutes is repealed and the
308 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2027*):

309 (a) The public schools shall be open to all children five years of age
310 and over who reach age five on or before the first day of September of
311 any school year, and each such child shall have, and shall be so advised
312 by the appropriate school authorities, an equal opportunity to
313 participate in the activities, programs and courses of study offered in
314 such public schools, at such time as the child becomes eligible to
315 participate in such activities, programs and courses of study, without
316 discrimination on account of race, as defined in section 46a-51, color,
317 sex, gender identity or expression, religion, national origin, sexual
318 orientation or disability.] provided a child who has not reached the age
319 of five on or before the first day of September of the school year may be
320 admitted (1) upon a written request by the parent or guardian of such
321 child to the principal of the school in which such child would be
322 enrolled, and (2) following an assessment of such child, conducted by
323 such principal and an appropriate certified staff member of the school,
324 to ensure that admitting such child is developmentally appropriate.]

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

328 Sec. 10. Subdivision (2) of section 10-76a of the general statutes is
329 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
330 *2026*):

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

335 Sec. 11. Subparagraph (C) of subdivision (9) of subsection (a) of
336 section 10-76d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is
337 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

338 (C) Not later than the planning and placement team meeting that
339 occurs approximately two years prior to a child's anticipated graduation
340 from high school or the end of the school year in which a child will reach
341 [twenty-two] twenty-one years of age, whichever is expected to occur
342 first based on such child's individualized education program, the
343 planning and placement team shall (i) upon the approval of the parent
344 or guardian of such child, or a surrogate parent of such child appointed
345 pursuant to section 10-94g or such child if such child is an emancipated
346 minor or eighteen years of age or older, (I) notify any state agency that
347 provides a program for adults for which such child may be eligible
348 about the potential eligibility of such child, (II) invite a representative
349 from each such agency to attend the planning and placement team
350 meeting for the purpose of establishing contact with and counseling the
351 parent, guardian, surrogate parent or child on the process for the
352 anticipated transfer of services upon such child graduating from high
353 school or upon [the end of the school year in which] such child [reaches]
354 reaching twenty-two years of age, whichever is sooner, and (III) permit
355 and facilitate contact and coordination between each such agency and
356 such parent, guardian, surrogate parent or child for the purpose of
357 easing the process for the transfer of services, (ii) provide such parent,
358 guardian, surrogate parent or child a listing of each program for adults
359 for which such child may be eligible that includes, but is not limited to,
360 (I) a plain language description of such program, (II) eligibility

361 requirements for such program, and (III) deadlines and instructions for
362 applications to such programs, and (iii) assist such parent, guardian,
363 surrogate parent or child in completing an application to any such
364 programs.

365 Sec. 12. Subsection (b) of section 10-76d of the general statutes is
366 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
367 *2026*):

368 (b) In accordance with the regulations of the State Board of Education,
369 each local and regional board of education shall: (1) Provide special
370 education for school-age children requiring special education who are
371 described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (5) of section 10-76a. The
372 obligation of the school district under this subsection shall terminate
373 when such child is graduated from high school or [at the end of the
374 school year during which] upon such child [reaches] reaching age
375 twenty-two, whichever occurs first; and (2) provide special education
376 for children requiring special education who are described in
377 subparagraph (A) or (C) of subdivision (5) of section 10-76a. The State
378 Board of Education shall define the criteria by which each local or
379 regional board of education shall determine whether a given child is
380 eligible for special education pursuant to this subdivision, and such
381 determination shall be made by the board of education when requested
382 by a parent or guardian, or upon referral by a physician, clinic or social
383 worker, provided the parent or guardian so permits. To meet its
384 obligations under this subdivision, each local or regional board of
385 education may, with the approval of the State Board of Education, make
386 agreements with any private school, agency or institution to provide the
387 necessary preschool special education program, provided such private
388 facility has an existing program which adequately meets the special
389 education needs, according to standards established by the State Board
390 of Education, of the preschool children for whom such local or regional
391 board of education is required to provide such an education and
392 provided such district does not have such an existing program in its
393 public schools. Such private school, agency or institution may be a

394 facility which has not been approved by the Commissioner of Education
395 for special education, provided such private facility is approved by the
396 commissioner as an independent school or licensed by the Office of
397 Early Childhood as a child care center, group child care home or family
398 child care home, as described in section 19a-77, or be both approved and
399 licensed. The State Board of Education shall adopt or update
400 regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to implement the provisions
401 of this subsection.

402 Sec. 13. Subsection (b) of section 10-76ll of the general statutes is
403 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
404 *2026*):

405 (b) On or before July 1, 2015, the State Board of Education shall draft
406 a written bill of rights for parents of children receiving special education
407 services to guarantee that the rights of such parents and children are
408 adequately safeguarded and protected during the provision of special
409 education and related services until such children have graduated from
410 high school or [at the end of the school year during which] upon such
411 children [reach] reaching age twenty-two, whichever occurs first, under
412 this chapter. Such bill of rights shall inform parents of: (1) The right to
413 request consideration of the provision of transition services for a child
414 receiving special education services who is eighteen years of age until
415 such child has graduated from high school or [at the end of the school
416 year during which] upon such child [reaches] reaching age twenty-two,
417 whichever occurs first, (2) the right to receive transition resources and
418 materials from the department and the local or regional board of
419 education responsible for such child, (3) the requirement that the local
420 or regional board of education responsible for such child shall create a
421 student success plan for each student enrolled in a public school,
422 beginning in grade six, pursuant to subsection (k) of section 10-221a,
423 [and] (4) the right of such child to receive realistic and specific
424 postgraduation goals as part of such child's individualized education
425 program, and (5) the right to an opportunity to establish contact with
426 and receive information about and assistance with applying for

427 programs provided by any state agency that provides services in
428 attaining the postgraduation goals in a child's individualized education
429 program, pursuant to subparagraph (C) of subdivision (9) of subsection
430 (a) of section 10-76d, as amended by this act.

431 Sec. 14. Section 10-95p of the general statutes is repealed and the
432 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

433 (a) There is established a division of postsecondary educational
434 programs within the Technical Education and Career System. The
435 division shall administer any postsecondary educational program that
436 (1) was offered at a technical education and career school during the
437 school year commencing July 1, 2016, or (2) is approved by the Technical
438 Education and Career System board.

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

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

448 (a) Children placed out by the Commissioner of Children and
449 Families or by other agencies or persons, including offices of a
450 government of a federally recognized Native American tribe, private
451 child-caring or child-placing agencies licensed by the Department of
452 Children and Families, and eligible residents of facilities operated by the
453 Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services or by the
454 Department of Public Health who are eighteen to twenty-one years of
455 age or, for children requiring special education, when such child is
456 graduated from high school or [at the end of the school year during
457 which] upon such child [reaches] reaching age twenty-two, whichever

occurs first, shall be entitled to all free school privileges of the school district where they then reside as a result of such placement, except as provided in subdivision (4) of subsection (e) of section 10-76d. Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section and subdivision (4) of subsection (e) of section 10-76d, payment for such education shall be made by the board of education of the school district under whose jurisdiction such child would otherwise be attending school where such a school district is identified.

Sec. 16. Subdivision (3) of subsection (h) of section 10-253 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

504 (a) Any board of education receiving notification of the existence of
505 racial imbalance as specified in section 10-226b, as amended by this act,
506 shall forthwith prepare a plan to correct such imbalance and file a copy
507 of said plan with the State Board of Education, except such board of
508 education shall not be required to prepare and file said plan until July
509 1, [2025] 2029. Said plan may be limited to addressing the imbalance
510 existing at any school and need not result in a district-wide plan or
511 district-wide pupil reassignment. A school district may request an
512 extension of time in cases in which the number of students causing said
513 imbalance is fewer than five students at a school.

514 (b) Any plan submitted by the board of education of any town under
515 sections 10-226a to 10-226e, inclusive, shall include any proposed
516 changes in existing school attendance districts, the location of proposed
517 school building sites as related to the problem, any proposed additions
518 to existing school buildings and all other means proposed for the
519 correction of said racial imbalance. The plan shall include projections of

520 the expected racial composition of all public schools in the district. The
521 plan may include provision for cooperation with other school districts
522 to assist in the correction of racial imbalance.

523 Sec. 19. Section 10-226d of the general statutes is repealed and the
524 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

525 Upon receipt of any plan required under the provisions of subsection
526 (b) of section 10-226c, as amended by this act, the State Board of
527 Education shall review said plan. If it determines that the plan is
528 satisfactory, it shall approve the plan and shall provide to the board of
529 education such assistance and services as may be available. The board
530 of education shall submit annual reports on the implementation of the
531 approved plan, as the State Board of Education may require. The State
532 Board of Education shall not take action on any plan received on or after
533 July 1, 2024, until July 1, [2025] 2029.

534 Sec. 20. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) For the fiscal year ending June
535 30, 2027, and each fiscal year thereafter, during the preparation of the
536 itemized estimate of the cost of maintenance of public schools for the
537 ensuing year pursuant to section 10-222 of the general statutes, as
538 amended by this act, the superintendent of schools shall provide the
539 members of the local board of education the original amount and actual
540 amount of each line item for the two fiscal years immediately preceding
541 the fiscal year in which such itemized estimate is being prepared and
542 the original amount and current amount of each line item for the fiscal
543 year in which such itemized estimate is being prepared. As used in this
544 section, "itemized estimate" means an estimate in which broad
545 budgetary categories including, but not limited to, salaries, fringe
546 benefits, utilities, supplies and grounds maintenance are divided into
547 one or more line items, "original amount" means the amount of a line
548 item that was appropriated to such line item at the start of the fiscal year,
549 and "actual amount" means the amount of a line item at the conclusion
550 of the fiscal year.

551 Sec. 21. Section 10-222 of the general statutes is repealed and the

552 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

553 Each local board of education shall prepare an itemized estimate of
554 the cost of maintenance of public schools for the ensuing year and shall
555 submit such estimate to the board of finance in each town or city having
556 a board of finance, to the board of selectmen in each town having no
557 board of finance or otherwise to the authority making appropriations
558 for the school district, not later than two months preceding the annual
559 meeting at which appropriations are to be made. Such estimate shall
560 include the original amount and actual amount of each line item for the
561 two fiscal years immediately preceding the fiscal year in which such
562 estimate is being prepared and the original amount and current amount
563 of each line item for the fiscal year in which such estimate is being
564 prepared. The board or authority that receives such estimate shall, not
565 later than ten days after the date the board of education submits such
566 estimate, make spending recommendations and suggestions to such
567 board of education as to how such board of education may consolidate
568 noneducational services and realize financial efficiencies. Such board of
569 education may accept or reject the suggestions of the board of finance,
570 board of selectmen or appropriating authority and shall provide the
571 board of finance, board of selectmen or appropriating authority with a
572 written explanation of the reason for any rejection. The money
573 appropriated by any municipality for the maintenance of public schools
574 shall be expended by and in the discretion of the board of education.
575 Except as provided in this subsection, any such board may transfer any
576 unexpended or uncontracted-for portion of any appropriation for
577 school purposes to any other item of such itemized estimate. Boards
578 may, by adopting policies and procedures, authorize designated
579 personnel to make limited transfers under emergency circumstances if
580 the urgent need for the transfer prevents the board from meeting in a
581 timely fashion to consider such transfer. All transfers made in such
582 instances shall be announced at the next regularly scheduled meeting of
583 the board and a written explanation of such transfer shall be provided
584 to the legislative body of the municipality or, in a municipality where
585 the legislative body is a town meeting, to the board of selectmen.

586 Expenditures by the board of education shall not exceed the
587 appropriation made by the municipality, with such money as may be
588 received from other sources for school purposes. If any occasion arises
589 whereby additional funds are needed by such board, the chairman of
590 such board shall notify the board of finance, board of selectmen or
591 appropriating authority, as the case may be, and shall submit a request
592 for additional funds in the same manner as is provided for departments,
593 boards or agencies of the municipality and no additional funds shall be
594 expended unless such supplemental appropriation shall be granted and
595 no supplemental expenditures shall be made in excess of those granted
596 through the appropriating authority. The annual report of the board of
597 education shall, in accordance with section 10-224, include a summary
598 showing (1) the total cost of the maintenance of schools, (2) the amount
599 received from the state and other sources for the maintenance of schools,
600 and (3) the net cost to the municipality of the maintenance of schools.
601 For purposes of this [subsection] section, "meeting" means a meeting, as
602 defined in section 1-200, [and] "itemized estimate" means an estimate in
603 which broad budgetary categories including, but not limited to, salaries,
604 fringe benefits, utilities, supplies and grounds maintenance are divided
605 into one or more line items, "original amount" means the amount of a
606 line item that was appropriated to such line item at the start of the fiscal
607 year, and "actual amount" means the amount of a line item at the
608 conclusion of the fiscal year.

609 Sec. 22. Subsection (a) of section 10-51 of the general statutes is
610 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
611 *2025*):

612 (a) The fiscal year of a regional school district shall be July first to June
613 thirtieth. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, not less than
614 two weeks before the annual meeting held pursuant to section 10-47, the
615 board shall hold a public district meeting to present a proposed budget
616 for the next fiscal year. Any public district meeting held pursuant to this
617 section may be accessible to the public by means of electronic equipment
618 or by means of electronic equipment in conjunction with an in-person

619 meeting, in accordance with the provisions of section 1-225a. Such
620 proposed budget shall include the original amount and actual amount
621 of each line item in the budget for the two fiscal years immediately
622 preceding the fiscal year in which such proposed budget is being
623 presented and the original amount and current amount of each line item
624 for the budget of the fiscal year in which such proposed budget is being
625 presented. Any person may recommend the inclusion or deletion of
626 expenditures at such time. After the public hearing, the board shall
627 prepare an annual budget for the next fiscal year, make available on
628 request copies thereof and deliver a reasonable number to the town
629 clerk of each of the towns in the district at least five days before the
630 annual meeting. At the annual meeting on the first Monday in May, the
631 board shall present a budget which includes a statement of (1) estimated
632 receipts and expenditures for the next fiscal year, (2) estimated receipts
633 and expenditures for the current fiscal year, (3) estimated surplus or
634 deficit in operating funds at the end of the current fiscal year, (4) bonded
635 or other debt, (5) estimated per pupil expenditure for the current and
636 for the next fiscal year, (6) the original amount and actual amount of
637 each line item in the budget for the two fiscal years immediately
638 preceding the fiscal year in which such budget is being presented and
639 the original amount and current amount of each line item for the budget
640 of the fiscal year in which such budget is being presented, and ~~[(6)]~~ (7)
641 such other information as is necessary in the opinion of the board.
642 Persons present and eligible to vote under section 7-6 may accept or
643 reject the proposed budget except as provided below. No person who is
644 eligible to vote in more than one town in the regional school district is
645 eligible to cast more than one vote on any issue considered at a regional
646 school district meeting or referendum held pursuant to this section. Any
647 person who violates this section by fraudulently casting more than one
648 vote or ballot per issue shall be fined not more than three thousand five
649 hundred dollars and shall be imprisoned not more than two years and
650 shall be disenfranchised. The regional board of education may, in the
651 call to the meeting, designate that the vote on the motion to adopt the
652 budget shall be by paper ballots at the district meeting held on the
653 budget or by a "yes" or "no" vote on the voting tabulators in each of the

654 member towns on the day following the district meeting. If submitted
655 to a vote by voting tabulator, questions may be included on the ballot
656 for persons voting "no" to indicate whether the budget is too high or too
657 low, provided the vote on such questions shall be for advisory purposes
658 only and not binding upon the board. Two hundred or more persons
659 qualified to vote in any regional district meeting called to adopt a
660 budget may petition the regional board, in writing, at least three days
661 prior to such meeting, requesting that any item or items on the call of
662 such meeting be submitted to the persons qualified to vote in the
663 meeting for a vote by paper ballot or on the voting tabulators in each of
664 the member towns on the day following the district meeting and in
665 accordance with the appropriate procedures provided in section 7-7. If
666 a majority of such persons voting reject the budget, the board shall,
667 within four weeks thereafter and upon notice of not less than one week,
668 call a district meeting to consider the same or an amended budget. Such
669 meetings shall be convened at such intervals until a budget is approved.
670 If the budget is not approved before the beginning of a fiscal year, the
671 disbursing officer for each member town, or the designee of such officer,
672 shall make necessary expenditures to such district in amounts equal to
673 the total of the town's appropriation to the district for the previous year
674 and the town's proportionate share in any increment in debt service over
675 the previous fiscal year, pursuant to section 7-405 until the budget is
676 approved. The town shall receive credit for such expenditures once the
677 budget is approved for the fiscal year. After the budget is approved, the
678 board shall estimate the share of the net expenses to be paid by each
679 member town in accordance with subsection (b) of this section and
680 notify the treasurer thereof. With respect to adoption of a budget for the
681 period from the organization of the board to the beginning of the first
682 full fiscal year, the board may use the above procedure at any time
683 within such period. If the board needs to submit a supplementary
684 budget, the general procedure specified in this section shall be used. As
685 used in this section, "original amount" and "actual amount" have the
686 same meanings as provided in section 10-222, as amended by this act.

687 Sec. 23. Section 10-233m of the general statutes is repealed and the

688 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

689 Each local or regional board of education that assigns a school
690 resource officer to any school under the jurisdiction of such board shall
691 enter into a memorandum of understanding with a local law
692 enforcement agency regarding the role and responsibility of such school
693 resource officer. [Such] Not later than January 1, 2026, such
694 memorandum of understanding shall (1) be maintained in a central
695 location in the school district and posted on the Internet web site of the
696 school district and each school in which such school resource officer is
697 assigned, (2) include provisions addressing daily interactions between
698 students and school personnel with school resource officers, and (3)
699 include a graduated response model for student discipline. Any such
700 memorandum of understanding entered into, extended, updated or
701 amended [(A)] on or after July 1, 2021, shall include a provision that
702 requires all school resource officers to complete, while in the
703 performance of their duties as school resource officers and during
704 periods when such school resource officers are assigned to be at the
705 school, any separate training specifically related to social-emotional
706 learning and restorative practices provided to certified employees of the
707 school pursuant to section 10-148a, [, and (B)] Any such memorandum
708 of understanding entered into, extended, updated or amended on or
709 after July 1, 2023, shall include provisions specifying a school resource
710 officer's duties concerning, and procedures for, the restraint of students,
711 use of firearms, school-based arrests and reporting of any investigations
712 and behavioral interventions of challenging behavior or conflict that
713 escalates to violence or constitutes a crime, pursuant to the provisions
714 of section 10-233p, provided such provisions are in accordance with any
715 laws or policies concerning the duties of police officers. Each such
716 memorandum of understanding shall be updated not less frequently
717 than every three years. For the purposes of this section, "school resource
718 officer" means a sworn police officer of a local law enforcement agency
719 who has been assigned to a school pursuant to an agreement between
720 the local or regional board of education and the chief of police of a local
721 law enforcement agency.

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

725 (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year
726 thereafter, a regional board of education, by a majority vote of its
727 members, may create a reserve fund for educational expenditures. Such
728 fund shall thereafter be termed "reserve fund for educational
729 expenditures". The aggregate amount of annual and supplemental
730 appropriations by a district to such fund shall not exceed two per cent
731 of the annual district budget for such fiscal year. Annual appropriations
732 to such fund shall be included in the share of net expenses to be paid by
733 each member town. Supplemental appropriations to such fund may be
734 made from estimated fiscal year end surplus in operating funds. Interest
735 and investment earnings received with respect to amounts held in the
736 fund shall be credited to such fund. The board shall annually submit a
737 complete and detailed report of the condition of such fund to the
738 member towns. Upon the recommendation and approval by the
739 regional board of education, any part or the whole of such fund may be
740 used for educational expenditures. Upon the approval of any such
741 expenditure an appropriation shall be set up, plainly designated for the
742 educational expenditure for which it has been authorized. Any
743 unexpended portion of such appropriation remaining shall revert to
744 [said] such fund. If any authorized appropriation is set up pursuant to
745 the provisions of this subsection and through unforeseen circumstances
746 the board is unable to expend the total amount of such appropriation,
747 the board, by a majority vote of its members, may terminate such
748 appropriation which then shall no longer be in effect. Such fund may be
749 discontinued, after the recommendation and approval by the regional
750 board of education, and any amounts held in the fund shall be
751 transferred to the general fund of the district. For the fiscal year ending
752 June 30, 2026, and each fiscal year thereafter, a regional board of
753 education may deposit any funds previously appropriated to and
754 currently in a separate reserve fund for capital and nonrecurring
755 expenditures under the control of such board in the reserve fund for

756 educational expenditures.

757 Sec. 25. Subsection (a) of section 10-214 of the general statutes is
758 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
759 *2025*):

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

774 Sec. 26. Subsection (c) of section 10-266aa of the general statutes is
775 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
776 *2025*):

777 (c) The program shall be phased in as provided in this subsection. (1)
778 For the school year commencing in 1998, and for each school year
779 thereafter, the program shall be in operation in the Hartford, New
780 Haven and Bridgeport regions. The Hartford program shall operate as
781 a continuation of the program described in section 10-266j. Students
782 who reside in Hartford, New Haven or Bridgeport may attend school in
783 another school district in the region and students who reside in such
784 other school districts may attend school in Hartford, New Haven or
785 Bridgeport, provided, beginning with the 2001-2002 school year, the
786 proportion of students who are not minority students to the total
787 number of students leaving Hartford, Bridgeport or New Haven to

788 participate in the program shall not be greater than the proportion of
789 students who were not minority students in the prior school year to the
790 total number of students enrolled in Hartford, Bridgeport or New
791 Haven in the prior school year. The regional educational service center
792 operating the program shall make program participation decisions in
793 accordance with the requirements of this subdivision. (2) For the school
794 year commencing in 2000, and for each school year thereafter, the
795 program shall be in operation in New London, provided beginning with
796 the 2001-2002 school year, the proportion of students who are not
797 minority students to the total number of students leaving New London
798 to participate in the program shall not be greater than the proportion of
799 students who were not minority students in the prior year to the total
800 number of students enrolled in New London in the prior school year.
801 The regional educational service center operating the program shall
802 make program participation decisions in accordance with this
803 subdivision. (3) The Department of Education may provide, within
804 available appropriations, grants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003,
805 to the remaining regional educational service centers to assist school
806 districts in planning for a voluntary program of student enrollment in
807 every priority school district, pursuant to section 10-266p, which is
808 interested in participating in accordance with this subdivision. For the
809 school year commencing in 2003, and for each school year thereafter, the
810 voluntary enrollment program may be in operation in every priority
811 school district in the state. Students from other school districts in the
812 area of a priority school district, as determined by the regional
813 educational service center pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, may
814 attend school in the priority school district, provided such students
815 bring racial, ethnic and economic diversity to the priority school district
816 and do not increase the racial, ethnic and economic isolation in the
817 priority school district. (4) For the school year commencing July 1, 2024,
818 and each school year thereafter, there shall be a pilot program in
819 operation in Danbury and Norwalk. The pilot program shall serve (A)
820 up to fifty students who reside in Danbury, and such students may
821 attend school in the school districts for the towns of New Fairfield,
822 Brookfield, Bethel, Ridgefield and Redding, and (B) up to fifty students

823 who (i) reside in Norwalk, and such students may attend school in the
824 school districts for the towns of Darien, New Canaan, Wilton, Weston
825 and Westport, and (ii) reside in Darien, New Canaan, Wilton, Weston
826 and Westport, and such students may attend school in the school district
827 for the town of Norwalk. School districts which receive students under
828 this subdivision as part of the pilot program shall allow such students
829 to attend school in the district until they graduate from high school. (5)
830 For the school year commencing July 1, 2022, and each school year
831 thereafter, the town of Guilford shall be eligible to participate in the
832 program as a receiving district and a sending district with New Haven.
833 (6) For the school year commencing July 1, 2025, and each school year
834 thereafter, the town of Madison shall be eligible to participate in the
835 program as a receiving district and a sending district with New Haven.

836 Sec. 27. Section 10-153b of the general statutes is amended by adding
837 subsection (g) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

838 (NEW) (g) For any negotiation with respect to salaries, hours and
839 other conditions of employment with an organization which has been
840 designated or elected the exclusive representative of an administrators'
841 unit or a teachers' unit occurring on or after July 1, 2025, at least one
842 member of the local or regional board of education which employs such
843 unit shall be present for such negotiations.

844 Sec. 28. Section 10-206 of the general statutes is repealed and the
845 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

846 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall require each pupil
847 enrolled in the public schools to have health assessments pursuant to
848 the provisions of this section. Such assessments shall be conducted by
849 (1) a legally qualified practitioner of medicine, (2) an advanced practice
850 registered nurse or registered nurse, licensed pursuant to chapter 378,
851 (3) a physician assistant, licensed pursuant to chapter 370, (4) a school
852 medical advisor, or (5) a legally qualified practitioner of medicine, an
853 advanced practice registered nurse or a physician assistant stationed at
854 any military base, to ascertain whether such pupil is suffering from any

855 physical disability tending to prevent such pupil from receiving the full
856 benefit of school work and to ascertain whether such school work
857 should be modified in order to prevent injury to the pupil or to secure
858 for the pupil a suitable program of education. No health assessment
859 shall be made of any [child] pupil enrolled in the public schools unless
860 such examination is made in the presence of the parent or guardian or
861 in the presence of another school employee. The parent or guardian of
862 such [child] pupil shall receive prior written notice and shall have a
863 reasonable opportunity to be present at such assessment or to provide
864 for such assessment himself or herself. A local or regional board of
865 education may deny continued attendance in public school to any
866 [child] pupil who fails to obtain the health assessments required under
867 this section.

868 (b) Each local or regional board of education shall require each [child]
869 pupil to have a health assessment prior to public school enrollment. The
870 assessment shall include: (1) A physical examination which shall
871 include hematocrit or hemoglobin tests, height, weight, blood pressure,
872 a medical risk assessment for lead poisoning and, when indicated by
873 such assessment, a test of the [child's] pupil's blood lead level, and,
874 beginning with the 2003-2004 school year, a chronic disease assessment
875 which shall include, but not be limited to, asthma. The assessment form
876 shall include (A) a check box for the provider conducting the
877 assessment, as provided in subsection (a) of this section, to indicate an
878 asthma diagnosis, (B) screening questions relating to appropriate public
879 health concerns to be answered by the parent or guardian, and (C)
880 screening questions to be answered by such provider; (2) an updating
881 of immunizations as required under section 10-204a, provided a
882 registered nurse may only update said immunizations pursuant to a
883 written order by a physician or physician assistant, licensed pursuant to
884 chapter 370, or an advanced practice registered nurse, licensed pursuant
885 to chapter 378; (3) vision, hearing, speech and gross dental screenings;
886 and (4) such other information, including health and developmental
887 history, as the physician feels is necessary and appropriate. The
888 assessment shall also include tests for tuberculosis, sickle cell anemia

889 and Cooley's anemia where the local or regional board of education
890 determines after consultation with the school medical advisor and the
891 local health department, or in the case of a regional board of education,
892 each local health department, that such tests are necessary, provided a
893 registered nurse may only perform said tests pursuant to the written
894 order of a physician or physician assistant, licensed pursuant to chapter
895 370, or an advanced practice registered nurse, licensed pursuant to
896 chapter 378.

897 (c) Each local or regional board of education shall require each pupil
898 enrolled in the public schools to have health assessments in either grade
899 six or grade seven and in either grade nine or grade ten. The assessment
900 shall include: (1) A physical examination which shall include hematocrit
901 or hemoglobin tests, height, weight, blood pressure, and, beginning
902 with the 2003-2004 school year, a chronic disease assessment which shall
903 include, but not be limited to, asthma as defined by the Commissioner
904 of Public Health pursuant to subsection (c) of section 19a-62a. The
905 assessment form shall include (A) a check box for the provider
906 conducting the assessment, as provided in subsection (a) of this section,
907 to indicate an asthma diagnosis, (B) screening questions relating to
908 appropriate public health concerns to be answered by the parent or
909 guardian, and (C) screening questions to be answered by such provider;
910 (2) an updating of immunizations as required under section 10-204a,
911 provided a registered nurse may only update said immunizations
912 pursuant to a written order of a physician or physician assistant,
913 licensed pursuant to chapter 370, or an advanced practice registered
914 nurse, licensed pursuant to chapter 378; (3) vision, hearing, postural and
915 gross dental screenings; and (4) such other information including a
916 health history as the physician feels is necessary and appropriate. The
917 assessment shall also include tests for tuberculosis and sickle cell
918 anemia or Cooley's anemia where the local or regional board of
919 education, in consultation with the school medical advisor and the local
920 health department, or in the case of a regional board of education, each
921 local health department, determines that said screening or test is
922 necessary, provided a registered nurse may only perform said tests

923 pursuant to the written order of a physician or physician assistant,
924 licensed pursuant to chapter 370, or an advanced practice registered
925 nurse, licensed pursuant to chapter 378.

926 (d) The results of each assessment done pursuant to this section and
927 the results of screenings done pursuant to section 10-214, as amended
928 by this act, shall be recorded on forms supplied by the State Board of
929 Education. Each school nurse may reject such results submitted on
930 forms other than the forms supplied by the State Board of Education and
931 require the resubmission of such results on such forms supplied by the
932 State Board of Education. An asthma action plan shall be included with
933 the assessment form of each pupil that indicates an asthma diagnosis
934 pursuant to subsections (b) and (c) of this section. Such information shall
935 be included in the cumulative health record of each pupil and shall be
936 kept on file in the school such pupil attends. If a pupil permanently
937 leaves the jurisdiction of the board of education, the pupil's original
938 cumulative health record shall be sent to the chief administrative officer
939 of the school district to which such student moves. The board of
940 education transmitting such health record shall retain a true copy. Each
941 physician, advanced practice registered nurse, registered nurse, or
942 physician assistant performing health assessments and screenings
943 pursuant to this section and section 10-214, as amended by this act, shall
944 completely fill out and sign each form and any recommendations
945 concerning the pupil shall be in writing.

946 (e) Appropriate school health personnel shall review the results of
947 each assessment and screening as recorded pursuant to subsection (d)
948 of this section. When, in the judgment of such health personnel, a pupil,
949 as defined in section 10-206a, is in need of further testing or treatment,
950 the superintendent of schools shall give written notice to the parent or
951 guardian of such pupil and shall make reasonable efforts to assure that
952 such further testing or treatment is provided. Such reasonable efforts
953 shall include a determination of whether or not the parent or guardian
954 has obtained the necessary testing or treatment for the pupil, and, if not,
955 advising the parent or guardian on how such testing or treatment may

956 be obtained. The results of such further testing or treatment shall be
957 recorded pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, and shall be
958 reviewed by school health personnel pursuant to this subsection.

959 (f) On and after October 1, 2017, each local or regional board of
960 education shall report to the local health department and the
961 Department of Public Health, on an triennial basis, the total number of
962 pupils per school and per school district having a diagnosis of asthma
963 (1) at the time of public school enrollment, (2) in grade six or seven, and
964 (3) in grade nine or ten. The report shall contain the asthma information
965 collected as required under subsections (b) and (c) of this section and
966 shall include pupil age, gender, race, ethnicity and school. Beginning on
967 October 1, 2021, and every three years thereafter, the Department of
968 Public Health shall review the asthma screening information reported
969 pursuant to this section and shall submit a report to the joint standing
970 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
971 relating to public health and education concerning asthma trends and
972 distributions among pupils enrolled in the public schools. The report
973 shall be submitted in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a
974 and shall include, but not be limited to, (A) trends and findings based
975 on pupil age, gender, race, ethnicity, school and the education reference
976 group, as determined by the Department of Education for the town or
977 regional school district in which such school is located, and (B) activities
978 of the asthma screening monitoring system maintained under section
979 19a-62a.

980 Sec. 29. Subsection (g) of section 10-233c of the general statutes is
981 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
982 *2025*):

983 (g) On and after July 1, 2015, all suspensions pursuant to this section
984 shall be in-school suspensions, except a local or regional board of
985 education may authorize the administration of schools under its
986 direction to impose an out-of-school suspension on any pupil in (1)
987 grades three to twelve, inclusive, if, during the hearing held pursuant to
988 subsection (a) of this section, (A) the administration determines that the

989 pupil being suspended poses such a danger to persons or property or
990 such a disruption of the educational process that the pupil shall be
991 excluded from school during the period of suspension, or (B) the
992 administration determines that an out-of-school suspension is
993 appropriate for such pupil based on evidence of (i) previous disciplinary
994 problems that have led to suspensions or expulsion of such pupil, and
995 (ii) efforts by the administration to address such disciplinary problems
996 through means other than out-of-school suspension or expulsion,
997 including positive behavioral support strategies, or (2) grades preschool
998 to two, inclusive, if during the hearing held pursuant to subsection (a)
999 of this section, the administration (A) determines that an out-of-school
1000 suspension is appropriate for such pupil based on evidence that such
1001 pupil's conduct on school grounds is behavior that causes serious
1002 physical harm, (B) requires that such pupil receives services that are
1003 trauma-informed and developmentally appropriate and align with any
1004 behavioral intervention plan, individualized education program or plan
1005 pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended
1006 from time to time, for such pupil upon such pupil's return to school
1007 immediately following the out-of-school suspension, and (C) considers
1008 whether to convene a planning and placement team meeting for the
1009 purposes of conducting an evaluation to determine whether such pupil
1010 may require special education or related services. An out-of-school
1011 suspension imposed under subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not
1012 exceed ten school days, and an out-of-school suspension imposed under
1013 subdivision (2) of this subsection shall not exceed five school days. An
1014 in-school suspension may be served in the school that the pupil attends,
1015 or in any school building under the jurisdiction of the local or regional
1016 board of education, as determined by such board. Nothing in this
1017 section shall limit a person's duty as a mandated reporter pursuant to
1018 section 17-101a to report suspected child abuse or neglect.

1019 Sec. 30. Subsection (d) of section 10-233d of the general statutes is
1020 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1021 *2025*):

1022 (d) No local or regional board of education is required to offer an
1023 alternative educational opportunity, except in accordance with this
1024 section. Any pupil under sixteen years of age who is expelled shall be
1025 offered an alternative educational opportunity, which shall be (1)
1026 alternative education, as defined by section 10-74j, with an
1027 individualized learning plan, if such board provides such alternative
1028 education, or (2) in accordance with the standards adopted by the State
1029 Board of Education, pursuant to section 10-233o, during the period of
1030 expulsion, provided any parent or guardian of such pupil who does not
1031 choose to have such parent's or guardian's child enrolled in an
1032 alternative educational opportunity shall not be subject to the
1033 provisions of section 10-184. Any pupil expelled for the first time and
1034 the second time, who is between the ages of sixteen and eighteen, and
1035 who wishes to continue such pupil's education shall be offered such an
1036 alternative educational opportunity if such pupil complies with
1037 conditions established by such pupil's local or regional board of
1038 education. Such alternative educational opportunity may include, but
1039 shall not be limited to, the placement of a pupil who is at least seventeen
1040 years of age in an adult education program pursuant to section 10-69.
1041 Any pupil participating in any such adult education program during a
1042 period of expulsion shall not be required to withdraw from school under
1043 section 10-184. A local or regional board of education shall count the
1044 expulsion of a pupil when the pupil was under sixteen years of age for
1045 purposes of determining whether an alternative educational
1046 opportunity is required for such pupil when such pupil is between the
1047 ages of sixteen and eighteen. A local or regional board of education may
1048 offer an alternative educational opportunity to a pupil for whom such
1049 alternative educational opportunity is not required pursuant to this
1050 section.

1051 Sec. 31. Subsection (h) of section 10-236b of the general statutes is
1052 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1053 *2025*):

1054 (h) Each local or regional board of education shall notify a parent or

1055 guardian of a student who is placed in physical restraint or seclusion
1056 [not later than twenty-four hours after] on the day the student was
1057 placed in physical restraint or seclusion and shall make a reasonable
1058 effort to provide such notification immediately after such physical
1059 restraint or seclusion is initiated.

1060 Sec. 32. Section 10-357e of the general statutes is repealed and the
1061 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1062 The Commissioner of Education shall allocate funds, as specified in
1063 the annual budget of the Department of Education, to allow the State
1064 Education Resource Center, established pursuant to section 10-357a, to
1065 provide professional development services, technical assistance and
1066 evaluation activities, policy analysis and other forms of assistance to
1067 local and regional boards of education, the Department of Education,
1068 state and local charter schools, as defined in section 10-66aa, the
1069 Technical Education and Career System, established pursuant to section
1070 10-95, providers of school readiness programs, as defined in section 10-
1071 16p, and other educational entities and providers. The State Education
1072 Resource Center shall expend such funds in accordance with procedures
1073 and conditions prescribed by the commissioner.

1074 Sec. 33. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) Not later than April 1, 2026,
1075 the Connecticut Center for School Safety and Crisis Prevention at
1076 Western Connecticut State University, in collaboration with the
1077 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, shall (1)
1078 develop a clear definition for crisis response drills for purposes of
1079 section 10-231 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, (2) develop
1080 standardized terminology for the administration and review of crisis
1081 response drills, (3) develop guidance on (A) standardized responses to
1082 crises, and (B) standardized debriefing protocols following a crisis, and
1083 (4) develop an evaluation template for crisis response drills that allows
1084 school districts to use feedback from participants of the crisis response
1085 drill to assess the efficacy of the crisis response drill and make
1086 adjustments to subsequent crisis response drills to improve
1087 preparedness while preventing emotional harm and supporting

1088 psychological safety.

1089 (b) The Connecticut Center for School Safety and Crisis Prevention at
1090 Western Connecticut State University, in collaboration with the
1091 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, shall conduct
1092 a study of the impact of crisis response drills on the school community.

1093 (c) Not later than July 1, 2028, the Connecticut Center for School
1094 Safety and Crisis Prevention at Western Connecticut State University
1095 shall submit (1) the guidance developed pursuant to subdivision (3) of
1096 subsection (a) of this section, and (2) a report on the study conducted
1097 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, including any
1098 recommendations, to the joint standing committee of the General
1099 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, in
1100 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

1101 Sec. 34. Section 10-231 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1102 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1103 (a) Each local and regional board of education shall provide for a fire
1104 drill to be held in the schools of such board not later than thirty days
1105 after the first day of each school year and at least once each month
1106 thereafter, except as provided in subsection (b) of this section.

1107 (b) Each such board shall substitute a crisis response drill for a fire
1108 drill once every three months and shall develop the format of such crisis
1109 response drill [in consultation] in accordance with the crisis response
1110 protocols described in section 35 of this act and with the appropriate
1111 local law enforcement agency. A representative of such agency may
1112 supervise and participate in any such crisis response drill.

1113 Sec. 35. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) For the school year commencing
1114 July 1, 2026, and each school year thereafter, each crisis response drill
1115 conducted pursuant to section 10-231 of the general statutes, as
1116 amended by this act, shall be conducted as follows: (1) Utilize the (A)
1117 definition for crisis response drills, (B) standardized terminology for the
1118 administration and review of crisis response drills, and (C) guidance on

1119 standardized responses to crises and debriefing protocols following a
1120 crisis, developed by the Department of Emergency Services and Public
1121 Protection pursuant to section 33 of this act, (2) the school security and
1122 safety committee, as described in section 10-222m of the general statutes,
1123 as amended by this act, shall collaborate with the school climate
1124 committee, as described in section 10-222ff of the general statutes, to
1125 plan crisis response drills that prioritize the physical and psychological
1126 safety of students and school personnel, (3) crisis drills shall be trauma-
1127 informed, including utilizing an approach that takes into account prior
1128 traumatic experiences and designed to prevent emotional harm to and
1129 support the psychological safety of students and school personnel, with
1130 mental health professionals' participation integrated throughout the
1131 crisis response drill, (4) prior to conducting a crisis response drill, school
1132 personnel shall provide age-appropriate education for students and
1133 training for school personnel to build knowledge and skills to reduce
1134 the potential for confusion or emotional distress, including a review of
1135 the purpose and procedures for crisis response drills prior to the first
1136 crisis response drill of the school year and notification to students,
1137 school personnel and parents and guardians one week in advance of
1138 conducting a crisis response drill, (5) school personnel shall
1139 communicate, in a clear manner to ensure understanding, the nature
1140 and purpose of crisis response drills to the parents and guardians of
1141 students at the school prior to conducting a crisis response drill, (6) at
1142 the commencement of the crisis response drill, students and school
1143 personnel shall be informed that they are participating in a crisis
1144 response drill to avoid confusion when an actual emergency situation is
1145 occurring, (7) accommodations for students with cognitive, physical or
1146 sensory disability shall be provided, to the extent practicable, during a
1147 crisis response drill to ensure the safety and participation of such
1148 students, (8) crisis response drills conducted with students shall not
1149 include an active assailant simulation or simulated violence with highly
1150 sensorial elements such as fake assailants, firearms, gunfire sounds,
1151 blood or injuries, and a crisis response drill that is conducted outside of
1152 the regular school day and exclusively for school personnel, first
1153 responders and other school volunteers may include an active assailant

1154 simulation or such simulated violence, and (9) evaluate each crisis
1155 response drill using the evaluation template developed pursuant to
1156 section 33 of this act.

1157 Sec. 36. Section 10-222m of the general statutes, as amended by
1158 section 63 of public act 23-167, is repealed and the following is
1159 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1160 (a) For the school year commencing July 1, 2014, and each school year
1161 thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall develop and
1162 implement a school security and safety plan for each school under the
1163 jurisdiction of such board. Such plans shall be based on the school
1164 security and safety plan standards developed by the Department of
1165 Emergency Services and Public Protection, pursuant to section 10-222n.
1166 Each local and regional board of education shall annually review and
1167 update, if necessary, such plans.

1168 (b) For the school year commencing July 1, 2014, and each school year
1169 thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall establish a
1170 school security and safety committee at each school under the
1171 jurisdiction of such board. The school security and safety committee
1172 shall be responsible for assisting in the development of the school
1173 security and safety plan for the school and administering such plan.
1174 Such school security and safety committee shall consist of a local police
1175 officer, a local first responder, a teacher and an administrator employed
1176 at the school, a mental health professional, as defined in section 10-76t,
1177 a parent or guardian of a student enrolled in the school and any other
1178 person the board of education deems necessary. Any parent or guardian
1179 serving as a member of a school security and safety committee shall not
1180 have access to information reported to such committee that would result
1181 in a violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974,
1182 20 USC 1232g, as amended from time to time.

1183 (c) Each local and regional board of education shall (1) annually
1184 submit the school security and safety plan for each school under the
1185 jurisdiction of such board, developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this

1186 section, to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection,
 1187 and (2) make any portion of such school security and safety plan that is
 1188 not prohibited from disclosure pursuant to section 1-210 available to
 1189 members of the school community upon request.

1190 Sec. 37. Section 10-234gg of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*
 1191 *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, 2027	10-15c
Sec. 10	July 1, 2026	10-76a(2)
Sec. 11	July 1, 2026	10-76d(a)(9)(C)
Sec. 12	July 1, 2026	10-76d(b)
Sec. 13	July 1, 2026	10-76ll(b)
Sec. 14	July 1, 2026	10-95p
Sec. 15	July 1, 2026	10-253(a)
Sec. 16	July 1, 2026	10-253(h)(3)
Sec. 17	July 1, 2025	10-226b
Sec. 18	July 1, 2025	10-226c
Sec. 19	July 1, 2025	10-226d
Sec. 20	July 1, 2025	New section
Sec. 21	July 1, 2025	10-222
Sec. 22	July 1, 2025	10-51(a)
Sec. 23	July 1, 2025	10-233m
Sec. 24	July 1, 2025	10-51(d)(2)
Sec. 25	July 1, 2025	10-214(a)
Sec. 26	July 1, 2025	10-266aa(c)
Sec. 27	July 1, 2025	10-153b(g)
Sec. 28	July 1, 2025	10-206
Sec. 29	July 1, 2025	10-233c(g)

Sec. 30	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-233d(d)
Sec. 31	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-236b(h)
Sec. 32	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-357e
Sec. 33	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 34	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-231
Sec. 35	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 36	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-222m
Sec. 37	<i>from passage</i>	Repealer section