



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

**Governor's Bill No. 5033**

LCO No. 352



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:

Request of the Governor Pursuant  
to Joint Rule 9

***AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EDUCATION.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsections (j) to (m), inclusive, of section 10-264l of the  
2 2026 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following  
3 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

4 (j) (1) After accommodating students from participating districts in  
5 accordance with an approved enrollment agreement, an interdistrict  
6 magnet school operator that has unused student capacity may enroll  
7 directly into its program any interested student. A student from a  
8 district that is not participating in an interdistrict magnet school or the  
9 interdistrict student attendance program pursuant to section 10-266aa  
10 to an extent determined by the Commissioner of Education shall be  
11 given preference. The local or regional board of education otherwise  
12 responsible for educating such student shall contribute funds to support  
13 the operation of the interdistrict magnet school in an amount equal to  
14 the per student tuition, if any, charged to participating districts, except

15 (A) for the fiscal [year] years ending June 30, 2025, [and each fiscal year  
16 thereafter] to June 30, 2027, inclusive, such per student tuition charged  
17 to such participating districts shall not exceed the amount of tuition  
18 authorized pursuant to subsection (k) of this section, and (B) for the  
19 fiscal year ending June 30, 2028, and each fiscal year thereafter, such per  
20 student tuition charged to such participating districts shall not exceed  
21 the amount calculated pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection.

22 (2) (A) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028, the maximum amount  
23 of the per student tuition that may be charged to participating districts  
24 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, may be adjusted in accordance  
25 with any change in the consumer price index for all urban consumers  
26 for the preceding two calendar years, less food and energy, as published  
27 by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.  
28 Such adjusted tuition amount shall be published by the Department of  
29 Education not later than April 1, 2027.

30 (B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2029, the per student tuition  
31 charged to participating districts shall be the amount calculated  
32 pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

33 (C) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2030, and each fiscal year  
34 thereafter, the maximum amount of the per student tuition that may be  
35 charged to participating districts during the prior two fiscal years may  
36 be adjusted in accordance with any change in the consumer price index  
37 for all urban consumers for the preceding two calendar years, less food  
38 and energy, as published by the United States Department of Labor,  
39 Bureau of Labor Statistics. Such adjusted amount shall be charged to  
40 participating districts for two fiscal years. Such adjusted tuition amount  
41 shall be published by the Department of Education not later than April  
42 first of the fiscal year prior to when such adjusted tuition amount will  
43 be charged.

44 (k) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, and each fiscal year  
45 thereafter, any tuition charged to a local or regional board of education

46 by (A) a regional educational service center operating an interdistrict  
47 magnet school, (B) the Hartford school district operating the Great Path  
48 Academy on behalf of Manchester Community College, or (C) any  
49 interdistrict magnet school operator described in section 10-264s, for any  
50 student enrolled in kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, in such  
51 interdistrict magnet school shall be in an amount equal to the difference  
52 between (i) the average per pupil expenditure of the magnet school for  
53 the prior fiscal year, and (ii) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy  
54 calculated under subsection (c) of this section plus any revenue from  
55 other sources calculated on a per pupil basis, except for the fiscal [year]  
56 years ending June 30, 2025, [and each fiscal year thereafter] to June 30,  
57 2027, inclusive, the per student tuition charged to a local or regional  
58 board of education shall not (I) exceed fifty-eight per cent the per  
59 student tuition charged during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, or  
60 (II) for an interdistrict magnet school program that is authorized to  
61 charge tuition to a local or regional board of education under this  
62 subsection and commences operations on or after July 1, 2024, exceed  
63 the per student average tuition charged by interdistrict magnet school  
64 programs serving similar grade ranges in the same region as determined  
65 by the commissioner, and for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028, and  
66 each fiscal year thereafter, the per student tuition charged to a local or  
67 regional board of education shall not exceed the amount calculated  
68 pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection. If any such board of  
69 education fails to pay such tuition, the commissioner may withhold  
70 from such board's town or towns a sum payable under section 10-262i  
71 in an amount not to exceed the amount of the unpaid tuition to the  
72 magnet school and pay such money to the fiscal agent for the magnet  
73 school as a supplementary grant for the operation of the interdistrict  
74 magnet school program. In no case shall the sum of such tuitions exceed  
75 the difference between the total expenditures of the magnet school for  
76 the prior fiscal year and the total per pupil state subsidy calculated  
77 under subsection (c) of this section plus any revenue from other sources.  
78 The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive financial review of the  
79 operating budget of a magnet school to verify such tuition rate.

80 (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year  
81 thereafter, a regional educational service center operating an  
82 interdistrict magnet school offering a preschool program that is not  
83 located in the Sheff region shall charge tuition to the parent or guardian  
84 of a child enrolled in such preschool program in an amount up to four  
85 thousand fifty-three dollars, except such regional educational service  
86 center shall (A) not charge tuition to such parent or guardian with a  
87 family income at or below seventy-five per cent of the state median  
88 income, [and] (B) for the fiscal [year] years ending June 30, 2025, [and  
89 each fiscal year thereafter] to June 30, 2027, inclusive, charge tuition to  
90 such parent or guardian in an amount not to exceed fifty-eight per cent  
91 of the tuition charged during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, except  
92 for an interdistrict magnet school preschool program that is authorized  
93 to charge tuition to a parent or guardian under this subsection and  
94 commences operations on or after July 1, 2024, charge tuition to such  
95 parent or guardian in an amount not to exceed the per child average  
96 tuition charged by interdistrict magnet school preschool programs in  
97 the same region as determined by the commissioner, and (C) for the  
98 fiscal year ending June 30, 2028, and each fiscal year thereafter, charge  
99 tuition to such parent or guardian in an amount not to exceed the  
100 amount calculated pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection. The  
101 Department of Education shall, within available appropriations, be  
102 financially responsible for any unpaid tuition charged to such parent or  
103 guardian with a family income at or below seventy-five per cent of the  
104 state median income. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive  
105 financial review of the operating budget of any such magnet school  
106 charging such tuition to verify such tuition rate.

107 (3) (A) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028, the maximum amount  
108 of the tuition that may be charged pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (2)  
109 of this subsection during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, may be  
110 adjusted in accordance with any change in the consumer price index for  
111 all urban consumers for the preceding two calendar years, less food and  
112 energy, as published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau

113 of Labor Statistics. Such adjusted tuition amount shall be published by  
114 the Department of Education not later than April 1, 2027.

115 (B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2029, the amount of the tuition  
116 charged pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection shall be  
117 the amount calculated pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

118 (C) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2030, and each fiscal year  
119 thereafter, the maximum amount of the tuition that may be charged  
120 pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection during the prior  
121 two fiscal years may be adjusted in accordance with any change in the  
122 consumer price index for all urban consumers for the preceding two  
123 calendar years, less food and energy, as published by the United States  
124 Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Such adjusted amount  
125 shall be charged pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection  
126 for two fiscal years. Such adjusted tuition amount shall be published by  
127 the Department of Education not later than April first of the fiscal year  
128 prior to when such adjusted tuition amount will be charged.

129 (l) A participating district shall provide opportunities for its students  
130 to attend an interdistrict magnet school in a number that is at least equal  
131 to the number specified in any written agreement with an interdistrict  
132 magnet school operator or in a number that is at least equal to the  
133 average number of students that the participating district enrolled in  
134 such magnet school during the previous three school years.

135 (m) (1) On or before May 15, 2010, and annually thereafter, each  
136 interdistrict magnet school operator shall provide written notification to  
137 any school district that is otherwise responsible for educating a student  
138 who resides in such school district and will be enrolled in an interdistrict  
139 magnet school under the operator's control for the following school  
140 year. Such notification shall include (A) the number of any such  
141 students, by grade, who will be enrolled in an interdistrict magnet  
142 school under the control of such operator, (B) the name of the school in  
143 which such student has been placed, and (C) the amount of tuition to be

144 charged to the local or regional board of education for such student.  
145 Such notification shall represent an estimate of the number of students  
146 expected to attend such interdistrict magnet schools in the following  
147 school year, but shall not be deemed to limit the number of students  
148 who may enroll in such interdistrict magnet schools for such year.

149 (2) For the school year commencing July 1, 2015, and each school year  
150 thereafter, any interdistrict magnet school operator that is a local or  
151 regional board of education and did not charge tuition to another local  
152 or regional board of education for the school year commencing July 1,  
153 2014, may not charge tuition to such board unless (A) such operator  
154 receives authorization from the Commissioner of Education to charge  
155 the proposed tuition, and (B) if such authorization is granted, such  
156 operator provides written notification on or before September first of  
157 the school year prior to the school year in which such tuition is to be  
158 charged to such board of the tuition to be charged to such board for each  
159 student that such board is otherwise responsible for educating and is  
160 enrolled at the interdistrict magnet school under such operator's control,  
161 except (i) for the fiscal [year] years ending June 30, 2025, [and each fiscal  
162 year thereafter] to June 30, 2027, inclusive, the amount of such tuition  
163 charged to such other local or regional board of education shall not [(i)]  
164 exceed fifty-eight per cent the per student tuition charged during the  
165 fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, or [(ii)] for an interdistrict magnet  
166 school program that is authorized to charge tuition to a local or regional  
167 board of education under this subsection and commences operations on  
168 or after July 1, 2024, exceed the per student average tuition charged by  
169 interdistrict magnet school programs serving similar grade ranges in the  
170 same region as determined by the commissioner, and (ii) for the fiscal  
171 year ending June 30, 2028, and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount of  
172 such tuition charged to such other local or regional board of education  
173 shall not exceed the amount calculated pursuant to subdivision (3) of  
174 this subsection. In deciding whether to authorize an interdistrict magnet  
175 school operator to charge tuition under this subdivision, the  
176 commissioner shall consider (I) the average per pupil expenditure of

177 such operator for each interdistrict magnet school under the control of  
178 such operator, and (II) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy and  
179 any revenue from other sources received by such operator. The  
180 commissioner may conduct a comprehensive financial review of the  
181 operating budget of the magnet school of such operator to verify that  
182 the tuition is appropriate. The provisions of this subdivision shall not  
183 apply to any interdistrict magnet school operator that is a regional  
184 educational service center or assisting the state in meeting its obligations  
185 pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any  
186 related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the  
187 Commissioner of Education.

188     (3) (A) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028, the maximum amount  
189 of the tuition that may be charged to another local or regional board of  
190 education during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, may be adjusted  
191 in accordance with any change in the consumer price index for all urban  
192 consumers for the preceding two calendar years, less food and energy,  
193 as published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor  
194 Statistics. Such adjusted tuition amount shall be published by the  
195 Department of Education not later than April 1, 2027.

196     (B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2029, the amount of the tuition  
197 charged to another local or regional board of education shall be the  
198 amount calculated pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

199     (C) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2030, and each fiscal year  
200 thereafter, the maximum amount of the tuition that may be charged to  
201 another local or regional board of education during the prior two fiscal  
202 years may be adjusted in accordance with any change in the consumer  
203 price index for all urban consumers for the preceding two calendar  
204 years, less food and energy, as published by the United States  
205 Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Such adjusted amount  
206 shall be charged to such other local or regional board of education  
207 districts for two fiscal years. Such adjusted tuition amount shall be  
208 published by the Department of Education not later than April first of

209 the fiscal year prior to when such adjusted tuition amount will be  
210 charged.

211       [(3)] (4) Not later than two weeks following an enrollment lottery for  
212 an interdistrict magnet school conducted by a magnet school operator,  
213 the parent or guardian of a student (A) who will enroll in such  
214 interdistrict magnet school in the following school year, or (B) whose  
215 name has been placed on a waiting list for enrollment in such  
216 interdistrict magnet school for the following school year, shall provide  
217 written notification of such prospective enrollment or waiting list  
218 placement to the school district in which such student resides and is  
219 otherwise responsible for educating such student.

220       Sec. 2. Section 10-264o of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes  
221 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
222 *1, 2026*):

223       (a) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, interdistrict  
224 magnet schools that begin operations on or after July 1, 2008, pursuant  
225 to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related  
226 stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of  
227 Education, may operate without district participation agreements and  
228 enroll students from any district through a lottery designated by the  
229 commissioner.

230       (b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year  
231 thereafter, any tuition charged to a local or regional board of education  
232 by a regional educational service center or by Goodwin University  
233 Magnet Schools operating an interdistrict magnet school assisting the  
234 state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v.*  
235 *O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect,  
236 as determined by the Commissioner of Education, for any student  
237 enrolled in kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, in such interdistrict  
238 magnet school shall be in an amount equal to the difference between (1)  
239 the average per pupil expenditure of the magnet school for the prior



240 fiscal year, and (2) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy calculated  
241 under subsection (c) of section 10-264l, plus any revenue from other  
242 sources calculated on a per pupil basis, except (A) for the fiscal [year]  
243 years ending June 30, 2025, [and each fiscal year thereafter] to June 30,  
244 2027, inclusive, the per student tuition charged to a local or regional  
245 board of education shall not [(A)] (i) exceed fifty-eight per cent of the  
246 per student tuition charged during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024,  
247 or [(B)] (ii) for an interdistrict magnet school program that is authorized  
248 to charge tuition to a local or regional board of education under this  
249 subsection and commences operations on or after July 1, 2024, exceed  
250 the per student average tuition charged by interdistrict magnet school  
251 programs serving similar grade ranges in the same region as determined  
252 by the commissioner, and (B) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028,  
253 and each fiscal year thereafter, the per student tuition charged to a local  
254 or regional board of education shall not exceed the amount calculated  
255 pursuant to subsection (e) of this section. If any such board of education  
256 fails to pay such tuition, the commissioner may withhold from such  
257 board's town or towns a sum payable under section 10-262i in an  
258 amount not to exceed the amount of the unpaid tuition to the magnet  
259 school and pay such money to the fiscal agent for the magnet school as  
260 a supplementary grant for the operation of the interdistrict magnet  
261 school program. In no case shall the sum of such tuitions exceed the  
262 difference between (i) the total expenditures of the magnet school for  
263 the prior fiscal year, and (ii) the total per pupil state subsidy calculated  
264 under subsection (c) of section 10-264l, plus any revenue from other  
265 sources. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive review of the  
266 operating budget of a magnet school to verify such tuition rate.

267 (c) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year  
268 thereafter, a regional educational service center or Goodwin University  
269 Magnet Schools operating an interdistrict magnet school assisting the  
270 state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v.*  
271 *O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect,  
272 as determined by the Commissioner of Education, and offering a

273 preschool program shall (1) for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2025, to  
274 June 30, 2027, inclusive, charge tuition to the parent or guardian of a  
275 child enrolled in such preschool program in an amount not to exceed  
276 fifty-eight per cent the per child tuition charged during the fiscal year  
277 ending June 30, 2024, and (2) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028, and  
278 each fiscal year thereafter, charge tuition to the parent or guardian of a  
279 child enrolled in such preschool program in an amount calculated  
280 pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, except such regional  
281 educational service center or Goodwin University Magnet Schools shall  
282 ~~[(1)]~~ (A) not charge tuition to such parent or guardian with a family  
283 income at or below seventy-five per cent of the state median income,  
284 and ~~[(2)]~~ (B) for an interdistrict magnet school preschool program that  
285 is authorized to charge tuition to a parent or guardian under this  
286 subsection and commences operations on or after July 1, 2024, charge  
287 tuition to such parent or guardian in an amount not to exceed the per  
288 child average tuition charged by interdistrict magnet school preschool  
289 programs in the same region as determined by the commissioner. The  
290 Department of Education shall, within available appropriations, be  
291 financially responsible for any unpaid tuition charged to such parent or  
292 guardian with a family income at or below seventy-five per cent of the  
293 state median income. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive  
294 financial review of the operating budget of any such magnet school  
295 charging such tuition to verify such tuition rate.

296 (d) [For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year  
297 thereafter, any] Any interdistrict magnet school operator described in  
298 section 10-264s that offers a preschool program shall (1) for the fiscal  
299 years ending June 30, 2025, to June 30, 2027, inclusive, charge tuition to  
300 the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in such preschool program in  
301 an amount not to exceed fifty-eight per cent the per child tuition charged  
302 during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and (2) for the fiscal year  
303 ending June 30, 2028, and each fiscal year thereafter, charge tuition to  
304 the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in such preschool program in  
305 an amount calculated pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, except

306 [(1)] (A) such interdistrict magnet school operator shall not charge  
307 tuition to such parent or guardian with a family income at or below  
308 seventy-five per cent of the state median income, and [(2)] (B) for an  
309 interdistrict magnet school preschool program that is authorized to  
310 charge tuition to a parent or guardian under this subsection and  
311 commences operations on or after July 1, 2024, shall not charge tuition  
312 to such parent or guardian in an amount not to exceed the per child  
313 average tuition charged by interdistrict magnet school preschool  
314 programs in the same region as determined by the commissioner. The  
315 Department of Education shall, within available appropriations, be  
316 financially responsible for any unpaid tuition charged to such parent or  
317 guardian with a family income at or below seventy-five per cent of the  
318 state median income. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive  
319 financial review of the operating budget of any such interdistrict magnet  
320 school operator charging such tuition to verify such tuition rate.

321 (e) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028, the maximum amount  
322 of the tuition that may be charged under this section during the fiscal  
323 year ending June 30, 2027, may be adjusted in accordance with any  
324 change in the consumer price index for all urban consumers for the  
325 preceding two calendar years, less food and energy, as published by the  
326 United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Such  
327 adjusted tuition amount shall be published by the Department of  
328 Education not later than April 1, 2027.

329 (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2029, the amount of the tuition  
330 charged under this section shall be the amount calculated pursuant to  
331 subdivision (1) of this subsection.

332 (3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2030, and each fiscal year  
333 thereafter, the maximum amount of the tuition that may be charged  
334 under this section during the prior two fiscal years may be adjusted in  
335 accordance with any change in the consumer price index for all urban  
336 consumers for the preceding two calendar years, less food and energy,  
337 as published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor

338 Statistics. Such adjusted amount shall be the tuition amount charged  
339 under this section for two fiscal years. Such adjusted tuition amount  
340 shall be published by the Department of Education not later than April  
341 first of the fiscal year prior to when such adjusted tuition amount will  
342 be charged.

343       Sec. 3. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 10-65 of the general statutes  
344 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
345 *1, 2026*):

346       (a) Each local or regional school district operating an agricultural  
347 science and technology education center approved by the State Board of  
348 Education for program, educational need, location and area to be served  
349 shall be eligible for the following grants: (1) In accordance with the  
350 provisions of chapter 173, through progress payments in accordance  
351 with the provisions of section 10-287i, (A) for projects for which an  
352 application was filed prior to July 1, 2011, ninety-five per cent, and (B)  
353 for projects for which an application was filed on or after July 1, 2011,  
354 eighty per cent of the net eligible costs of constructing, acquiring,  
355 renovating and equipping approved facilities to be used exclusively for  
356 such agricultural science and technology education center, for the  
357 expansion or improvement of existing facilities or for the replacement  
358 or improvement of equipment therein, and (2) subject to the provisions  
359 of section 10-65b, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal  
360 year thereafter, a grant equal to the amount such board is entitled to  
361 receive under the provisions of section 10-252a.

362       (b) (1) Each local or regional board of education not maintaining an  
363 agricultural science and technology education center shall provide  
364 opportunities for its students to enroll in one or more such centers. If a  
365 local or regional board of education provided opportunities for students  
366 to enroll in more than one center for the school year commencing July 1,  
367 2007, such board of education shall continue to provide such  
368 opportunities to students in accordance with this subsection.

369 (2) The board of education operating an agricultural science and  
370 technology education center may charge, subject to the provisions of  
371 section 10-65b, tuition for a school year in an amount not to exceed fifty-  
372 nine and two-tenths per cent of the foundation level pursuant to  
373 subdivision (9) of section 10-262f, per student for the fiscal year in which  
374 the tuition is paid, except that (A) such board may charge tuition for (i)  
375 students enrolled under shared-time arrangements on a pro rata basis,  
376 and (ii) special education students which shall not exceed the actual  
377 costs of educating such students minus the amounts received pursuant  
378 to subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section and subsection (c) of  
379 this section, [and] (B) for the fiscal [year] years ending June 30, 2025,  
380 [and each fiscal year thereafter] to June 30 2027, inclusive, such board  
381 may charge such tuition in an amount not to exceed fifty-eight per cent  
382 of the amount such board charged during the fiscal year ending June 30,  
383 2024, and (C) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028, and each fiscal year  
384 thereafter, such board may charge tuition in an amount calculated  
385 pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection. Any tuition paid by such  
386 board for special education students in excess of the tuition paid for  
387 non-special-education students shall be reimbursed pursuant to section  
388 10-76g.

389 (3) (A) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028, the board of education  
390 operating an agricultural science and technology center may adjust the  
391 maximum amount of the tuition that may be charged during the fiscal  
392 year ending June 30, 2027, in accordance with any change in the  
393 consumer price index for all urban consumers for the preceding two  
394 calendar years, less food and energy, as published by the United States  
395 Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, subject to the  
396 provisions of section 10-65b. Such adjusted tuition amount shall be  
397 published by the Department of Education not later than April 1, 2027.

398 (B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2029, the board of education  
399 operating an agricultural science and technology center shall charge  
400 tuition in an amount equal to the amount calculated pursuant to  
401 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

402     (C) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2030, and each fiscal year  
403     thereafter, the board of education operating an agricultural science and  
404     technology center may adjust the maximum amount of tuition that may  
405     be charged during the prior two fiscal years in accordance with any  
406     change in the consumer price index for all urban consumers for the  
407     preceding two calendar years, less food and energy, as published by the  
408     United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, subject  
409     to the provisions of section 10-65b. Such board shall charge such  
410     adjusted amount for two fiscal years. Such adjusted tuition amount shall  
411     be published by the Department of Education not later than April first  
412     of the fiscal year prior to when such adjusted tuition amount will be  
413     charged.

414     Sec. 4. Subsection (d) of section 10-71 of the 2026 supplement to the  
415     general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
416     thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

417     (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal years  
418     ending June 30, 2004, to June 30, 2022, inclusive, and for the fiscal [year]  
419     years ending June 30, 2026, and June 30, 2027, the amount of the grants  
420     payable to towns, regional boards of education or regional educational  
421     service centers in accordance with this section shall be reduced  
422     proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds the  
423     amount appropriated for the purposes of this section for such year.

424     Sec. 5. Subsection (i) of section 10-217a of the 2026 supplement to the  
425     general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
426     thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

427     (i) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal years  
428     ending June 30, 2008, to June 30, [2026] 2027, inclusive, the amount of  
429     the grants payable to local or regional boards of education in accordance  
430     with this section shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such  
431     grants in such year exceeds the amount appropriated for purposes of  
432     this section.

433 Sec. 6. Subsection (i) of section 10-145o of the 2026 supplement to the  
434 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
435 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

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

446 Sec. 7. Subsection (a) of section 10-76mmm of the 2026 supplement to  
447 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
448 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

449 (a) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, and each fiscal year  
450 thereafter, the Department of Education shall, within available  
451 appropriations, administer the special education training, education  
452 and testing competitive grant program. Under the grant program, the  
453 department shall award grants to individual educators and  
454 paraeducators for the purpose of covering the costs associated with any  
455 professional training, education and testing requirements relating to  
456 such individual's ability to provide special education and related  
457 services. The department shall develop criteria for reviewing and  
458 awarding grants under the program, and such criteria shall take into  
459 consideration the financial need of the applicant and give priority to  
460 those applicants with the greatest financial need. As used in this section,  
461 "educators and paraeducators" includes individuals who are enrolled in  
462 a teacher preparation program, as defined in section 10-10a, candidates  
463 for professional certification as an educator under chapter 166, teachers  
464 employed by a local or regional board of education, prospective

465 paraeducators and paraeducators employed by a local or regional board  
466 of education.

467 Sec. 8. Subsection (a) of section 10-76nnn of the 2026 supplement to  
468 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
469 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

470 (a) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and each fiscal year  
471 thereafter, the Department Education shall, within available  
472 appropriations, establish a grant program to support local and regional  
473 boards of education in providing support services for students who  
474 require special education and have experienced trauma or have  
475 behavioral health needs. Such grant shall be available to each local or  
476 regional board of education that provides support services, including,  
477 but not limited to, trauma-informed care coordination and family  
478 outreach, for such students and such students' families in partnership  
479 with community service providers, including, but not limited to, family  
480 service centers. Grants shall be funded in an amount prescribed by the  
481 Commissioner of Education.

482 Sec. 9. Section 10-4x of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is  
483 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
484 *2026*):

485 For the school year commencing July 1, 2026, and each school year  
486 thereafter, the Department of Education shall, within available  
487 appropriations, at least quarterly, host trainings for persons hired or  
488 designated to serve as an instructional support partner, as described in  
489 section 10-220t. Such training shall include, but need not be limited to,  
490 effective literacy and math instruction, personalized learning and  
491 individualized instruction for students with disabilities, improving  
492 classroom management, effective instructional methods and behavioral  
493 supports, and transition plans for students with disabilities.

494 Sec. 10. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) For the fiscal year ending June  
495 30, 2027, and each fiscal year thereafter, the Department of Education



496 shall, within available appropriations, administer a teacher  
497 apprenticeship program.

498 Sec. 11. Section 36a-25 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
499 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

500 (a) There is established an Office of the Student Loan Ombudsman,  
501 which shall be within the [Department of Banking] Office of Higher  
502 Education for administrative purposes only, to provide timely  
503 assistance to any student loan borrower, as defined in section 36a-846,  
504 of any student education loan, as defined in section 36a-846. The  
505 [Banking Commissioner] Governor shall appoint a Student Loan  
506 Ombudsman who shall be selected from among individuals with  
507 expertise and experience in a field concerning student loans to head the  
508 office.

509 (b) The Office of the Student Loan Ombudsman shall:

510 (1) Receive, review and attempt to resolve any complaints from  
511 student loan borrowers, including, but not limited to, attempts to  
512 resolve such complaints in collaboration with institutions of higher  
513 education, student loan servicers, as defined in section 36a-846, and any  
514 other participants in student loan lending, including, but not limited to,  
515 The University of Connecticut, the Board of Regents for Higher  
516 Education [, the Office of Higher Education] or the Connecticut Higher  
517 Education Supplemental Loan Authority;

518 (2) Compile and analyze data on student loan borrower complaints  
519 as described in subdivision (1) of this subsection;

520 (3) Assist student loan borrowers to understand their rights and  
521 responsibilities under the terms of student education loans;

522 (4) Provide information to the public, agencies, legislators and others  
523 regarding the problems and concerns of student loan borrowers and  
524 make recommendations for resolving those problems and concerns;

525 (5) Analyze and monitor the development and implementation of  
526 federal, state and local laws, regulations and policies relating to student  
527 loan borrowers and recommend any changes the Student Loan  
528 Ombudsman deems necessary;

529 (6) Review the complete student education loan history for any  
530 student loan borrower who has provided written consent for such  
531 review;

532 (7) Disseminate information concerning the availability of the Office  
533 of the Student Loan Ombudsman to assist student loan borrowers and  
534 potential student loan borrowers, as well as public institutions of higher  
535 education, student loan servicers and any other participant in student  
536 education loan lending, with any student loan servicing concerns; and

537 (8) Take any other actions necessary to fulfill the duties of the Office  
538 of the Student Loan Ombudsman and the Student Loan Ombudsman as  
539 set forth in this subsection.

540 (c) (1) [On or before October 1, 2016, the] The Student Loan  
541 Ombudsman [, in consultation with the commissioner,] shall, within  
542 available appropriations, establish and maintain a student loan  
543 borrower education course that shall include educational presentations  
544 and materials regarding student education loans. Such program shall  
545 include, but not be limited to, key loan terms, documentation  
546 requirements, monthly payment obligations, income-based repayment  
547 options, loan forgiveness and disclosure requirements.

548 (2) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, the] The Office of the Student Loan  
549 Ombudsman shall maintain the student loan borrower education course  
550 established pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection.

551 [(d) (1) On or before January 1, 2016, and annually thereafter until  
552 January 1, 2023, the Banking Commissioner shall submit a report, in  
553 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing  
554 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters

555 relating to banking and higher education. The commissioner shall  
556 report on: (A) The implementation of this section; (B) the overall  
557 effectiveness of the Student Loan Ombudsman position; and (C)  
558 additional steps that need to be taken for the Department of Banking to  
559 gain regulatory control over the licensing and enforcement of student  
560 loan servicers.]

561 [(2)] (d) Beginning on January 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, the  
562 Student Loan Ombudsman shall submit [the] a report [required under  
563 subdivision (1) of this subsection,] in accordance with the provisions of  
564 section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly  
565 having cognizance of matters relating to banking and higher education.  
566 The ombudsman shall report on: [(A)] (1) The implementation of this  
567 section; [(B)] (2) the overall effectiveness of the Office of the Student  
568 Loan Ombudsman; and [(C)] (3) additional steps that need to be taken  
569 for the Department of Banking to gain regulatory control over the  
570 licensing and enforcement of student loan servicers.

571 (e) (1) There is established an account to be known as the "student  
572 loan ombudsman account" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing  
573 account. [within the Banking Fund.] The account shall contain the  
574 moneys described in subdivision (2) of this subsection and any other  
575 moneys required by law to be deposited in the account. Moneys in the  
576 account shall be expended by the [Banking Commissioner] Student  
577 Loan Ombudsman for the purpose of administering the provisions of  
578 this section.

579 (2) The account established under subdivision (1) of this subsection  
580 shall contain any licensing or investigation fees collected pursuant to  
581 subsection (b) of section 36a-847.

582 Sec. 12. Section 224 of public act 25-174 is repealed. (*Effective from*  
583 *passage*)

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

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-264l(j) to (m)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-264o
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-65(a) and (b)
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-71(d)
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-217a(i)
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-145o(i)
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-76mmm(a)
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-76nnn(a)
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-4x
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	36a-25
Sec. 12	<i>from passage</i>	Repealer section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*