

# Governor Ned Lamont State of Connecticut



FACT SHEET 2024 Legislative Session

# HOUSE BILL 5050 AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING EDUCATION

### **Summary of Proposal:**

Section 1: Increases existing per-pupil rates for the Open Choice Program by 3%, as funded in the Governor's recommended budget adjustments.

Section 2: Lifts the 58% tuition cap scheduled for FY 25 in the Vo-Ag program, as reflected in the Governor's recommended budget adjustments.

Sections 3 and 4: Increase existing per-pupil rates for Magnet School students by 3%, as funded in the Governor's recommended budget adjustments and lifts the 58% tuition cap scheduled for FY 25 for Magnet School operators, as reflected in the Governor's recommended budget adjustments.

Section 5 and 6: Repeals the Department of Education's (SDE) current ability to spend a portion appropriated to the Adult Education and After School Grant accounts on administration. The portions of these grants currently used for these purposes are reallocated to the Personal Services and Other Expenses accounts in the Governors recommended budget adjustments.

Section 7: Provides a statutory framework for SDE to continue providing universal free school breakfast and continuing the elimination of the reduced-price lunch category, as funded in the Governor's recommended budget adjustments.

Section 8: Repeals PA 23-204 Section 346, to reallocate the FY 25 Education Finance Reform appropriation in accordance with the Governor's recommended budget adjustments.

## **Reason for Proposal:**

To Implement the Governor's budget recommendations pertaining to education.

#### **Contacts:**

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#### **Significant Impacts:**

Section 1: Results in costs to the General Fund of approximately \$1.2 million from the 3% increase to per-pupil rates in the Open Choice Program.

Section 2: Preserves approximately \$5.7 million in revenue for districts that operate Vo-Ag programs by repealing the scheduled FY 25 tuition cap.

Sections 3 and 4: Results in costs to the General Fund of approximately \$5.1 million from the 3% increase to per-pupil rates for Magnet School students. In addition, preserves approximately \$42.1 million in revenue for districts and RESCS that operate Magnet Schools by repealing the scheduled FY 25 tuition cap.

Section 5 and 6: Requires funding of \$650,000 in total to be transferred from the Magnet and After School Grant accounts to Other Expenses and Personal Service accounts.

Section 7: Results in additional annual costs of \$11.2 million to continue the provision of universal free school breakfast and the elimination of the reduced-price lunch category.

Section 8: The repeal of PA 23-204 Section 346 is necessary to implement the Governor's recommended policies regarding Education Cost Sharing Grant (ECS), Open Choice, magnets, vo-ags, charters, school meals and the LEAP Home Visiting Program.