



## Agency Legislative Proposal - 2021 Session

**Document Name** (e.g. OPM1015Budget.doc; OTG1015Policy.doc): **Leave this blank**

(If submitting an electronically, please label with date, agency, and title of proposal – 092611\_SDE\_TechRevisions)

State Agency: Connecticut State Department of Education

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Lead agency division requesting this proposal: **Academics, Fiscal**

Agency Analyst/Drafter of Proposal: **Laura J. Stefon**

**Title of Proposal** **An Act Concerning Various Minor and Technical Revisions to the Education Statutes**

**Statutory Reference**

**Section 1: 10-5c**  
**Section 2: 10-148b(b)**  
**Section 3: 10-3b**  
**Section 4: 10-10d**

**Proposal Summary**

**Section 1: Removes obsolete statutory language regarding the Academic Advancement Program. In 2013 legislation allowing local boards of education to determine eligible credits based on the demonstration of mastery, made this statute irrelevant.**

**Section 2: Removes obsolete statutory language regarding continuing education classes. In 2013 legislation was passed that no longer requires districts to report all professional learning offered for the purposes of tracking continuing education to the Department. Currently, we gather this information in form of self-reported district surveys that are not reliable.**

**Section 3: Removes obsolete statutory language regarding a SERC reporting requirement. This legislation was originally passed prior to SERC becoming a quasi-public agency effective June 13, 2014. Since then, the Department has no statutory oversight of SERC, which is subject to review by the Auditors of Public Accounts as well as any state regulation related to a state procurement agency. Additionally, the data being requested is currently available on CT Open Data, the DAS Contracting Portal, and CSDE's website.**

**Section 4: Removes language regarding a duplicative reporting requirement. This section of statute creates a duplicative data collection and reporting requirement. The Department collects various fiscal and student data, which is available to the public on the Department's data portal, EdSight. For the collection of financial data in particular, the Department launched the Education Financial**



**System, which collects annual expenditure data at the school and district level. This information will be available on EdSight for fiscal accountability and reporting purposes. Additionally, some of the data required to be reported on by this section concerning geography and cost of living indicators are not collected by the Department as they are not education-related statistics.**

## PROPOSAL BACKGROUND

- **Reason for Proposal**

Please consider the following, if applicable:

- (1) Have there been changes in federal/state/local laws and regulations that make this legislation necessary?
- (2) Has this proposal or something similar been implemented in other states? If yes, what is the outcome(s)?
- (3) Have certain constituencies called for this action?
- (4) What would happen if this was not enacted in law this session?

*Please see various explanations outlined above*

- **Origin of Proposal**                      **New Proposal**                      **XX Resubmission**

If this is a resubmission, please share: *These should be answered only if it is a resubmission*

- (1) What was the reason this proposal did not pass, or if applicable, was not included in the Administration's package? *It did not pass because the legislative session was stopped short by COVID.*
- (2) Have there been negotiations/discussions during or after the previous legislative session to improve this proposal?
- (3) Who were the major stakeholders/advocates/legislators involved in the previous work on this legislation?
- (4) What was the last action taken during the past legislative session?

## PROPOSAL IMPACT

- **Agencies Affected** (please list for each affected agency) *Please only complete this section if you have already been working with another agency. If not, I will reach out to the appropriate agency's legislative liaison upon approval from the Commissioner.*

Agency Name:

Agency Contact (name, title, phone):

Date Contacted:

Approve of Proposal     YES     NO     Talks Ongoing

### Summary of Affected Agency's Comments

Will there need to be further negotiation?     YES     NO

- **Fiscal Impact** (please include the proposal section that causes the fiscal impact and the anticipated impact)



**Municipal** (please include any municipal mandate that can be found within legislation) **Impact on LEAs or municipalities – cost or savings.**

**State** In addition to costs to the State/Department, please include additional staffing needs to implement, if any.

**Federal** Please note if any federal funds are received, used, etc. as a result of this proposal.

Additional notes on fiscal impact

- **Policy and Programmatic Impacts** (Please specify the proposal section associated with the impact)

By section, what is the impact of this proposal?

**Insert fully drafted bill here**

- New language should be underlined
- Language to be removed should be in **[bold brackets]**

**Section 1.** Section 10-5c of the general states is repealed:

**[Sec. 10-5c. Academic advancement program. (a) The Department of Education shall establish an academic advancement program to allow local and regional boards of education to permit students in grades eleven and twelve to substitute (1) achievement of a passing score on an existing nationally recognized examination, approved by the State Board of Education, or series of examinations approved by the State Board of Education, (2) a cumulative grade point average determined by the State Board of Education, and (3) at least three letters of recommendation from school professionals, as defined in section 10-66dd, for the high school graduation requirements pursuant to section 10-221a. The State Board of Education shall issue an academic advancement program certificate to any student who has successfully completed such program. Such academic advancement program certificate shall be**



considered in the same manner as a high school diploma for purposes of determining eligibility of a student for enrollment at a public institution of higher education in this state. (b) Notwithstanding the high school graduation requirements pursuant to section 10-221a, for the school year commencing July 1, 2014, and each school year thereafter, a local or regional board of education shall permit a student to graduate from high school upon the successful completion of the academic advancement program described in subsection (a) of this section.]

**Section 2.** Section 10-148b of the general states is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (effective upon passage):

Sec. 10-148b. Professional development program re scientifically-based reading research and instruction. Review and assessment of professional development. (a) On or before July 1, 2013, the Commissioner of Education shall create a program of professional development for teachers, as defined in section 10-144d, and principals in scientifically-based reading research and instruction, as defined in section 10-14u. Such program of professional development shall (1) count towards the professional development requirements pursuant to section 10-148a, (2) be based on data collected from student reading assessments, (3) provide differentiated and intensified training in reading instruction for teachers, (4) outline how mentor teachers will train teachers in reading instruction, (5) outline how model classrooms will be established in schools for reading instruction, (6) inform principals on how to evaluate classrooms and teacher performance in scientifically-based reading research and instruction, and (7) be job-embedded and local whenever possible. In the case of any certified individual who is required to complete the reading instruction survey, pursuant to section 10-145r, the program of professional development for such individual shall be designed using the results of such survey, in accordance with said section 10-145r.

**[(b) The Commissioner of Education shall annually review the professional development required under section 10-148a for certified employees who hold a professional educator certificate with an early childhood nursery through grade three or an elementary endorsement and who hold a position requiring such an endorsement. The commissioner shall assess whether such professional development meets the state goals for student academic achievement through implementation of the common core state standards adopted by the State Board of Education, research-based interventions in reading and the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act, 20 USC 1400 et seq., as amended from time to time. The commissioner shall submit such review to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a.]**

**Section 3.** Section 10-3b of the general states is repealed:

**[Sec. 10-3b. Annual report to the General Assembly re State Education Resource Center. Not later than January 15, 2014, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Education shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and government administration containing (1) all contracts, including personal service agreements, awarded by the Department of Education and the State Education Resource Center to private vendors and regional education service centers during the previous year for purposes of fulfilling the duties of the Department of Education; (2) all amounts and sources of private funding, including grants, received by the Department of**



**Education and the State Education Resource Center; and (3) the amounts paid by the Department of Education or the State Education Resource Center for the salary, fringe benefits and other compensation for any department or center employee or consultant. Such report shall also be posted on the Internet web sites of the Department of Education and the State Education Resource Center.]**

**Section 4.** Section 10-10d of the general states is repealed:

**[Sec. 10-10d. Not later than June 30, 2014, the Department of Education shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, as necessary to implement a fiscal accountability data collection report that will include all sources, amounts and uses of all public and private funds by school districts and by public schools, including public charter schools. The department shall report, not later than December 31, 2014, and annually thereafter, all such data as well as school size, student demographics, geography, cost-of-living indicators, and other factors determined by the department to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and education in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.]**