



2023 EDUCATION COMMITTEE BILL TRACKING

PA 23-1 AAC FUNDING FOR SCHOOL LUNCHES AND A CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE AVIATION, SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDING, CERTAIN BOTTLE DEPOSITS, CERTAIN STATE POSITIONS AND THE POSTING OF STATE JOB OPENINGS AND BOND COVENANT RESTRICTIONS AND THE BUDGET RESERVE FUND.

Section 1 reallocates \$60 million in FY 23 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding from the Office of Policy and Management to the State Department of Education for Free Meals for Students. This allocation supports universal free breakfasts and lunches for all students who: 1) do not otherwise receive free meals; and 2) do not attend schools that provide free meals to all students via the federal Community Eligibility Provision program. The bill is anticipated to provide funding for universal school meals through FY 23.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

Sections 8-10 — DISTRIBUTION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION EXCESS COST GRANT AND STATE-AGENCY PLACEMENT EXCESS COST GRANTS

Raises the state grant reimbursement for each of the three tiers for towns in the special education excess cost grant; places two other grants related to state agency-placed students under the same tiered method; and creates a method for distributing the special education excess cost grant when the existing tier method is used but results in unexpended appropriations.

By law, local and regional boards of education may apply to the state for a special education "excess cost grant." This grant reimburses the board for the cost of special education services that exceed four-and-a half times the average cost of educating a student in the district during the prior fiscal year. When the state's fiscal year appropriation for the special education excess cost grant is less than the amount necessary to completely fund the payable grants as required by law, it triggers a reduced excess cost grant reimbursement formula.

Under current law, this formula groups towns in three tiers depending upon their respective adjusted equalized net grand list per capita (AENGLPC). Generally speaking, the formula calculates reduced grants for local boards of education using these three tiers as follows: boards from towns in the group that have (1) the lowest AENGLPC receive a higher percentage of their full excess cost grant, (2) a mid-range AENGLPC receive a slightly lower percentage, and (3) the highest AENGLPC receive the lowest percentage.

The bill increases the reimbursement percentage for each of the tiers, bringing each board's excess cost grant amount closer to the fully funded amount required by law.

The bill also expands the tiered grant formula to apply to two additional grants when state appropriations are insufficient: (1) excess special education costs for state agency-placed students under a temporary custody order (CGS § 10-76d(e)(2)) and (2) excess regular education costs for state-placed children educated at private residential facilities (CGS § 10-253(b)(3)).

Finally, it creates an additional method for distributing the special education excess cost grant when there are excess state-appropriated funds remaining after the tiered formula is used. The bill also applies this new excess fund distribution method to the two categories of grants for state-agency placed students identified above.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

Excess Cost Grants

Current law establishes, beginning with FY 23, the reimbursement formula for boards of education when the state appropriation does not fully fund the excess cost grants as they are determined under statute. It creates three reimbursement tiers based on each town's AENGLPC. (Prior to FY 23, the law proportionately reduced the grant for all towns.)

The law requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to rank the towns in descending order from one to 169 according to each town's AENGLPC. It then groups the ranked towns into three tiers by highest, lower, and lowest AENGLPC. SBE must pay the grants to each eligible town's operating local school district based on the reimbursement percentage assigned to its respective tier.

Tiered Reimbursement Percentages Increased.

The bill increases each tier's reimbursement percentage to provide school boards at each tier with a larger grant. The current law's and the bill's percentages are shown in the table below.

Table: [Excess Cost Grant Reimbursement Rates for Three Tiers of Towns by AENGLPC](#)

Tier Group Based on AENGLPC Ranking	Town's Eligible Excess Cost Reimbursement Percentage
Current Law (%) (Bill %)	1 to 58 highest 70.00 85.00 59 to 114 middle 73.00 88.00 115 to 169 lowest 76.25 91.00

Additionally, if the grants payable to school boards calculated under the tiered formula still exceed the state-appropriated amount available, then the bill requires the payable amount to be reduced proportionally.

By law and unchanged by the bill, the ranking for regional boards of education is determined by a process that considers the total population of each town in the regional district and each member town's AENGLPC ranking.

Additional Grants Brought Under Tiered Reimbursement Formula.

The bill also expands the tiered method to apply to two additional grants: (1) special education costs for state agency-placed students under a temporary custody order and (2) excess regular education costs for state-placed children educated at private residential facilities. Under current law, if the appropriation for these grants is not enough to meet the amount payable to school boards by law, then the grant amounts are reduced proportionately.

New Grant Mechanism.

The bill creates an additional four-step formula when the fiscal year appropriation exceeds the total grant amount payable under the three-tiered system. Once the three-tiered formula is used to distribute grants, any amount remaining would be distributed using the bill's four-step formula. Under the bill, the remaining state-appropriated funds are distributed to school boards through the following steps:

1. Subtract the sum of all the grants paid to school boards in the fiscal year under the three-tiered method from the sum of all the following grants calculated by law for
 - (a) special education excess cost,
 - (b) state agency-placed students under a temporary custody order,
 - (c) excess regular education costs for state-placed children educated at private residential facilities, and
 - (d) students receiving special education services from a private residential institution for whom no responsible school board can be determined by law (i.e., "no-nexus students").
2. Subtract the sum of all grants paid to school boards in the fiscal year under the excess cost grant from the total amount appropriated for the same grant.
3. Divide the amount calculated under step (2) by the amount calculated under step (1).
4. To determine the amount of the excess to distribute to each school board, multiply the amount calculated under step (1) that is attributable to the school board by the percentage calculated under step (3). The bill specifies that any grant paid in accordance with a no-nexus student in a public agency placement does not count toward this calculation (conforming with the excess cost grant that also does not count grants for those placements). Generally, the state pays for all of the special education costs for these students.

HB 5003 AAC EDUCATION FUNDING IN CONNECTICUT. Adds charter and magnets to ECS grant. Realigns the Alliance designation to "Legacy" if so named before 6/30/24. creates "educational reform district" –20 lowest districts utilizing the accountability index scores and designated for 2 years. The 50 districts having the lowest accountability index scores, but NOT and educational reform district may request technical assistance or other special interventions from SDE academic support services. Ties increase to the foundation factor in the ECS grant to percentage increase in the greater of personal income of in inflation. **JFS to App.**

HB 6662 AA IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING EDUCATION. Key sections include:

Section 1 rolls forward the current charter school funding formula into future fiscal years.

Section 2 makes permanent the cap to the Health and Welfare Services for Private Pupils Grant.

Section 3 makes permanent the cap to the Regional Education Services Grant.

Section 4 reimposes and makes permanent the cap to the Adult Education Gant.

Section 5 makes the cap on transportation grants, for which there is no longer any appropriation, permanent.

Sections 6-8 amends the Excess Cost grant to allow the State Department of Education (SDE) to expend the full appropriation beginning in FY 2023, and to ensure that the grant is capped within available appropriations in future fiscal years. The language maintains the basic tiered structure enacted in section 265 of PA 22-118 beginning in FY 2023.

Section 9 clarifies the amount of lapsing funds in the Open Choice account which are deemed non-lapsing and to be used in accordance with subsection(k) of CGS 10-266aa

Section 10 increases the per pupil rate for pre-k children in the School Readiness and Child Day Care Contract programs beginning in FY 2025.

HB 6663 AA ESTABLISHING THE ENGLISH LEARNERS' BILL OF RIGHTS. Specifically, the Bill of Rights will highlight existing federal and state laws regarding the provision of education. **JFS to APP** These include, in part:

- The right to attend public school regardless of immigration status;
- The right for parents and guardians to have a translator present at critical interactions with teachers and school administrators;
- The right of the parent and guardian to receive information about the progress of the student's English language development;
- The right of an English learner student to have equal access to all grade-level school programming;
- The right of an English learner student to have equal access to all core grade-level subject matter;
- The right of an English learner student to receive annual language proficiency testing; and
- The right of an English learner student to receive support services aligned with any intervention plan that the school or school district provides to all students.

JFS ADDS translation services can be through an internet website or other electronic application.

HB 6686 AA IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD. Phases in an increase from 25 per cent to 100 percent of designated staff members at each state-funded child care program shall meet minimum qualifications by July 1, 2033.

"Minimum qualifications" means at least one of the following qualifications: (A) A bachelor's degree or higher with a concentration in early childhood education from a regionally accredited institution of higher education, (B) a bachelor's degree or higher without a concentration in early childhood education, but with not less than twelve credits applicable to early childhood education from a regionally accredited institution of higher education, (C) certification pursuant to section 10-145b with an endorsement in early childhood education or early childhood special education, or (D) being deemed qualified by the office on the basis of having (i) verified employment in a state-funded child care program, and (ii) obtained not less than twelve credits applicable to early childhood education from a regionally accredited institution of higher education.

A local school readiness council may elect to reserve up to five per cent of the spaces in its school readiness programs for children who are five years of age and are eligible to attend school pursuant to section 10 15c. Such children shall only be eligible to participate in the school readiness program if (1) they have been in the program for at least one year, [and] (2) the parent or legal guardian of such a child, the school readiness program provider and the local or regional school district in which the child would otherwise be attending school agree that the child [is not ready for kindergarten] would

benefit from another year in the program and to defer attendance in kindergarten until the following year, and (3) a written authorization, signed by the parent or guardian of such a child, indicating that such child will not attend kindergarten until the following year is filed with the local or regional school district in which such child would otherwise be attending school. **JFS REMOVES** minimum qualifications

HB 6757 AAC TEACHER PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS. To make revisions to how teacher evaluation and support programs are implemented. Removes State Board of Education from approving educator evaluation and support guidelines, removes the developing or below standard instead uses term require additional support, removes summative rating. **JFS** Adds an annual summary of teacher growth provided by the evaluator; adds St. BOE shall adopt a model teacher evaluation and support program that may be used by BOE.

HB 6758 AAC STAFFING FOR CERTAIN ROLES AT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. To require the Department of Education to employ staff to fulfill certain roles in the department. The Commissioner of Education shall employ not fewer than five special education evaluators for the purpose of reviewing the special education services provided by local and regional boards of education and evaluating complaints related to such services. The Commissioner of Education shall employ at least one curriculum coordinator to provide assistance and curriculum materials to local and regional boards of education for the implementation of the courses of study set forth in Financial literacy, CPR, African-American and black studies and Puerto Rican and Latino studies, Native American studies (although wrong statute cited) and Holocaust and genocide education and awareness studies. **JF**

HB 6759 AAC EARLY CHILDHOOD. To (1) require school readiness programs and child care providers to implement the early childhood educator compensation schedule proposed by the Commissioner of Early Childhood, (2) remove contingencies on the eligibility of students and participants in job training and apprenticeship programs for the child care subsidy program, (3) exempt the Stamford Police Activities League from child care licensing requirements, and (4) allow child care centers to administer epinephrine in emergency situations. **JFS**

HB 6760 AAC CIVICS EDUCATION AND MEDIA LITERACY. To establish the Connecticut Civics Education and Media Literacy Task Force and to include civics and media literacy in the public school curriculum.

Task Force to study and develop strategies to improve how public schools provide instruction on civics, citizenship, media literacy and American government to students. Such study shall include, but need not be limited to (1) reviewing existing curricula and the high school graduation requirements, (2) receiving recommendations from educators, administrators and the public, (3) a review of best practices, and (4) exploring the feasibility of establishing public and private partnerships to fund and support enhancements to such instruction. **JF**

HB 6761 AAC A REVIEW OF DRINKING WATER SUPPLY LOCATIONS AND EQUIPMENT IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS. To require each local and regional board of education to conduct a test of drinking water supply locations and equipment for each school building or facility and to permit boards to apply for a school building project grant to remedy or replace drinking water supply locations or equipment. **JF**

HB 6763 AAC AN AUDIT OF THE STATE-WIDE MASTERY EXAMINATION. To conduct an audit

and develop a plan to address issues relating to the administration of the state-wide mastery examination. **JF**

HB 6842 AAC THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A LOCAL FOOD FOR SCHOOLS INCENTIVE PROGRAM AND EXPANSION OF THE CT GROWN FOR CT KIDS GRANT PROGRAM, to establish the Local Food for Schools Incentive Grant Program, SDE may provide grant for purchase of kitchen equipment, engaging with school nutrition or farm to school consultants or training, priority to alliance districts; and to increase funding to the CT Grown for CT Kids Grant Program. **JFS to APP ADDS** increase in funding to hire SDE staff.

HB 6843 AAC THE CAREER TECHNICAL AND EDUCATION SYSTEM, to require the superintendent of the Technical Education and Career System and the Chief Workforce Officer to jointly study whether the programs offered by the system provide the training required to fill the technical careers available in the state. **JF**

HB 6844 AAC PARAEDUCATORS. To (1) exclude mandated trainings from professional development programs for paraeducators, (2) include a paraeducator on professional development and evaluation committees, (3) require the collection of data concerning paraeducators on the state-wide public school information system, (4) require an annual report on paraeducator staffing levels, and (5) require paraeducators to review a student's individualized education program with a supervisor, as needed.

HB 6845 AA ESTABLISHING A STATE-WIDE BOOK GIFTING PROGRAM AND HOME READING GRANT PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN, to establish a (1) state-wide book gifting program for children for the purpose of providing age-appropriate books to children in the state each month from birth until such children's fifth birthday, and (2) home reading grant program for the purpose of awarding state matching funds to any school district that provides age-appropriate books to children in grades kindergarten to five, inclusive. **JFS REMOVES** language above **ADDS** \$500,000 appropriated to SDE for early literacy program that provides age-appropriate books. inclusive.

HB 6846 AAC THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CRISIS RESPONSE DRILLS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS, to reduce the number and revise the manner(notice, opt out, accommodate those with past-trauma, explanations, information on availability of mental health counseling, prohibit simulation, law enforcement may supervise and participate) in which crisis response drills are conducted in public schools in the state from once every 3 months to once a year and fire drills from 2 every 3 months to 2 a year. **JFS ADDS** DESPP shall review submitted BOE reports; analyze results of security and vulnerability assessments and school security and safety plans for each BOIE have been addressed and revised following revisions to number and implementation of drills; and assess effectiveness of how BOE's are conducting crisis response drills.

HB 6879 AAC TEACHER CERTIFICATION, to allow teachers with an elementary education endorsement to teach in grades kindergarten to six, inclusive; to establish the Commission to Modernize the Educator Workforce to review and make recommendations concerning educator preparation programs and certification; to expand the alternate route to certification program administered by the Office of Higher Education; and to allow a person with specialized training, experience or expertise in the arts to be issued an adjunct instructor permit if such person holds a bachelor's degree or higher. **JFS** removes DRG's reference, adds pre k to special education endorsement, add coaching permits valid for 5 years, adds substitutes may teach for 60 days before sub authorization needed.

HB 6880 AAC ASSORTED REVISIONS TO THE EDUCATION STATUTES, to (1) require boards of education to post online curriculum materials and the nutrition value of school meals, (2) allow all minor parents to request enrollment in adult education, (3) allow public schools to serve whole milk, (4) study the implementation of a state-wide virtual school for children with medical conditions or who are unvaccinated, (5) study the fiscal impact of school voucher programs, (6) increase lunch time for students from twenty minutes to thirty minutes, (7) require the posting of a meeting agenda and any associated documents on the board of education's web site, and (8) require the Commissioner of Education to appoint a parent advisory group and a teacher advisory group. **JFS** removes comment period at each BOE meeting to discuss all curriculum, add all curriculum in accordance with Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment, removes voucher study, adds in-service for emergency response to students who experience seizure, delays another year compliance with providing free menstrual products.

HB 6881 AAC VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE EDUCATION STATUTES RELATED TO EDUCATOR COMPENSATION AND PARAEDUCATORS, to (1) exclude mandated trainings from professional development programs for paraeducators, (2) include a paraeducator on professional development and evaluation committees, (3) require the collection of data concerning paraeducators on the state-wide public school information system, (4) require an annual report on paraeducator staffing levels, (5) require paraeducators to review a student's individualized education program with a supervisor, as needed, (6) require the establishment of a grant program to supplement teacher and paraeducator salaries, (7) establish a minimum salary for teachers and paraeducators, (8) require boards of education to (A) offer the Municipal Employee Health Insurance Plan to paraeducators, and (B) pay the employee contribution required under a retirement system for paraeducators, and (9) require the state to pay not less than fifty per cent of the cost to boards of education for providing the Municipal Employee Health Insurance Plan and for paying the employee contribution for retirement benefits. **JFS to App**

HB 6882 AAC MANDATE RELIEF, to (1) require the Department of Education to conduct a review of the education laws every two years to identify obsolete and duplicative mandates on the department and boards of education; (2) establish the Education Mandates Review Task Force to review and make recommendations concerning the repeal of or amendment to education mandates that are overly burdensome; (3) align existing in-service training requirements concerning school violence prevention training with those required under school security and safety plans; and (4) eliminate the completion of a capstone project as part of the high school graduation requirements. **JFS** makes capstone project permissive.

HB 6883 AAC STUDENTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, to (1) establish an Office of Transition Services and an Office of Mediation Services within the Department of Education, (2) increase the age until which a student can receive special education services from twenty-one to twenty-two, (3) allow translators to attend planning and placement team meetings and for the individualized education program and other documents to be translated to the primary language of the student or family, (4) require coordination with agencies that provide programs for adults when a student turns fourteen years old, (5) require the publication of a plain language resource explaining the process for hearing complaints and of the decisions made from complaint hearings, (6) require the Department of Education to conduct random audits of special education programs, and (7) require the development of educator in-service training on the laws governing planning and placement team meetings. **JF**

HB 6884 AAC THE RECRUITMENT, RETENTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE TEACHING

PROFESSION, to enhance the teaching profession, establishing minimum salary least 4x poverty level, allow \$500. credit against income tax, allows COVID service benefit enhancement toward retirement, removes edTPA, develops preservice performance assessment, termination not due and sufficient cause now just cause, removes BOE designating members to conduct termination hearing, removes 3 person arbitration panel, maintain salary schedules and health care, age 5 by September to enroll in kindergarten, provide play based learning, duty free period lesson preparation, SDE develop exit survey, report teacher attrition rates on strategic school profile, adds members to State BOE, establishes teacher advisory committee, establishes financing teacher's retirement task force, adds educators as victim of offense to class B misdemeanor, BOE adopt educator bill of rights.

JFS to App

SB 1 AAC TRANSPARENCY IN EDUCATION, to provide equal and comprehensive access to education and academic opportunities for all children in Connecticut. SDE conduct review of each chart of accounts, following that SDE shall prepare report for each district on –expense function, expense object, education type, pre-k-flag, allocation and funding source. Adds the program of instruction to include comprehensive sex education that is age and developmentally appropriate and includes affirmative consent. SDE to annual offer training program for newly elected BOE, roles and responsibilities, duties and obligations BOE and district budgeting and education finance. Newly elected BOE member shall complete training within one year. removes DRG distinction for student teaching. Drops number of alliance designation. Allows alliance funds to be spent for family resources center programs. Establishes public private partnership pathway in technology early college high school program. Prohibits imitation branding food product being sold in schools Creates a wholesome school meals pilot program. **JFS REMOVES** sections on sex education

SB 1028 AA IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. Allowing the Alliance District program to be automatically renewed every 5 years and caps the number of districts identified at 33. These 33 will receive from SDE the extra intensive supports necessary to improve student outcomes. It also allows any district that has ever been identified as an Alliance District to keep that designation for the purposes of calculating their ECS grant and receiving Alliance District funds. They will also receive support from the department but at a less intensive level.

Second, the proposal makes the look back period for calculating a district's Alliance District grant the same for the 3 newly identified districts as the previously identified districts. All Alliance Districts will now use FY 2012 as the base year.

Also included - Provides legal authority to the Commissioner of Education to recommend changes to the CT Guidelines for Educator Evaluation and Support to the State Board of Education, and for the SBE to have the legal authority to adopt recommended changes. The Performance Evaluation Advisory Council (PEAC) shall recommend proposed changes to the Guidelines for the Commissioner of Education to consider. Currently, the Guidelines must align with 10-151b(c), and changes to some components of the Guidelines are not possible without changing legislation. Revise current legislation to provide the Commissioner of Education legal authority to waive the provisions of 10-151b(2)(d) for any local or regional board of education that has expressed an intent. As districts have implemented their educator evaluation and support plans (EESPs), beginning in 2013, aligned to the requirements in the CT Guidelines for Educator Evaluation and Support, new and innovative strategies to support the continuous improvement of educator practice are emerging. Some of these strategies reflect best practices in the field of education, but do not align with what is currently in Statute.

Another proposal continues the period that the reduced-isolation and residency enrollment requirements for interdistrict magnet schools will apply to such schools from June 30, 2023 to each fiscal year thereafter to remain consistent with the settlement agreement in the Sheff v. O'Neill case and the policy for enrollment requirements outside of the Sheff region.

This proposal seeks to update the language to authorize the Commissioner of Education to update interdistrict enrollment standards as necessary to comply with the applicable stipulated agreements in the Sheff v. O'Neill case and legal considerations in the non-Sheff region.

This proposal extends the period prohibiting local boards of education that operate interdistrict magnet schools in the Sheff region from charging tuition for students enrolled in the school programs, with the exception of Hartford Public Schools which may charge tuition for students attending Great Path Academy. HPS operates Great Path Academy through a contract on behalf of Manchester Community College and does not receive direct financial benefit from student enrollments.

Finally, the last proposal authorizes the Commissioner of Education to make grant payments to voluntary interdistrict school choice school programs with funds appropriated for Sheff settlement for academic and social student support for programs that assist the state in meeting its obligation pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996) or any related stipulation or order in effect. Currently, there is authority to issue academic and social support grants for magnet schools and Open Choice districts but not for other choice options. **JFS REMOVES** sections on Alliance districts; and **REMOVES** section on evaluations.

SB 1029 AAC THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONERS' RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TECHNICAL REVISIONS TO THE EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD STATUTES. To make technical revisions to the education and early childhood statutes. **JF**

SB 1093 AA IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE POLICY AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE CONCERNING EDUCATION. To (1) require school districts deemed to have high suspension and expulsion rates to submit a response and improvement plan to the Department of Education, (2) implement a phased-in classroom size cap, (3) recommend suicide assessments for at-risk students, (4) require reports concerning alternative educational opportunities by the 10 largest school districts, and (5) establish an advisory committee appointed by the Commissioner to develop guidance to reduce the suspension or expulsion of children in grades preschool to two, inclusive, **JFS REMOVES** (2), in (4) removes 10 largest and adds all.

SB 1094 AAC THE IMPLEMENTATION OF READING MODELS OR PROGRAMS. To delay implementation of the requirements regarding reading models or programs for grades k-3. Districts denied a waiver must begin to partially implement beginning July 2023 and July 2024 and fully implement July 2025. If granted a waiver must implement in accordance with waiver by July 2023. **JFS** extends the timeline for waiver compliance to July 1, 2024, add the Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success shall review issues with implementation, including technical assistance to BOE's denied waiver, examination of the impact of the science of reading master class and upon completion of SDE's independent impact evaluation, determination of how to scale for use to develop educators to support individual student learning and the science of reading.

SB 1095 AAC SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS. To require specificity concerning the use and duties of school resource officers in schools, on or after July 1, 2023, shall include provisions specifying (i) a school resource officer's duties concerning, and procedures for, the restraint of students, use of firearms and school-based arrests, and (ii) that individuals who are school

counselors, social workers, psychologists, aides or other staff members and have appropriate training and ongoing supports may be assigned the duties of a school resource officer. Requires MOU maintained in central location in district and posted on website. **JFS REMOVES(ii)**.

SB 1096 AAC THE CHARTER SCHOOL APPROVAL PROCESS. To eliminate the process of the State Board of Education issuing an initial certificate of approval for a new charter school and to establish a charter school approval grant account for the purpose of funding new charter schools. **JFS to App** removes the initial certificate of approval process, state BOE shall not approve more than 2 applications a year, creates a non lapsing charter school approval grant account.

SB 1097 AAC SCHOOL NURSES. Not later than July 1, 2024, the State Board of Education shall adopt regulations, to (1) require that a school nurse who has been qualified pursuant to regulations by the SBE in consultation with DPH and appointed by a local or regional board of education to obtain a bachelor's degree in nursing or a related field not later than five years after such qualification, except that any school nurse who was so qualified and appointed prior to July 1, 2024, shall not be required to obtain such bachelor's degree, (2) require each school nurse to complete at least fifteen hours of professional development programs or activities approved by the local or regional board of education in each two-year period, and (3) create a special services endorsement for school nurses. **JFS REMOVES (1)**.

SB 1164 AAC A REVIEW OF THE REGULATIONS RELATING TO EDUCATION, to require the Department of Education to submit a review of its regulations. **JF**

SB 1165 AAC FINANCIAL LITERACY INSTRUCTION, to require financial literacy instruction in high school. **JF**

SB 1166 AAC IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONNECTICUT SCHOOL CLIMATE POLICY, to implement the Connecticut school climate policy, guidance from state Board of Education to BOE's; BOE may adopt until shall adopt July 1, 2025. Administer survey, create a plan, update annually, provide training regarding social and emotional learning, school climate and restorative practices to employees. BOE provide information on domestic violence resources to student, parent; teacher prep candidates must have completed, beginning educators must have module, and hold in-service training. **JF**

SB 1197 AAC WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, to (1) allow boards of education to provide aerospace and aviation training to students through partnerships with local businesses, (2) allow the establishment of a dual enrollment or early college program related to health care, (3) allow students to be trained as paraeducators while in high school, (4) distribute information concerning vocational agriculture and technical education and career programs to students in middle school, (5) require the Auditors of Public Accounts to audit workforce development programs, (6) establish a grant program for boards of education that includes registered preapprenticeship programs in the high school curriculum, (7) require the expansion of dual credit and dual enrollment programs, and (8) require the establishment of a working group to determine the feasibility of developing an aerospace advanced manufacturing high school. **JFS** defies workforce development program, reworks section on expanding dual enrollment in healthcare.

SB 1198 AA IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SCHOOL INDOOR AIR QUALITY WORKING GROUP, to (1) implement the recommendations of the school indoor air quality working group by extending and expanding the charge of the school indoor air quality working group, (2) establish the School Indoor Air Quality and HVAC Portal for the purpose of collecting and making

available reports of inspections and evaluations of school indoor air quality and heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems, (3) increase the amount -to \$375 Million-of funding under the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system grant program, and (4) require the Commissioner of Public Health to establish an optimal thermal comfort range in school buildings and facilities. 65-80 degrees except gym and natatoriums that may have a larger range. **JFS** changes the inspection of schools to annual from every 3 years, thermal comfort ranges are guidelines.

SB 1199 AAC EQUITY IN EDUCATION, to (1) establish the educator apprenticeship initiative, enabling students to work while earning degree (2) add accountability to school districts regarding increasing educator diversity plans by potentially withholding ECS unless implementing plan (3) expand funding and opportunities under the Aspiring Educators Diversity Scholarship Program and other educator recruitment programs, (4) create an adjunct professor permit, (5) include cursive writing and world language in the kindergarten to grade eight model curriculum, and (6) provide high school graduation credit for completion of a learner engagement and attendance program and other credit recovery program. **JFS** adds repayment of scholarship if leave teaching. Adds BOE may use model curriculum in whole or in part, reclassify 4 positions in SDE for Aspiring Educator program, Commissioner review of program.

SB 1200 AAC SPECIAL EDUCATION, to (1) exclude certain federal funds from the calculation of net current expenditures per pupil for purposes of the excess cost grant, (2) permit the provision of dual instruction as part of remote learning if required by a student's IEP, (3) extend and expand the charge of the special education task force, (4) give parents the right to have an interpreter present at a planning and placement team meeting, (5) prohibit charter schools from requiring disclosure of special education needs on enrollment applications or as part of the criteria used for the holding of enrollment lotteries, (6) prohibit the use of seclusion in schools and make other revisions to the laws governing physical restraint, (7) extend the school-based health center expansion grant program, (8) require the Department of Education to post all decisions and corrective actions regarding special education complaints, and (9) protect school employees from discipline for making recommendations for accommodations under 504 Plans. **JFS** adds 504 plan to dual instruction allowances, adds gifted and talented to the task force charge, removes the deletion of emergency seclusion, adds a student placed in time out 3 times in 30 days to the BOE must meet/call with parent, adds any student placed in restraint or seclusion shall be monitored by a mental health specialist.

SB 1201 AAC AUTHORIZATION OF STATE GRANT COMMITMENTS FOR SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS AND REVISIONS TO THE SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS STATUTES, to authorize state grant commitments for school building projects; to add members to the School Building Projects Advisory Council; to increase the reimbursement percentage range for new construction projects from ten to seventy per cent to ten to eighty per cent; and to allow boards of education to include any federal funds received as part of such board's local share of school building project costs.

Legend

AA- An Act

AAC - An Act Concerning

Aprops – Appropriations

JF – Joint Favorable

JFS – Joint Favorable Substitute