



**Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, Inc.**

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## 2011 DEAD BILL LIST

### **HB 5465 AAC FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES.**

Beginning when the labor commissioner adopts implementing regulations, this bill lowers the number of work hours school paraprofessionals in educational settings need to qualify for family and medical leave benefits. Under current law, all municipal employees, including these paraprofessionals, must be employed for at least 12 months and work at least 1,250 hours in the previous 12 months in order to qualify for the benefits provided by the federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

This bill requires BOE to grant the paraprofessionals benefits equal to those provided by the federal FMLA if the paraprofessional has (1) been employed by the board for at least 12 months and (2) worked at least 950 hours for the board during the 12 months prior to taking the benefit. The paraprofessionals cannot begin to accrue the necessary 950 hours until the labor commissioner adopts the implementing regulations required by the bill.

The bill also allows paraprofessionals to use the leave to serve as an organ or bone marrow donor.

\*House Amendment "A" (1) increases the work hours required to qualify from 850 to 950, (2) delays implementation of the bill and accrual of the required hours until after regulations are adopted, and (3) removes the deadline for the labor commissioner to adopt implementing regulations. **HOUSE PASSED**

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

### **HB 5530 AAC DISSECTION CHOICE.**

A local or regional board of education shall permit a student to not perform dissections on any animal as part of classroom instruction if such student provides written consent by the parent or guardian of such student for such nonperformance. **HOUSE PASSED**

### **HB 6053 AAC DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND CHILD TRAUMA.**

This bill among other issues...increases state and local officials' responsibilities to respond to acts of family violence by making acts of dating violence between students a form of bullying.

**HB 6420 AA PROHIBITING SCHOOL DISTRICTS FROM CHARGING UNIVERSAL, NONREFUNDABLE STUDENT FEES.**

This bill bars school boards from charging students a student activity fee, if the student does not participate in any optional athletic or other extracurricular school activity funded by the fee, or any fee, if the student demonstrates an inability to pay it.

The amendment allows a BOE to create a student fee exemption policy for participation in athletic activities or other extracurricular activities. If no policy exists, the waiver is universal. House debated and then passed it temporarily meaning it may take it up again for consideration.

**SB 930 ACC THE SCHOOL ENTRANCE AGE**

This bill does NOT change the entrance age from 4 1/2 to 5 years old, that issue is in **SB 929** it changes the age by which a child must be enrolled from 7 years old to 6 years old.

**SB 1038 (RAISED) (File No. 300) AAC INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND OTHER ISSUES RELATING TO SPECIAL EDUCATION.**

The bill requires an additional opportunity for a meeting and the exchange of information between school district officials and parents of students in special education; requires teacher certification preparation and professional development to include expanded instruction and training regarding implementing individualized education programs (IEPs); specifies the school district eligible for special education excess cost grant money when a child is placed in a school district other than his or her district of origin. **SENATE PASSED** In bringing out the bill, Senator Stillman mentioned for legislative intent that the meeting prior to the referral PPT is ONE time, not several meetings.

**Original version of SB 1160 AAC THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MODEL TEACHER PERFORMANCE EVALUATION SYSTEM, AND TEACHER TENURE LAWS AND COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS**

Requires the Performance Evaluation Advisory Council to develop a model teacher performance evaluation system for use by BOE's and RESC'S; and to include employment in a cooperative arrangement as part of the definition of tenure for purposes of teacher tenure laws.

By 7/1/12 requires the Performance Evaluation Advisory Council to develop a model teacher evaluation program for use by school boards and RESCs. Includes-training for teachers and administrators, guidelines for establishing individual improvement plans for teachers whose performance is deficient. Plan developed by administrator, teacher and others found appropriate through agreement between board and union.

Plan include-reason performance deficient, measure of success, timelines, reviews, adequate time for improvement, cumulative assessments at end of improvement period, dismissal proceedings.

The agreements between the board and the union are mutual and not subject to binding arbitration.

Adds to the statutory grounds for teacher dismissal, failure to successfully complete an improvement and remediation plan.

Moves up the adoption date for teacher evaluations to 7/1/12 from 7/1/13.

Requires teachers whose employing boards enter cooperative arrangements to provide educational services to retain their credited service with those boards if their employment is transferred to a committee administering the cooperative arrangement.



## 2011 – 2013 State Budget

- Open Choice \$5,374,064 increase (37.2%)
- School Breakfast Program \$586,200 increase (35.9%)
- Vocational Agriculture \$500,000 increase (11.0%)
- Interdistrict Cooperation \$7,139,708 decrease (64.2%)
- Adult Education \$21,032,980 (increase of \$438,609 from FY2011)
- Education Cost Sharing \$1,889,609,057 (no change from FY2011)
- Excess Cost-Student Based \$139,805,731 (no change from FY2011)
- Magnet Schools \$215,855,338 (increase of \$41.7 million from FY2011)
- Non-Public School Transportation \$3,595,500 (decrease of \$399,500 from FY2011)
- Priority School Districts \$116,626,966 (decrease of \$610,222 from FY2011)
- Transportation of School Children \$25,784,748 (decrease of \$2,864,972 from FY2011)

Caps remain in place on the following grants:

- Adult Education
- Bilingual Education
- Excess Cost-Student Based
- Health Services for Private School Children
- Interdistrict Magnet Schools
- Public and Non-Public School Transportation
- Regular Education Costs for State-Placed Children

The budget increases Open Choice grant amounts from the current flat \$2,500 per pupil grant to:

- \$3,000 per student for districts where Open Choice students are less than 2% of the district's total student population.
- \$4,000 per student for districts with 2% to 3% Open Choice enrollment.
- \$6,000 per student for districts with Open Choice enrollment of at least 3% of total enrollment.

Students previously enrolled in private schools will now be eligible to participate.

**School Construction** Sliding scale reimbursement for new construction reduced from 20-80% to 10-70%, unless new is less expensive than renovation.

Magnet School reimbursement reduced from 95% to 80%.  
(Per court order, Hartford magnets remain at 100%)

Construction costs will be established on a per-square-foot basis by county and applications exceeding the cost will be rejected.

Grant commitments made before July 1, 2010, will be canceled for projects that do not begin construction by April 30, 2015.

Many school construction grant functions are transferred to the new Department of Construction Services.

## APPENDIX B: Minimum Budget Requirement

	Current MBR	HB 6651
	<p>For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, and June 30, 2011, the budgeted appropriation for education shall be no less than the budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, minus any reductions made pursuant to section 19 of public act 09-1 of the June 19 special session, except that for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, those districts whose number of resident students for the school year commencing July 1, 2009, is lower than such district's number of resident students for the school year commencing July 1, 2008, may reduce such district's budgeted appropriation for education by the difference in number of resident students for such school years multiplied by three thousand.</p>	<p>For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, the budgeted appropriation for education shall be not less than the budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, plus any reductions made pursuant to section 19 of public act 09-1 of the June 19 special session, except that for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, any district with a number of resident students for the school year commencing July 1, 2011, that is lower than such district's number of resident students for the school year commencing July 1, 2010, may reduce such district's budgeted appropriation for education by the difference in number of resident students for such school years multiplied by three thousand, provided such reduction shall not exceed one-half of one per cent of the district's budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011. A town shall not be eligible to reduce its budgeted appropriation for education pursuant to this subdivision if the school district for the town is in its third year or more of being identified as in need of improvement pursuant to section 10-223e, and (A) has failed to make adequate yearly progress in mathematics or reading at the whole district level, or (B) has satisfied the requirements for adequate yearly progress in mathematics or reading pursuant to Section 111(b)(2)(i) of Subpart 1 of Part A of Title I of the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110, as amended from time to time.</p>
<p><b>Language Allowing for Reduction Related to School Closing</b></p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection, the Commissioner of Education may permit a district to reduce its budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, or June 30, 2013, in an amount determined by the commissioner if such district has permanently ceased operations and closed one or more schools in the district due to declining enrollment at such closed school or schools in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, June 30, 2012, or June 30, 2013.</p>
<p><b>Reduction for Enrollment Decline</b></p>	<p>None for Current Year (FY2011)</p>	<p>\$3,000 x difference in enrollment from previous year (FY2011); this is a separate provision than the one identified above allowing a reduction for school closings</p>
<p><b>Reduction Cap</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>0.5% of previous year's budget for reductions related to enrollment declines; reductions related to school closings are not affected by the cap</p>
<p><b>Adequate Yearly Progress (AVP) Requirement</b></p>	<p>None</p>	<p>No reduction allowed for districts that don't meet AVP</p>
<p><b>Appropriation Baseline</b></p>	<p>FY2009</p>	<p>FY2011</p>

CCM, 2011