



## 2022 CABE Virtual Day on the Hill

### Appropriations

#### **HB 5037 AN ACT ADJUSTING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2023.**

ECS funding continues at the FY 2021 level, the ten year phase in/out commitment ends in 2030.

Alliance district funding is reauthorized for another 5 years and a new category is established- Graduated Alliance District.

Special Education Excess cost reimbursement grant continues to be capped.

There is \$90 million for HVAC, district must come forward with 50% match.

Recognizing the success of the summer enrichment programming, \$4.5 million is proposed to support this year.

SDE will use \$500,00 to support completion of FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

### Children

#### **SB 2 AN ACT EXPANDING PRESCHOOL AND MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN.**

- Extend access to affordable, high-quality child care and preschool, also ensuring that the staff of those programs are paid competitively
- Increase access to mentoring, after-school programs
- Greater supports for children and adolescents disconnected from school
- Universal free pre-K at age 3
- Enhancing families' engagement in social, emotional and academic development
- Increase access to virtual mental health services

**HB 5241 AN ACT PROVIDING FUNDING TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS FOR THE USE OF THERAPEUTIC DAY SCHOOLS FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION.** To establish a grant program that

awards grants to school districts that utilize therapeutic day schools in the provision of special education.

**HB 5244 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROVISION OF OPIOID ANTAGONISTS IN SCHOOLS.** To provide grants to school districts for the acquisition of opioid antagonists if they include training in screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment (SBIRT) to educators as part of the school district's in-service training program, and to authorize the administration of opioid antagonists in schools in emergency situations.

**HB 5352 AN ACT PROHIBITING THE WITHHOLDING OF RECESS AS A FORM OF STUDENT DISCIPLINE.** DELETES--Not later than October 1, 2019, each local and regional board of education shall adopt a policy, as the board deems appropriate, concerning the issue regarding any school employee being involved in preventing a student from participating in the entire time devoted to physical exercise or undirected play in the regular school day, pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, as a form of discipline. ADDS--For the school year commencing July 1, 2022, and each school year thereafter, no school employee shall prevent a student enrolled in grades kindergarten to five, inclusive, from participating in the entire time devoted to physical exercise in the regular school day, pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, as a form of discipline.

## Commerce

**HB 5265 AN ACT REQUIRING THE ISSUANCE OF A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR A CAREER AND STEM COMPUTER OR MOBILE APPLICATION FOR STUDENTS,** to require the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development to issue a request for proposals for the development of a computer or mobile application to promote student career awareness and STEM skill development for middle school students in the state.

**HB 5266 AN ACT CONCERNING STUDENT WORK RELEASE POLICIES,** to require the Commissioner of Education to (1) evaluate school districts' student work release policies, (2) develop a model student work release policy, and (3) provide guidance to local and regional boards of education regarding such model student work release policy and to require each local or regional board of education to adopt a student work release policy based on guidance provided by the commissioner.

## Education

**HB 5157 AN ACT INCREASING FUNDING FOR THE TEACHING OF HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE EDUCATION AND AWARENESS IN CONNECTICUT,** to provide funding for training, equipment and professional development for the Holocaust and genocide education and awareness program.

**HB 5158 AN ACT INCREASING FUNDING FOR THE TEACHING OF AFRICANAMERICAN AND BLACK STUDIES AND PUERTO RICAN AND LATINO STUDIES IN CONNECTICUT,** to provide funding for training, equipment and professional development for the teaching of the African-American and black studies and Puerto Rican and Latino studies curriculum.

**SB 142 AN ACT CONCERNING REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE EXCESS COST GRANT**, to establish a tiered system of reimbursement based on the equalized net grand list of a municipality, where alliance districts and municipalities with a per capita equalized net grand list of less than one hundred thousand dollars shall be reimbursed for one hundred per cent of the grant due, municipalities with a per capita equalized net grand list of at least one hundred thousand dollars but less than two hundred thousand dollars shall be reimbursed for ninety per cent of the grant due, and municipalities with a per capita equalized net grand list of two hundred thousand dollars or more shall be reimbursed for eighty per cent of the grant due, and (2) the appropriation for the excess cost grant be increased in fiscal year 2023 to reflect the amended system of reimbursement.

**SB 1 AN ACT CONCERNING CHILDHOOD MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH SERVICES IN SCHOOLS.**

- Increase funding for social workers in schools
- Use of Narcan training for school nurses and teachers, and provide Narcan to school districts
- Mental health training for youth sports coaches, and provide mental health resources to athletes
- Shift school start times for better youth health outcomes
- Greater transparency for the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference
- Increase minority teacher recruitment
- Cutting costs for towns on special education
- Increase and expand school-based health centers

**SB 226 AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**, to extend the term of validity for a professional educator certificate from five years to ten years, to authorize the reissuance of an initial and provisional educator certificate under the preparation and eligibility requirements in effect at the time the certificate was originally issued in certain circumstances, to delay the deadline for the development of the model curriculum by one year and to require a progress report on its development, and to authorize the Commissioner of Education to temporarily waive or modify state feeding program requirements in response to any changes in federal law.

**SB 227 AN ACT CONCERNING MAGNET SCHOOL PROGRAM FUNDING**, to increase the funding for interdistrict magnet schools by eight per cent.

**SB 228 AN ACT CONCERNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN PATHWAYS PROGRAMS AND THE PROVISION OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE AVAILABILITY OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND CAREER SCHOOLS AND REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION CENTERS**, to require the Department of Education to

administer the Pipeline for Connecticut's Future program in which the department will assist local and regional boards of education in enhancing existing partnerships or establishing new partnerships with one or more local businesses to offer a pathways program, and to require school counselors to provide information to students in middle school and high school about technical education and career schools and regional agricultural science and technology education centers.

**SB 229 AN ACT CONCERNING THE CHARTER SCHOOL APPROVAL PROCESS**, to establish a charter school approval grant account for the purpose of funding new charter schools.

**SB 231 AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER**, to make certain revisions to the enabling statute of the State Education Resource Center and to require the Commissioner of Education to allocate funding to the center that is sufficient for the center to operate and perform its duties.

**SB 232 AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXCESS COST GRANT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION**, to replace the existing threshold for the excess cost grant for special education with a tiered threshold system based on the property wealth of a town.

**SB 273 AN ACT CONCERNING TEACHER CERTIFICATION**, to require the Department of Education to conduct a review of the teacher certification statutes and regulations and to make recommendations on how such statutes and recommendations can be amended to eliminate obsolete requirements and update existing provisions to adapt to the academic needs of students in the twenty-first century and provide the flexibility needed to recruit and certify teachers in Connecticut.

**SB 274 AN ACT CONCERNING MINORITY TEACHER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION**, to study and evaluate the implementation and effectiveness of existing minority teacher recruitment and retention programs and policies and other issues relating to minority teacher recruitment and retention in the state.

**HB 5279 AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD**, to expand the membership of the Early Childhood Cabinet, to authorize the Office of Early Childhood to amend the standards for school readiness programs in certain circumstance, to revise the definition of youth camp to delete the requirement that a youth camp advertises as a camp, to update the reference to the Connecticut Criminal History Request System in the statute background checks, and to extend the term of validity for the early childhood teacher credential.

**HB 5280 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROVISION OF BILINGUAL EDUCATION IN CONNECTICUT**, to increase the per pupil grant amount for bilingual education and to establish a dual language seed grant program.

**HB 5282 AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER STUDIES IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CURRICULUM AND PROHIBITING THE DISAGGREGATION OF STUDENT DATA BY ETHNIC SUBGROUPS IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL INFORMATION SYSTEM**, to include the Asian American and Pacific Islander studies in the public school curriculum and to prohibit the collection of disaggregated student data on specific ethnic subgroups unless such student data is required by federal law or collected uniformly across the entire population of students.

**HB 5283 AN ACT CONCERNING THE EDUCATION COST SHARING GRANT FORMULA AND THE FUNDING OF OTHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS**, to establish a new method of funding public education in the state. Fully funds ECS grants, effective FY 2025 ; Fully funds interdistrict magnet, Vo-Ag, Open Choice, and state charter schools based on student needs; eliminates tuition billing for magnet school operators and Vo-Ag programs, effective FY 2025.

**HB 5284 AN ACT CONCERNING THE FUNDING OF UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #1**, to require the Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Correction, to study and compare the funding levels of Unified School District #1 to those of other school districts.

**HB 5285 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CURRICULUM**, to require that all school districts provide climate change instruction as part of the science curriculum, to establish a pilot program for the teaching of financial literacy and to establish the Connecticut Civics Education Task Force.

**HB 5286 AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW PRESERVICE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT FOR TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAMS**, to cease implementation of edTPA and create a new state-wide preservice performance assessment for teacher preparation programs.

**HB 5287 AN ACT CONCERNING REMOTE LEARNING IN CONNECTICUT**, to move up the date that the plan for the state-wide remote learning school is due from July 1, 2023, to January 1, 2023, and to permit local and regional boards of education to authorize remote learning to students in grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive.

**HB 5321 AN ACT IMPLEMENTING CERTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SCHOOL PARAEDUCATOR ADVISORY COUNCIL**, to establish a system of professional development for paraeducators, to convene a working group to develop recommendations for the creation of a system of professional certification for paraeducators and to require adequate notice and training about planning and placement team meetings and access to individualized education programs for paraeducators in the provision of special education services.

**HB 5322 AN ACT CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A HUMAN SERVICES PERMIT AND A REQUIREMENT THAT SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS CONDUCT HOME VISITS DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR**, to create a human services permit that allows individuals to provide mental health and human services to students in schools, and to require school social workers assigned to students to conduct at least two home visits for each such student during the school year.

**HB 5323 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE WAYS TO CONSOLIDATE OR ELIMINATE CERTAIN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND INSERVICE TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR EDUCATORS**, to establish a working group to examine ways to consolidate or eliminate unnecessary, obsolete or redundant professional development and in-service training requirements for educators.

## Energy and Technology

**SB 92 AN ACT PERMITTING TEN-YEAR CONTRACTUAL PERIODS FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN IN ZERO-EMISSION SCHOOL BUSES.** To permit local and regional boards of education to enter into ten-year contracts involving the transportation of school children in zero emission school buses.

## Finance, Revenue and Bonding

**SB 21 AN ACT CONCERNING A STATE-WIDE PROPERTY TAX ON CERTAIN RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY.** To establish a state-wide property tax at the rate of 2 mills on residential real property with an assessed value of greater than one million two hundred thousand dollars and to dedicate such revenue to fund special education excess cost grants under subsection (b) of section 10-76g of the general statutes and settlement costs of the Sheff v. O'Neill lawsuit.

## Insurance and Real Estate

**HB 5391 AN ACT CONCERNING MENTAL HEALTH,** to establish a task force to study methods available to this state, and health carriers doing business in this state, to encourage health care providers providing mental health services to participate in provider networks.

## Judiciary

**SB 305 AN ACT REVISING STATUTES GOVERNING ACTIONS BY THE POLICE, PROACTIVE POLICING AND ENHANCING RECRUITMENT EFFORTS.** Among other provisions...boards of education may expand or develop and offer as an elective credit for purposes of section 10-221a of the general statutes an explorer program for students who have an interest in learning about law enforcement. Any high school participating in any such program shall work with a local or state law enforcement agency to ensure that students in such program are exposed to various aspects of law enforcement through training, activities and other experiences.

**HB 5392 AN ACT CONCERNING POSSESSION OF A FIREARM ON SCHOOL GROUNDS BY A POLICE OFFICER,** to permit a police officer to lawfully carry a firearm on school grounds regardless of whether such officer is engaged in the performance of the officer's duties.

## Planning and Development

**SB 327 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO STUDY THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FEDERAL TITLE IX PROTECTIONS FOR ALL MUNICIPAL RECREATION AREAS AND SCHOOL SPORTS FACILITIES.** To establish a working group to study the feasibility of a federal Title IX assessment of all municipal recreation areas and facilities used for the organized playing of sports and public school sports facilities.

**HB 5172 AN ACT CONCERNING REEMPLOYMENT AND THE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM,** to (1) create an exception to the prohibition on retired members of the municipal employees' retirement system from receiving retirement allowances upon reemployment by a municipality for members who do not participate in the municipal employees' retirement system

during such period of reemployment, and (2) permit retired public safety personnel to receive retirement allowances, but not credit in a municipal pension system, if such personnel are employed by a local or regional board of education in a public safety capacity after retirement.

**HB 5269 AN ACT CONCERNING REMOTE MEETINGS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.** To permit public agencies to continue to conduct remote meetings under the Freedom of Information Act.

**HB 5362 AN ACT REQUIRING PUBLIC COMMENT PERIODS AT PUBLIC AGENCY MEETINGS.** To require public comment periods at all public agency meetings.

### **Public Health**

**HB 5001 AN ACT CONCERNING CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH.** The DPH Commissioner may waive the examination requirement for social workers who fails the licensure exam, under certain circumstances and agree to continue to be supervised by a licensed social worker. May only be waived for one year. The Commissioner of Public Health shall establish a social workers examination preparation grant program to provide grants to social workers for the costs of tutoring and examination preparation courses.

The Commissioner of Education shall, develop and distribute a survey to each board of education concerning the employment of school social workers by such board of education to then annually calculate a student-to-school social worker ratio for (1) such board of education, and (2) each school under the jurisdiction of such board of education. SDE shall develop a grant program to provide grants to boards of education for the purpose of hiring and retaining additional student mental health specialists. A "student mental health specialist" includes a school social worker, school psychologist, trauma specialist, behavior technician and board certified behavior analyst. Priority will be given to those school districts (1) with large student-to-student mental health specialist ratios, or (2) that have a high volume of student utilization of mental health services.

From 6/30/23, to 6/30/25, SDE shall administer a grant program to provide grants to boards of education and public institutions of higher education, for the school-based delivery of mental health services to students.

SDE, in collaboration with DSS, shall annually provide information and resources to boards of education concerning the existence and availability of the 2-1-1 Infoline program, and other pediatric mental and behavioral health screening services and tools.

A district's policies and procedures shall include -for any school with a disproportionately high rate of truancy, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, on or before July 1, 2023, --the adoption and implementation of a truancy intervention model developed by SDE.

Also added to a district's policies and procedures...providing notice to the parent or guardian of a child who is a truant, the information concerning the existence and availability of the 2-1-1 Infoline program, and other pediatric mental and behavioral health screening services and tools provided by SDE and on and after July 1, 2023, a requirement that a school social worker or a school psychologist conduct (A) an evaluation of each child who is a truant to determine if additional behavioral health interventions are necessary for the well-being of the child, and (B) a psychiatric

evaluation of such child, which shall include, to the extent possible, an evaluation of the psychological, mental, emotional, economic and physical needs of the child and the child's family, and (9) a requirement that any school resource officer be trained in the peer-to-peer mental health support program, so that they may be better able to determine if additional mental health resources should be utilized when dealing with students.

Not later than July 1, 2023, SDE shall develop and make available for implementation by boards of education a truancy intervention model that accounts for mental and behavioral health. Not later than July 1, 2023, SDE, in collaboration with DCF, shall issue guidance to boards of education on best practices relating to intervention in certain behavioral health situations and when it is appropriate to contact the 2-1-1 Infoline program or use alternative interventions.

Local law enforcement agencies and boards of education that employ or engage school resource officers shall train school resource officers in and the peer-to-peer mental health support program, to prevent students with mental health issues from being victimized or disproportionately referred to the juvenile justice system as a result of their mental health issues.

There shall be a trauma coordinator within SDE. The coordinator shall be responsible for: (1) Developing or procuring the system-wide, trauma-informed care training program, (2) implementing the program, (3) providing technical assistance to boards of education in the implementation, (4) training those persons who will be trainers, and (5) ensuring that the trainers are properly training teachers, administrators and other school staff and coaches and school resource officers. Not later than January 1, 2023, DCF shall, in collaboration with SDE, develop a peer-to-peer mental health support program that provides services to aid students in grades 6-12, in problem solving, decision making, conflict resolution and stress management. Such program shall be made available to boards of education, local health departments, district departments of health, youth services bureaus, municipal social service agencies and other youth-serving organizations approved by DCF. In developing such program, the department shall utilize best practices and may use existing models of peer-to-peer counseling.

On and after January 1, 2023, DCF shall, in collaboration with SDE, provide training to (1) designated staff members selected by the superintendent of schools, and (2) employees of local health departments, district departments of health, youth service bureaus, municipal social service agencies and other youth-serving organizations, on how to implement the program and provide instruction, guidance and supervision to students. "designated staff member" means a teacher, school administrator, guidance counselor, school counselor, psychologist, social worker, nurse, physician or school paraeducator employed by a board of education or working in a public middle school or high school.

**HB 5272 AN ACT CONCERNING MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS.** On and after July 1, 2022, each board of education shall provide free menstrual products, in restrooms that are accessible to students in each middle school and high school in a manner that does not stigmatize any student seeking such products, pursuant to guidelines established by the Commissioner of Public Health. To carry out the provisions of this section, boards of education may (1) accept donations of menstrual products and grants from any source for the purpose of purchasing such products, and (2) partner with a nonprofit or community-based organization. The legislation also covers shelter, higher education, and correctional facilities.



**HB 5395 AN ACT CONCERNING AN EXPEDITED LICENSURE PROCESS FOR CERTAIN OUT-OF-STATE HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS**, to adopt the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact and Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact to establish an expedited licensure process for physicians and psychologists licensed in other states who have adopted said compacts and to require the Department of Public Health to develop a plan for licensure by reciprocity or endorsement for other out-of-state health care providers and mental health care providers.

**SB 367 AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC NICOTINE DELIVERY SYSTEMS AND VAPOR PRODUCTS**, to prohibit the sale of electronic nicotine delivery systems and vapor products that are flavored or that have a nicotine content that is greater than thirty-five milligrams per milliliter.

### **Senate**

**SB 118 AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF CERTAIN POLYSTYRENE PRODUCTS**, to discontinue the use of certain polystyrene trays in schools and certain polystyrene containers for food from restaurants.

### **Passed both House and Senate and Signed by the Governor**

#### **SA 22-1**

**HB 5047 AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXTENSION OF CERTAIN EXECUTIVE ORDERS AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY AND COVID-19 RELIEF DAYS**. Rescinding the requirement for mask or cloth face coverings in schools shall not take effect any earlier than February 28, 2022.

**HR 4 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT IN SHEFF V. O'NEILL**, requiring an expenditure from the General Fund budget in excess of two million five hundred thousand dollars and submitted by the Attorney General to this Assembly for approval in accordance with section 3-125a of the general statutes, are approved.

**SR 4 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT IN SHEFF V. O'NEILL**, requiring an expenditure from the General Fund budget in excess of two million five hundred thousand dollars and submitted by the Attorney General to this Assembly for approval in accordance with section 3-125a of the general statutes, are approved.

### **Legend**

**AA- An Act**

**AAC - An Act Concerning**

**JF - Joint Substitute**

**JFS - Joint Favorable Substitute**