



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 944

January Session, 2015



AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN REQUIREMENT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 10-15 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2017*):

3 Public schools, including kindergartens, shall be maintained in each
4 town for at least one hundred eighty days of actual school sessions
5 during each year, and for the school year commencing July 1, 2014,
6 and each school year thereafter, in accordance with the provisions of
7 section 10-66q. When public school sessions are cancelled for reasons
8 of inclement weather or otherwise, the rescheduled sessions shall not
9 be held on Saturday or Sunday. Public schools may conduct weekend
10 education programs to provide supplemental and remedial services to
11 students. A local or regional board of education for a school that has
12 been designated as a low achieving school pursuant to subparagraph
13 (A) of subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of section 10-223e, or a category
14 four school or a category five school pursuant to [said] section 10-223e,
15 may increase the number of actual school sessions during each year,
16 and may increase the number of hours of actual school work per
17 school session in order to improve student performance and remove
18 the school from the list of schools designated as a low achieving school
19 maintained by the State Board of Education. The State Board of

20 Education (1) may authorize the shortening of any school year for a
21 school district, a school or a portion of a school on account of an
22 unavoidable emergency, [and] (2) may authorize implementation of
23 scheduling of school sessions to permit full year use of facilities which
24 may not offer each child one hundred eighty days of school sessions
25 within a given school year, but which assures an opportunity for each
26 child to average a minimum of one hundred eighty days of school
27 sessions per year during thirteen years of educational opportunity in
28 the elementary and secondary schools, [. Notwithstanding the
29 provisions of this section and section 10-16, the State Board of
30 Education] and (3) may, upon application by a local or regional board
31 of education, approve for any single school year, in whole or in part, a
32 plan to implement alternative scheduling of school sessions [which]
33 that assures at least four hundred fifty hours of actual school work for
34 nursery schools [and half-day kindergartens] and at least nine
35 hundred hours of actual school work for [full-day kindergartens and
36 grades one] grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive.

37 Sec. 2. Section 10-16 of the general statutes is repealed and the
38 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2017*):

39 Each school district shall provide in each school year no less than
40 one hundred and eighty days of actual school sessions and nine
41 hundred hours of actual school work for grades kindergarten to
42 twelve, inclusive, [nine hundred hours of actual school work for full-
43 day kindergarten and grades one to twelve, inclusive, and four
44 hundred and fifty hours of half-day kindergarten,] provided school
45 districts shall not count more than seven hours of actual school work
46 in any school day [towards] toward the total required for the school
47 year. [If weather conditions result in an early dismissal or a delayed
48 opening of school, a school district which maintains separate morning
49 and afternoon half-day kindergarten sessions may provide either a
50 morning or afternoon half-day kindergarten session on such day.]

51 Sec. 3. (*Effective July 1, 2015*) For the fiscal years ending June 30,
52 2016, to June 30, 2018, inclusive, the Department of Education shall,

53 within available appropriations, provide support and technical
54 assistance to any local or regional board of education that begins
55 implementation of the full-day kindergarten requirement pursuant to
56 sections 10-15 and 10-16 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	10-15
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	10-16
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	New section

ED

Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

APP