



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 469

February Session, 2022

Substitute House Bill No. 5283

House of Representatives, April 13, 2022

The Committee on Education reported through REP. SANCHEZ, R. of the 25th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE EDUCATION COST SHARING GRANT FORMULA AND THE FUNDING OF OTHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 10-262h of the 2022 supplement to the general
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3 (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

4 (a) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, each town maintaining
5 public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid
6 grant as follows: (1) Any town designated as an alliance district, as
7 defined in section 10-262u, shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant
8 in an amount equal to its base grant amount; and (2) any town not
9 designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid
10 grant in an amount equal to ninety-five per cent of its base grant
11 amount.

12 (b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, each town maintaining
13 public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid

14 grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than
15 its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an
16 amount equal to its base grant amount plus four and one-tenth per cent
17 of its grant adjustment; and (2) any town whose fully funded grant is
18 less than its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid
19 grant in an amount equal to its base grant amount minus twenty-five
20 per cent of its grant adjustment, except any such town designated as an
21 alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an
22 amount equal to its base grant amount.

23 (c) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, each
24 town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an
25 equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded
26 grant is greater than its base grant amount shall be entitled to an
27 equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid grant
28 amount for the previous fiscal year plus ten and sixty-six-one-
29 hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment; and (2) any town whose
30 fully funded grant is less than its base grant amount shall be entitled to
31 an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid
32 grant amount for the previous fiscal year minus eight and thirty-three-
33 one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment, except any such town
34 designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid
35 grant in an amount equal to its base grant amount.

36 (d) For the fiscal [years] year ending June 30, 2022, [and June 30, 2023,]
37 each town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled
38 to an equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded
39 grant is greater than its base grant amount shall be entitled to an
40 equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid grant
41 amount for the previous fiscal year plus ten and sixty-six-one-
42 hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment; and (2) any town whose
43 fully funded grant is less than its base grant amount shall be entitled to
44 an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to the amount the town
45 was entitled to for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.

46 [(e) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, to June 30, 2027,

47 inclusive, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall
48 be entitled to an equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town whose
49 fully funded grant is greater than its base grant amount shall be entitled
50 to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid
51 grant amount for the previous fiscal year plus ten and sixty-six-one-
52 hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment; and (2) any town whose
53 fully funded grant is less than its base grant amount shall be entitled to
54 an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid
55 grant amount for the previous fiscal year minus eight and thirty-three-
56 one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment, except any such town
57 designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid
58 grant in an amount equal to its base grant amount.]

59 (e) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, each town maintaining
60 public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid
61 grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than
62 its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be
63 entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its
64 equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year plus sixteen
65 and sixty-seven-one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment; and
66 (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its equalization aid
67 grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an
68 equalization aid grant in an amount equal to the amount the town was
69 entitled to for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

70 (f) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, each town maintaining
71 public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid
72 grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than
73 its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be
74 entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its
75 equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year plus twenty
76 per cent of its grant adjustment; and (2) any town whose fully funded
77 grant is less than its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal
78 year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to
79 its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year minus
80 fourteen and twenty-nine-one-hundredths per cent of its grant

81 adjustment, except any such town designated as an alliance district, as
82 defined in section 10-262u, shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant
83 in an amount equal to its base grant amount.

84 (g) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, each town maintaining
85 public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid
86 grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than
87 its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an
88 amount equal to its fully funded grant; and (2) any town whose fully
89 funded grant is less than its equalization aid grant amount for the
90 previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an
91 amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal
92 year minus sixteen and sixty-seven-one-hundredths per cent of its grant
93 adjustment, except any such town designated as an alliance district shall
94 be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its base
95 grant amount.

96 (h) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, each town maintaining
97 public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid
98 grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than
99 its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an
100 amount equal to its fully funded grant; and (2) any town whose fully
101 funded grant is less than its equalization aid grant amount for the
102 previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an
103 amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal
104 year minus twenty per cent of its grant adjustment, except any such
105 town designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an
106 equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its base grant amount.

107 (i) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, each town maintaining
108 public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid
109 grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than
110 its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an
111 amount equal to its fully funded grant; and (2) any town whose fully
112 funded grant is less than its equalization aid grant amount for the
113 previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an

114 amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal
115 year minus twenty-five per cent of its grant adjustment, except any such
116 town designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an
117 equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its base grant amount.

118 (j) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028, each town maintaining
119 public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid
120 grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than
121 its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be
122 entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its fully
123 funded grant; and (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its
124 equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be
125 entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its
126 equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year minus thirty-
127 three and thirty-three-one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment,
128 except any such town designated as an alliance district shall be entitled
129 to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its base grant amount.

130 [(f)] (k) For the fiscal [years ending June 30, 2028, and] year ending
131 June 30, 2029, each town maintaining public schools according to law
132 shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town
133 whose fully funded grant is greater than its [base grant amount]
134 equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be
135 entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its fully
136 funded grant; and (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its
137 [base grant amount] equalization aid grant amount for the previous
138 fiscal year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount
139 equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year
140 minus [eight and thirty-three-one-hundredths] fifty per cent of its grant
141 adjustment, except any such town designated as an alliance district shall
142 be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its base
143 grant amount.

144 [(g)] (l) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2030, and each fiscal year
145 thereafter, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall
146 be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its fully

147 funded grant, except any town designated as an alliance district whose
148 fully funded grant amount is less than its base grant amount shall be
149 entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its base grant
150 amount.

151 Sec. 2. Subdivision (49) of section 10-262f of the 2022 supplement to
152 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
153 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

154 (49) "Grant adjustment" means the absolute value of the difference
155 between a town's [base grant amount] equalization aid grant amount for
156 the previous fiscal year and its fully funded grant.

157 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2024*) (a) As used in this section, section
158 4 of this act and sections 10-65 and 10-264l of the general statutes, as
159 amended by this act:

160 (1) "Choice program" means (A) an interdistrict magnet school
161 program, or (B) a regional agricultural science and technology center.

162 (2) "Foundation" has the same meaning as provided in section 10-262f
163 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, except that for the fiscal
164 year ending June 30, 2026, and each fiscal year thereafter, the foundation
165 for an interdistrict magnet school operator that is not a local or regional
166 board of education is adjusted by the percentage increase in personal
167 income, as defined in section 2-33a of the general statutes, or the
168 percentage increase in inflation, as defined in section 2-33a of the
169 general statutes, whichever is greater.

170 (3) "Resident students" has the same meaning as provided in section
171 10-262f of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

172 (4) "Resident choice program students" means the number of part-
173 time and full-time students of a town enrolled or participating in a
174 particular choice program.

175 (5) "Total need students" has the same meaning as provided in section
176 10-262f of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

177 (6) "Total magnet school program need students" means the sum of
178 (A) the number of part-time and full-time students enrolled in the
179 interdistrict magnet school program of the interdistrict magnet school
180 operator who is (i) not a local or regional board of education, (ii) the
181 board of governors for an independent institution of higher education,
182 as defined in subsection (a) of section 10a-173 of the general statutes, or
183 the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent institution
184 of higher education, or (iii) any other third-party not-for-profit
185 corporation approved by the Commissioner of Education, for the school
186 year, and (B) for the school year commencing July 1, 2024, and each
187 school year thereafter, (i) thirty per cent of the number of part-time and
188 full-time children enrolled in such interdistrict magnet school program
189 eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk, (ii) fifteen per cent
190 of the number of such part-time and full-time children eligible for free
191 or reduced price meals or free milk in excess of the number of such part-
192 time and full-time children eligible for free or reduced price meals or
193 free milk that is equal to sixty per cent of the total number of children
194 enrolled in such interdistrict magnet school program, (iii) twenty-five
195 per cent of the number of part-time and full-time students enrolled in
196 such interdistrict magnet school program who are English language
197 learners, as defined in section 10-76kk of the general statutes, and (iv) if
198 such interdistrict magnet school program is assisting the state in
199 meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238,
200 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as
201 determined by the commissioner, (I) for the fiscal year ending June 30,
202 2025, thirty per cent of the number of part-time and full-time students
203 enrolled in such interdistrict magnet school program, (II) for the fiscal
204 year ending June 30, 2026, twenty-eight per cent of the number of part-
205 time and full-time students enrolled in such interdistrict magnet school
206 program, (III) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, twenty-six per
207 cent of the number of part-time and full-time students enrolled in such
208 interdistrict magnet school program, (IV) for the fiscal year ending June
209 30, 2028, twenty-four per cent of the number of part-time and full-time
210 students enrolled in such interdistrict magnet school program, (V) for
211 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2029, twenty-two per cent of the number

212 of part-time and full-time students enrolled in such interdistrict magnet
213 school program, and (VI) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2030, and
214 each fiscal year thereafter, twenty per cent of the number of part-time
215 and full-time students enrolled in such interdistrict magnet school
216 program.

217 (7) "Sending town" means the town that sends resident choice
218 program students, which it would otherwise be legally responsible for
219 educating, to a choice program.

220 (8) "Weighted funding amount per pupil" means the quotient of (A)
221 the product of the foundation and a town's total need students for the
222 fiscal year prior to the year in which the grant is to be paid, and (B) the
223 number of resident students of the town.

224 (9) "Weighted funding amount per sending town" means the product
225 of a town's (A) weighted funding amount per pupil, and (B) number of
226 resident choice program students for a particular choice program.

227 (10) "Choice program grant" means the sum of the weighted funding
228 amount per sending town for each sending town.

229 (b) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year
230 thereafter, an interdistrict magnet school program operator that is not a
231 local or regional board of education, shall be entitled to a grant in an
232 amount equal to the product of the foundation and its total magnet
233 school program need students.

234 (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year
235 thereafter, an interdistrict magnet school operator that is a local or
236 regional board of education shall be entitled to a grant in an amount
237 equal to its choice program grant.

238 (c) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year
239 thereafter, a local or regional board of education that operates a regional
240 agricultural science and technology center shall be entitled to a grant in
241 an amount equal to its choice program grant.

242 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than January 1, 2024,
243 and annually thereafter, the Department of Education shall calculate an
244 estimated amount of each choice program grant under section 3 of this
245 act for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, using data collected during
246 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and notify each local and regional
247 board of education and interdistrict magnet school program operator
248 that is not a local or regional board of education of such estimated
249 amounts.

250 (b) Not later than January 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, the
251 Department of Education shall calculate an estimated fully funded
252 grant, as defined in section 10-262f of the general statutes, as amended
253 by this act, for each town for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, using
254 data collected during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and notify
255 each town of such estimated amount.

256 (c) Not later than January 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, the
257 Department of Education shall calculate the product of the foundation
258 and total charter need students, as defined in section 10-66ee of the
259 general statutes, as amended by this act, for each fiscal authority for a
260 state charter school for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, using data
261 collected during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and notify each
262 such fiscal authority of such product.

263 Sec. 5. Section 10-264l of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
264 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
265 *1, 2024*):

266 (a) The Department of Education shall, within available
267 appropriations, establish a grant program (1) to assist (A) local and
268 regional boards of education, (B) regional educational service centers,
269 (C) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on
270 behalf of Quinebaug Valley Community College and Three Rivers
271 Community College, and (D) cooperative arrangements pursuant to
272 section 10-158a, and (2) in assisting the state in meeting its obligations
273 pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any
274 related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the

275 commissioner, to assist (A) the Board of Trustees of the Community-
276 Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college,
277 (B) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on
278 behalf of a state university, (C) the Board of Trustees of The University
279 of Connecticut on behalf of the university, (D) the board of governors
280 for an independent institution of higher education, as defined in
281 subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on
282 behalf of the independent institution of higher education, and (E) any
283 other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the
284 commissioner with the operation of interdistrict magnet school
285 programs. All interdistrict magnet schools shall be operated in
286 conformance with the same laws and regulations applicable to public
287 schools. For the purposes of this section "an interdistrict magnet school
288 program" means a program which (i) supports racial, ethnic and
289 economic diversity, (ii) offers a special and high quality curriculum, and
290 (iii) requires students who are enrolled to attend at least half-time. An
291 interdistrict magnet school program does not include a regional
292 agricultural science and technology school, a technical education and
293 career school or a regional special education center. For the school years
294 commencing July 1, 2017, to July 1, 2023, inclusive, the governing
295 authority for each interdistrict magnet school program shall (I) restrict
296 the number of students that may enroll in the school from a participating
297 district to seventy-five per cent of the total school enrollment, and (II)
298 maintain a total school enrollment that is in accordance with the
299 reduced-isolation setting standards for interdistrict magnet school
300 programs, developed by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to
301 section 10-264r.

302 (b) (1) Applications for interdistrict magnet school program
303 operating grants awarded pursuant to this section shall be submitted
304 annually to the Commissioner of Education at such time and in such
305 manner as the commissioner prescribes, except that on and after July 1,
306 2009, applications for such operating grants for new interdistrict magnet
307 schools, other than those that the commissioner determines will assist
308 the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v.*
309 *O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect,

310 as determined by the commissioner, shall not be accepted until the
311 commissioner develops a comprehensive state-wide interdistrict
312 magnet school plan. The commissioner shall submit such
313 comprehensive state-wide interdistrict magnet school plan on or before
314 October 1, 2016, to the joint standing committees of the General
315 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and
316 appropriations.

317 (2) In determining whether an application shall be approved and
318 funds awarded pursuant to this section, the commissioner shall
319 consider, but such consideration shall not be limited to: (A) Whether the
320 program offered by the school is likely to increase student achievement;
321 (B) whether the program is likely to reduce racial, ethnic and economic
322 isolation; (C) the percentage of the student enrollment in the program
323 from each participating district; and (D) the proposed operating budget
324 and the sources of funding for the interdistrict magnet school. For a
325 magnet school not operated by a local or regional board of education,
326 the commissioner shall only approve a proposed operating budget that,
327 on a per pupil basis, does not exceed the maximum allowable threshold
328 established in accordance with this subdivision. The maximum
329 allowable threshold shall be an amount equal to one hundred twenty
330 per cent of the state average of the quotient obtained by dividing net
331 current expenditures, as defined in section 10-261, by average daily
332 membership, as defined in said section, for the fiscal year two years
333 prior to the fiscal year for which the operating grant is requested. The
334 Department of Education shall establish the maximum allowable
335 threshold no later than December fifteenth of the fiscal year prior to the
336 fiscal year for which the operating grant is requested. If requested by an
337 applicant that is not a local or regional board of education, the
338 commissioner may approve a proposed operating budget that exceeds
339 the maximum allowable threshold if the commissioner determines that
340 there are extraordinary programmatic needs. For the fiscal years ending
341 June 30, 2017, June 30, 2018, June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, in the case
342 of an interdistrict magnet school that will assist the state in meeting its
343 obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1
344 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the

345 commissioner, the commissioner shall also consider whether the school
346 is meeting the reduced-isolation setting standards for interdistrict
347 magnet school programs, developed by the commissioner pursuant to
348 section 10-264r. If such school has not met such reduced-isolation setting
349 standards, it shall not be entitled to receive a grant pursuant to this
350 section unless the commissioner finds that it is appropriate to award a
351 grant for an additional year or years and approves a plan to bring such
352 school into compliance with such reduced-isolation setting standards. If
353 requested by the commissioner, the applicant shall meet with the
354 commissioner or the commissioner's designee to discuss the budget and
355 sources of funding.

356 (3) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, to June 30, 2023,
357 inclusive, the commissioner shall not award a grant to an interdistrict
358 magnet school program that (A) has more than seventy-five per cent of
359 the total school enrollment from one school district, or (B) does not
360 maintain a total school enrollment that is in accordance with the
361 reduced-isolation setting standards for interdistrict magnet school
362 programs, developed by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to
363 section 10-264r, except the commissioner may award a grant to such
364 school for an additional year or years if the commissioner finds it is
365 appropriate to do so and approves a plan to bring such school into
366 compliance with such residency or reduced-isolation setting standards.

367 (4) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, to June 30, 2021,
368 inclusive, if an interdistrict magnet school program does not maintain a
369 total school enrollment that is in accordance with the reduced-isolation
370 setting standards for interdistrict magnet school programs, developed
371 by the commissioner pursuant to section 10-264r, for two or more
372 consecutive years, the commissioner may impose a financial penalty on
373 the operator of such interdistrict magnet school program, or take any
374 other measure, in consultation with such operator, as may be
375 appropriate to assist such operator in complying with such reduced-
376 isolation setting standards.

377 (5) For the purposes of equalization aid under section 10-262h, as

378 amended by this act, a student enrolled in an interdistrict magnet school
379 program shall be considered a student enrolled in the school district in
380 which such student resides.

381 (c) (1) [The maximum amount each interdistrict magnet school
382 program, except those described in subparagraphs (A) to (G), inclusive,
383 of subdivision (3) of this subsection, shall be eligible to receive per
384 enrolled student who is not a resident of the town operating the magnet
385 school shall be (A) six thousand sixteen dollars for the fiscal year ending
386 June 30, 2008, (B) six thousand seven hundred thirty dollars for the fiscal
387 years ending June 30, 2009, to June 30, 2012, inclusive, (C) seven
388 thousand eighty-five dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, to
389 June 30, 2019, inclusive, and (D) seven thousand two hundred twenty-
390 seven dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year
391 thereafter. The per pupil grant for each enrolled student who is a
392 resident of the town operating the magnet school program shall be (i)
393 three thousand dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2008, to June
394 30, 2019, inclusive, and (ii) three thousand sixty dollars for the fiscal year
395 ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter.] For the fiscal year
396 ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, each interdistrict
397 magnet school operator shall be paid a grant equal to the amount the
398 operator is entitled to receive under the provisions of section 3 of this
399 act, except that no operator shall receive less than the sum of the amount
400 of the magnet operating grant per student such operator received for the
401 fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, plus the amount of general education
402 tuition per student such operator received from sending districts for
403 each student.

404 (2) (A) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and each fiscal year
405 thereafter, any interdistrict magnet school operator that is not a local or
406 regional board of education may charge tuition to the local or regional
407 board of education for a sending town if the grant to which such
408 operator is entitled to under section 3 of this act is not calculated using
409 a foundation amount that is adjusted by the greater of either the
410 percentage increase in personal income, as defined in section 2-33a, or
411 the percentage increase in inflation, as defined in section 2-33a. Such

412 tuition charged shall not exceed the difference between the amount of
413 the grant such operator would have been entitled to receive for the fiscal
414 year if such grant was calculated using the foundation, as defined in
415 section 3 of this act, and the amount of the grant that such operator will
416 receive for such fiscal year.

417 (B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and each fiscal year
418 thereafter, any interdistrict magnet school operator that is not a local or
419 regional board of education that charges tuition under this subdivision
420 shall notify the Department of Education of the per-student amount of
421 tuition charged for the fiscal year, the total amount of tuition charged
422 for such fiscal year and the local or regional boards of education for
423 sending towns that were charged tuition by such operator. The
424 department shall develop an annual report of such tuition charged and,
425 not later than January first of each year, submit such report to the joint
426 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
427 matters relating to education and appropriations, in accordance with the
428 provisions of section 11-4a.

429 ~~[(2)]~~ (3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, and each fiscal year
430 thereafter, the commissioner may, within available appropriations,
431 provide supplemental grants for the purposes of enhancing educational
432 programs in such interdistrict magnet schools, as the commissioner
433 determines. Such grants shall be made after the commissioner has
434 conducted a comprehensive financial review and approved the total
435 operating budget for such schools, including all revenue and
436 expenditure estimates.

437 [(3) (A) Except as otherwise provided in subparagraphs (C) to (G),
438 inclusive, of this subdivision, each interdistrict magnet school operated
439 by a regional educational service center that enrolls less than fifty-five
440 per cent of the school's students from a single town shall receive a per
441 pupil grant in the amount of (i) six thousand two hundred fifty dollars
442 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, (ii) six thousand five hundred
443 dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, (iii) seven thousand sixty
444 dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, (iv) seven thousand six

445 hundred twenty dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2009, to June
446 30, 2012, inclusive, (v) seven thousand nine hundred dollars for the
447 fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, and (vi)
448 eight thousand fifty-eight dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020,
449 and each fiscal year thereafter.

450 (B) Except as otherwise provided in subparagraphs (C) to (G),
451 inclusive, of this subdivision, each interdistrict magnet school operated
452 by a regional educational service center that enrolls at least fifty-five per
453 cent of the school's students from a single town shall receive a per pupil
454 grant for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the district that
455 enrolls at least fifty-five per cent of the school's students in the amount
456 of (i) six thousand sixteen dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008,
457 (ii) six thousand seven hundred thirty dollars for the fiscal years ending
458 June 30, 2009, to June 30, 2012, inclusive, (iii) seven thousand eighty-five
459 dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, to June 30, 2019,
460 inclusive, and (iv) seven thousand two hundred twenty-seven dollars
461 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter.
462 The per pupil grant for each enrolled student who is a resident of the
463 district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent of the school's students
464 shall be three thousand sixty dollars.

465 (C) (i) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, to June 30, 2019,
466 inclusive, each interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional
467 educational service center that began operations for the school year
468 commencing July 1, 2001, and that for the school year commencing July
469 1, 2008, enrolled at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than eighty per
470 cent of the school's students from a single town, shall receive a per pupil
471 grant (I) for each enrolled student who is a resident of the district that
472 enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than eighty per cent of the
473 school's students, up to an amount equal to the total number of such
474 enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the
475 amount of eight thousand one hundred eighty dollars, (II) for each
476 enrolled student who is a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-
477 five per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of the school's students,
478 in an amount greater than the total number of such enrolled students as

479 of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of three
480 thousand dollars, (III) for each enrolled student who is not a resident of
481 the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than
482 eighty per cent of the school's students, up to an amount equal to the
483 total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the
484 data of record, in the amount of eight thousand one hundred eighty
485 dollars, and (IV) for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the
486 district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty
487 per cent of the school's students, in an amount greater than the total
488 number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data
489 of record, in the amount of seven thousand eighty-five dollars.

490 (ii) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year
491 thereafter, each interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional
492 educational service center that began operations for the school year
493 commencing July 1, 2001, and that for the school year commencing July
494 1, 2008, enrolled at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty per
495 cent of the school's students from a single town, shall receive a per pupil
496 grant (I) for each enrolled student who is a resident of the district that
497 enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of
498 the school's students, up to an amount equal to the total number of such
499 enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the
500 amount of eight thousand three hundred forty-four dollars, (II) for each
501 enrolled student who is a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-
502 five per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of the school's students,
503 in an amount greater than the total number of such enrolled students as
504 of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of three
505 thousand sixty dollars, (III) for each enrolled student who is not a
506 resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but no more
507 than eighty per cent of the school's students, up to an amount equal to
508 the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using
509 the data of record, in the amount of eight thousand three hundred forty-
510 four dollars, and (IV) for each enrolled student who is not a resident of
511 the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than
512 eighty per cent of the school's students, in an amount greater than the
513 total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the

514 data of record, in the amount of seven thousand two hundred twenty-
515 seven dollars.

516 (D) (i) Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (D)(ii) of this
517 subdivision, each interdistrict magnet school operated by (I) a regional
518 educational service center, (II) the Board of Trustees of the Community-
519 Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college,
520 (III) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on
521 behalf of a state university, (IV) the Board of Trustees for The University
522 of Connecticut on behalf of the university, (V) the board of governors
523 for an independent institution of higher education, as defined in
524 subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on
525 behalf of the independent institution of higher education, except as
526 otherwise provided in subparagraph (E) of this subdivision, (VI)
527 cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a, (VII) any other
528 third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the commissioner,
529 and (VIII) the Hartford school district for the operation of Great Path
530 Academy on behalf of Manchester Community College, that enrolls less
531 than sixty per cent of its students from Hartford shall receive a per pupil
532 grant in the amount of nine thousand six hundred ninety-five dollars for
533 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, ten thousand four hundred forty-
534 three dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2011, to June 30, 2019,
535 inclusive, and ten thousand six hundred fifty-two dollars for the fiscal
536 year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter.

537 (ii) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, to June 30, 2019,
538 inclusive, any interdistrict magnet school described in subparagraph
539 (D)(i) of this subdivision that enrolls less than fifty per cent of its
540 incoming students from Hartford shall receive a per pupil grant in the
541 amount of seven thousand nine hundred dollars for one-half of the total
542 number of non-Hartford students enrolled in the school over fifty per
543 cent of the total school enrollment and shall receive a per pupil grant in
544 the amount of ten thousand four hundred forty-three dollars for the
545 remainder of the total school enrollment. For the fiscal year ending June
546 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter, any interdistrict magnet school
547 described in subparagraph (D)(i) of this subdivision that enrolls less

548 than fifty per cent of its incoming students from Hartford shall receive
549 a per pupil grant in the amount of eight thousand fifty-eight dollars for
550 one-half of the total number of non-Hartford students enrolled in the
551 school over fifty per cent of the total school enrollment and shall receive
552 a per pupil grant in the amount of ten thousand six hundred fifty-two
553 dollars for the remainder of the total school enrollment, except the
554 commissioner may, upon the written request of an operator of such
555 school, waive such fifty per cent enrollment minimum for good cause.

556 (E) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, and each fiscal year
557 thereafter, each interdistrict magnet school operated by the board of
558 governors for an independent institution of higher education, as defined
559 in subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on
560 behalf of the independent institution of higher education, that (i) began
561 operations for the school year commencing July 1, 2014, (ii) enrolls less
562 than sixty per cent of its students from Hartford pursuant to the decision
563 in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order
564 in effect, as determined by the commissioner, and (iii) enrolls students
565 at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a per pupil grant (I) equal
566 to sixty-five per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to
567 subparagraph (D) of this subdivision for each student who is enrolled
568 at such school for at least two semesters in each school year, and (II)
569 equal to thirty-two and one-half per cent of the grant amount
570 determined pursuant to subparagraph (D) of this subdivision for each
571 student who is enrolled at such school for one semester in each school
572 year.

573 (F) Each interdistrict magnet school operated by a local or regional
574 board of education, pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238
575 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, shall receive
576 a per pupil grant for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the
577 district in the amount of (i) twelve thousand dollars for the fiscal year
578 ending June 30, 2010, (ii) thirteen thousand fifty-four dollars for the
579 fiscal years ending June 30, 2011, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, and (iii)
580 thirteen thousand three hundred fifteen dollars for the fiscal year ending
581 June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter.

582 (G) In addition to the grants described in subparagraph (E) of this
583 subdivision, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, the commissioner
584 may, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
585 Management and the Finance Advisory Committee, established
586 pursuant to section 4-93, provide supplemental grants to the Hartford
587 school district of up to one thousand fifty-four dollars for each student
588 enrolled at an interdistrict magnet school operated by the Hartford
589 school district who is not a resident of such district.

590 (H) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year
591 thereafter, the half-day Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts
592 interdistrict magnet school operated by the Capital Region Education
593 Council shall be eligible to receive a per pupil grant equal to sixty-five
594 per cent of the per pupil grant specified in subparagraph (A) of this
595 subdivision.

596 (I) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, to June 30, 2018, inclusive,
597 the half-day Greater Hartford Academy of Mathematics and Science
598 interdistrict magnet school operated by the Capitol Region Education
599 Council shall be eligible to receive a per pupil grant equal to six
600 thousand seven hundred eighty-seven dollars for (i) students enrolled
601 in grades ten to twelve, inclusive, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016,
602 (ii) students enrolled in grades eleven and twelve for the fiscal year
603 ending June 30, 2017, and (iii) students enrolled in grade twelve for the
604 fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016,
605 and each fiscal year thereafter, the half-day Greater Hartford Academy
606 of Mathematics and Science interdistrict magnet school shall not be
607 eligible for any additional grants pursuant to subsection (c) of this
608 section.

609 (4) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, and June 30, 2016, the
610 department may limit payment to an interdistrict magnet school
611 operator to an amount equal to the grant that such magnet school
612 operator was eligible to receive based on the enrollment level of the
613 interdistrict magnet school program on October 1, 2013. Approval of
614 funding for enrollment above such enrollment level shall be prioritized

615 by the department as follows: (A) Increases in enrollment in an
616 interdistrict magnet school program that is adding planned new grade
617 levels for the school years commencing July 1, 2015, and July 1, 2016; (B)
618 increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program that
619 added planned new grade levels for the school year commencing July 1,
620 2014, and was funded during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015; (C)
621 increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program that
622 is moving into a permanent facility for the school years commencing
623 July 1, 2014, to July 1, 2016, inclusive; (D) increases in enrollment in an
624 interdistrict magnet school program to ensure compliance with
625 subsection (a) of this section; and (E) new enrollments for a new
626 interdistrict magnet school program commencing operations on or after
627 July 1, 2014, pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1
628 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the
629 commissioner. Any interdistrict magnet school program operating less
630 than full-time, but at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a grant
631 equal to sixty-five per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to
632 this subsection.

633 (5) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, the department may limit
634 payment to an interdistrict magnet school operator to an amount equal
635 to the grant that such magnet school operator was eligible to receive
636 based on the enrollment level of the interdistrict magnet school program
637 on October 1, 2013, or October 1, 2015, whichever is lower. Approval of
638 funding for enrollment above such enrollment level shall be prioritized
639 by the department as follows: (A) Increases in enrollment in an
640 interdistrict magnet school program that is adding planned new grade
641 levels for the school years commencing July 1, 2015, and July 1, 2016; (B)
642 increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program that
643 added planned new grade levels for the school year commencing July 1,
644 2014, and was funded during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015; (C)
645 increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program that
646 added planned new grade levels for the school year commencing July 1,
647 2015, and was funded during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016; and
648 (D) increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program to
649 ensure compliance with subsection (a) of this section. Any interdistrict

650 magnet school program operating less than full-time, but at least half-
651 time, shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-five per cent of the
652 grant amount determined pursuant to this subsection.

653 (6) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and within available
654 appropriations, the department may limit payment to an interdistrict
655 magnet school operator to an amount equal to the grant that such
656 magnet school operator was eligible to receive based on the enrollment
657 level of the interdistrict magnet school program on October 1, 2013,
658 October 1, 2015, or October 1, 2016, whichever is lower. Approval of
659 funding for enrollment above such enrollment level shall be prioritized
660 by the department and subject to the commissioner's approval,
661 including increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school
662 program as a result of planned and approved new grade levels. Any
663 interdistrict magnet school program operating less than full-time, but at
664 least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-five per
665 cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to this subsection.

666 (7) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, and within available
667 appropriations, the department may limit payment to an interdistrict
668 magnet school operator to an amount equal to the grant that such
669 magnet school operator was eligible to receive based on the enrollment
670 level of the interdistrict magnet school program on October 1, 2013,
671 October 1, 2015, October 1, 2016, or October 1, 2017, whichever is lower.
672 Approval of funding for enrollment above such enrollment level shall
673 be prioritized by the department and subject to the commissioner's
674 approval, including increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet
675 school program as a result of planned and approved new grade levels.
676 Any interdistrict magnet school program operating less than full-time,
677 but at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-
678 five per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to this
679 subsection.

680 (8) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and within available
681 appropriations, the department may limit payment to an interdistrict
682 magnet school operator to an amount equal to the grant that such

683 magnet school operator was eligible to receive based on the enrollment
684 level of the interdistrict magnet school program on October 1, 2013,
685 October 1, 2015, October 1, 2016, October 1, 2017, or October 1, 2018,
686 whichever is lower. Approval of funding for enrollment above such
687 enrollment level shall be prioritized by the department and subject to
688 the commissioner's approval, including increases in enrollment in an
689 interdistrict magnet school program as a result of planned and
690 approved new grade levels. Any interdistrict magnet school program
691 operating less than full-time, but at least half-time, shall be eligible to
692 receive a grant equal to sixty-five per cent of the grant amount
693 determined pursuant to this subsection.

694 (9) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, and within available
695 appropriations, the department may limit payment to an interdistrict
696 magnet school operator to an amount equal to the grant that such
697 magnet school operator was eligible to receive based on the enrollment
698 level of the interdistrict magnet school program on October 1, 2013,
699 October 1, 2015, October 1, 2016, October 1, 2017, October 1, 2018, or
700 October 1, 2019, whichever is lower. Approval of funding for enrollment
701 above such enrollment level shall be prioritized by the department and
702 subject to the commissioner's approval, including increases in
703 enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program as a result of
704 planned and approved new grade levels. Any interdistrict magnet
705 school program operating less than full-time, but at least half-time, shall
706 be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-five per cent of the grant
707 amount determined pursuant to this subsection.]

708 [(10)] (4) Within available appropriations, the commissioner may
709 make grants to the following entities that operate an interdistrict magnet
710 school that assists the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the
711 decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation
712 or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner and that provide
713 academic support programs and summer school educational programs
714 approved by the commissioner to students participating in such
715 interdistrict magnet school program: (A) Regional educational service
716 centers, (B) local and regional boards of education, (C) the Board of

717 Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional
718 community-technical college, (D) the Board of Trustees of the
719 Connecticut State University System on behalf of a state university, (E)
720 the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of the
721 university, (F) the board of governors for an independent institution of
722 higher education, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the
723 equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent institution of
724 higher education, (G) cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-
725 158a, and (H) any other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved
726 by the commissioner.

727 [(11)] (5) Within available appropriations, the Commissioner of
728 Education may make grants, in an amount not to exceed seventy-five
729 thousand dollars, for start-up costs associated with the development of
730 new interdistrict magnet school programs that assist the state in meeting
731 its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1
732 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the
733 commissioner, to the following entities that develop such a program: (A)
734 Regional educational service centers, (B) local and regional boards of
735 education, (C) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical
736 Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college, (D) the
737 Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on behalf
738 of a state university, (E) the Board of Trustees for The University of
739 Connecticut on behalf of the university, (F) the board of governors for
740 an independent institution of higher education, as defined in subsection
741 (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the
742 independent institution of higher education, (G) cooperative
743 arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a, and (H) any other third-party
744 not-for-profit corporation approved by the commissioner.

745 [(12)] (6) In no case shall the total grant paid to an interdistrict magnet
746 school operator pursuant to this section exceed the aggregate total of the
747 reasonable operating budgets of the interdistrict magnet school
748 programs of such operator, less revenues from other sources.

749 (d) [(1)] Grants made pursuant to this section [, except those made

750 pursuant to subdivision (7) of subsection (c) of this section and
751 subdivision (2) of this subsection,] shall be paid as follows: Seventy per
752 cent not later than September first and the balance not later than May
753 first of each fiscal year. The May first payment shall be adjusted to reflect
754 actual interdistrict magnet school program enrollment as of the
755 preceding October first using the data of record as of the intervening
756 January thirty-first, if the actual level of enrollment is lower than the
757 projected enrollment stated in the approved grant application. The May
758 first payment shall be further adjusted for the difference between the
759 total grant received by the magnet school operator in the prior fiscal year
760 and the revised total grant amount calculated for the prior fiscal year in
761 cases where the aggregate financial audit submitted by the interdistrict
762 magnet school operator pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (n) of
763 this section indicates an overpayment by the department.
764 Notwithstanding the provisions of this section to the contrary, grants
765 made pursuant to this section may be paid to each interdistrict magnet
766 school operator as an aggregate total of the amount that the interdistrict
767 magnet schools operated by each such operator are eligible to receive
768 under this section. Each interdistrict magnet school operator may
769 distribute such aggregate grant among the interdistrict magnet school
770 programs that such operator is operating pursuant to a distribution plan
771 approved by the Commissioner of Education.

772 [(2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year
773 thereafter, grants made pursuant to subparagraph (E) of subdivision (3)
774 of subsection (c) of this section shall be paid as follows: Fifty per cent of
775 the amount not later than September first based on estimated student
776 enrollment for the first semester on September first, and another fifty
777 per cent not later than May first of each fiscal year based on actual
778 student enrollment for the second semester on February first. The May
779 first payment shall be adjusted to reflect actual interdistrict magnet
780 school program enrollment for those students who have been enrolled
781 at such school for at least two semesters of the school year, using the
782 data of record, and actual student enrollment for those students who
783 have been enrolled at such school for only one semester, using data of
784 record. The May first payment shall be further adjusted for the

785 difference between the total grant received by the magnet school
786 operator in the prior fiscal year and the revised total grant amount
787 calculated for the prior fiscal year where the financial audit submitted
788 by the interdistrict magnet school operator pursuant to subdivision (1)
789 of subsection (n) of this section indicates an overpayment by the
790 department.]

791 (e) The Department of Education may retain up to one-half of one per
792 cent of the amount appropriated, in an amount not to exceed five
793 hundred thousand dollars, for purposes of this section for program
794 evaluation and administration.

795 (f) Each local or regional school district in which an interdistrict
796 magnet school is located shall provide the same kind of transportation
797 to its children enrolled in such interdistrict magnet school as it provides
798 to its children enrolled in other public schools in such local or regional
799 school district. The parent or guardian of a child denied the
800 transportation services required to be provided pursuant to this
801 subsection may appeal such denial in the manner provided in sections
802 10-186 and 10-187.

803 (g) On or before October fifteenth of each year, the Commissioner of
804 Education shall determine if interdistrict magnet school enrollment is
805 below the number of students for which funds were appropriated. If the
806 commissioner determines that the enrollment is below such number, the
807 additional funds shall not lapse but shall be used by the commissioner
808 for grants for interdistrict cooperative programs pursuant to section 10-
809 74d.

810 (h) (1) In the case of a student identified as requiring special
811 education, the school district in which the student resides shall: (A)
812 Hold the planning and placement team meeting for such student and
813 shall invite representatives from the interdistrict magnet school to
814 participate in such meeting; and (B) pay the interdistrict magnet school
815 an amount equal to the difference between the reasonable cost of
816 educating such student and the sum of the amount received by the
817 interdistrict magnet school for such student pursuant to subsection (c)

818 of this section and amounts received from other state, federal, local or
819 private sources calculated on a per pupil basis. Such school district shall
820 be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g. If a student
821 requiring special education attends an interdistrict magnet school on a
822 full-time basis, such interdistrict magnet school shall be responsible for
823 ensuring that such student receives the services mandated by the
824 student's individualized education program whether such services are
825 provided by the interdistrict magnet school or by the school district in
826 which the student resides.

827 (2) In the case of a student with a plan pursuant to Section 504 of the
828 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended from time to time, the school
829 district in which the student resides shall pay the interdistrict magnet
830 school an amount equal to the difference between the reasonable cost of
831 educating such student and the sum of the amount received by the
832 interdistrict magnet school for such student pursuant to subsection (c)
833 of this section and amounts received from other state, federal, local or
834 private sources calculated on a per pupil basis. If a student with a plan
835 pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended
836 from time to time, attends an interdistrict magnet school on a full-time
837 basis, such interdistrict magnet school shall be responsible for ensuring
838 that such student receives the services mandated by the student's plan,
839 whether such services are provided by the interdistrict magnet school
840 or by the school district in which the student resides.

841 (i) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the
842 enrollment of nonpublic school students in an interdistrict magnet
843 school program that operates less than full-time, provided (1) such
844 students constitute no more than five per cent of the full-time equivalent
845 enrollment in such magnet school program, and (2) such students are
846 not counted for purposes of determining the amount of grants pursuant
847 to this section and section 10-264i.

848 (j) After accommodating students from participating districts in
849 accordance with an approved enrollment agreement, an interdistrict
850 magnet school operator that has unused student capacity may enroll

851 directly into its program any interested student. A student from a
852 district that is not participating in an interdistrict magnet school or the
853 interdistrict student attendance program pursuant to section 10-266aa
854 to an extent determined by the Commissioner of Education shall be
855 given preference. [The local or regional board of education otherwise
856 responsible for educating such student shall contribute funds to support
857 the operation of the interdistrict magnet school in an amount equal to
858 the per student tuition, if any, charged to participating districts.]

859 [(k) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, and each fiscal year
860 thereafter, any tuition charged to a local or regional board of education
861 by a regional educational service center operating an interdistrict
862 magnet school or any tuition charged by the Hartford school district
863 operating the Great Path Academy on behalf of Manchester Community
864 College for any student enrolled in kindergarten to grade twelve,
865 inclusive, in such interdistrict magnet school shall be in an amount equal
866 to the difference between (A) the average per pupil expenditure of the
867 magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (B) the amount of any per
868 pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of this section plus
869 any revenue from other sources calculated on a per pupil basis. If any
870 such board of education fails to pay such tuition, the commissioner may
871 withhold from such board's town or towns a sum payable under section
872 10-262i in an amount not to exceed the amount of the unpaid tuition to
873 the magnet school and pay such money to the fiscal agent for the magnet
874 school as a supplementary grant for the operation of the interdistrict
875 magnet school program. In no case shall the sum of such tuitions exceed
876 the difference between (i) the total expenditures of the magnet school
877 for the prior fiscal year, and (ii) the total per pupil state subsidy
878 calculated under subsection (c) of this section plus any revenue from
879 other sources. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive
880 financial review of the operating budget of a magnet school to verify
881 such tuition rate.

882 (2) (A) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, and June 30, 2014, a
883 regional educational service center operating an interdistrict magnet
884 school offering a preschool program that is not located in the Sheff

885 region may charge tuition to the Department of Education for a child
886 enrolled in such preschool program in an amount not to exceed an
887 amount equal to the difference between (i) the average per pupil
888 expenditure of the preschool program offered at the magnet school for
889 the prior fiscal year, and (ii) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy
890 calculated under subsection (c) of this section plus any revenue from
891 other sources calculated on a per pupil basis. The commissioner may
892 conduct a comprehensive financial review of the operating budget of
893 any such magnet school charging such tuition to verify such tuition rate.
894 For purposes of this subdivision, "Sheff region" means the school
895 districts for the towns of Avon, Bloomfield, Canton, East Granby, East
896 Hartford, East Windsor, Ellington, Farmington, Glastonbury, Granby,
897 Hartford, Manchester, Newington, Rocky Hill, Simsbury, South
898 Windsor, Suffield, Vernon, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Windsor and
899 Windsor Locks.

900 (B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, a regional educational
901 service center operating an interdistrict magnet school offering a
902 preschool program that is not located in the Sheff region may charge
903 tuition to the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in such preschool
904 program in an amount that is in accordance with the sliding tuition scale
905 adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to section 10-264p.
906 The Department of Education shall be financially responsible for any
907 unpaid portion of the tuition not charged to such parent or guardian
908 under such sliding tuition scale. Such tuition shall not exceed an amount
909 equal to the difference between (i) the average per pupil expenditure of
910 the preschool program offered at the magnet school for the prior fiscal
911 year, and (ii) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy calculated under
912 subsection (c) of this section plus any revenue from other sources
913 calculated on a per pupil basis. The commissioner may conduct a
914 comprehensive financial review of the operating budget of any such
915 magnet school charging such tuition to verify such tuition rate.]

916 [(C)] (k) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year
917 thereafter, a regional educational service center operating an
918 interdistrict magnet school offering a preschool program that is not

919 located in the Sheff region shall charge tuition to the parent or guardian
920 of a child enrolled in such preschool program in an amount up to four
921 thousand fifty-three dollars, except such regional educational service
922 center shall not charge tuition to such parent or guardian with a family
923 income at or below seventy-five per cent of the state median income.
924 The Department of Education shall, within available appropriations, be
925 financially responsible for any unpaid tuition charged to such parent or
926 guardian with a family income at or below seventy-five per cent of the
927 state median income. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive
928 financial review of the operating budget of any such magnet school
929 charging such tuition to verify such tuition rate.

930 (l) A participating district shall provide opportunities for its students
931 to attend an interdistrict magnet school in a number that is at least equal
932 to the number specified in any written agreement with an interdistrict
933 magnet school operator or in a number that is at least equal to the
934 average number of students that the participating district enrolled in
935 such magnet school during the previous three school years.

936 (m) (1) On or before May 15, 2010, and annually thereafter, each
937 interdistrict magnet school operator shall provide written notification to
938 any school district that is otherwise responsible for educating a student
939 who resides in such school district and will be enrolled in an interdistrict
940 magnet school under the operator's control for the following school
941 year. Such notification shall include (A) the number of any such
942 students, by grade, who will be enrolled in an interdistrict magnet
943 school under the control of such operator, (B) the name of the school in
944 which such student has been placed, and (C) the amount of tuition to be
945 charged to the local or regional board of education for such student.
946 Such notification shall represent an estimate of the number of students
947 expected to attend such interdistrict magnet schools in the following
948 school year, but shall not be deemed to limit the number of students
949 who may enroll in such interdistrict magnet schools for such year.

950 (2) For the school year commencing July 1, [2015] 2024, and each
951 school year thereafter, any interdistrict magnet school operator that is a

952 local or regional board of education [and did] shall not charge tuition to
953 [a] another local or regional board of education. [for the school year
954 commencing July 1, 2014, may not charge tuition to such board unless
955 (A) such operator receives authorization from the Commissioner of
956 Education to charge the proposed tuition, and (B) if such authorization
957 is granted, such operator provides written notification on or before
958 September first of the school year prior to the school year in which such
959 tuition is to be charged to such board of the tuition to be charged to such
960 board for each student that such board is otherwise responsible for
961 educating and is enrolled at the interdistrict magnet school under such
962 operator's control. In deciding whether to authorize an interdistrict
963 magnet school operator to charge tuition under this subdivision, the
964 commissioner shall consider (i) the average per pupil expenditure of
965 such operator for each interdistrict magnet school under the control of
966 such operator, and (ii) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy and
967 any revenue from other sources received by such operator. The
968 commissioner may conduct a comprehensive financial review of the
969 operating budget of the magnet school of such operator to verify that
970 the tuition is appropriate. The provisions of this subdivision shall not
971 apply to any interdistrict magnet school operator that is a regional
972 educational service center or assisting the state in meeting its obligations
973 pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any
974 related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the
975 Commissioner of Education] The provisions of this subdivision shall
976 apply to any interdistrict magnet school operator.

977 (3) Not later than two weeks following an enrollment lottery for an
978 interdistrict magnet school conducted by a magnet school operator, the
979 parent or guardian of a student (A) who will enroll in such interdistrict
980 magnet school in the following school year, or (B) whose name has been
981 placed on a waiting list for enrollment in such interdistrict magnet
982 school for the following school year, shall provide written notification
983 of such prospective enrollment or waiting list placement to the school
984 district in which such student resides and is otherwise responsible for
985 educating such student.

986 (n) (1) Each interdistrict magnet school operator shall annually file
987 with the Commissioner of Education, at such time and in such manner
988 as the commissioner prescribes, (A) a financial audit for each
989 interdistrict magnet school operated by such operator, and (B) an
990 aggregate financial audit for all of the interdistrict magnet schools
991 operated by such operator.

992 (2) Annually, the commissioner shall randomly select one
993 interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional educational service
994 center to be subject to a comprehensive financial audit conducted by an
995 auditor selected by the commissioner. The regional educational service
996 center shall be responsible for all costs associated with the audit
997 conducted pursuant to the provisions of this subdivision.

998 (o) For the school [years commencing July 1, 2009, to July 1, 2018,
999 inclusive] year commencing July 1, 2024, any local or regional board of
1000 education operating an interdistrict magnet school pursuant to the
1001 decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation
1002 or order in effect, shall not charge tuition for any student enrolled in [a
1003 preschool program or in] kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, in an
1004 interdistrict magnet school operated by such school district. [, except the
1005 Hartford school district may charge tuition for any student enrolled in
1006 the Great Path Academy.]

1007 [(p) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year
1008 thereafter, if the East Hartford school district has greater than seven per
1009 cent of its resident students, as defined in section 10-262f, enrolled in an
1010 interdistrict magnet school program, then the board of education for the
1011 town of East Hartford shall not be financially responsible for four
1012 thousand four hundred dollars of the portion of the per student tuition
1013 charged for each such student in excess of such seven per cent. The
1014 Department of Education shall, within available appropriations, be
1015 financially responsible for such excess per student tuition.
1016 Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, for the fiscal year
1017 ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount of the
1018 grants payable to the board of education for the town of East Hartford

1019 in accordance with this subsection shall be reduced proportionately if
1020 the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount appropriated
1021 for purposes of this subsection.]

1022 Sec. 6. Subsection (b) of section 10-264o of the 2022 supplement to the
1023 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1024 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

1025 (b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, [2013] 2025, and each fiscal year
1026 thereafter, [any tuition charged to a local or regional board of education
1027 by] a regional educational service center operating an interdistrict
1028 magnet school assisting the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to
1029 the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related
1030 stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of
1031 Education, shall not charge tuition to a local or regional board of
1032 education for any student enrolled in kindergarten to grade twelve,
1033 inclusive, in such interdistrict magnet school. [shall be in an amount
1034 equal to the difference between (1) the average per pupil expenditure of
1035 the magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (2) the amount of any per
1036 pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of section 10-264l,
1037 plus any revenue from other sources calculated on a per pupil basis. If
1038 any such board of education fails to pay such tuition, the commissioner
1039 may withhold from such board's town or towns a sum payable under
1040 section 10-262i in an amount not to exceed the amount of the unpaid
1041 tuition to the magnet school and pay such money to the fiscal agent for
1042 the magnet school as a supplementary grant for the operation of the
1043 interdistrict magnet school program. In no case shall the sum of such
1044 tuitions exceed the difference between (A) the total expenditures of the
1045 magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (B) the total per pupil state
1046 subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of section 10-264l, plus any
1047 revenue from other sources. The commissioner may conduct a
1048 comprehensive review of the operating budget of a magnet school to
1049 verify such tuition rate.]

1050 Sec. 7. Subsection (d) of section 10-66ee of the 2022 supplement to the
1051 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu

1052 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

1053 (d) (1) As used in this subsection:

1054 (A) "Total charter need students" means the sum of (i) the number of
1055 students enrolled in state charter schools under the control of the
1056 governing authority for such state charter schools for the school year,
1057 and (ii) for the school year commencing July 1, 2021, and each school
1058 year thereafter, (I) thirty per cent of the number of children enrolled in
1059 such state charter schools eligible for free or reduced price meals or free
1060 milk, (II) fifteen per cent of the number of such children eligible for free
1061 or reduced price meals or free milk in excess of the number of such
1062 children eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk that is equal
1063 to sixty per cent of the total number of children enrolled in such state
1064 charter schools, and (III) twenty-five per cent of the number of students
1065 enrolled in such state charter schools who are English language learners,
1066 as defined in section 10-76kk.

1067 (B) "Foundation" has the same meaning as provided in section 10-
1068 262f, as amended by this act, except that for the fiscal year ending June
1069 30, 2026, and each fiscal year thereafter, the foundation is adjusted by
1070 the percentage increase in personal income, as defined in section 2-33a,
1071 or the percentage increase in inflation, as defined in section 2-33a,
1072 whichever is greater.

1073 (C) "Charter full weighted funding per student" means the quotient
1074 of (i) the product of the total charter need students and the foundation,
1075 and (ii) the number of students enrolled in state charter schools under
1076 the control of the governing authority for such state charter schools for
1077 the school year.

1078 (D) "Charter grant adjustment" means the absolute value of the
1079 difference between the foundation and charter full weighted funding
1080 per student for state charter schools under the control of the governing
1081 authority for such state charter schools for the school year.

1082 (2) For the fiscal year ending July 1, 2022, the state shall pay in

1083 accordance with this subsection, to the fiscal authority for a state charter
1084 school for each student enrolled in such school, the foundation plus four
1085 and one-tenth per cent of its charter grant adjustment.

1086 (3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the state shall pay in
1087 accordance with this subsection, to the fiscal authority for a state charter
1088 school for each student enrolled in such school, the foundation plus
1089 fourteen and seventy-six-one-hundredths per cent of its charter grant
1090 adjustment.

1091 (4) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the state shall pay in
1092 accordance with this subsection, to the fiscal authority for a state charter
1093 school for each student enrolled in such school, the foundation plus
1094 twenty-five and forty-two-one-hundredths per cent of its charter grant
1095 adjustment.

1096 (5) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year
1097 thereafter, the state shall pay in accordance with this subsection, to the
1098 fiscal authority for a state charter school, the product of the foundation
1099 and its total charter need students.

1100 [(4)] (6) Payments under subdivisions (2) [and (3)] to (5), inclusive, of
1101 this subsection shall be paid as follows: Twenty-five per cent of the
1102 amount not later than July fifteenth and September first based on
1103 estimated student enrollment on May first, and twenty-five per cent of
1104 the amount not later than January first and the remaining amount not
1105 later than April first, each based on student enrollment on October first.

1106 [(5)] (7) In the case of a student identified as requiring special
1107 education, the school district in which the student resides shall: (A)
1108 Hold the planning and placement team meeting for such student and
1109 shall invite representatives from the charter school to participate in such
1110 meeting; and (B) pay the state charter school, on a quarterly basis, an
1111 amount equal to the difference between the reasonable cost of educating
1112 such student and the sum of the amount received by the state charter
1113 school for such student pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection
1114 and amounts received from other state, federal, local or private sources

1115 calculated on a per pupil basis. Such school district shall be eligible for
1116 reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g. The charter school a student
1117 requiring special education attends shall be responsible for ensuring
1118 that such student receives the services mandated by the student's
1119 individualized education program whether such services are provided
1120 by the charter school or by the school district in which the student
1121 resides.

1122 Sec. 8. Section 10-65 of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is
1123 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1124 *2024*):

1125 (a) Each local or regional school district operating an agricultural
1126 science and technology education center approved by the State Board of
1127 Education for program, educational need, location and area to be served
1128 shall be eligible for the following grants: (1) In accordance with the
1129 provisions of chapter 173, through progress payments in accordance
1130 with the provisions of section 10-287i, (A) for projects for which an
1131 application was filed prior to July 1, 2011, ninety-five per cent, and (B)
1132 for projects for which an application was filed on or after July 1, 2011,
1133 eighty per cent of the net eligible costs of constructing, acquiring,
1134 renovating and equipping approved facilities to be used exclusively for
1135 such agricultural science and technology education center, for the
1136 expansion or improvement of existing facilities or for the replacement
1137 or improvement of equipment therein, and (2) subject to the provisions
1138 of section 10-65b and within available appropriations, [in an amount
1139 equal to five thousand two hundred dollars per student for every
1140 secondary school student who was enrolled in such center on October
1141 first of the previous year] for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and
1142 each fiscal year thereafter, a grant equal to the amount such board is
1143 entitled to receive under the provisions of section 3 of this act, except
1144 that no board shall receive less than the sum of the amount such board
1145 received per student for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, plus the
1146 amount of general education tuition per student such operator received
1147 from sending districts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, for each
1148 student.

1149 (b) Each local or regional board of education not maintaining an
1150 agricultural science and technology education center shall provide
1151 opportunities for its students to enroll in one or more such centers. [in a
1152 number that is at least equal to the number specified in any written
1153 agreement with each such center or centers, or in the absence of such an
1154 agreement, a number that is at least equal to the average number of its
1155 students that the board of education enrolled in each such center or
1156 centers during the previous three school years, provided, in addition to
1157 such number, each such board of education shall provide opportunities
1158 for its students to enroll in the ninth grade in a number that is at least
1159 equal to the number specified in any written agreement with each such
1160 center or centers, or in the absence of such an agreement, a number that
1161 is at least equal to the average number of students that the board of
1162 education enrolled in the ninth grade in each such center or centers
1163 during the previous three school years.] If a local or regional board of
1164 education provided opportunities for students to enroll in more than
1165 one center for the school year commencing July 1, 2007, such board of
1166 education shall continue to provide such opportunities to students in
1167 accordance with this subsection. The board of education operating an
1168 agricultural science and technology education center [may] shall not
1169 charge, subject to the provisions of section 10-65b, tuition [for a school
1170 year in an amount not to exceed fifty-nine and two-tenths per cent of the
1171 foundation level pursuant to subdivision (9) of section 10-262f, per
1172 student for the fiscal year in which the tuition is paid] to another local
1173 or regional board of education, except that such board may charge
1174 tuition for [(1) students enrolled under shared-time arrangements on a
1175 pro rata basis, and (2)] special education students which shall not exceed
1176 the actual costs of educating such students minus the amounts received
1177 pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section. [and
1178 subsection (c) of this section.] Any tuition paid by such board for special
1179 education students [in excess of the tuition paid for non-special-
1180 education students] shall be reimbursed pursuant to section 10-76g.

1181 [(c) In addition to the grants described in subsection (a) of this section,
1182 within available appropriations, (1) each local or regional board of
1183 education operating an agricultural science and technology education

1184 center in which more than one hundred fifty of the students in the prior
1185 school year were out-of-district students shall be eligible to receive a
1186 grant in an amount equal to five hundred dollars for every secondary
1187 school student enrolled in such center on October first of the previous
1188 year, (2) on and after July 1, 2000, if a local or regional board of education
1189 operating an agricultural science and technology education center that
1190 received a grant pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection no longer
1191 qualifies for such a grant, such local or regional board of education shall
1192 receive a grant in an amount determined as follows: (A) For the first
1193 fiscal year such board of education does not qualify for a grant under
1194 said subdivision (1), a grant in the amount equal to four hundred dollars
1195 for every secondary school student enrolled in its agricultural science
1196 and technology education center on October first of the previous year,
1197 (B) for the second successive fiscal year such board of education does
1198 not so qualify, a grant in an amount equal to three hundred dollars for
1199 every such secondary school student enrolled in such center on said
1200 date, (C) for the third successive fiscal year such board of education does
1201 not so qualify, a grant in an amount equal to two hundred dollars for
1202 every such secondary school student enrolled in such center on said
1203 date, and (D) for the fourth successive fiscal year such board of
1204 education does not so qualify, a grant in an amount equal to one
1205 hundred dollars for every such secondary school student enrolled in
1206 such center on said date, and (3) each local and regional board of
1207 education operating an agricultural science and technology education
1208 center that does not receive a grant pursuant to subdivision (1) or (2) of
1209 this subsection shall receive a grant in an amount equal to sixty dollars
1210 for every secondary school student enrolled in such center on said date.

1211 (d) (1) If there are any remaining funds after the amount of the grants
1212 described in subsections (a) and (c) of this section are calculated, within
1213 available appropriations, each local or regional board of education
1214 operating an agricultural science and technology education center shall
1215 be eligible to receive a grant in an amount equal to one hundred dollars
1216 for each student enrolled in such center on October first of the previous
1217 school year. (2) If there are any remaining funds after the amount of the
1218 grants described in subdivision (1) of this subsection are calculated,

1219 within available appropriations, each local or regional board of
1220 education operating an agricultural science and technology education
1221 center that had more than one hundred fifty out-of-district students
1222 enrolled in such center on October first of the previous school year shall
1223 be eligible to receive a grant based on the ratio of the number of out-of-
1224 district students in excess of one hundred fifty out-of-district students
1225 enrolled in such center on said date to the total number of out-of-district
1226 students in excess of one hundred fifty out-of-district students enrolled
1227 in all agricultural science and technology education centers that had in
1228 excess of one hundred fifty out-of-district students enrolled on said
1229 date.

1230 (e) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2012, and June 30, 2013, the
1231 Department of Education shall allocate five hundred thousand dollars
1232 to local or regional boards of education operating an agricultural science
1233 and technology education center in accordance with the provisions of
1234 subsections (b) to (d), inclusive, of this section.]

1235 [(f)] (c) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year
1236 thereafter, if a local or regional board of education receives an increase
1237 in funds pursuant to this section over the amount it received for the
1238 prior fiscal year such increase shall not be used to supplant local funding
1239 for educational purposes.

1240 [(g) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 10-51 and 10-222, for
1241 the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, to June 30, 2017, inclusive, any
1242 amount received by a local or regional board of education pursuant to
1243 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section that exceeds the amount
1244 appropriated for education by the municipality or the amount in the
1245 budget approved by such regional board of education for purposes of
1246 said subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section, shall be available
1247 for use by such local or regional board of education, provided such
1248 excess amount is spent in accordance with the provisions of subdivision
1249 (2) of subsection (a) of this section.]

1250 (d) For the purposes of equalization aid under section 10-262h, as
1251 amended by this act, a student enrolled in an agricultural science and

1252 technology education center shall be considered a student enrolled in
1253 the school district in which such student resides.

1254 Sec. 9. Subsection (d) of section 10-64 of the general statutes is
1255 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1256 *2024*):

1257 (d) Any local or regional board of education which does not furnish
1258 agricultural science and technology education approved by the State
1259 Board of Education shall designate a school or schools having such a
1260 course approved by the State Board of Education as the school which
1261 any person may attend who has completed an elementary school course
1262 through the eighth grade. The board of education shall pay the [tuition
1263 and] reasonable and necessary cost of transportation of any person
1264 under twenty-one years of age who is not a graduate of a high school or
1265 technical education and career school or an agricultural science and
1266 technology education center and who attends the designated school,
1267 provided transportation services may be suspended in accordance with
1268 the provisions of section 10-233c. Each such board's reimbursement
1269 percentage pursuant to section 10-266m for expenditures in excess of
1270 eight hundred dollars per pupil incurred in the fiscal year beginning
1271 July 1, 2004, and in each fiscal year thereafter, shall be increased by an
1272 additional twenty percentage points.

1273 Sec. 10. Subsection (b) of section 10-97 of the general statutes is
1274 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1275 *2024*):

1276 (b) Any local or regional board of education which does not furnish
1277 agricultural science and technology education approved by the State
1278 Board of Education shall designate a school or schools having such a
1279 course approved by the State Board of Education as the school which
1280 any person may attend who has completed an elementary school course
1281 through the eighth grade. The board of education shall pay the [tuition
1282 and] reasonable and necessary cost of transportation of any person
1283 under twenty-one years of age who is not a graduate of a high school or
1284 technical education and career school and who attends the designated

1285 school, provided transportation services may be suspended in
1286 accordance with the provisions of section 10-233c. Each such board's
1287 reimbursement percentage pursuant to section 10-266m for
1288 expenditures in excess of eight hundred dollars per pupil incurred in
1289 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1987, and in each fiscal year thereafter,
1290 shall be increased by an additional twenty percentage points.

1291 Sec. 11. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force to
1292 study issues related to education funding entitled to local and regional
1293 boards of education, charter schools and interdistrict magnet school
1294 operators under the provisions of section 10-262h of the general statutes,
1295 as amended by this act, section 10-66ee of the general statutes, as
1296 amended by this act, and section 3 of this act, accountability, and
1297 preparing students for success in college, careers and life. Such study
1298 shall include (1) an analysis of alliance district funding under section 10-
1299 262u of the general statutes and the extent to which current district
1300 supports and requirements improve student outcomes; (2) an analysis
1301 of how the accountability system contained within Connecticut's
1302 consolidated state plan under the Elementary and Secondary Education
1303 Act, 20 USC 6301 et seq., as amended by the Every Student Succeeds
1304 Act, P.L. 114-95, can be leveraged in concert with funding increases
1305 pursuant to section 10-262h of the general statutes, as amended by this
1306 act, and section 3 of this act to improve student outcomes; (3) the
1307 identification of thresholds at which additional accountability
1308 requirements apply; (4) the compensation, benefits, retention and
1309 recruitment of teachers, paraprofessionals and social workers; (5)
1310 restrictions on the use of any additional funds received pursuant to
1311 section 10-262h of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and
1312 section 3 of this act; and (6) reporting requirements for school districts
1313 receiving additional funds provided under the provisions of section 10-
1314 262h of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and section 3 of this
1315 act.

1316 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

1317 (1) Three appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,

1318 one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut Association of Public
1319 School Superintendents, one of whom is a representative of the
1320 Connecticut Council of Administrators of Special Education and one of
1321 whom is a representative of the RESC Alliance;

1322 (2) Three appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one
1323 of whom is a representative of the Connecticut Association of Board of
1324 Education, one of whom is a representative of Special Education Equity
1325 for Kids and one of whom is a representative of the Center for Children's
1326 Advocacy;

1327 (3) Three appointed by the majority leader of the House of
1328 Representatives, one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut
1329 School Counselor Association, one of whom is a representative of the
1330 Connecticut Education Association and one of whom is a
1331 superintendent of an alliance district;

1332 (4) Three appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, one of whom
1333 is a representative of the American Federation of Teachers-Connecticut,
1334 one of whom is a representative of ConnCAN and one of whom is a
1335 representative of the School and State Finance Project;

1336 (5) Two appointed by the minority leader of the House of
1337 Representatives, one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut
1338 Association of School Administrators and one of whom is a
1339 representative of the Connecticut Association of School Business
1340 Officials;

1341 (6) Two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, one of whom
1342 is a representative of the Connecticut Charter School Association and
1343 one of whom is the executive director of an agricultural science and
1344 technology education center;

1345 (7) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee;
1346 and

1347 (8) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the
1348 secretary's designee.

1349 (c) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later
1350 than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall
1351 be filled by the appointing authority.

1352 (d) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president
1353 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force
1354 from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall
1355 schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later
1356 than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

1357 (e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
1358 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education
1359 shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

1360 (f) Not later than July 1, 2023, the task force shall submit a report, in
1361 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,
1362 on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of
1363 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
1364 education. The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such
1365 report or January 1, 2023, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2022	10-262h
Sec. 2	July 1, 2022	10-262f(49)
Sec. 3	July 1, 2024	New section
Sec. 4	from passage	New section
Sec. 5	July 1, 2024	10-264l
Sec. 6	July 1, 2024	10-264o(b)
Sec. 7	July 1, 2022	10-66ee(d)
Sec. 8	July 1, 2024	10-65
Sec. 9	July 1, 2024	10-64(d)
Sec. 10	July 1, 2024	10-97(b)
Sec. 11	from passage	New section

ED Joint Favorable Subst.

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 23 \$	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Education, Dept.	GF - See Below	Savings of 1.2 million	Savings of 2.5 million	Costs of 237.4 million
Legislative Mgmt.	GF - Cost	68,000	68,000	68,000
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Cost	27,560	27,560	27,560

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 23 \$	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
All Municipalities	See Below	See Below	See Below	See Below

Explanation

The bill, which overhauls funding for five major state education grants or programs, is anticipated to result in substantial costs beginning in FY 25. The bill's costs to the Department of Education are estimated to be \$237.4 million in FY 25. Some of the additional state funding essentially replaces town tuition, which the bill largely eliminates. The bill also results in minor savings to the General Fund in FY 23 and FY 24, due to changes to one grant. An overview of the FY

¹The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 40.53% of payroll in FY 23.

25 cost impacts by program is provided in the table below.

**sHB 5283 Estimated Impacts to the General
Fund in FY 25**

Program	FY 25 Cost (In Millions)	FY 25 Percent Change
ECS	107.9	5%
State charter schools	22.7	18%
RESC Magnets	86.5	66%
BOE Magnets	6.4	5%
Vo Ag ¹	13.9	74%
TOTAL	237.4	9%

1 Costs and increases to program operators may exceed these estimates by amounts that cannot be determined, if the bill's lifting of the Vo Ag out-of-district enrollment cap results in more such students.

The bill additionally provides for annual, inflation-based grant increases to state charter schools and to magnets operated by regional educational service centers (RESCs) and Goodwin University,² beginning in FY 26.

The bill has a net positive impact to nearly all school operators in FY 25. The most substantial funding increases are to: (1) state charter schools; (2) towns that are significantly underfunded in the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) grant; and (3) RESC magnets. Savings are experienced by towns that send many students to Vo Ag programs or to magnet schools which currently charge tuition. The bill's impacts vary by program, as described below in the table and text.

Finally, the bill results in an additional cost to the General Fund of approximately \$95,560 annually beginning in FY 23 associated with hiring one nonpartisan analyst within the Office of Legislative Management. This will maintain the nonpartisan staff's ability to model, upon request, potential changes to the programs affected by the

² The RESCs and Goodwin University are referred to as "RESC magnets" in this fiscal note, for simplicity.

bill. Due to the bill's new grant structures, every request affecting certain ECS components must also consider the impacts to two other grants. This work will be complex and cannot be done within available resources.

**sHB 5283 Estimated Net Impacts to Program
Operators (Grant Recipients) in FY 25¹**

Program	FY 25 Est. Positive Net Impact (In Millions)	Number of Operators With Positive Net Impact in FY 25²
ECS	107.9	99 of 169
State charter schools	22.7	All 20
RESC Magnets	25.7	5 of 6
BOE Magnets	1.7	7 of 11
Vo Ag ³	1.8	3 of 20
TOTAL	159.8	Not applicable

¹ The table includes the impacts of both the change in the state grant and any tuition savings for operators. (A few BOE magnet and Vo Ag operators currently pay tuition to other operators in the same program.)

² Besides ECS, the operators without a positive impact are projected to have no net impact from the bill in FY 25.

³ Increases to program operators may exceed these estimates by amounts that cannot be determined, if the bill's lifting of the Vo Ag out-of-district enrollment cap results in more such students.

ECS. The bill continues the phase-in and phase-out schedule for FY 23 and FY 24 with some adjustments that result in minor savings, and then fully funds the underfunded towns beginning in FY 25 at an estimated cost of \$107.9 million (five percent) above current law.^{3,4} These towns receive no further ECS increases after FY 25, under the

³ The bill contains language for FY 25 through FY 27 that makes the grants for some towns incalculable. In order to produce an estimate for this fiscal note, the analysis assumes that when determining whether a town is under- or over-funded, the basis is how full funding compares to the town's grant for the previous fiscal year.

⁴ Under current law, the underfunded towns would continue to receive annual increases and reach full funding in FY 28.

bill.^{5,6}

State charter schools. The bill results in: (1) in FY 24, a cost of approximately \$2.8 million to provide a small additional phase-in to the formula in place for FY 23, and (2) in FY 25, an estimated cost of \$22.7 million (an 18 percent increase) above FY 23 to fully fund the formula. In FY 26 and beyond, annual inflation-based growth is projected to increase costs by approximately \$6.5 million to \$7.9 million (four percent) every year.

RESC magnets. The bill is projected to increase state funding to RESC magnets by approximately \$86.5 million (66 percent) in FY 25, when a new funding system is adopted.⁷ The bill's FY 25 net revenue increase to the RESCs is approximately \$25.7 million (13 percent); most of the increase in state funding replaces lost town tuition revenue of nearly \$61 million (the aggregate savings to sending towns). In FY 26 through FY 30, costs are anticipated to rise annually by three percent (\$6.8 million to \$8.1 million), due to the net impact of inflation-based increases and formula changes affecting the Sheff region operators. The bill allows RESCs to charge tuition to sending towns if the inflation-based increase is not funded, which may result in aggregate board of education costs of approximately \$9 million in a year.

BOE magnets. The bill is estimated to increase state grant funding to BOE interdistrict magnet operators by \$6.4 million (five percent) in FY 25, when a new funding system is adopted.⁸ It is projected that seven of the 11 operators will experience net increases, gaining approximately \$1.7 million in additional revenues and tuition savings collectively.⁹ The

⁵ Unless required by changes in a town's student or town data components of the ECS formula.

⁶ The bill's phase-out for towns considered overfunded by the formula continues through FY 30, as in current law.

⁷ The new funding system for RESC magnets is based on applying the ECS formula's student components to the RESCs' magnet enrollments, with an additional weight (increase) for Sheff-region operators.

⁸ The new funding system for BOE magnets is based on the ECS student need levels of the sending towns.

⁹ Two of these seven have flat revenue under the bill but also pay a small amount of tuition to other BOE magnet operators, resulting in a marginal positive net impact.

other four operators are projected to have no impact, with revenues equal to what was received on a per-student basis in FY 24 from both state and town tuition sources (due to a hold harmless provision). The bill's tuition elimination results in a savings of nearly \$4.8 million aggregately to the sending towns that do not operate these programs.

Vo Ag. The bill is anticipated to result in additional state costs of nearly \$13.9 million (increase of 74 percent) in FY 25, when a new funding system is adopted;¹⁰ however, nearly all the additional funding replaces town tuition revenue that is eliminated by the bill. Three of the 20 Vo Ag operators are anticipated to experience net increases, totaling approximately \$1.8 million in additional revenues and tuition savings. The other 17 are expected to see flat revenue and no impact. The bill's tuition elimination results in a savings of approximately \$12 million to the sending towns that do not operate Vo Ag programs.

The bill's lifting of the cap on out-of-district Vo Ag enrollment, beginning in FY 25, may produce a higher number of such students. If that effect occurs: (1) Vo Ag operators may experience revenue gains under the proposal, and (2) state grant costs will rise. The level of impact depends on any growth in out-of-district Vo Ag students and the student need levels of those students' towns.

The Out Years

The bill's projected annual costs (compared to current law) in FY 26 through FY 30 range from \$207.6 million (FY 26) to \$164.1 million (FY 29). Costs continue in FY 30 and beyond. The bill's fiscal impact is subject to changes in many factors, including: (1) enrollment; (2) student characteristics; (3) the number of students sent out-of-district from each town to a Vo Ag program and to a BOE magnet; (4) new or closed

¹⁰ The new funding system for Vo Ag operators is based on the ECS student need levels of the sending towns.

schools or programs; (5) tuition levels; and (6) inflation.¹¹

¹¹ The analysis for this fiscal note relies on: (1) Oct. 2019 student data for the RESC magnet, BOE magnet, and Vo Ag components; and (2) Oct. 2021 student data for the ECS and state charter school components.

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5283*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE EDUCATION COST SHARING GRANT FORMULA AND THE FUNDING OF OTHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS.*****SUMMARY**

The bill makes significant changes to four major education funding programs: (1) the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) grant, (2) interdistrict magnet school grants, (3) the regional agricultural science and technology center (i.e., “vo-ag center”) grant, and (4) the state charter school grant.

The bill adjusts the statutory schedule for towns to receive ECS grant increases and decreases. Under the bill, towns that the ECS grant formula currently underfunds are fully funded more quickly than under current law, by FY 25 rather than by FY 28. The scheduled ECS reductions for overfunded towns are essentially kept the same.

The bill eliminates, beginning with FY 25, the existing magnet school and vo-ag center grant programs and replaces them with two new grants, the choice program grant and a separate magnet school grant.

The choice program grant provides funding for local or regional boards of education (i.e., “boards of education”) that operate a magnet school or a vo-ag center. The bill also creates a separate grant for any magnet school operated by an entity that is not a board of education, such as a regional educational service center (RESC) or an independent institution of higher education.

The bill uses student need weightings in the choice program grants and the non-board of education magnet school grants that mirror the weighting used in existing law for ECS and charter school grants: additional weight for those eligible for free or reduced priced meals or

free milk (FRPM) and designated as an English language learner. Thus, these grants will provide additional funding for students that meet those criteria.

Also beginning in FY 25, the bill generally prohibits magnet schools and vo-ag centers from charging tuition to the towns that send students to magnet schools or vo-ag programs. The bill specifies that the new grant must provide at least the same amount of state funds that a magnet school operator or vo-ag center received in FY 24 plus the amount received that year in tuition from sending districts.

Under existing law, the per-student state charter school grant is scheduled to increase in FY 23. The bill requires additional increases for FYs 24 and 25, with state charters receiving full funding in FY 25.

The bill adds a cost of living increase, starting in FY 26, for the foundation amount used in grants for non-board of education magnet schools and state charter schools based on an annual percent increase in personal income or inflation, whichever is greater.

It requires the Department of Education (SDE), annually starting by January 1, 2024, to calculate and provide to the relevant operators or towns certain estimates for the various grants under the bill.

Finally, the bill creates a task force to study (1) education funding that local and regional boards of education, charter schools, and magnet school operators are entitled to through ECS grants, charter school grants, and the bill's new grants; (2) accountability; and (3) preparing students for success in college, careers, and life. The task force must report its findings and recommendations to the Education Committee by July 1, 2023.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2022, for the ECS grant phase in and charter school grants, July 1, 2024 for the new grants the bill creates, and upon passage for the annual SDE grant estimates and the task force.

§§ 1 & 2 — CHANGES TO ECS SCHEDULED PHASE IN

Under current law, underfunded towns are fully funded under the ECS formula in FY 28. Under the bill, these towns are fully funded in FY 25.

With respect to overfunded towns, current law uses the FY 17 ECS aid amount as a starting point every year to determine how much an overfunded town should have its funding reduced. Under the bill, the ECS reductions for overfunded towns are essentially kept the same, but the factors used to make this happen are different (e.g., rather than the FY 17 ECS amount, the bill uses the ECS amount for the most recent fiscal year).

Some towns are overfunded due primarily to the years when the state froze the level of funding for all towns even if some towns' student enrollment dropped. A town with declining enrollment generally receives less funding when the formula is updated with new enrollment figures.

Changing Terms Used to Categorize Towns

The bill changes some of the terms used to determine the first step in ECS grant funding: whether a town is underfunded or overfunded.

Under current law, an underfunded town is one whose fully funded grant amount, as determined by the formula, is greater than its base grant amount. Then the town is entitled to an increase in its ECS grant. A town's base grant amount is the ECS grant amount the town was entitled to for FY 17, minus authorized cuts implemented during FY 17. Under the bill, beginning with FY 23, the phase in compares the fully funded grant amount to a town's ECS grant for the previous fiscal year, rather than the base grant amount. Therefore, any town whose fully funded grant amount is greater than the town's ECS grant amount for the previous fiscal year, is entitled to an ECS grant increase.

The bill also uses the ECS grant amount for the previous fiscal year, rather than the base grant, to determine if a town is overfunded. Under current law, an overfunded town is one whose fully funded grant is less than its base grant. Then the town is entitled to either an amount the

town received in FY 21 or, starting in FY 24, a decreased grant amount each year. The bill instead compares the fully funded amount to the town’s ECS grant for the previous fiscal year.

When determining ECS grant increases or decreases, current law uses a town’s “grant adjustment,” which is the absolute value of the difference between a town’s base grant amount and its fully funded grant amount. The bill changes this definition to the absolute value of the difference between a town’s ECS grant amount for the previous year and its fully funded grant amount. For underfunded towns, the grant adjustment is the amount needed to be fully funded; for overfunded towns, it’s the amount the town is funded above its fully funded grant.

ECS Phase-In Adjustments

Table 1 shows how the bill changes the phase in for FYs 23-25 ECS grants.

Table 1: ECS Phase-In Adjustments for ECS Grants (FYs 23-25)

Town Type	FY 23		FY 24		FY 25	
	Current Law	Bill	Current Law	Bill	Current Law	Bill
Under-funded	Previous FY amount plus 10.66% of grant adjustment	Previous FY amount plus 16.67% of grant adjustment*	Previous FY amount plus 10.66% of grant adjustment	Previous FY amount plus 20% of grant adjustment*	Previous FY amount plus 10.66% of grant adjustment	Fully-funded amount
Over-funded	No reduction (held harmless) to FY 21 amount	No reduction (held harmless) to FY 22 amount (no actual change from current law)	Previous FY amount minus 8.33% of grant adjustment	Previous FY amount minus 14.29% of grant adjustment* (excludes alliance districts)**	Previous FY amount minus 8.33% of grant adjustment	Previous FY amount minus 16.67% of grant adjustment* (excludes alliance districts)**

*Under the bill, “grant adjustment” means the absolute value of the difference between a town’s ECS grant amount for the previous year and its fully funded grant amount. Generally, under the bill, the grant adjustment figure (before applying the percentage) will be smaller than under current law.

**Alliance districts reduce only to the FY 17 amount (i.e., base grant)

Under current law, for FYs 26 and 27, an underfunded town is entitled to an ECS grant for each year that equals the town’s previous fiscal year’s grant plus 10.66% of its grant adjustment. Under the bill for each of these years, underfunded towns are entitled to full funding.

For the same years, current law provides an overfunded town with a grant equal to its grant for the previous fiscal year minus 8.33% of its grant adjustment. The bill changes the reduction for overfunded towns based on using the ECS grant amount for the previous year and the revised definition of the grant adjustment (i.e., minus 20% of grant adjustment for FY 26 and minus 25% of grant adjustment for FY 27). Additionally, the bill changes, using the same method, the reduction for overfunded towns as follows:

1. for FY 28, from current law’s reduction of 8.33% of the grant adjustment to a reduction of 33.33% of the grant adjustment, and
2. for FY 29, from current law’s reduction of 8.33% of the grant adjustment to reduction of 50%.

The bill does not change the existing law that, for FYs 24-29, any overfunded town that is an alliance district is entitled to an ECS grant equal to its FY 17 amount after reductions in FY 17 (i.e., base grant amount).

§ 3 — CHOICE PROGRAM GRANTS AND NON-BOARD OF EDUCATION MAGNET SCHOOL GRANTS

The bill creates the choice program grant, for every year starting with FY 25, for boards of education that operate an interdistrict magnet school or a vo-ag center. The state’s vo-ag centers service high school students from multiple sending towns and provide them with an agricultural career education in addition to the comprehensive high

school education.

The bill also creates a separate grant for any magnet school operated by an entity that is not a board of education, such as a RESC or an independent institution of higher education.

Choice Program Grant

The bill includes a number of definitions used to create the choice program grant formula. The formula applies weights for certain students, such as whether the students are (1) from families that qualify for FRPM or (2) English language learners.

The weights increase the grant amounts for those students because the grant amount is produced by multiplying the need student number by the foundation number. For example, the bill provides for a 30% weighting for student poverty (i.e., students that qualify for FRPM). If 100 students from a district qualify, then, for grant purposes, those students count as 130 students. This increases the grant as the weighted number becomes the new student number that is multiplied by the foundation amount (see below).

Under the bill a “choice program grant” is the sum of the weighted funding amount per sending town for each sending town. For any vo-ag program or magnet school, the program operator is receiving students from multiple sending towns (i.e., the student’s town of residence that would otherwise be responsible for educating the student). Also, under the bill, the “weighted funding amount per sending town” is a town’s weighted funding amount per pupil multiplied by the number of choice program resident students from that town for a particular choice program.

Additionally, the bill defines the following terms for purposes of the new grants:

1. “weighted funding amount per pupil” is (a) the foundation amount multiplied by a town’s total need students for the fiscal year prior to the grant payment year and (b) the resulting product

- is divided by the number of a town's resident students;
2. "foundation" amount is \$11,525, which is the same as in ECS law (although the bill includes an annual inflation adjustment for magnet school operators that are not a board of education; see below);
 3. "total need students" means a (a) student poverty weighting (same as in ECS law) of 30% of students eligible for FRPM plus 15% of any FRPM-eligible students above 60% of the total number of resident students and (b) a 25% weighting for the number of students who are English language learners, as identified by the school district;
 4. "resident students" means the number of students in a town enrolled in its public schools at the town's expense as of October 1 of each year (as under the ECS law); and
 5. "resident choice program students" means the number of part-time and full-time students of a town enrolled or participating in a particular choice program.

Non-Board of Education Magnet Schools

For this grant, a magnet school operator is defined as an entity that is (1) not a board of education (presumably this includes RESCs), (2) a nonprofit private institution of higher education that has its main campus in the state, or (3) a third-party nonprofit corporation that the education commissioner approves. Under the bill, starting in FY 25, these operators are entitled to a grant that equals the product of the foundation multiplied by its total magnet school program need students.

The bill creates a formula for calculating total magnet school program needs students that (1) counts full- and part-time students at the magnet schools, (2) generally uses the ECS student weighting percentages, and (3) includes a *Sheff* region additional student weighting. The foundation component for this grant also has an annual cost of living factor that

potentially increases the foundation from one year to the next.

Student Weighting. The student need weighting generally reflects the ECS formula weighting as follows: (1) student poverty weighting is 30% of students eligible for FRPM plus an additional 15% of any FRPM-eligible students above 60% of the total number of resident students and (2) a 25% weighting for the number of students who are English language learners, as identified by the school district.

The bill adds additional student weighting for magnet schools that are helping the state meet its obligations under the *Sheff v. O’Neill* desegregation court decision (238 Conn. 1 (1996)) and related agreements or orders. This additional weighting is reduced over a six-year period from an initial 30% to 20% as shown in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Additional Weighting for Students Attending Sheff Magnets

<i>FY</i>	<i>Weighting Percentage</i>
25	30%
26	28%
27	26%
28	24%
29	22%
30 and each following year	20%

Foundation Annual Adjustments Starting in FY 26 for Magnet Schools. The bill adds a foundation cost of living increase for magnet school operators that are not a local or regional board of education, based on the annual percent increase in personal income or inflation, whichever is greater, starting in FY 26. The bill uses the following statutory definitions for these terms:

1. “increase in personal income” is the compound annual growth rate of personal income in Connecticut over the previous five calendar years, using federal Bureau of Economic Analysis data, and
2. “increase in inflation” is the increase in the consumer price index

for all urban consumers, for all items except food and energy, during the preceding year, using federal Bureau of Labor Statistics data.

§ 4 — ECS, CHOICE PROGRAM, AND CHARTER SCHOOL GRANT ESTIMATES

The bill tasks SDE, annually starting by January 1, 2024, with calculating and providing to the relevant operators or towns the FY 25 estimates for each of the following grants:

1. each choice program grant established under the bill (SDE must notify each local and regional board of education and magnet school program operator that is not a local or regional board of education); and
2. fully-funded ECS grants (SDE must notify each town).

The bill also requires SDE, annually starting by January 1, 2024, to (1) calculate the product of the foundation multiplied by the total charter need students for each state charter school fiscal authority for FY 25 and (2) notify each fiscal authority of the results.

In all three of these calculations, the bill requires SDE to calculate FY 25 estimates using data collected during FY 24 (as the bill requires the calculations every year, presumably SDE must calculate estimates for the next FY, FY 26, based on data collected in FY 25, and this process would proceed year to year in the same way).

§§ 5 & 6 — ELIMINATING CURRENT MAGNET SCHOOL GRANT PROGRAMS AND TUITION

The bill eliminates, beginning with FY 25, the existing per-student magnet school grants and replaces them with the grants created in the bill (see § 3). Under current law, a magnet school generally receives a \$3,060 grant for each student from the district that hosts the school (home district) and, depending upon the type of magnet school, one of the grants listed below in Table 3 for students from sending towns. In addition to repealing the \$3,060 grant for host district students, the bill

repeals all the magnet school grants shown in Table 3 for students from sending districts.

Table 3: Magnet School Grants Repealed Under the Bill

<i>Type of Magnet</i>	<i>Bill Section</i>	<i>Current Law Amount for Sending Students</i>
Non-Sheff host magnet	5(c)(1)	\$7,227
Non-Sheff RESC magnet with less than 55% enrollment from one town	5(c)(3)(A)	8,058
Non-Sheff RESC magnet with 55% or more of enrollment from one town	5(c)(3)(B)	7,227
RESC magnet that began operations in 2001-2002 school year and meets certain other criteria (i.e., Edison Magnet in Meriden)	5(c)(3)(C)(ii)	Maximum 8,344 (lower for some students depending on certain factors, including where they reside)
Sheff host magnet	5(c)(3)(F)	13,315
RESC magnet enrolling less than 60% of its students from Hartford (i.e., Sheff magnet)	5(c)(3)(D)(i)	10,652
RESC magnet enrolling less than 50% of its students from Hartford (i.e., Sheff magnet)	5(c)(3)(D)(ii)	8,058 (for half of the non-Hartford students enrolled over 50% of total enrollment) 10,652 (for all the other students)
Magnet operated by independent institution of higher education and that meets certain criteria (Goodwin University)	5(c)(3)(E)	65% of the 10,652 grant for students enrolled in both semesters each year 32.5% of 10,652 for those enrolled in one semester a year
Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts	5(c)(3)(H)	65% of 8,058 (the grant for RESC magnets with less than 55% from a single town)

The bill specifies that the new grants must provide at least the same amount of state funds that a magnet school operator received in FY 24 plus the amount received that year in tuition from sending districts.

Tuition Ban and Exception to the Ban

Starting in FY 25, the bill generally prohibits magnet schools from charging tuition to the towns that send students to the magnets for grades Kindergarten to 12. This applies to all the magnet operators: (1) local or regional boards of education, (2) RESCs, (3) independent higher education institutions, and (4) any third-party, nonprofit corporation the education commissioner approves.

Beginning with FY 26, the bill allows any magnet school operator that is not a board of education (a RESC, independent higher education institution, or approved nonprofit) to charge tuition to a sending town's board of education if the operator's state grant under the bill is not calculated using the foundation number adjusted for an increase in personal income or inflation, as the bill requires. The tuition cannot exceed the difference between the amount the operator (1) would be entitled to receive under the bill using the foundation adjustment calculation and (2) will receive. (The bill does not require SDE to notify magnet school operators when the income/inflation adjustment is not made, so it is unclear how they would know they are authorized to charge tuition.)

Whenever one of these operators opts to charge tuition starting with FY 26, it must notify SDE (1) of the per-student and total tuition charged for the fiscal year and (2) what sending town boards they charged.

The bill requires SDE to develop an annual report of the tuition charged and submit it to the Appropriations and Education committees by January 1 of each year.

Magnet Students and ECS

Under the bill, magnet school students are counted in their home town (where they live) for the student count for ECS grants. This codifies current practice.

§§ 8-10 — ELIMINATING CURRENT VO-AG CENTER GRANTS AND TUITION

Beginning with FY 25, the bill repeals the current \$5,200 per-student state grant for vo-ag centers and replaces it with the vo-ag choice grant

created in the bill (§ 3). It specifies that the new grant must provide at least the same amount of state funds that a vo-ag center received in FY 24 plus the amount received that year in tuition from sending districts.

Under current law, a vo-ag center can charge the sending towns tuition for the students they send to the program. Current law caps tuition at 59.2% of the foundation (\$11,525) used for ECS, resulting in a maximum tuition of \$6,823.

The bill prohibits a vo-ag center from charging tuition starting July 1, 2024. However, it maintains a current provision that allows tuition for educating special education students but only if, and in the amount, the cost exceeds the state grant received for the student under the bill.

It also repeals the requirement that a sending district provide students in their district an equivalent number of seats from one year to the next to enroll in the vo-ag program. Current law requires the districts to (1) make available at least the same number of seats as stated in any written agreement or, in the absence of one, the average number enrolled over the last three years and (2) specifically for each ninth-grade class, make available either the agreement number or the average number who enrolled in ninth grade in the last three years.

The bill also repeals (1) the supplemental vo-ag grants and (2) the mandate on districts that send students to a vo-ag program to pay tuition.

The bill also specifies that for a town's student count for the ECS grant, a student enrolled in a vo-ag center is counted in the school district where the student resides. This codifies current practice.

§ 7 — CHARTER SCHOOL GRANT INCREASES

Under existing law, the per-student state charter school grant increases for FY 23. The bill requires additional increases for FYs 24 and 25, with state charters receiving full funding in FY 25. By law, the grants go to the charter school's governing authority.

Charter Grant Factors

By law, the state charter grant has the same student need weighting percentages with the same factors (FRPM or English learner status) that are used in existing ECS law and in the bill for choice grants.

Under existing law, the increase in the state grant is a percentage of a school's charter grant adjustment, which is the absolute value of the difference between the (1) foundation (\$11,525) and (2) charter full weighted funding per student for the state charter schools under a governing authority's control for the school year.

The "charter full weighted funding per student" is a value calculated as (1) the product of the total charter need students and the foundation, divided by (2) the number of enrolled students under the charter school governing authority's control for the school year.

Grant Increases

Under existing law for FY 23, the per-student grant for charter school governing authorities is the foundation amount plus 14.76% of its charter grant adjustment.

Under the bill, the per-student grant is:

1. for FY 24, the foundation plus 25.42% of its charter grant adjustment and
2. for FY 25 and each following year, the product of the foundation multiplied by the school's total charter need students.

Foundation Annual Adjustments Starting in FY 26 for Charter Schools. The bill adds a foundation cost of living increase for charter school governing authorities based on an annual percent increase in personal income or inflation, whichever is greater, starting in FY 26 and for each following year (this is the same method for magnet school annual adjustments in § 3).

§ 11 — TASK FORCE TO STUDY EDUCATION FUNDING, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND STUDENT PREPARATION

The bill establishes a task force to study issues related to (1) education

funding that local and regional boards of education, charter schools, and magnet school operators are entitled to through ECS grants, charter school grants, and the bill’s new grants; (2) accountability; and (3) preparing students for success in college, careers, and life.

The study must include the following additional items:

1. an analysis of alliance district funding, including the extent to which current district supports and requirements improve student outcomes;
2. an analysis of how the accountability system in Connecticut’s consolidated state plan required under the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (P.L. 114-95) can be leveraged in concert with ECS funding increases and the bill’s new grants to improve student outcomes;
3. identifying thresholds at which to apply additional accountability requirements;
4. the compensation, benefits, retention, and recruitment of teachers, paraprofessionals, and social workers; and
5. restrictions on the use of, and reporting requirements for, any additional funds received under the bill, both ECS funds and the new grants.

Task Force Membership

Under the bill, the education commissioner and the Office of Policy and Management secretary, or their respective designees, are members. The table below shows the additional members, what authority appoints them, and any required organizational affiliations.

Table 4: Task Force to Study Education Funding Membership and Appointing Authority

Appointing Authority (Appointments)	Member Organization or Position
House speaker (three)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents representative • Connecticut Council of Administrators of Special

Appointing Authority (Appointments)	Member Organization or Position
	Education representative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Educational Service Center (RESC) Alliance representative
Senate President (three)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecticut Association of Boards of Education representative • Special Education Equity for Kids representative • Center for Children’s Advocacy representative
House majority leader (three)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecticut School Counselor Association representative • Connecticut Education Association representative • Superintendent of an alliance district
Senate majority leader (three)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Federation of Teachers-Connecticut representative • ConnCAN representative • School and State Finance Project representative
House minority leader (two)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecticut Association of School Administrators representative • Connecticut Association of School Business Officials representative
Senate minority leader (two)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecticut Charter School Association representative • Executive director of an agricultural science and technology education center

Organizational Matters and Report Deadline

The bill requires all initial task force appointments to be made within 30 days after the bill’s passage and any subsequent vacancy to be filled by the appointing authority. The house speaker and senate president must select the chairpersons from among the task force members.

The bill requires the chairpersons to schedule the task force’s first meeting, which must be held within 60 days after the bill’s passage. The Education Committee’s administrative staff must serve as task force’s administrative staff.

The task force must submit a report with its findings and recommendations to the Education Committee by July 1, 2023. It

terminates on when it submits the report or January 1, 2023, whichever is later.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 28 Nay 11 (03/25/2022)