



General Assembly

Amendment

June Special Session, 2024

LCO No. 6221



Offered by:

SEN. HARDING, 30th Dist.
SEN. BERTHEL, 32nd Dist.
SEN. FAZIO, 36th Dist.
SEN. KELLY, 21st Dist.

SEN. SAMPSON, 16th Dist.
SEN. GORDON, 35th Dist.
SEN. SEMINARA, 8th Dist.

To: Senate Bill No. 501

File No.

Cal. No.

"AN ACT CONCERNING MOTOR VEHICLE ASSESSMENTS FOR PROPERTY TAXATION, INNOVATION BANKS, THE INTEREST ON CERTAIN TAX UNDERPAYMENTS, THE ASSESSMENT ON INSURERS, SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS, THE SOUTH CENTRAL CONNECTICUT REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY CHARTER AND CERTAIN STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER PROCEDURES."

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Administrative
4 Services shall retain an independent audit firm for the purpose of
5 assessing the Office of School Construction Grants Program's
6 compliance with the Audit Program and Compliance Checklist for
7 school building projects for the period from January 1, 2018, to
8 December 31, 2021, inclusive. Such assessment shall also consider and
9 assess information received through interviewing town and local and

10 regional school district employees and officials associated with such
11 projects. Not later than January 1, 2025, the commissioner, in accordance
12 with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, shall report
13 the findings of such assessment to the General Assembly.

14 Sec. 502. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2024*) The Department of
15 Administrative Services shall (1) publish on its Internet web site a page
16 for each school building project approved by the Commissioner of
17 Administrative Services pursuant to section 10-284 of the general
18 statutes, and (2) update such page at least annually until a notice of
19 project completion is filed or the commissioner deems such project
20 completed pursuant to section 10-287 of the general statutes. Such page
21 shall include, but need not be limited to, the following data related to
22 such school building project:

23 (A) School name,

24 (B) Assigned project number,

25 (C) Total cost,

26 (D) Reimbursement rate and grant amount authorized by the General
27 Assembly through public or special act,

28 (E) List of contractors and subcontractors who provide services for
29 such project,

30 (F) Estimated completion date and progress report,

31 (G) Amount of the state grant paid at the time of publication or
32 update of such page, and

33 (H) Contact information for a representative of the town or regional
34 school district responsible for such project.

35 Sec. 503. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2024*) Prior to any meeting
36 pursuant to section 10-283a of the general statutes, the Commissioner of
37 Administrative Services shall conduct a public hearing concerning each

38 school building project submitted to the committee established
39 pursuant to section 10-283a of the general statutes.

40 Sec. 504. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2024*) The General Assembly shall
41 not enact any legislation approving any school building project that
42 does not conform with the provisions of chapter 173 of the general
43 statutes or regulations adopted by the State Board of Education or the
44 Department of Administrative Services pursuant to said chapter, unless
45 the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
46 cognizance of matters relating to school building projects has had a
47 hearing regarding each such project.

48 Sec. 505. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Not later than October 1, 2024,
49 the Commissioner of Administrative Services shall establish and
50 operate a state-wide hotline to be provided to town and local and
51 regional school district employees and officials for the purpose of
52 reporting any perceived irregularity with a school building project,
53 including concerning the awarding of any contract for any such project.
54 The commissioner shall, within available appropriations, operate and
55 staff such hotline during normal business hours.

56 Sec. 506. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2024*) The Commissioner of
57 Administrative Services shall require, as part of an audit conducted
58 pursuant to section 10-287 of the general statutes, each town or regional
59 school district responsible for a school building project to certify that no
60 state employee or other individual pressured such town or regional
61 school district to use any contractor who provided services as part of the
62 school building project. Such certification shall be submitted, without
63 the prior review of any state employee or other individual, directly to
64 the commissioner in such form and manner as the commissioner
65 prescribes and, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
66 general statutes, to the chairpersons and ranking members of the joint
67 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
68 matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding and education.

69 Sec. 507. Section 10-283 of the general statutes is amended by adding

70 subsection (e) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

71 (NEW) (e) No school building project shall be added to the list
72 prepared by the Commissioner of Administrative Services pursuant to
73 subsection (a) of this section, unless the Department of Administrative
74 Services holds, not later than thirty days prior to a referendum
75 scheduled and prepared pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, a
76 public hearing on such school building project in the town or regional
77 school district in which such project is proposed. The department shall
78 ensure the participation of any individuals and the availability of any
79 materials necessary to address any questions or concerns reasonably
80 anticipated at such public hearing.

81 Sec. 508. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of
82 Administrative Services shall not waive the requirement for an
83 applicant for a school building project, including the applicant's
84 superintendent or chief executive officer or designee, one member of the
85 applicant's building committee, one representative of the architectural
86 firm designated to design the project and such others as determined by
87 the Commissioner of Administrative Services to attend a design
88 conference in order to have such application approved."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Sec. 501	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 502	<i>October 1, 2024</i>	New section
Sec. 503	<i>October 1, 2024</i>	New section
Sec. 504	<i>October 1, 2024</i>	New section
Sec. 505	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 506	<i>October 1, 2024</i>	New section
Sec. 507	<i>October 1, 2024</i>	10-283(e)
Sec. 508	<i>from passage</i>	New section