



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6508

January Session, 2021



AN ACT CONCERNING REMOTE LEARNING ATTENDANCE.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) For the school year
2 commencing July 1, 2021, and each school year thereafter, a local or
3 regional board of education may authorize the provision of instruction
4 to students in grades nine to twelve, inclusive, to be conducted on a
5 virtual platform or as part of a remote learning model, provided such
6 board specifies the requirements for what constitutes student
7 attendance during such instruction.

8 Sec. 2. Section 10-16 of the general statutes is repealed and the
9 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

10 Each school district shall provide in each school year no less than one
11 hundred and eighty days of actual school sessions for grades
12 kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, nine hundred hours of actual school
13 work for full-day kindergarten and grades one to twelve, inclusive, and
14 four hundred and fifty hours of half-day kindergarten, provided school
15 districts shall not count more than seven hours of actual school work in
16 any school day towards the total required for the school year.
17 Instruction that is conducted on a virtual platform or as part of a remote
18 learning model in any school district shall be considered an actual

19 school session for purposes of this section, provided the local or regional
20 board of education has authorized such instruction. If weather
21 conditions result in an early dismissal or a delayed opening of school, a
22 school district which maintains separate morning and afternoon half-
23 day kindergarten sessions may provide either a morning or afternoon
24 half-day kindergarten session on such day.

25 Sec. 3. Section 10-198b of the general statutes is repealed and the
26 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

27 On or before July 1, 2012, the State Board of Education shall define
28 "excused absence" and "unexcused absence". [, and on] On or before
29 January 1, 2016, the State Board of Education shall define "disciplinary
30 absence" for use by local and regional boards of education for the
31 purposes of carrying out the provisions of section 10-198a, reporting
32 truancy, pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-220, and calculating the
33 district chronic absenteeism rate and the school chronic absenteeism
34 rate pursuant to section 10-198c. On or before July 1, 2021, the State
35 Board of Education shall amend the definition of "excused absence" and
36 "unexcused absence" to exclude school sessions that are conducted on a
37 virtual platform or as part of a remote learning model pursuant to
38 section 10-16, as amended by this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	10-16
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	10-198b

KID Joint Favorable Subst.