

General Assembly

February Session, 2022

Raised Bill No. 228

LCO No. **1858**

Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by: (ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN PATHWAYS PROGRAMS AND THE PROVISION OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE AVAILABILITY OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND CAREER SCHOOLS AND REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION CENTERS.

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

- Section 1. Section 10-21k of the general statutes is repealed and the
 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):
- 3 [A local or regional board of education may establish a] The 4 Department of Education, in collaboration with the Labor Department's office of apprenticeship training, shall administer the Pipeline for 5 6 Connecticut's Future program. Under the program, [a local or regional 7 board of education shall partner] the department shall (1) assist local 8 and regional boards of education in enhancing existing partnerships or 9 establishing new partnerships with one or more local businesses to offer 10 a pathways program (A) that assists students in (i) obtaining occupational licenses, (ii) participating in apprenticeship opportunities, 11 12 and (iii) gaining immediate job skills, (B) that provides (i) industry-

13 specific class time and cooperative work placements, (ii) on-site and 14 apprenticeship training, and (iii) course credit and occupational licenses 15 to students upon completion, and (C) in one or more fields, such as 16 manufacturing, computer programming or the culinary arts, and that 17 may lead to a diploma and a certificate or license upon graduation, and 18 (2) provide incentives to local and regional boards of education for

19 <u>establishing such partnerships</u>.

Sec. 2. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2022) Not later than July 1, 2023, the 20 21 Department of Education shall develop best practices that may be used 22 by local and regional boards of education when establishing a pathways 23 program with local businesses under the Pipeline for Connecticut's 24 Future program, pursuant to section 10-21k of the general statutes, as 25 amended by this act. In developing such best practices, the department 26 shall collaborate with stakeholders and other boards of education that 27 have implemented a successful pathways program. The department 28 shall make such best practice available upon request of a local or 29 regional board of education.

30 Sec. 3. (Effective from passage) The Commissioner of Education shall 31 review existing state laws and regulations related to the establishment 32 of pathways programs by local and regional boards of education to 33 identify any obstacles or prohibitions that may limit the ability of a 34 board of education to build partnerships with local businesses for the 35 purpose of establishing a successful pathways program. Such laws and 36 regulations may include, but need not be limited to, those governing 37 attendance, course credit for school work performed out of the 38 classroom or in an apprenticeship setting and educator certification. Not 39 later than January 1, 2023, the commissioner shall submit any 40 recommendations for legislation to the joint standing committee of the 41 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education 42 and employment advancement, in accordance with the provisions of 43 section 11-4a of the general statutes.

44 Sec. 4. Section 10-220d of the general statutes is repealed and the 45 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*): 46 Each local and regional board of education shall provide full access 47 to technical education and career schools, regional agricultural science 48 and technology education centers, interdistrict magnet schools, charter 49 schools and interdistrict student attendance programs for the 50 recruitment of students attending the schools under the board's 51 jurisdiction, provided such recruitment is not for the purpose of 52 interscholastic athletic competition. Each local and regional board of 53 education shall provide information relating to technical education and 54 career schools, regional agricultural science and technology education 55 centers, interdistrict magnet schools, charter schools, alternative high 56 schools and interdistrict student attendance programs on the board's 57 web site. Each local and regional board of education shall [inform] 58 require school counselors to provide information to students and 59 parents of students in middle and high schools within such board's 60 jurisdiction of the availability of (1) vocational, technical, technological 61 and postsecondary education and training at technical education and 62 career schools, and (2) agricultural science and technology education at 63 regional agricultural science and technology education centers, and 64 publish such information on the Internet web site of such board.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2022	10-21k
Sec. 2	July 1, 2022	New section
Sec. 3	from passage	New section
Sec. 4	July 1, 2022	10-220d

ED Joint Favorable C/R

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