



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

DANNEL P. MALLOY
GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
BILL NOTIFICATION
RELEASE No. 15

July 1, 2015

For Immediate Release

Governor Dannel P. Malloy signed the following legislation of the 2015 Regular Session, IN THE ORIGINAL, on June 30th.

- SB 1501 AN ACT AUTHORIZING AND ADJUSTING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, TRANSPORTATION AND OTHER PURPOSES.
This bill has various effective dates. [Refer to the text here.](#)
- HB 7104 AN ACT IMPLEMENTING PROVISIONS OF THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2017 CONCERNING GENERAL GOVERNMENT PROVISIONS RELATING TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE.
This bill has various effective dates. [Refer to the text here.](#)

Governor Dannel P. Malloy signed the following legislation of the 2015 Regular Session on June 30th.

- SB 303 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE STATE-WIDE RESPONSE TO FAMILY VIOLENCE.
SA 15-10 This bill shall take effect from passage.
- HB 6745 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM FOR MUNICIPAL CAMPAIGN FINANCE FILINGS.
SA 15-14 This bill shall take effect from passage.
- HB 6900 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE CONCERNING CANDIDATE COMMITTEES.
SA 15-15 This bill shall take effect from passage.
- SB 1069 AN ACT AMENDING THE CHARTER OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT IN HARTFORD COUNTY AND EXTENDING THE MATURITY DATE FOR MUNICIPAL SEWAGE SYSTEM BONDS.
PA 15-114 This bill shall take effect October 1, 2015.
- HB 6694 AN ACT CONCERNING FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION IN PUBLIC HOUSING.
PA 15-119 This bill shall take effect July 1, 2015.

- HB 6892 AN ACT CONCERNING HOSPITAL TRAINING AND PROCEDURES FOR PATIENTS WITH
PA 15-129 SUSPECTED DEMENTIA.
This bill shall take effect July 1, 2015.
- HB 7018 AN ACT CONCERNING ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION.
PA 15-133 This bill shall take effect July 1, 2015.
- HB 6974 AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP TASK
PA 15-137 FORCE CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A DIRECTOR OF READING INITIATIVES AT THE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.
This bill shall take effect July 1, 2015.
- SB 949 AN ACT IMPROVING DATA SECURITY AND AGENCY EFFECTIVENESS.
PA 15-142 This bill has various effective dates. [Refer to the text here.](#)
- SB 964 AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONERS' RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
PA 15-143 TECHNICAL REVISIONS TO THE EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD STATUTES.
This bill shall take effect from passage.
- SB 811 AN ACT CONCERNING HOSPITALS, INSURERS AND HEALTH CARE CONSUMERS.
PA 15-146 This bill has various effective dates. [Refer to the text here.](#)
- HB 5092 AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISCONTINUANCE OF HIGHWAYS AND PRIVATE WAYS BY
PA 15-147 MUNICIPALITIES.
This bill shall take effect October 1, 2015.
- HB 6259 AN ACT CONCERNING THE BOUNDARIES OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
PA 15-155 DISTRICTS.
This bill shall take effect October 1, 2015.
- HB 6571 AN ACT CONCERNING THE MUNICIPAL TAX COLLECTION STATUTES.
PA 15-156 This bill shall take effect October 1, 2015.
- HB 6856 AN ACT CONCERNING SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND OPIOID OVERDOSE PROTECTION.
PA 15-198 This bill shall take effect October 1, 2015.
- SB 1105 AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE STATUTES, AND CONCERNING
PA 15-211 THE PSYCHIATRIC SECURITY REVIEW BOARD, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, CONDOMINIUM
ASSOCIATIONS AND DEPOSITIONS OF PERSONS LIVING OUT-OF-STATE.
This bill has various effective dates. [Refer to the text here.](#)
- HB 7023 AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REVISIONS AND ADDITIONS TO THE EDUCATION
PA 15-215 STATUTES.
This bill has various effective dates. [Refer to the text here.](#)
- SB 957 AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE REGENERATIVE MEDICINE RESEARCH FUND AND
PA 15-222 THE CONNECTICUT BIOSCIENCE INNOVATION FUND, AND THE CONSOLIDATION OF
CERTAIN FUNDS OF CONNECTICUT INNOVATIONS, INCORPORATED.

This bill has various effective dates. [Refer to the text here.](#)

- SB 1085 AN ACT CONCERNING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR MENTAL OR NERVOUS
PA 15-226 CONDITIONS.
This bill shall take effect on January 1, 2016.
- HB 6812 AN ACT PERMITTING FACULTY TO ATTEND EXECUTIVE SESSIONS OF THE BOARD OF
PA 15-228 REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION UPON INVITATION.
This bill shall take effect on July 1, 2015.
- SB 1059 AN ACT CONCERNING HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.
PA 15-237 This bill has various effective dates. [Refer to the text here.](#)
- SB 1095 AN ACT CONCERNING STUDENTS ASSESSMENTS.
PA 15-238 This bill has various effective dates. [Refer to the text here.](#)
- HB 6987 AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTES.
PA 15-242 This bill has various effective dates. [Refer to the text here.](#)
- SB 446 AN ACT CONCERNING DOMESTIC SERVICE AND THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
PA 15-249 AND OPPORTUNITIES.
This bill has various effective dates. [Refer to the text here.](#)

Governor Dannel P. Malloy vetoed the following legislation of the 2015 Regular Session on June 30th.

- HB 6796 AN ACT CONCERNING RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SCHOOL NURSE ADVISORY
PA 15-125 COUNCIL. This bill would have become effective on July 1, 2016. The Governor vetoed the bill. Scroll down to read the veto message.
- HB 6865 AN ACT CONCERNING COINSURANCE CLAUSES IN CERTAIN COMMERCIAL INSURANCE
PA 15-126 POLICIES AND CONTRACTS.
This bill would have become effective on October 1, 2015. The Governor vetoed the bill. Scroll down to read the veto message.
- SB 1056 AN ACT CONCERNING THE COLLECTION AND REPORTING OF DATA RELATING TO SPECIAL
PA 15-145 EDUCATION EXPENDITURES.
This bill would have become effective on July 1, 2015. The Governor vetoed the bill. Scroll down to read the veto message.
- HB 6977 AN ACT ESTABLISHING QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION.
PA 15-176 This bill would have become effective upon on the Governor's signature. The Governor vetoed the bill. Scroll down to read the veto message.

As of this date, the Governor has signed one hundred seventy five (175) bills and vetoed eight (8) bills of the 2015 Legislative Session.



Dannel P. Malloy

GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

June 30, 2015

The Honorable Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of State
30 Trinity Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Madam Secretary:

I hereby return, without my signature, House Bill 6796, *An Act Concerning Recommendations of the School Nurse Advisory Council*. This bill establishes a minimum staffing requirement for school nurses based upon the number of students in a school district.

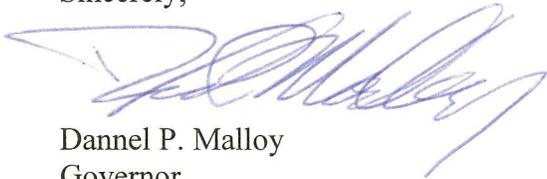
House Bill 6796 requires each district to have one school nurse or nurse practitioner for every 750 students. The legislation also provides for this ratio standard to be waived by the department at the request of a district if applying the standard would have an adverse impact, when balanced against other needs, on the students in the district.

This bill establishes a standard and then permits an annual waiver which undermines the intent of the very purpose of the requirement. Further, this legislation does not take into account those schools that have school based health clinics that are available to meet the needs of the students, nor is it clear whether a district can fulfill this requirement with part-time nursing staff. This legislation leaves open significant questions regarding application of the ratio threshold, liability if the ratio requirement is waived, in addition to the potential to significantly increase costs in public school districts both large and small to comply with the staffing ratio.

The appropriate level of nursing care for our children in our schools is an important issue and I will direct the State Department of Education and the Department of Public Health to work with the School Nurse Advisory Council to develop a solution that takes into account all of the factors affecting an appropriate nurse to student ratio.

For these reasons, I disapprove of House Bill 6796, *An Act Concerning Recommendations of the School Nurse Advisory Council*. Pursuant to Section 15 of Article Fourth of the Constitution of the State of Connecticut, I am returning House Bill 6796 without my signature.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Malloy", written in a cursive style.

Dannel P. Malloy
Governor



Dannel P. Malloy

GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

June 30, 2015

The Honorable Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State
30 Trinity Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Madam Secretary:

I hereby return, without my signature, substitute House Bill 6865, *An Act Concerning Coinsurance Clauses in Certain Commercial Insurance Policies and Contracts*. This bill prohibits non-admitted insurers from including a coinsurance clause in any commercial fire insurance policy issued or renewed after October 1, 2015, if such policy defines depreciation differently than the Connecticut standard fire insurance policy form.

Those who purchase insurance through the non-admitted market are typically high-risk insureds who are unable to obtain coverage through the admitted market. As a result, non-admitted carriers require maximum flexibility in tailoring policies to account for the unique needs of these high-risk insureds. By prohibiting coinsurance clauses in certain fire insurance policies issued by non-admitted insurers, this bill may cause such policies to become exceedingly expensive and/or eliminate options for coverage for businesses and others.

For these reasons, I disapprove of substitute House Bill 6865, *An Act Concerning Coinsurance Clauses in Certain Commercial Insurance Policies and Contracts*. Pursuant to Section 15 of Article Fourth of the Constitution of the State of Connecticut, I am returning substitute House Bill 6865 without my signature.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dannel P. Malloy".

Dannel P. Malloy
Governor



Dannel P. Malloy

GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

June 30, 2015

The Honorable Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of State
30 Trinity Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Madam Secretary:

I hereby return, without my signature, Senate Bill 1056, *An Act Concerning the Collection and Reporting of Data Relating to Special Education Expenditures*. This bill requires local and regional school districts to report information to the State Department of Education on special education spending, including expenditures for each individual child receiving special education.

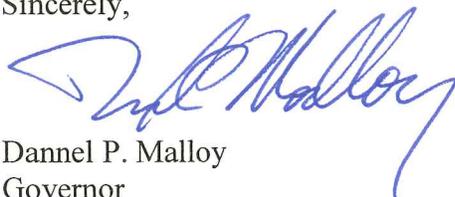
Senate Bill 1056 requires local and regional school districts to report on special education expenditures and to report such spending on an individual child basis. It further requires the State Department of Education to provide disaggregated data on those children that are receiving special education and the amount spent for each of those children. Currently our statutes require school districts to report on various aspects of special education expenditures pursuant to Section 10-220(c) including special education expenditures as a percentage of total education expenditures.

Reporting on individual student special education spending together with information regarding the types of disabilities and identifying the costs that exceed the average per pupil expenditure may result in a violation of the Family Education Rights Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). While this bill makes the individual information exempt from the Freedom of Information Act, in smaller school districts where there are only a handful of children in special education programs, these children become easily identifiable. Many children in special education are our most vulnerable children; we need to protect these children from victimization and ensure that their privacy rights are protected.

Further, by requiring local and regional boards of education to report spending for special education on each individual student, Senate Bill 1056 would create an unfunded mandate on districts to collect and report such information, diverting necessary resources from existing educational programs.

For these reasons, I disapprove of Senate Bill 1056, *An Act Concerning the Collection and Reporting of Data Relating to Special Education Expenditures*. Pursuant to Section 15 of Article Fourth of the Constitution of the State of Connecticut, I am returning Senate Bill 1056 without my signature.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dannel P. Malloy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "M".

Dannel P. Malloy
Governor



Dannel P. Malloy

GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

June 30, 2015

The Honorable Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of State
30 Trinity Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Madam Secretary:

I hereby return, without my signature, House Bill 6977, *An Act Establishing Qualifications for the Commissioner of Education*. This bill establishes qualifications for an individual appointed to serve as the Commissioner of the Department of Education.

House Bill 6977 encroaches on the purview of the chief executive of the state to select a candidate whom s/he deems the best candidate to lead the department and implement the Governor's education policy initiatives. The Commissioner of Education's position is already unique in its appointment process. The Education Commissioner is the only commissioner that is subject to the recommendation of a state board. The state board of education historically has completed a thorough and deliberative process that includes a public job announcement tailored to the state department's need at the time.

Furthermore, it is important to note that in accordance with sections 4-5 through 4-7 of the general statutes, each commissioner appointed by a governor is subject to a rigorous legislative vetting process that includes hearings and a vote before the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee and approval by the General Assembly. The Legislature has the right to reject any candidate nominated by the Governor that they do not feel possesses the appropriate qualifications and experience to lead a department for the State of Connecticut.

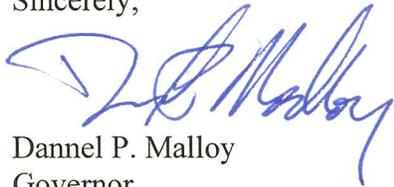
In the course of the debate on this legislation, it has been stated that many states require qualifications for the Commissioner of Education. To be clear, the overwhelming majority of these states have minimum requirements regarding residency and age for commissioner and nothing more. Only three states are as prescriptive as this bill, and none of those states are considered Connecticut's peers on public education.

Open-mindedness and flexibility are paramount in a search for the right candidate who can best respond to the educational challenges that face our state. The establishment of qualifications for the Commissioner of Education in statute closes the door on a broad pool of talented and diverse leaders who would otherwise be eligible and could foster greatness in our schools. I am concerned that specific qualifications for Commissioner will unintentionally reduce the diversity of future commissioner applicant pools. Representation of African American and Hispanic teachers and administrators remains disproportionately low, especially when compared to Connecticut's student population. Women make up nearly 75% of teachers in Connecticut, but they make up only 58.5% of administrators. Their representation drops further among Superintendents. Our current commissioner is only the second woman to serve as Commissioner in the history of the State Department of Education, and she herself had not previously served as a Superintendent.

It should be our mission to encourage creative education leaders regardless of background to consider tackling the challenge of closing the achievement gap and leading our students and teachers to even greater heights.

For these reasons, I disapprove of House Bill 6977, *An Act Establishing Qualifications for the Commissioner of Education*. Pursuant to Section 15 of Article Fourth of the Constitution of the State of Connecticut, I am returning House Bill 6977 without my signature.

Sincerely,



Dannel P. Malloy
Governor