

Series: 2007-2008
Circular Letter: C-1

TO: Superintendents of Schools

FROM: Mark K. McQuillan, Commissioner of Education

DATE: July 12, 2007

SUBJECT: Highlights of the 2007 Regular and Special Sessions of the Connecticut General Assembly

The Connecticut General Assembly has now completed its 2007 Regular Session and partly completed the 2007 June Special Session. The general fund budget and bills to implement that budget were adopted in the Special Session over the past few weeks, but bills concerning state bond authorizations and their underlying programs and projects have not yet been taken up. It is expected that the bonding bills will be voted on in the next few weeks.

Attached is a list of the most important education-related bills passed to date and links to the actual bill language and bill history. If you would like to read the final language of a bill, please click on the title of the bill. If you want the complete history of the bill, please click on "Bill Status" immediately under the bill title. Please note: as of today, the Governor has not signed three of the public acts: PA 07-224 (HB 6955), PA 07-241 (HB 7347) and PA 07-249 (HB 1406). Please check under "Bill Status" in the coming week for the date of the Governor's signature.

As in the past, we will provide you with a more detailed and comprehensive summary of all of the 2007 education legislation this summer. Please remember that the **Back-to-School Meeting** for superintendents has been scheduled for **August 16, 2007**.

We hope that this is helpful. If you have questions about the education budget, please contact the Department's Chief Financial Officer, Brian Mahoney, at brian.mahoney@ct.gov or (860) 713-6464. All other questions should be directed to Katherine Nicoletti, Esq., at katherine.nicoletti@ct.gov or (860) 713-6520.

Attachment

**MOST IMPORTANT EDUCATION-RELATED BILLS PASSED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE
IN THE 2007 REGULAR AND SPECIAL SESSIONS AS OF JULY 1, 2007**

BILL NO.	TITLE
SB 260	AN ACT CONCERNING HEALTH ASSESSMENTS FOR ADOLESCENTS. (PA 07-58, Signed by the Governor May 30, 2007) Bill Status
SB 977	AN ACT CONCERNING RESTRAINTS AND SECLUSION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS. (PA 07-147, Signed by the Governor June 19, 2007) Bill Status
SB 1109	AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPRIVATION OF RIGHTS ON ACCOUNT OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION. (PA 07-62, Signed by the Governor May 30, 2007) Bill Status
SB 1110	AN ACT CONCERNING SECURITY ASSESSMENTS AND ASSISTANCE FOR SCHOOLS AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS FOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION. (PA 07-208, Signed by the Governor July 5, 2007) Bill Status
SB 1113 (GB)	AN ACT CONCERNING UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #1 EDUCATION CREDIT. (PA 07-38, Signed by the Governor May 22, 2007) Bill Status
SB 1283 (SBE)	AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CONNECTICUT'S TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOLS. (PA 07-40, Signed by the Governor May 22, 2007) Bill Status
SB 1285 (SBE)	AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT CAREER CERTIFICATE PROGRAM. (PA 07-20, Signed by the Governor May 7, 2007) Bill Status
SB 1287 (SBE)	AN ACT CONCERNING VISITING INTERNATIONAL TEACHER PERMITS. (PA 07-30, Signed by the Governor May 18, 2007) Bill Status
SB 1354	AN ACT CONCERNING THE APPOINTMENT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION. (PA 07-114, Signed by the Governor June 11, 2007) Bill Status
SB 1406	AN ACT CONCERNING AUTHORIZATION OF STATE GRANT COMMITMENTS FOR SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS AND CHANGES TO THE STATUTES CONCERNING SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS. (PA 07-249; as of July 12, 2007, has not been signed by the Governor) Bill Status

SB 1412	AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER. (PA 07-126, Signed by the Governor June 19, 2007) Bill Status
HB 5234	AN ACT BANNING PESTICIDE USE ON SCHOOL GROUNDS. (PA 07-168, Signed by the Governor June 18, 2007) Bill Status
HB 6955	AN ACT CONCERNING OPERATOR'S LICENSES BEARING A SCHOOL BUS ENDORSEMENT. (PA 07-224; <i>as of July 12, 2007, has not been signed by the Governor</i>) Bill Status
HB 7017	AN ACT CONCERNING DEMOCRACY EDUCATION IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS. (PA 07-138, Signed by the Governor June 19, 2007) Bill Status
HB 7273	AN ACT CONCERNING SUSPENSIONS AND EXPULSIONS BY LOCAL AND REGIONAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION. (PA 07-122, Signed by the Governor June 11, 2007) Bill Status
HB 7347	AN ACT CONCERNING MINOR CHANGES TO THE EDUCATION STATUTES. (PA 07-241; <i>as of July 12, 2007, has not been signed by the Governor</i>) Bill Status
HB 7350	AN ACT CONCERNING IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSIONS. (PA 07-66, Signed by the Governor May 30, 2007) Bill Status
HB 7351	AN ACT CONCERNING TEXTBOOK LOANS. (PA 07-190, Signed by the Governor July 5, 2007) Bill Status
8001	AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2009, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR. (PA 07-1, Signed by the Governor June 26, 2007) Bill Status
8003	AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE PROVISIONS OF THE BUDGET CONCERNING EDUCATION. (PA 07-3, Signed by the Governor June 26, 2007) Bill Status