

General Assembly

February Session, 2022

Bill No. 5047

LCO No. **740**

Referred to Committee on No Committee

Introduced by: REP. RITTER M., 1st Dist. SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist. SEN. DUFF, 25th Dist. REP. ROJAS, 9th Dist.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXTENSION OF CERTAIN EXECUTIVE ORDERS AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY AND COVID-19 RELIEF DAYS.

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

Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Notwithstanding any provision
 of the general statutes, the provisions of Executive Order Number 14F
 issued by Governor Ned Lamont shall remain in effect through March
 15, 2022.

(b) (1) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the
following provisions of executive orders issued by Governor Ned
Lamont shall remain in effect through April 15, 2022: (A) Section 1 of
Executive Order Number 7P; (B) Section 3 of Executive Order Number
9Q; (C) Sections 2 and 4 of Executive Order Number 12D; (D) except as
provided in subsection (c) of this section, Executive Order Number 13A;
(E) Executive Order Number 13C; (F) Executive Order Number 13E; (G)

the provisions of Executive Order Number 13G, as amended by
Executive Order Number 14C, concerning state hospital employees and
excluding provisions concerning state employees and covered workers;
(H) Section 4 of Executive Order Number 14A; (I) Executive Order
Number 14B; and (J) Sections 1 to 6, inclusive, of Executive Order
Number 14D.

(2) For purposes of the executive orders listed in subdivision (1) of
this subsection, "through April 15, 2022" shall be substituted for any
references to "for the duration of the public health and civil
preparedness emergency". For purposes of Section 4 of Executive Order
Number 12D, "fifteen days" shall be substituted for the reference to
"thirty days".

24 (3) For purposes of the provisions of (A) Executive Order Number 25 13G, as amended by Executive Order Number 14C, concerning state 26 hospital employees and excluding provisions concerning state 27 employees and covered workers, and (B) subsection b. of Section 3 of 28 Executive Order Number 14B, "March 7, 2022" shall be substituted for 29 references to "February 11, 2022". No civil penalty or other penalty 30 authorized under said executive orders shall be imposed against any 31 long-term care facility for a violation of subsection b. of Section 3 of 32 Executive Order Number 14B or against any state hospital for a violation 33 of Section 1 of Executive Order Number 14C for any such violation 34 occurring on and after February 11, 2022, and prior to March 7, 2022.

(c) (1) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the
provisions of Section 1 of Executive Order Number 9 and the provisions
of Section 1 of Executive Order Number 13A authorizing masks or cloth
face coverings to be required in schools, issued by Governor Ned
Lamont, shall remain in effect through June 30, 2022.

(2) Any rule, order, directive or other guidance issued by the
Commissioners of Education, Early Childhood or Public Health
pursuant to the executive orders listed in this subsection rescinding such
requirement for mask or cloth face coverings in schools shall not take

44 effect any earlier than February 28, 2022.

45 (d) Any department head, state agency, municipality or other 46 governmental entity that relied on the provisions of the executive orders 47 listed in subsection (a), (b) or (c) of this section to exercise authority may 48 continue to rely on said provisions to exercise authority through (1) 49 March 15, 2022, in the case of the executive order listed in subsection (a) 50 of this section, (2) April 15, 2022, in the case of the executive orders listed 51 in subsection (b) of this section, or (3) June 30, 2022, in the case of the 52 executive orders listed in subsection (c) of this section.

53 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding any provision of the 54 general statutes, the Commissioner of Public Health may exercise the 55 commissioner's authority under section 19a-131f and subsection (a) of 56 section 19a-131j of the general statutes through April 15, 2022, without 57 a public health emergency being declared by the Governor pursuant to 58 section 19a-131a of the general statutes.

59 Sec. 3. (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section:

(1) "COVID-19" means the respiratory disease designated by the
World Health Organization on February 11, 2020, as coronavirus 2019,
and any related mutation thereof recognized by the World Health
Organization as a communicable respiratory disease.

(2) "School day" means an actual school session that is part of the
official school calendar originally adopted by the local or regional board
of education.

(3) "COVID-19 relief day" means a school day in which the schools
under the jurisdiction of the local or regional board of education are
closed due to COVID-19 or in which additional in-service training is
provided in accordance with the provisions of section 10-220a of the
general statutes.

72 (4) "School year" means the school year commencing July 1, 2021.

73 (b) For the school year commencing July 1, 2021, a local or regional

74 board of education may designate up to five school days as COVID-19 75 relief days for the school year. A school day may be designated as a 76 COVID-19 relief day if it was necessary to cancel such school day 77 because (1) of high infection rates or staff shortages due to COVID-19, 78 or (2) the board of education believes such designation is necessary to 79 ease the burden of COVID-19 on the school district and will improve the 80 health, safety and welfare of students and staff. A COVID-19 relief day may be designated for any school day of the school year that (A) was 81 82 cancelled on or before the effective date of this section due to high 83 infection rates or staff shortages due to COVID-19, or (B) is scheduled 84 on or after the effective date of this section due to COVID-19, provided 85 such designation is in accordance with the provisions of subsection (d) 86 of this section. A school day that has been designated as a COVID-19 87 relief day under this section need not be rescheduled during the school 88 year.

(c) A COVID-19 relief day designated under this section shall be
considered an actual school session for purposes of sections 10-15 and
10-16 of the general statutes.

92 (d) (1) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (2) of this 93 subsection, on and after the effective date of this section, a local or 94 regional board of education may amend its official school calendar for the school year to replace existing school days with not more than three 95 96 prospective COVID-19 relief days in accordance with the provisions of 97 this section, provided (A) such board may not schedule any such prospective COVID-19 relief days on consecutive existing school days 98 99 during the school year, except such board may schedule consecutive 100 prospective COVID-19 relief days for the final three school days of the 101 school year, (B) any such prospective COVID-19 relief day is scheduled 102 for not earlier than thirty calendar days from the date of such 103 designation, and (C) notice of any such prospective COVID-19 relief day 104 is provided to the staff of each school under the jurisdiction of such 105 board and the parents and guardians of each student enrolled in such 106 schools at least thirty calendar days in advance of such prospective 107 COVID-19 relief day. A board may use any such prospective COVID-19

relief day to provide additional in-service training for its teachers, administrators, pupil personnel, paraprofessionals or noncertified employees in accordance with the provisions of section 10-220a of the general statutes.

112 (2) On and after the effective date of this section, in the event that high 113 infection rates or staff shortages due to COVID-19 result in the closure 114 of schools in the school district for a school day, a local or regional board of education may designate an emergency COVID-19 relief day for such 115 116 school day in accordance with the provisions of this section, except the 117 notice provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not apply to 118 such designation. Any such emergency COVID-19 relief day shall 119 replace a prospective COVID-19 relief day that may have previously 120 been designated pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection if the 121 board has already designated five COVID-19 relief days. A local or 122 regional board of education may not designate an emergency COVID-123 19 relief day if such emergency COVID-19 relief day occurs after five 124 previously designated or scheduled COVID-19 relief days.

(e) Any local or regional board of education that designates a school
day in the school year as a COVID-19 relief day shall notify the
Commissioner of Education of such designation and submit an updated
copy of the amended official school calendar for the school district to
the commissioner.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	from passage	New section
Sec. 2	from passage	New section
Sec. 3	from passage	New section