



General Assembly

February Session, 2020

***Raised Bill No. 310***

LCO No. 2179



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:  
(ED)

***AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE  
AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION CENTERS.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 10-65 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2020*):

3 (a) Each local or regional school district operating an agricultural  
4 science and technology education center approved by the State Board of  
5 Education for program, educational need, location and area to be served  
6 shall be eligible for the following grants: (1) In accordance with the  
7 provisions of chapter 173, through progress payments in accordance  
8 with the provisions of section 10-287i, (A) for projects for which an  
9 application was filed prior to July 1, 2011, ninety-five per cent, and (B)  
10 for projects for which an application was filed on or after July 1, 2011,  
11 eighty per cent of the net eligible costs of constructing, acquiring,  
12 renovating and equipping approved facilities to be used exclusively for  
13 such agricultural science and technology education center, for the  
14 expansion or improvement of existing facilities or for the replacement  
15 or improvement of equipment therein, and (2) subject to the provisions

16 of section 10-65b, [and within available appropriations,] in an amount  
17 equal to the sum of (A) four thousand two hundred dollars per student  
18 for every [secondary school] student [who was] enrolled in such center  
19 on October first of the previous year, and (B) six thousand eight hundred  
20 twenty-three multiplied by the number of students enrolled in such  
21 center who are not residents of the town in which such center is located.  
22 For the purposes of calculating equalization aid under section 10-262h,  
23 a student who is enrolled in an agricultural science and technology  
24 education center that is operated by a local or regional board of  
25 education for a school district other than the local or regional board of  
26 education for the school district of the town in which such student  
27 resides, such student shall not be considered a student enrolled in the  
28 school district in which such student resides.

29 (b) Each local or regional board of education not maintaining an  
30 agricultural science and technology education center shall provide  
31 opportunities for its students to enroll in one or more such centers in a  
32 number that is at least equal to the number specified in any written  
33 agreement with each such center or centers, or in the absence of such an  
34 agreement, a number that is at least equal to the average number of its  
35 students that the board of education enrolled in each such center or  
36 centers during the previous three school years, provided, in addition to  
37 such number, each such board of education shall provide opportunities  
38 for its students to enroll in the ninth grade in a number that is at least  
39 equal to the number specified in any written agreement with each such  
40 center or centers, or in the absence of such an agreement, a number that  
41 is at least equal to the average number of students that the board of  
42 education enrolled in the ninth grade in each such center or centers  
43 during the previous three school years. If a local or regional board of  
44 education provided opportunities for students to enroll in more than  
45 one center for the school year commencing July 1, 2007, such board of  
46 education shall continue to provide such opportunities to students in  
47 accordance with this subsection. [The board of education operating an  
48 agricultural science and technology education center may charge,  
49 subject to the provisions of section 10-65b, tuition for a school year in an

50 amount not to exceed fifty-nine and two-tenths per cent of the  
51 foundation level pursuant to subdivision (9) of section 10-262f, per  
52 student for the fiscal year in which the tuition is paid, except that such  
53 board may charge tuition for (1) students enrolled under shared-time  
54 arrangements on a pro rata basis, and (2) special education students  
55 which shall not exceed the actual costs of educating such students minus  
56 the amounts received pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of  
57 this section and subsection (c) of this section. Any tuition paid by such  
58 board for special education students in excess of the tuition paid for  
59 non-special-education students shall be reimbursed pursuant to section  
60 10-76g.]

61 (c) In addition to the grants described in subsection (a) of this section,  
62 within available appropriations, (1) each local or regional board of  
63 education operating an agricultural science and technology education  
64 center in which more than one hundred fifty of the students in the prior  
65 school year were out-of-district students shall be eligible to receive a  
66 grant in an amount equal to five hundred dollars for every secondary  
67 school student enrolled in such center on October first of the previous  
68 year, (2) on and after July 1, 2000, if a local or regional board of education  
69 operating an agricultural science and technology education center that  
70 received a grant pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection no longer  
71 qualifies for such a grant, such local or regional board of education shall  
72 receive a grant in an amount determined as follows: (A) For the first  
73 fiscal year such board of education does not qualify for a grant under  
74 said subdivision (1), a grant in the amount equal to four hundred dollars  
75 for every secondary school student enrolled in its agricultural science  
76 and technology education center on October first of the previous year,  
77 (B) for the second successive fiscal year such board of education does  
78 not so qualify, a grant in an amount equal to three hundred dollars for  
79 every such secondary school student enrolled in such center on said  
80 date, (C) for the third successive fiscal year such board of education does  
81 not so qualify, a grant in an amount equal to two hundred dollars for  
82 every such secondary school student enrolled in such center on said  
83 date, and (D) for the fourth successive fiscal year such board of

84 education does not so qualify, a grant in an amount equal to one  
85 hundred dollars for every such secondary school student enrolled in  
86 such center on said date, and (3) each local and regional board of  
87 education operating an agricultural science and technology education  
88 center that does not receive a grant pursuant to subdivision (1) or (2) of  
89 this subsection shall receive a grant in an amount equal to sixty dollars  
90 for every secondary school student enrolled in such center on said date.

91 (d) (1) If there are any remaining funds after the amount of the grants  
92 described in subsections (a) and (c) of this section are calculated, within  
93 available appropriations, each local or regional board of education  
94 operating an agricultural science and technology education center shall  
95 be eligible to receive a grant in an amount equal to one hundred dollars  
96 for each student enrolled in such center on October first of the previous  
97 school year. (2) If there are any remaining funds after the amount of the  
98 grants described in subdivision (1) of this subsection are calculated,  
99 within available appropriations, each local or regional board of  
100 education operating an agricultural science and technology education  
101 center that had more than one hundred fifty out-of-district students  
102 enrolled in such center on October first of the previous school year shall  
103 be eligible to receive a grant based on the ratio of the number of out-of-  
104 district students in excess of one hundred fifty out-of-district students  
105 enrolled in such center on said date to the total number of out-of-district  
106 students in excess of one hundred fifty out-of-district students enrolled  
107 in all agricultural science and technology education centers that had in  
108 excess of one hundred fifty out-of-district students enrolled on said  
109 date.

110 (e) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2012, and June 30, 2013, the  
111 Department of Education shall allocate five hundred thousand dollars  
112 to local or regional boards of education operating an agricultural science  
113 and technology education center in accordance with the provisions of  
114 subsections (b) to (d), inclusive, of this section.

115 (f) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year  
116 thereafter, if a local or regional board of education receives an increase

117 in funds pursuant to this section over the amount it received for the  
118 prior fiscal year such increase shall not be used to supplant local funding  
119 for educational purposes.

120 (g) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 10-51 and 10-222, for  
121 the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, to June 30, 2017, inclusive, any  
122 amount received by a local or regional board of education pursuant to  
123 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section that exceeds the amount  
124 appropriated for education by the municipality or the amount in the  
125 budget approved by such regional board of education for purposes of  
126 said subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section, shall be available  
127 for use by such local or regional board of education, provided such  
128 excess amount is spent in accordance with the provisions of subdivision  
129 (2) of subsection (a) of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2020</i>	10-65

**Statement of Purpose:**

To change the way agricultural science and technology education centers are funded.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*