General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 957

January Session, 2019

LCO No. **4792**

04792 ED

Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:
 (ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF COMPUTER SCIENCE INSTRUCTION IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CURRICULUM, PROGRAMS OF TEACHER PREPARATION AND IN-SERVICE TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR TEACHERS.

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

1   Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 10-16b of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2019*):

4   (a) In the public schools the program of instruction offered shall
5 include at least the following subject matter, as taught by legally
6 qualified teachers, the arts; career education; consumer education;
7 health and safety, including, but not limited to, human growth and
8 development, nutrition, first aid, including cardiopulmonary
9 resuscitation training in accordance with the provisions of section 10-
10 16qq, disease prevention and cancer awareness, including, but not
11 limited to, age and developmentally appropriate instruction in
12 performing self-examinations for the purposes of screening for breast
13 cancer and testicular cancer, community and consumer health,

14   physical, mental and emotional health, including youth suicide
15   prevention, substance abuse prevention, including instruction relating
16   to opioid use and related disorders, safety, which shall include the safe
17   use of social media, as defined in section 9-601, and may include the
18   dangers of gang membership, and accident prevention; language arts,
19   including reading, writing, grammar, speaking and spelling;
20   mathematics; physical education; science, which may include the
21   climate change curriculum described in subsection (d) of this section;
22   social studies, including, but not limited to, citizenship, economics,
23   geography, government, history and Holocaust and genocide
24   education and awareness in accordance with the provisions of section
25   10-18f; computer science, including, but not limited to, computer
26   programming instruction; and in addition, on at least the secondary
27   level, one or more world languages and vocational education. For
28   purposes of this subsection, world languages shall include American
29   Sign Language, provided such subject matter is taught by a qualified
30   instructor under the supervision of a teacher who holds a certificate
31   issued by the State Board of Education. For purposes of this
32   subsection, the "arts" means any form of visual or performing arts,
33   which may include, but not be limited to, dance, music, art and theatre.

34   Sec. 2. Subsection (d) of section 10-145a of the general statutes is
35   repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
36   *1, 2019*):

37   (d) On and after July 1, **[**1998**]** 2019, any **[**candidate in a**]** program of
38   teacher preparation leading to professional certification shall **[**complete
39   a**]** include, as part of the curriculum, instruction in computer science,
40   and other information technology skills, **[**component of such program,**]**
41   as applied to student learning and classroom instruction,
42   communications, **[**and**]** data management, programming and coding.

43   Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 10-220a of the general statutes is
44   repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
45   *1, 2019*):

46   (a) Each local or regional board of education shall provide an in-
47   service training program for its teachers, administrators and pupil
48   personnel who hold the initial educator, provisional educator or
49   professional educator certificate. Such program shall provide such
50   teachers, administrators and pupil personnel with information on (1)
51   the nature and the relationship of alcohol and drugs, as defined in
52   subdivision (17) of section 21a-240, to health and personality
53   development, and procedures for discouraging their abuse, (2) health
54   and mental health risk reduction education that includes, but need not
55   be limited to, the prevention of risk-taking behavior by children and
56   the relationship of such behavior to substance abuse, pregnancy,
57   sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV-infection and AIDS, as
58   defined in section 19a-581, violence, teen dating violence, domestic
59   violence and child abuse, (3) school violence prevention, conflict
60   resolution, the prevention of and response to youth suicide and the
61   identification and prevention of and response to bullying, as defined in
62   subsection (a) of section 10-222d, except that those boards of education
63   that implement any evidence-based model approach that is approved
64   by the Department of Education and is consistent with subsection (c)
65   of section 10-145a, sections 10-222d, 10-222g and 10-222h, subsection
66   (g) of section 10-233c and sections 1 and 3 of public act 08-160, shall not
67   be required to provide in-service training on the identification and
68   prevention of and response to bullying, (4) cardiopulmonary
69   resuscitation and other emergency life saving procedures, (5) the
70   requirements and obligations of a mandated reporter, **[**and**]** (6) the
71   detection and recognition of, and evidence-based structured literacy
72   interventions for, students with dyslexia, as defined in section 10-3d,
73   and (7) computer science, including, but not limited to, computer
74   programming. Each local or regional board of education may allow
75   any paraprofessional or noncertified employee to participate, on a
76   voluntary basis, in any in-service training program provided pursuant
77   to this section.

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

Section 1	*July 1, 2019*	10-16b(a)
Sec. 2	*July 1, 2019*	10-145a(d)
Sec. 3	*July 1, 2019*	10-220a(a)

Statement of Purpose:

To include computer science instruction in the public school curriculum, programs of teacher preparation and in-service training programs for teachers.

[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.]