

# Education Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No:** HB-5215 / [Bill Status](#) / [Public Hearing Testimony](#)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONERS'  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TECHNICAL REVISIONS TO THE EDUCATION  
**Title:** AND EARLY CHILDHOOD STATUTES.

**Vote Date:** 2/27/2026

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable

**PH Date:** 2/23/2026

**File No.:** 11

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## **SPONSORS OF BILL:**

Education Committee

## **REASONS FOR BILL:**

HB-5215 makes technical changes to education and early childhood statutes for accuracy and clarification.

## **RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

None Expressed for HB-5215

## **NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

None Expressed for HB-5215

## **NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

Dr. Linda Dalessio

Dr. Dalessio submitted written testimony in opposition to HB-5215. She doesn't think it's good policy to deposit cash with the State Treasurer for an endowment related to inspections of climate control systems in schools. She expressed concern that there is no transparency or auditing, and taxpayers do not know where their money is going.

## **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

Jessica King, Public School Educator and Connecticut Education Association member

Ms. King submitted written testimony in support of the Governor's Proposed Adjusted Budget to increase the base ECS foundation amount which hasn't been substantively changed since 2013. She believes it's the school's responsibility to provide safe, nurturing environments for all students no matter where they reside. She challenges how the vision and mission "to provide high-quality, rigorous, and accessible education that fosters student success, equity, and innovation" can be fulfilled when CT schools are disproportionately funded.

Willie Medina, Bridgeport Board of Education Member

Mr. Medina referenced numerous biblical and religious references throughout his written testimony to highlight the necessity of prioritization, protection, and education of children. While Mr. Medina believes many proposed bills reflect thoughtful efforts to address the needs of students and teachers, he doesn't think many would be necessary if the ECS formula reflected inflation and included a true cost-of-living adjustment for the past 13 years. He stated that in his meetings with partners from across the state, education consistently rises to the top of every priority list.

**Reported by: Emily Swiatek**

**Date: 3/26/2026**