



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

Raised Bill No. 5216

LCO No. 1376



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING STIPENDS FOR STUDENT TEACHERS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) (a) The Department of
2 Education shall establish a program to be known as the "Student
3 Teacher Investment and Professional Educator Network for
4 Development" or "STIPEND" program. For the fall semester of 2026, and
5 each semester thereafter, the department shall provide funds to each
6 teacher preparation program, as defined in section 10-10a of the general
7 statutes, for each student teacher enrolled in such program who is
8 participating in a student teaching experience, pursuant to subsection
9 (i) of section 10-145a of the general statutes, at a public school in the state
10 for such semester. Such funds shall be in an amount equal to one
11 thousand dollars per week of such student teaching experience for each
12 such student teacher. The department shall request reimbursement, on
13 a pro rata basis, from any teacher preparation program that reports,
14 pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section, any such
15 student teaching experience as uncompleted.

16 (b) (1) Each teacher preparation program shall report to the

17 Department of Education, in the form and manner prescribed by the
18 department (A) not later than August 1, 2026, and December 1, 2026, and
19 each August first and December first thereafter, the estimated number
20 of student teachers who are enrolled in such program and will
21 participate in a student teaching experience at a public school in the state
22 during the following semester, and (B) not later than January 1, 2027,
23 and July 1, 2027, and each January first and July first thereafter, whether
24 any such student teachers did not complete such student teaching
25 experience during the prior semester, specifying the number of weeks
26 that were not completed.

27 (2) Upon receipt of the funds pursuant to subsection (a) of this
28 section, each teacher preparation program shall disburse stipends to
29 each student teacher who is participating in a student teaching
30 experience at a public school in the state for such semester in the amount
31 specified in subsection (a) of this section, provided such student teacher
32 shall return such stipend, on a pro rata basis, for any uncompleted
33 weeks of such student teaching experience.

34 (c) The Department of Education shall monitor the employment
35 status of each student teacher who received a stipend under the
36 STIPEND program for not fewer than three years after such student
37 teacher graduates from the teacher preparation program. The
38 department shall request reimbursement from any such student teacher
39 who is not employed as a certified teacher in a public school in the state
40 for at least two years after graduation from the teacher preparation
41 program, in an amount not less than fifty per cent of the total stipends
42 such student teacher received under the STIPEND program.

43 (d) Not later than January 1, 2028, and annually thereafter, the
44 Department of Education shall submit, in accordance with the
45 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing
46 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
47 relating to education a report, on a disaggregated basis, on the
48 employment rate at public schools in the state of student teachers who

49 received stipends under the STIPEND program.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2026	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To require payment of stipends to student teachers for each week of student teaching experience at a public school in the state.

[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.]