



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

**Raised Bill No. 223**

LCO No. 1394



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:  
(ED)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE PARAEDUCATOR HEALTH CARE  
SUBSIDY PROGRAM.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 203 of public act 23-204, as amended by section 124  
2 of public act 24-81, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
3 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

4 (a) As used in this section:

5 (1) "Health benefit plan" has the same meaning as provided in section  
6 38a-1080 of the general statutes, and

7 (2) "Partnership plan" has the same meaning as provided in section 3-  
8 123aaa of the general statutes.

9 (b) For the fiscal [years] year ending [June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025]  
10 June 30, 2027, and each fiscal year thereafter, the Comptroller shall  
11 establish a program to provide a subsidy, within available  
12 appropriations, to each paraeducator who (1) opens a health savings  
13 account, pursuant to Section 223 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986,

14 or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United  
15 States, as amended from time to time, or is eligible for Medicare and  
16 enrolls in a high deductible health plan, and (2) is employed [by a local  
17 or regional board of education] in a public school. Such subsidy shall be  
18 in an amount up to a certain percentage, as specified by the Comptroller,  
19 of the deductible for the health plan in which such paraeducator is  
20 enrolled, minus the amount of any employer contributions to a health  
21 savings account or health reimbursement account, and not exceeding an  
22 amount specified by the Comptroller. No paraeducator may receive  
23 more than one subsidy pursuant to this section. The Comptroller may  
24 work with the local or regional board of education that employs such  
25 paraeducator to distribute such subsidy.

26 (c) For the fiscal year ending [June 30, 2025] June 30, 2027, and each  
27 fiscal year thereafter, the Comptroller shall establish a program to  
28 provide a subsidy, from any funds appropriated for such purpose, to  
29 each local or regional board of education that provides coverage to  
30 paraeducators and their dependents under a health benefit plan or a  
31 partnership plan for such fiscal year or any portion thereof. Such  
32 subsidy shall be (1) in an amount not more than ten per cent of the  
33 aggregate premium cost, inclusive of the employee and employer  
34 shares, paid by such board of education for coverage under such health  
35 benefit plan or partnership plan, divided by the number of  
36 paraeducators employed by such board of education and enrolled in  
37 health coverage, and (2) used to offset the employee's share of such  
38 premium that is deducted from the payroll check of each paraeducator  
39 employed by such board of education during any pay period during  
40 such fiscal year. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to a  
41 local or regional board of education that provides coverage under a high  
42 deductible health plan, as that term is used in subsection (f) of section  
43 38a-520 of the general statutes. Pursuant to the provisions of subsection  
44 (b) of section 10-66dd of the general statutes, the provisions of this  
45 section shall apply to charter schools.

46 [(d) The Comptroller and the Commissioner of Education shall enter  
47 into a memorandum of understanding, in accordance with the

48 provisions of section 4-97b of the general statutes, to allow the  
49 Comptroller to utilize the sum of \$5,000,000 that is appropriated to the  
50 Department of Education for assistance to paraeducators pursuant to  
51 section 1 of public act 23-204 to implement the provisions of this  
52 section.]

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	PA 23-204, Sec. 203

**ED**

*Joint Favorable C/R*

APP