



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

**Raised Bill No. 309**

LCO No. 1874



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:  
(ED)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A CONTINGENCY SPECIAL EDUCATION GRANT, A PROHIBITION ON PRIVATE EQUITY IN SPECIAL EDUCATION AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WORKING GROUP TO CONSIDER INNOVATIONS IN THE PROVISION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES.**

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

1 Section 1.Subsection (c) of section 10-76g of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
3 *2026*):

4 (c) (1) Commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, and for  
5 each fiscal year thereafter, within available appropriations, each town  
6 whose ratio of [(1)] (A) net costs of special education, as defined in  
7 subsection (h) of section 10-76f, for the fiscal year prior to the year in  
8 which the grant is to be paid to [(2)] (B) the product of its total need  
9 students, as defined in section 10-262f, and the average regular program  
10 expenditures, as defined in section 10-262f, per need student for all  
11 towns for such year exceeds the state-wide average for all such ratios  
12 shall be eligible to receive a supplemental special education grant. Such  
13 grant shall be equal to the product of a town's eligible excess costs and

14 the town's base aid ratio, as defined in section 10-262f, provided each  
15 town's grant shall be adjusted proportionately if necessary to stay  
16 within the appropriation. Payment pursuant to this subsection shall be  
17 made in June. For purposes of this subsection, a town's eligible excess  
18 costs are the difference between its net costs of special education and the  
19 amount the town would have expended if it spent at the state-wide  
20 average rate.

21 (2) Commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, and for  
22 each fiscal year thereafter, within available appropriations, the State  
23 Board of Education shall pay a contingency special education grant to a  
24 local or regional board of education on a current basis for any costs in  
25 excess of two times the net current expenditures for each student who  
26 enrolls in the school district or becomes ineligible for birth-to-three  
27 services on or after March first of the school year and requires special  
28 education or related services.

29 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) On and after July 1, 2026, the State  
30 Board of Education shall not approve a private provider of special  
31 education services, as defined in section 10-91g of the general statutes,  
32 that is owned or operated by a private equity company. As used in this  
33 section, "private equity company" means an asset class consisting of  
34 equity securities and debt in operating companies that are not publicly  
35 traded on a stock exchange.

36 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) The Commissioner of Education  
37 shall convene a working group to consider and make recommendations  
38 concerning (1) innovations in the provision of special education and  
39 related services through public-private partnerships, such as through  
40 the creation of research and development schools and the inclusion of  
41 neuropsychological services in a child's individualized education  
42 program, and (2) expansion of the eligibility requirements for who may  
43 be approved as a private provider of special education services, as  
44 defined in section 10-91g of the general statutes. The commissioner shall  
45 select the members of the working group, provided at least one member

46 is a representative from an approved private provider of special  
47 education services and at least one member is a representative from a  
48 private provider of special education services that is ineligible to be  
49 approved by the State Board of Education. Not later than January 1,  
50 2027, the working group shall submit a report on its findings and any  
51 recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General  
52 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, in  
53 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To (1) provide a contingency special education grant for certain unanticipated special education costs, (2) prohibit the Department of Education from approving a private provider of special education services that is owned or operated by a private equity company, and (3) establish a working group to consider innovations in the provision of special education and related services through public-private partnerships.

*[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.]*