



House of Representatives

File No. 724

General Assembly

February Session, 2026

(Reprint of File No. 420)

Substitute House Bill No. 5468
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
April 27, 2026

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROVISION OF PARENT-MANAGED
LEARNING.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 10-184 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2027*):

3 [All parents and those who have the care of children shall bring them
4 up in some lawful and honest employment and instruct them or cause
5 them to be instructed in reading, writing, spelling, English grammar,
6 geography, arithmetic and United States history and in citizenship,
7 including a study of the town, state and federal governments. Subject to
8 the provisions of this section and section 10-15c, each parent or other
9 person having control of a child five years of age and over and under
10 eighteen years of age shall cause such child to attend a public school
11 regularly during the hours and terms the public school in the district in
12 which such child resides is in session, unless such child is a high school
13 graduate or the parent or person having control of such child is able to

14 show that the child is elsewhere receiving equivalent instruction in the
15 studies taught in the public schools. For the school years commencing
16 July 1, 2011, to July 1, 2022, inclusive, the parent or person having
17 control of a child seventeen years of age may consent, as provided in
18 this section, to such child's withdrawal from school. For the school year
19 commencing July 1, 2023, and each school year thereafter, a student who
20 is eighteen years of age or older may withdraw from school. Such
21 parent, person or student shall personally appear at the school district
22 office and sign a withdrawal form. Such withdrawal form shall include
23 an attestation from a guidance counselor, school counselor or school
24 administrator of the school that such school district has provided such
25 parent, person or student with information on the educational options
26 available in the school system and in the community. The parent or
27 person having control of a child seventeen years of age may withdraw
28 such child from school and enroll such child in an adult education
29 program pursuant to section 10-69. Such parent or person shall
30 personally appear at the school district office and sign an adult
31 education withdrawal and enrollment form. Such adult education
32 withdrawal and enrollment form shall include an attestation (1) from a
33 school counselor or school administrator of the school that such school
34 district has provided such parent or person with information on the
35 educational options available in the school system and in the
36 community, and (2) from such parent or person that such child will be
37 enrolled in an adult education program upon such child's withdrawal
38 from school. The parent or person having control of a child five years of
39 age shall have the option of not sending the child to school until the
40 child is six years of age and the parent or person having control of a
41 child six years of age shall have the option of not sending the child to
42 school until the child is seven years of age. The parent or person shall
43 exercise such option by personally appearing at the school district office
44 and signing an option form. The school district shall provide the parent
45 or person with information on the educational opportunities available
46 in the school system.]

47 (a) As used in this section and sections 2 and 3 of this act:

48 (1) "Parent-managed learning" means the provision of education that
49 is managed by a parent or guardian of a child in a setting other than a
50 public school or nonpublic school.

51 (2) "Nonpublic school" means a school that is not a public school and
52 that (A) is approved by the Department of Education following such
53 school receiving accreditation by an accrediting agency approved by the
54 Department of Education, or (B) files a student attendance report with
55 the Commissioner of Education pursuant to section 10-188, as amended
56 by this act.

57 (b) All parents and guardians of children shall bring such children up
58 in some lawful and honest employment and instruct or cause such
59 children to be instructed in reading, writing, spelling, English grammar,
60 geography, arithmetic and United States history and citizenship,
61 including a study of town, state and federal governments. Subject to the
62 provisions of this section and section 10-15c, each parent or guardian of
63 a child, who is five years of age or over and under eighteen years of age
64 and not a high school graduate, shall cause such child to (1) enroll in
65 public school regularly during the hours and terms the public school in
66 the district in which such child resides is in session, (2) attend a
67 nonpublic school, or (3) be instructed through parent-managed
68 learning.

69 (c) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, for the
70 school year commencing July 1, 2028, and each school year thereafter,
71 on or before October first of each school year, the parent or guardian of
72 a child (A) enrolled in a public school, (B) attending a nonpublic school,
73 (C) being instructed through parent-managed learning and (i) who will
74 be five years of age on or before September first of the school year, or
75 (ii) for whom an intent to educate form or a withdrawal form was
76 completed for the prior school year, or (D) for whom an option form for
77 the prior school year was signed, shall annually cause to be completed
78 an intent to educate form to indicate whether such child will be enrolled
79 in a public school, attending a nonpublic school or instructed through
80 parent-managed learning for the school year. Such completed intent to

81 educate form shall be submitted to the school district office for the town
82 in which such parent or guardian resides. If such child will be attending
83 a nonpublic school, the parent or guardian shall provide evidence to
84 show that such child will be attending a nonpublic school. Such intent
85 to educate form may be completed and submitted electronically to the
86 school district office. For purposes of this subdivision, (i) attendance of
87 a child in a public school, or (ii) the filing of an annual student
88 attendance report by a nonpublic school for which a child attends
89 pursuant to section 10-188, as amended by this act, shall be regarded as
90 compliance with the requirement that a parent or guardian of a child
91 cause an intent to educate form be completed for the school year.

92 (2) The parent or guardian of a child five years of age shall have the
93 option of not sending the child to school until the child is six years of
94 age and the parent or guardian of a child six years of age shall have the
95 option of not sending the child to school until the child is seven years of
96 age. Such parent or guardian shall exercise such option by personally
97 appearing at the school district office for the town in which such parent
98 or guardian resides and signing an option form. The school district shall
99 provide such parent or guardian with information on the educational
100 opportunities available in the school system.

101 (3) For the school year commencing July 1, 2028, and each school year
102 thereafter, the parent or guardian of a child who moves into a school
103 district during the school year shall, not later than fourteen days after
104 moving into such school district, complete an intent to educate form to
105 indicate whether such child will be enrolling in public school, attending
106 a nonpublic school or instructed through parent-managed learning.
107 Such completed intent to educate form shall be submitted to the school
108 district office for such school district. If such child will be attending a
109 nonpublic school, the parent or guardian shall provide evidence to show
110 that such child will be attending a nonpublic school. Such intent to
111 educate form may be completed and submitted electronically to the
112 school district office.

113 (4) For the school year commencing July 1, 2028, and each school year

114 thereafter, the parent or guardian of a child who withdraws from
115 attending a nonpublic school shall complete an updated intent to
116 educate form to indicate whether such child will be enrolling in public
117 school, attending a different nonpublic school or instructed through
118 parent-managed learning. Such updated intent to educate form shall be
119 submitted to the school district office for the town in which such parent
120 or guardian resides. If such child will be attending a different nonpublic
121 school, the parent or guardian shall provide evidence to show that such
122 child will be attending such different nonpublic school. Such updated
123 intent to educate form may be completed and submitted electronically
124 to the school district office.

125 (d) For the school year commencing July 1, 2028, and each school year
126 thereafter, any local or regional board of education that does not receive
127 a completed intent to educate form on or before November first from a
128 parent or guardian pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this
129 section, shall make at least three attempts to contact such parent or
130 guardian for the purpose of informing such parent or guardian that they
131 are required to complete an intent to educate form for the current school
132 year. If the board is unable to make such contact with such parent or
133 guardian by November first, the board shall notify the Department of
134 Education that the board has not received a completed intent to educate
135 form from such parent or guardian.

136 (e) (1) For the school year commencing July 1, 2027, and each school
137 year thereafter, the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in public
138 school may withdraw such child from public school for the purpose of
139 causing such child to attend a nonpublic school. Such parent or
140 guardian shall personally appear at the school district office and sign a
141 withdrawal form. Such withdrawal shall not be effective unless such
142 parent or guardian provides evidence to show that such child will be
143 attending a nonpublic school.

144 (2) (A) Subject to the provisions of subparagraph (B) of this
145 subdivision, for the school year commencing July 1, 2027, and each
146 school year thereafter, the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in

147 public school may withdraw such child from public school for the
148 purpose of causing such child to be instructed through parent-managed
149 learning. Such parent or guardian shall personally appear at the school
150 district office and sign a withdrawal form. Such withdrawal shall not be
151 effective until the superintendent of schools, or the superintendent's
152 designee, notifies such parent or guardian that such child may be
153 withdrawn following receipt of notice under subparagraph (B) of this
154 subdivision.

155 (B) Not later than two business days following receipt of a
156 withdrawal form under this subdivision, the superintendent of schools,
157 or the superintendent's designee, shall cause to be conducted with the
158 Department of Children and Families a records check of each person
159 who resides with such child and is eighteen years of age or older. Such
160 records check shall include the following: Whether such person is (i) on
161 the state child abuse and neglect registry established pursuant to section
162 17a-101k, or (ii) currently under investigation by the Department of
163 Children and Families for an allegation of abuse or neglect under section
164 17a-101g. If such records check finds that any such person is on the state
165 child abuse and neglect registry or currently under investigation by the
166 department for an allegation of abuse or neglect, such withdrawal shall
167 not be effective and such child may not be withdrawn from public
168 school pursuant to this subdivision. Not later than five business days
169 following the commencement of such records check, the
170 superintendent, or the superintendent's designee, shall notify such
171 parent or guardian whether such withdrawal is effective. If such
172 withdrawal is not effective, the superintendent, or the superintendent's
173 designee, shall provide such parent or guardian with the reason such
174 withdrawal is not effective and information regarding how such parent
175 or guardian may challenge the findings of such records check, including
176 the appropriate contact information of the Department of Children and
177 Families.

178 (C) A records check under this subdivision is not a report for
179 purposes of sections 17a-101a to 17a-101d, inclusive, or section 17a-103.

180 (D) For purposes of this subdivision, the Department of Children and
181 Families is a state educational authority pursuant to the Family
182 Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, 20 USC 1232g, as amended
183 from time to time, and may receive the educational records of any child
184 for whom a withdrawal form has been signed.

185 (3) The parent or guardian of a child seventeen years of age may
186 withdraw such child from public school and enroll such child in an
187 adult education program pursuant to section 10-69. Such parent or
188 guardian shall personally appear at the school district office and sign a
189 withdrawal form. Such withdrawal form shall include an attestation (A)
190 from a school counselor or school administrator of the school that such
191 school district has provided such parent or guardian with information
192 on the educational options available in the school system and in the
193 community, and (B) from such parent or guardian that such child will
194 be enrolled in an adult education program upon such child's
195 withdrawal from public school.

196 (4) A student who is eighteen years of age or older may withdraw
197 from public school. The parent or guardian of such student or such
198 student shall personally appear at the school district office and sign a
199 withdrawal form. Such withdrawal form shall include an attestation
200 from a guidance counselor, school counselor or school administrator of
201 the school that such school district has provided such parent, guardian
202 or student with information on the educational options available in the
203 school system and in the community.

204 Sec. 2. *(Effective July 1, 2026)* Not later than July 1, 2027, the
205 Department of Education shall develop the intent to educate form and
206 withdrawal form, as such forms are described in section 10-184 of the
207 general statutes, as amended by this act. The department shall make
208 such forms available to local and regional boards of education.

209 Sec. 3. Section 10-188 of the general statutes is repealed and the
210 following is substituted in lieu thereof *(Effective July 1, 2026)*:

211 Attendance of children at a [school other than a public school]

212 nonpublic school, as defined in section 10-184, as amended by this act,
213 shall not be regarded as compliance with the laws of the state requiring
214 parents and other persons having control of children to cause them to
215 attend school, unless the teachers or persons having control of such
216 nonpublic school file with the Commissioner of Education annual
217 student attendance reports at such times and in such forms as the
218 commissioner prescribes, and make such reports and returns
219 concerning the school under their charge to the Commissioner of
220 Education as are required from boards of education concerning the
221 public schools, except that no report concerning finances shall be
222 required. The Commissioner of Education shall furnish to the teachers
223 or persons having charge of any nonpublic school such forms as may be
224 necessary for compliance with the provisions of this section.

225 Sec. 4. Subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 10-10a of the general
226 statutes, as amended by section 22 of public act 26-1, is repealed and the
227 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2027*):

228 (1) Track and report data relating to student, teacher and school and
229 district performance growth and make such information available to
230 local and regional boards of education for use in evaluating educational
231 performance and growth of teachers and students enrolled in public
232 schools in the state. Such information shall be collected or calculated
233 based on information received from local and regional boards of
234 education and other relevant sources. Such information shall include,
235 but not be limited to:

236 (A) In addition to performance on state-wide mastery examinations
237 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, data relating to students shall
238 include, but not be limited to, (i) the primary language spoken at the
239 home of a student, (ii) student transcripts, (iii) student attendance and
240 student mobility, (iv) reliable, valid assessments of a student's readiness
241 to enter public school at the kindergarten level, (v) data collected, if any,
242 from the preschool experience survey, described in section 10-515, and
243 (vi) data required pursuant to section 10-17m concerning the academic
244 progress of students in bilingual education programs;

245 (B) Data relating to teachers shall include, but not be limited to, (i)
246 teacher credentials, such as master's degrees, teacher preparation
247 programs completed and certification levels and endorsement areas, (ii)
248 teacher assessments, such as whether a teacher is deemed highly
249 qualified pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110, or
250 deemed to meet such other designations as may be established by
251 federal law or regulations for the purposes of tracking the equitable
252 distribution of instructional staff, (iii) the presence of substitute teachers
253 in a teacher's classroom, (iv) class size, (v) numbers relating to
254 absenteeism in a teacher's classroom, and (vi) the presence of a teacher's
255 aide. The department shall assign a unique teacher identifier to each
256 teacher prior to collecting such data in the public school information
257 system;

258 (C) Data relating to schools and districts shall include, but not be
259 limited to, (i) school population, (ii) annual student graduation rates,
260 (iii) annual teacher retention rates, (iv) school disciplinary records, such
261 as data relating to suspensions, expulsions and other disciplinary
262 actions, (v) the percentage of students whose primary language is not
263 English, (vi) the number of and professional credentials of support
264 personnel, (vii) information relating to instructional technology, such as
265 access to computers, (viii) disaggregated measures of school-based
266 arrests pursuant to section 10-233n, [and] (ix) the measures and data
267 required pursuant to section 10-17g for the evaluation of bilingual
268 education programs, and (x) the number of children being instructed
269 through parent-managed learning for whom an intent to educate form
270 was completed or a withdrawal form was signed pursuant to section 10-
271 184, as amended by this act.

272 Sec. 5. Subsection (g) of section 17a-28 of the 2026 supplement to the
273 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
274 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

275 (g) The department shall disclose records, subject to subsections (b)
276 and (c) of this section, without the consent of the person who is the
277 subject of the record, to:

278 (1) The person named in the record or such person's authorized
279 representative, provided such disclosure shall be limited to information
280 (A) contained in the record about such person or about such person's
281 biological or adoptive minor child, if such person's parental rights to
282 such child have not been terminated; and (B) identifying an individual
283 who reported abuse or neglect of the person, including any tape
284 recording of an oral report pursuant to section 17a-103, if a court
285 determines that there is reasonable cause to believe the reporter
286 knowingly made a false report or that the interests of justice require
287 disclosure;

288 (2) An employee of the department for any purpose reasonably
289 related to the performance of such employee's duties;

290 (3) A guardian ad litem or attorney appointed to represent a child or
291 youth in litigation affecting the best interests of the child or youth;

292 (4) An attorney representing a parent, guardian or child in a petition
293 filed in the Superior Court pursuant to section 17a-112 or 46b-129,
294 provided (A) if such records do not pertain to such attorney's client or
295 such client's child, such records shall not be further disclosed to another
296 individual or entity by such attorney except pursuant to the order of a
297 court of competent jurisdiction, (B) if such records are confidential
298 pursuant to federal law, such records shall not be disclosed to such
299 attorney or such attorney's client unless such attorney or such attorney's
300 client is otherwise entitled to such records, and (C) nothing in this
301 subdivision shall limit the disclosure of records under subdivision (3) of
302 this subsection;

303 (5) The Attorney General, any assistant attorney general or any other
304 legal counsel retained to represent the department during the course of
305 a legal proceeding involving the department or an employee of the
306 department;

307 (6) The Child Advocate or the Child Advocate's designee;

308 (7) The Chief Public Defender or the Chief Public Defender's designee

309 for purposes of ensuring competent representation by the attorneys
310 with whom the Chief Public Defender contracts to provide legal and
311 guardian ad litem services to the subjects of such records and for
312 ensuring accurate payments for services rendered by such attorneys;

313 (8) The Chief State's Attorney or the Chief State's Attorney's designee
314 for purposes of investigating or prosecuting (A) an allegation related to
315 child abuse or neglect, (B) an allegation that an individual made a false
316 report of suspected child abuse or neglect, (C) an allegation that a
317 mandated reporter failed to report suspected child abuse or neglect in
318 accordance with section 17a-101a, provided such prosecuting authority
319 shall have access to records of a child charged with the commission of a
320 delinquent act, who is not being charged with an offense related to child
321 abuse, only while the case is being prosecuted and after obtaining a
322 release, or (D) an allegation of fraud in the receipt of public or private
323 benefits, provided no information identifying the subject of the record
324 is disclosed unless such information is essential to such investigation or
325 prosecution;

326 (9) A state or federal law enforcement officer, including a military law
327 enforcement authority under the United States Department of Defense,
328 for purposes of investigating (A) an allegation related to child abuse or
329 neglect, (B) an allegation that an individual made a false report of
330 suspected child abuse or neglect, or (C) an allegation that a mandated
331 reporter failed to report suspected child abuse or neglect in accordance
332 with section 17a-101a;

333 (10) A foster or prospective adoptive parent, if the records pertain to
334 a child or youth currently placed with the foster or prospective adoptive
335 parent, or a child or youth being considered for placement with the
336 foster or prospective adoptive parent, and the records are necessary to
337 address the social, medical, psychological or educational needs of the
338 child or youth, provided no information identifying a biological parent
339 is disclosed without the permission of such biological parent;

340 (11) The Governor, when requested in writing in the course of the

341 Governor's official functions, the joint standing committee of the
342 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human
343 services, the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
344 cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary or the joint standing
345 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
346 relating to children, when requested in writing by any of such
347 committees in the course of such committee's official functions, and
348 upon a majority vote of such committee, provided no name or other
349 identifying information is disclosed unless such information is essential
350 to the gubernatorial or legislative purpose;

351 (12) The Office of Early Childhood for the purpose of (A) determining
352 the suitability of a person to care for children in a facility licensed
353 pursuant to section 19a-77, 19a-80, 19a-87b or 19a-421; (B) determining
354 the suitability of such person for licensure; (C) determining the
355 suitability of a person to provide child care services to a child and
356 receive a child care subsidy pursuant to section 17b-749k; (D) an
357 investigation conducted pursuant to section 19a-80f; (E) notifying the
358 office when the Department of Children and Families places an
359 individual licensed or certified by the office on the child abuse and
360 neglect registry pursuant to section 17a-101k; or (F) notifying the office
361 when the Department of Children and Families possesses information
362 regarding an office regulatory violation committed by an individual
363 licensed or certified by the office;

364 (13) The Department of Developmental Services, (A) to allow said
365 department to determine eligibility, facilitate enrollment and plan for
366 the provision of services to a child who is a client of said department
367 and who is applying to enroll in or is enrolled in said department's
368 behavioral services program. At the time that a parent or guardian
369 completes an application for enrollment of a child in the Department of
370 Developmental Services' children's services program, or at the time that
371 said department updates a child's annual individualized plan of care,
372 said department shall notify such parent or guardian that the
373 Department of Children and Families may provide records to the
374 Department of Developmental Services for the purposes specified in this

375 subdivision without the consent of such parent or guardian; or (B) for
376 purposes of an investigation pursuant to section 46a-11c;

377 (14) Any individual or entity for the purposes of identifying resources
378 that will promote the permanency plan of a child or youth approved by
379 the court pursuant to sections 17a-11, 17a-111b and 46b-129;

380 (15) A state agency that licenses or certifies a person to educate, care
381 for or provide services to children or youths;

382 (16) A judge or employee of a Probate Court who requires access to
383 such records in order to perform such judge's or employee's official
384 duties;

385 (17) A judge of the Superior Court for purposes of determining the
386 appropriate disposition of a child adjudicated as delinquent;

387 (18) A judge of the Superior Court in a criminal prosecution for
388 purposes of in camera inspection whenever (A) the court has ordered
389 that the record be provided to the court; or (B) a party to the proceeding
390 has issued a subpoena for the record;

391 (19) A judge of the Superior Court and all necessary parties in a
392 family violence proceeding when such records concern family violence
393 with respect to the child who is the subject of the proceeding or the
394 parent of such child who is the subject of the proceeding;

395 (20) The Auditors of Public Accounts, or their representative,
396 provided no information identifying the subject of the record is
397 disclosed unless such information is essential to an audit conducted
398 pursuant to section 2-90;

399 (21) A local or regional board of education, provided the records are
400 limited to educational records created or obtained by the state or
401 Connecticut Unified School District #2, established pursuant to section
402 17a-37;

403 (22) The superintendent of schools for any school district for the

404 purpose of determining the suitability of a person to be employed by
405 the local or regional board of education for such school district pursuant
406 to subsection (a) of section 10-221d;

407 (23) The Department of Motor Vehicles for the purpose of criminal
408 history records checks pursuant to subsection (e) of section 14-44,
409 provided information disclosed pursuant to this subdivision shall be
410 limited to information included on the Department of Children and
411 Families child abuse and neglect registry established pursuant to section
412 17a-101k, subject to the provisions of sections 17a-101g and 17a-101k
413 concerning the nondisclosure of findings of responsibility for abuse and
414 neglect;

415 (24) The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services for the
416 purpose of treatment planning for young adults who have transitioned
417 from the care of the Department of Children and Families;

418 (25) The superintendent of a public school district or the executive
419 director or other head of a public or private institution for children
420 providing care for children or a private school (A) pursuant to sections
421 17a-11, 17a-101b, 17a-101c, 17a-101i, 17a-111b and 46b-129, or (B) when
422 the Department of Children and Families places an individual
423 employed by such institution or school on the child abuse and neglect
424 registry pursuant to section 17a-101k;

425 (26) The Department of Social Services for the purpose of (A)
426 determining the suitability of a person for payment from the
427 Department of Social Services for providing child care; (B) promoting
428 the health, safety and welfare of a child or youth receiving services from
429 either department; or (C) investigating allegations of fraud provided no
430 information identifying the subject of the record is disclosed unless such
431 information is essential to any such investigation;

432 (27) The Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch, for
433 the purpose of (A) determining the supervision and treatment needs of
434 a child or youth or any other person, and provide appropriate
435 supervision and treatment services to such child or youth or any other

436 person, or (B) sharing common case records to track recidivism of
437 juvenile offenders;

438 (28) The birth-to-three program's referral intake office for the purpose
439 of (A) determining eligibility of, (B) facilitating enrollment for, and (C)
440 providing services to (i) substantiated victims of child abuse and neglect
441 with suspected developmental delays, and (ii) newborns impacted by
442 withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal drug exposure;

443 (29) The Department of Public Health for (A) the purpose of
444 notification when the Commissioner of Children and Families places an
445 individual licensed or certified by the Department of Public Health on
446 the child abuse and neglect registry established pursuant to section 17a-
447 101k, and (B) purposes relating to the licensure of the Albert J. Solnit
448 Children's Center and the administration of licensing requirements
449 established pursuant to or set forth in sections 19a-134 and 19a-498;

450 (30) The Department of Correction, for the purpose of determining
451 the supervision and treatment needs of a child or youth, and providing
452 appropriate supervision and treatment services to such child or youth;

453 (31) Any child placing agency subject to licensure by the Department
454 of Children and Families, for the purpose of determining the suitability
455 of a person (A) for employment by such agency, or (B) to adopt or
456 provide foster care pursuant to sections 17a-114 and 17a-151;

457 (32) The Department of Administrative Services, for the purpose of
458 determining whether an applicant for employment with the state, who
459 would have contact with children in the course of such employment,
460 appears on the child abuse or neglect registry maintained pursuant to
461 section 17a-101k;

462 (33) Any individual, upon the request of such individual, when the
463 information concerns an incident of abuse or neglect that resulted in the
464 fatality or near fatality of a child or youth, provided (A) such disclosure
465 shall be limited to (i) the cause and circumstances of such fatality or near
466 fatality, (ii) the age and gender of such child or youth, (iii) a description

467 of any previous reports of or investigations into child abuse or neglect
 468 that are relevant to the child abuse or neglect that led to such fatality or
 469 near fatality, (iv) the findings of any such investigations, and (v) a
 470 description of any services provided and actions taken by the state on
 471 behalf of such child or youth that are relevant to the child abuse or
 472 neglect that led to such fatality or near fatality, and (B) the department
 473 shall not make any disclosure that is prohibited by the provisions of any
 474 relevant federal law, including, but not limited to, Titles IV-B and IV-E
 475 of the Social Security Act, as amended from time to time. The
 476 department may withhold the disclosure of any records described in
 477 this subdivision if the commissioner determines that such disclosure
 478 may (i) result in harm to the safety or well-being of the child or youth
 479 who is the subject of such records, the family of such child or youth, or
 480 any individual who made a report of abuse or neglect pertaining to such
 481 child or youth, or (ii) interfere with a pending criminal investigation;
 482 [and]

483 (34) The Office of Policy and Management, for purposes of labor
 484 relations investigations conducted on behalf of the Department of
 485 Children and Families; and

486 (35) A local or regional board of education pursuant to subdivision
 487 (2) of subsection (e) of section 10-184, as amended by this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2027	10-184
Sec. 2	July 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 3	July 1, 2026	10-188
Sec. 4	July 1, 2027	10-10a(c)(1)
Sec. 5	July 1, 2026	17a-28(g)

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Children & Families, Dept.	GF - Cost	165,000	None
Education, Dept.	GF - Cost	50,000	None
Children & Families, Dept.	GF - Potential Cost	None	23,400

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Local and Regional School Districts	STATE MANDATE ¹ - Potential Cost	None	Potential Minimal

Explanation

The bill, which establishes a regulatory framework for students educated in a setting other than public or nonpublic school, results in: (1) a one-time cost of \$165,000 in FY 27 and an annual potential cost of \$23,400 beginning in FY 28 to the Department of Children and Families (DCF); (2) a one-time cost of \$50,000 in FY 27 to the State Department of Education (SDE); and (3) potential costs to local and regional boards of education (BOEs) that are anticipated to be minimal beginning in FY 28. The fiscal impacts are described by section below.

¹ State mandate is defined in Sec. 2-32b(2) of the Connecticut General Statutes, "state mandate" means any state initiated constitutional, statutory or executive action that requires a local government to establish, expand or modify its activities in such a way as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues.

Section 1 results in potential minimal staffing costs to BOEs annually beginning in FY 28. It is anticipated that some BOEs may need to hire additional staff to implement the bill's regulatory framework, which includes requirements for BOEs to: (1) receive specific forms; (2) in certain situations, make multiple attempts to contact families; and (3) initiate a check of DCF records (see below) and notify families whether a child's withdrawal is effective and if not, the reason why. The number of staff hired will vary based on the number of students subject to the framework.

Additionally, Section 1 requires certain checks of DCF records when parents submit a form to withdraw their children from public school for parent-managed learning, resulting in a cost to DCF of \$165,000 in FY 27 and a potential cost of \$23,400 in FY 28 (and annually thereafter).

DCF requires \$165,000 in FY 27 to expand the capabilities of the existing new hire background check portal accessible to BOEs to include a new parent-managed learning search category. The search will display child abuse and neglect registry data currently made available in the system as well as whether the person is currently under investigation by DCF, as the bill requires.

DCF may also need an additional Careline processing technician (0.5 FTE) at an annualized salary of \$23,400, beginning in FY 28, to support any increase in case search volume associated with the bill's requirements.

The framework established by the bill requires: (1) parents who withdraw a student from public school to sign a withdrawal form in person, beginning in FY 28; (2) an intent to educate form annually for all children, beginning in FY 29; (3) BOEs to attempt to contact parents who do not submit required intent to educate forms by November 1, beginning in FY 29, and if they are unable to contact the parents they must notify SDE; and (4) superintendents to initiate a records check within two business days of receiving a withdrawal form, beginning in FY 28.

Sections 2 - 4 result in a one-time cost of \$50,000 to SDE in FY 27 to: (1) develop various forms for the framework established in Section 1 and for non-public schools pursuant to Section 3; and (2) update the statewide education data system to include data about students being instructed through parent-managed learning.

Section 5 makes a conforming and procedural change which has no fiscal impact.

House "A" eliminates the original bill and its associated fiscal impact, and results in the impact described above.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of students subject to the framework.

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5468 (as amended by House "A")******AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROVISION OF EQUIVALENT INSTRUCTION.*****SUMMARY**

Starting with the 2028-29 school year, this bill requires parents or guardians ("parents") of most school-age children to annually complete (or cause to be completed) an intent to educate form indicating whether their child will (1) enroll in a public school, (2) attend a nonpublic school, or (3) be instructed through parent-managed learning (such as homeschooling). The forms must be submitted to the school district where the parent resides by October 1 and may be submitted electronically. The bill deems parents in compliance with this requirement if their child attends a public school or if the nonpublic school the child attends files the required annual attendance report.

Starting with the 2027-28 school year, the bill requires parents who withdraw a child from public school to go, in person, to the school district's office and sign a withdrawal form. It also prohibits parents withdrawing their child for parent-managed learning from doing so if any adult living with the child is on the state's child abuse and neglect registry or currently under investigation for child abuse or neglect. The bill requires the district's superintendent to conduct a records check with the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to determine whether a child may be withdrawn for parent-managed learning.

The bill also requires:

1. the State Department of Education (SDE) to create the intent to educate and withdrawal forms and make them available to school districts (§ 2) and

2. school boards to report to SDE the number of children being instructed through parent-managed learning for whom an intent to educate form was completed (§ 4).

Lastly, the bill makes technical and conforming changes.

*House Amendment "A" modifies the underlying bill by, among other things, (1) renaming "equivalent instruction" as "parent-managed learning;" (2) making the intent to educate form an annual requirement and eliminating the continuation form; (3) allowing the intent to educate form to be submitted electronically; (4) requiring all adults (rather than just the parent) residing with a child who is being withdrawn for parent-managed learning to be checked against DCF records, but narrowing the circumstances under which withdrawal is prohibited; (5) modifying procedures for the required DCF records check; and (6) removing provisions (a) explicitly allowing students receiving equivalent instruction to participate in certain public school activities and (b) granting school boards additional funding through ECS (education cost sharing) to complete their obligations under the bill.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2027, except the requirement for SDE to create the forms and the conforming changes are effective July 1, 2026.

PARENT-MANAGED LEARNING

Under the state's current compulsory school attendance law, parents must either send their children to public school or show they are otherwise receiving instruction equivalent to the one provided in public school (with certain exceptions, such as parents opting to delay school for a five- or six-year-old).

The bill modifies this law to specifically require parents to (1) send their child to public or nonpublic school or (2) instruct them in the studies taught in public school through "parent-managed learning" (education managed by a child's parent or guardian in a setting other than a public or nonpublic school). Under existing law and the bill, regardless of educational setting, children must receive instruction in

reading, writing, spelling, English grammar, geography, arithmetic, and United States history and citizenship (including town, state, and federal governments).

INTENT TO EDUCATE FORM

Submission Requirement

Starting with the 2028-29 school year, the bill requires certain parents to annually complete (or cause to be completed) an intent to educate form indicating whether their child will (1) enroll in a public school, (2) attend a nonpublic school, or (3) be instructed through parent-managed learning. It applies to parents of children:

1. enrolled in public school;
2. attending nonpublic school;
3. instructed through parent-managed learning (a) that are newly eligible for kindergarten (by turning five before September 1 of the school year) or (b) for whom an intent to educate or a withdrawal form was submitted the prior school year;
4. for whom an option form was signed (the parent opted to defer their five- or six-year-old from starting school, as allowed under existing law and the bill); and
5. who move to a different school district or withdraw from a nonpublic school during the school year.

The requirement to submit the intent to educate form does not apply to parents of children currently being instructed through parent-managed learning unless they move into a new school district.

Under the bill, a parent is deemed in compliance with the requirement to submit the intent to educate form if the (1) child attends a public school or (2) nonpublic school the child attends files the annual attendance report it must submit under existing law.

Submission Procedure

Under the bill, intent to educate forms must be submitted by October 1, to the school district office for the town where the parent resides, and they may be completed and submitted electronically. Parents who move into a district have 14 days to complete the form.

Nonpublic Schools

The bill requires parents of children who will attend a nonpublic school to submit evidence of that fact (for example, an acceptance letter).

Procedure When Forms Are Not Submitted

Under the bill, if a school board does not receive an intent to educate form from a parent required to submit by November 1 (and the parent is not deemed compliant as described above), the board must make at least three attempts to contact the parent to tell them they must submit the form. If the board cannot make contact by November 1, the bill requires the school board to notify SDE that it has not received the form.

WITHDRAWALS FROM PUBLIC SCHOOL

Starting with the 2027-28 school year, the bill requires parents who withdraw a child from public school to go, in person, to the school district's office and sign a withdrawal form.

Withdrawals for Nonpublic School

If the child is withdrawing to attend a nonpublic school, the parent must show evidence that the child will attend the school. The child's withdrawal is complete when the school district receives this evidence.

Withdrawals for Parent-Managed Learning

If a child is withdrawing for parent-managed learning, the withdrawal is not effective until the superintendent completes a records check with DCF. The bill specifies that this check does not constitute a report of suspected child abuse or neglect.

Under the bill, within two days after receiving a withdrawal form, the superintendent (or his or her designee) must conduct a records check with DCF for each person ages 18 or older who lives with the

child. The bill specifically allows DCF to release information from its records to school boards in order to complete the bill’s requirement.

The records check must identify whether any of the adults living with the child are (1) on the state child abuse and neglect registry or (2) currently under DCF investigation for child abuse or neglect. If so, the child may not be withdrawn. Within five days after starting the records check, the superintendent must notify the parent whether the withdrawal is effective. If it is not, the superintendent must tell the parent (1) the reason the withdrawal is not effective and (2) how he or she may challenge the records check findings, including appropriate DCF contact information.

DCF as a State Educational Authority

The bill also deems DCF to be a state educational authority under the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) for the records check and allows it to receive the educational records of any child for whom a withdrawal form is signed.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 26 Nay 20 (03/18/2026)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable
Yea 34 Nay 19 (04/17/2026)