



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

Substitute Bill No. 7350



AN ACT CONCERNING REGIONAL COOPERATION AND THE SHARING OF SERVICES AMONG REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTERS AND MEMBER BOARDS OF EDUCATION.

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

1 Section 1. Section 10-660 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

3 (a) The Department of Education shall encourage the use of regional
4 educational service centers as providers of goods and services for local
5 and regional boards of education and may award special consideration
6 to grant applications that indicate the use of services of regional
7 educational service centers or joint purchasing agreements among
8 boards of education for the purpose of purchasing instructional or
9 other supplies, testing materials, special education services, health care
10 services or food or food services.

11 (b) Not later than July 1, 2020, and annually thereafter, each regional
12 educational service center shall distribute to member boards of
13 education an inventory of goods and services that are provided or
14 offered by the regional educational service center, including the
15 regional model for the provision of special education services
16 developed pursuant to section 10-66r. In developing such inventory,
17 each regional educational service center shall take into consideration
18 (1) the results of the survey conducted by the center pursuant to
19 section 2 of this act, and (2) for any inventory developed after October

20 1, 2020, any best practices of other regional educational service centers
21 described in the report developed by the Department of Education
22 pursuant to section 3 of this act. Each regional educational service
23 center shall annually submit such inventory and a report on any best
24 practices for regional cooperation or the sharing of education services
25 being implemented by the center to the Department of Education.

26 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2019*) Not later than January 1, 2020,
27 and annually thereafter, each regional educational service center shall
28 conduct, in consultation with the Department of Education, a survey of
29 education services and programs provided in the region serviced by
30 the regional educational service center for the purpose of identifying
31 the need for regional cooperation in the provision or sharing of
32 education services and programs among member boards of education,
33 and enhancing or adding new education services and programs
34 provided by the regional educational service center. Such survey shall
35 be completed by member boards of education and shall include, but
36 need not be limited to, (1) an inventory of education services and
37 programs provided by local and regional boards of education, (2) the
38 total cost incurred by each school district for all such education
39 services and programs, and (3) the cost incurred by each school district
40 for each individual education service and program. Each regional
41 educational service center shall develop and maintain its own survey
42 procedure and may conduct subsequent surveys as necessary.

43 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2019*) The Department of Education
44 shall develop a report on best practices being implemented by regional
45 educational service centers for regional cooperation and the sharing of
46 education services. The department shall develop such report based on
47 the inventories and reports submitted pursuant to section 10-660 of the
48 general statutes, as amended by this act. Not later than October 1, 2020,
49 and annually thereafter, the department shall submit such report and
50 any recommendations to each regional educational service center and
51 the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
52 cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with the

53 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

54 This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-66o
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1(b), "(1)" was inserted after "consideration" and "(2) for any inventory developed" was inserted before "after October 1, 2020" for clarity; and "State Board of Education" was changed to "Department of Education" for consistency.

ED *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*