



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

***Raised Bill No. 958***

LCO No. 4968



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:  
(ED)

***AN ACT CONCERNING DISENGAGED YOUTH.***

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2019*) (a) As used in this section:

2 (1) "Disengaged youth" means a student in grade six to twelve,  
3 inclusive, who is (A) a truant, as defined in section 10-198a of the  
4 general statutes, (B) falling behind academically, failing several classes  
5 or at risk of dropping out of school or failing to graduate, (C) receiving  
6 or in need of receiving mental health services and treatment, (D) an  
7 unaccompanied youth, as described in 42 USC 11434a, as amended  
8 from time to time, or a homeless child or youth, as defined in 42 USC  
9 11434a, as amended from time to time, or (E) involved in or who has  
10 had contact with the juvenile justice system; and

11 (2) "Community partner" means a provider of one or more of the  
12 following services to students, families or community members: (A)  
13 Primary medical or dental care, (B) mental health treatment and  
14 services, (C) academic enrichment activities, (D) programs designed to  
15 improve student attendance at school, (E) youth development

16 programs, (F) parental involvement programs, (G) programs that  
17 provide assistance to students who are truant or who have been  
18 suspended or expelled, (H) youth and adult job training and career  
19 counseling services, (I) nutrition education, (J) adult education, (K)  
20 remedial education and enrichment activities, (L) legal services, or (M)  
21 any other relevant services or programs.

22 (b) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, the  
23 Department of Education shall establish the Disengaged Youth Pilot  
24 Program, to be implemented by the local boards of education for the  
25 towns of Hartford, New Haven and Bridgeport. Said boards shall  
26 identify disengaged youth from among the students enrolled in  
27 schools under the jurisdiction of said boards, and partner with  
28 community partners to provide assistance to such disengaged youth.  
29 Such assistance shall include, but need not be limited to, academic  
30 engagement and tutoring, employment, shelter, clothing, food and  
31 transportation. Said boards of education may utilize any funds  
32 received pursuant to section 10-223h or 10-262u of the general statutes  
33 for purposes of implementing the Disengaged Youth Pilot Program.

34 (c) Not later than January 1, 2022, the Department of Education shall  
35 submit a report evaluating the implementation and effectiveness of the  
36 Disengaged Youth Pilot Program and any recommendations for  
37 legislation to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly  
38 having cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with  
39 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, 2019</i>	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To create a pilot program to provide academic and other social support to disengaged youth.

*[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.]*