Series: 2002-2003 Circular Letter: C-10

TO: Superintendents of Schools

FROM: Theodore S. Sergi, Commissioner of Education

DATE: August 15, 2002

SUBJECT: Final Summary of 2002 Education Legislation

Circular Letter C-24, dated May 20, 2002, summarized the major education legislation passed by the 2002 Regular Session of the General Assembly. This report is a more comprehensive summary of the public and special acts which were enacted this year and are of general applicability and interest to school districts.

In reviewing this summary, please keep the following in mind:

- Circular Letter C-11, summarizing the action of the legislature on August 12, 2002, is attached. Please be sure to read that circular letter together with this one. C-11 has some very important information concerning school funding, education accountability and interdistrict magnet schools.
- While comprehensive, this document does not describe every public or special act affecting the operation of a school district or provide every detail of the acts that are summarized.
- <u>When specificity is required, the actual statutory language should be reviewed.</u> The public and special acts are available on the Department of Education's website at <u>http://www.state.ct.us/sde/legal/bills2002.htm</u>. If you have questions about accessing this information or would like a copy of a particular bill, please call Marybeth Aleskwiz at (860) 713-6520.
- The narrative description of each act summarizes either the act as a whole or selected sections. Where a section has been summarized, the section number of the act follows the narrative.
- Selected public acts concerning matters under the jurisdiction of state agencies other than the Department of Education have been included for your information. Questions concerning those acts should be directed to the appropriate state agency.

 The following abbreviations have been used: P.A. means Public Act; S.A. means Special Act; and MSS means May 9 Special Session.

To assist you, also included are:

- An index to key legislation; and
- A table that lists the sections of the Connecticut General Statutes and the public and special acts which have been amended or repealed by the summarized legislation (Attachment A).

Please use this circular letter as a supplement to the State Board of Education's book, <u>Connecticut Education Laws as of January 1, 2001</u>, which does **not** contain the changes to the General Statutes summarized in this letter. Also, please note that the statutory changes made during the 2001 General Assembly Sessions are not in the education laws book or in this letter, but summaries can be found in Circular Letter C-7 (Series 2001-02) dated August 17, 2001. That circular letter is available on the department's website (<u>www.state.ct.us/sde</u>) under the heading "Commissioner."

If you have any questions about the new legislation, Department of Education staff members are ready and willing to help you. In most cases you will know from past experience whom to consult. However, if you do not know whom to contact or have general questions about this letter, please contact Attorney Katherine Nicoletti of the Office of Legal and Governmental Affairs at (860) 713-6520 or at katherine.nicoletti@po.state.ct.us.

TSS:knb Attachments

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P.A. 02-36 AN ACT CONCERNING ONE STOP FAMILY CENTERS

• Requires the Commissioners of Education and Public Health to develop a plan for the colocation, wherever feasible, of **family resource centers** and **school-based health clinics**, established on or after July 1, 2002, to improve access, integrate services and reduce administrative expenses (Effective May 6, 2002).

P.A. 02-44 AN ACT CONCERNING THE EMPLOYMENT OF FIFTEEN-YEAR-OLD MINORS

• Extends for five more years (from September 30, 2002, to September 30, 2007) the **law allowing minors who have reached the age of 15 to work** certain days and hours as baggers, cashiers, or stock clerks in mercantile establishments (Effective October 1, 2002).

P.A. 02-56 AN ACT CONCERNING THE IDLING OF SCHOOL BUSES

- Provides that the engine of a **stopped school bus** cannot be operated for more than three consecutive minutes except when:
 - 1. The bus is forced to remain motionless because of traffic conditions or mechanical difficulties over which the operator has no control;
 - 2. It is necessary to operate heating, cooling or auxiliary equipment on the bus when such equipment is necessary to accomplish the intended use of the bus;
 - 3. The outdoor temperature is below 20° F;
 - 4. It is necessary to maintain a safe temperature for students with special needs;
 - 5. The bus is being repaired; or
 - 6. The operator is in the process of receiving or discharging passengers on a public highway or public road (Effective October 1, 2002).

(For further information about this act, please contact Lieutenant Wayne Sinclair of the Commercial Vehicle Safety Division of the Department of Motor Vehicles at (860) 263-5446.)

P.A. 02-68 AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT UNIFORM ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS ACT

• Establishes a legal foundation for the use of **electronic communications** in transactions where the parties have agreed to conduct business electronically; validates the use of electronic records and signatures; and supercedes and repeals the electronic records and signature law enacted in 1999 (Effective October 1, 2002).

P.A. 02-70 AN ACT REVISING CERTAIN MOTOR VEHICLE LAWS

• Requires an officer who arrests any person who (1) holds a **motor vehicle operator's license with a school endorsement** and (2) is charged with a felony or sexual assault in the 4th degree to cause a report of such arrest to be made within 48 hours to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles (Sec. 83, effective June 3, 2002).

(For further information about this act, please contact Lieutenant Wayne Sinclair of the Commercial Vehicle Safety Division of the Department of Motor Vehicles at (860) 263-5446.)

P.A. 02-90 AN ACT CONCERNING MERCURY EDUCATION AND REDUCTION

- Specifies that on and after July 1, 2003, no **vocational dental education or training school** shall use mercury amalgam unless the school has developed and implemented a plan approved by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection that assures that best management practices are used to prevent the discharge of mercury into state waters and to properly handle and recycle or dispose of waste elemental mercury and amalgam (Sec. 5, effective July 1, 2002).
- Provides that the Commissioner of Environmental Protection may implement a comprehensive **program for public education**, outreach and assistance for schools, among others, to focus on the hazards of mercury and the requirements, obligations and voluntary efforts to help further reduce mercury in the environment (Sec. 13, effective July 1, 2002).

P.A. 02-106

AN ACT CONCERNING SEXUAL ASSAULT BY A COACH OR INSTRUCTOR, MANDATED REPORTING OF CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT AND ISSUANCE AND REVOCATION OF EDUCATOR CERTIFICATES

• Expands the crimes of sexual assault in the 2nd and 4th degrees to include sexual intercourse (2nd degree) or sexual contact (4th degree) with another person when the actor is a coach in an athletic activity or a person who provides intensive, ongoing instruction and the other person is the recipient of such coaching or instruction and (1) is a secondary school student and receives such coaching or instruction in a secondary school setting or (2) is under 18 years of age (Secs. 1 and 2, effective October 1, 2002).

- Makes coaches of intramural or interscholastic athletics mandated child abuse reporters (Sec. 3, effective October 1, 2002) (See also, P.A. 02-138, below).
- Increases fines for mandated child abuse reporters who fail to make child abuse reports to not less than \$500 nor more than \$2,500. Formerly, the fines were not more than \$500 (Sec. 4, effective October 1, 2002).
- Requires the state's attorneys to notify the Commissioner of Education if a person holding a certificate, authorization or permit issued by the State Board of Education is convicted of a felony or fined for failing to make a child abuse report (Sec. 7, effective July 1, 2002).
- Permits **superintendent's designees** to attest to successful teaching and sign recommendations in order for the State Board of Education to issue provisional and professional educator certificates (Secs. 5 and 6, effective July 1, 2002).
- Makes other technical changes.

(For further information about this public act and child abuse reporting, please contact Ken Mysogland, Director of the Child Abuse Reporting Hotline at the Department of Children and Families, at (860) 560-7001.)

P.A. 02-109 AN ACT CONCERNING YOUTH IN CRISIS

- Clarifies that a person 16 or 17 years of age may be designated as a "**youth in crisis**" in the judicial system (Sec. 1, effective June 7, 2002).
- Provides that police officers and local government and community agency **officials** who work with youths in crisis and their families, e.g., youth service bureau staff, are **not liable** to a child or a family for civil damages for any personal injuries which result from the voluntary termination of service by the child or family (Sec. 4, effective October 1, 2002).

P.A. 02-117

AN ACT CONCERNING CREDIT IN THE TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM FOR PART-TIME TEACHING SERVICE

• Reduces, for certain substitute and part-time teachers, the number of days of service in a single school system in any school year necessary to purchase one month of **service credit** in the Teachers' Retirement System (Effective July 1, 2002).

P.A. 02-119 AN ACT CONCERNING BULLYING BEHAVIOR IN SCHOOLS AND CONCERNING THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- Requires each local and regional board of education to develop a **policy**, for use on and after February 1, 2003, **to address bullying** in schools. The statute specifies what the policy is to include and defines "bullying" as "any overt acts by a student or group of students directed against another student with the intent to ridicule, humiliate or intimidate the other student while on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity which acts are repeated against the same student over time" (Sec. 1, effective July 1, 2002).
- Requires each local and regional board of education to develop a **policy to ensure that time is available** each school day for students **to recite the "Pledge of Allegiance."** The statute is not to be construed to require any person to recite the "Pledge of Allegiance" (Sec. 2, effective October 1, 2002).

P.A. 02-126 AN ACT . . . DESIGNATING A REMEMBRANCE DAY

 Provides that the Governor shall proclaim September 11th of each year as Remembrance Day, in memory of those who lost their lives or suffered injuries in the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, and in honor of the service, sacrifice and contributions of firefighters, police officers and other personnel who responded to the attacks (Sec. 8, effective July 1, 2002). (This act repeals the designation of September 11th as 911 Day, which was to increase the public's awareness of the emergency telephone number.)

P.A. 02-130

AN ACT REVISING CERTAIN ELECTIONS AND CAMPAIGN FINANCE STATUTES AND CONCERNING . . . MEETINGS OF CAUCUSES UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

• Allows **members of a public agency** to register, with certain restrictions, their intention to act as a caucus, regardless of their political party affiliation, for purposes of the Freedom of Information Act (Sec. 17, effective May 10, 2002).

(For further information about this public act, please contact Tom Hennick, Public Education Officer for the Freedom of Information Commission, at (860) 566-5682.)

P.A. 02-133 AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISCLOSURE OF SECURITY INFORMATION UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

• Broadens the authority of the Commissioner of Public Works concerning the **disclosure of security-related records** to include those that may result in a safety

risk to any government-owned or leased institution or facility and not just to any stateowned institution or facility. If a public agency, other than the Judicial or Legislative Department, receives a request for the disclosure of such records under the Freedom of Information Act, the public agency must promptly notify the Commissioner of Public Works before complying with the request and the Commissioner of Public Works may direct the agency to withhold the records (Effective October 1, 2002).

(For further information about this public act, please contact Tom Hennick, Public Education Officer for the Freedom of Information Commission, at (860) 566-5682.)

P.A. 02-137 AN ACT CONCERNING . . . THE ELECTRONIC SCANNING OF PUBLIC RECORDS, THE WAIVER OF PUBLIC RECORD FEES FOR CERTAIN OFFICIALS . . .

• Amends the Freedom of Information Act to provide for (1) the copying of public records through the **use of a hand-held scanner** and (2) the **waiver of copying fees for an elected official** obtaining records, pertaining to the official's duties, from an agency of the political subdivision in which the official serves (Secs. 2 and 3, effective October 1, 2002).

(For further information about this public act, please contact Tom Hennick, Public Education Officer for the Freedom of Information Commission, at (860) 566-5682.)

P.A. 02-138

AN ACT CONCERNING PENALTIES FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT OF A MINOR, CIVIL AND CRIMINAL STATUTES OF LIMITATIONS IN SEXUAL ASSAULT CASES, REPORTING AND INVESTIGATION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT, DISCLOSURE OF RECORDS OF TEACHER MISCONDUCT . . .

- Expands significantly the **statutes of limitations** for certain criminal and civil matters related to sexual abuse, sexual exploitation and sexual assault of a minor (Secs. 1 and 2, see public act for effective dates).
- Increases the **penalties** for various sex crimes in cases where the victim is under 16 years of age (Secs. 4 to 10, inclusive, effective October 1, 2002).
- Makes a number of changes concerning **mandatory child abuse reporting** (Secs. 11 to 18, inclusive, effective October 1, 2002, and Sec. 19, effective May 23, 2002) including, but not limited to:
 - 1. Adding school coaches, and others, as mandated reporters (see also, P.A. 02-106, above);
 - 2. Reducing, from 24 hours to not later than 12 hours, the maximum period of time during which mandated reporters must orally report suspected cases of abuse or neglect to the Commissioner of Children and Families or a law enforcement agency;

- 3. Requiring a mandated reporter who fails to report to participate in an educational and training program; and
- 4. Requiring the child abuse telephone hotline to accept all reports of abuse or neglect regardless of the relationship of the alleged perpetrator to the child who is the alleged victim and regardless of the alleged perpetrator's affiliation with any organization or other entity in any capacity.

(For further information about this public act and child abuse reporting, please contact Ken Mysogland, Director of the Child Abuse Reporting Hotline at the Department of Children and Families, at (860) 560-7001.)

 Provides that records maintained or kept on file by a local or regional board of education that are records of the personal misconduct of a teacher are to be deemed to be public records subject to disclosure under the state Freedom of Information Act without the consent of the teacher (Sec. 20, effective October 1, 2002).



S.A. 02-8 AN ACT CONCERNING CIVIL PREPAREDNESS AND THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN

 Provides that on or before January 1, 2003, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management is to report on planning and activities for children and youth as part of homeland preparedness and emergency response planning to terrorism. The report is to include provisions that address issues such as (1) training in safety and security measures and multi-hazard response plans for school personnel, and others, (2) the coordination of school health and mental health strategies and (3) opportunities for youth to engage in community service, civic activities and programs that provide cultural diversity experiences (Effective June 3, 2002).

S.A. 02-10 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PREVENTION OF TEENAGE SUICIDE

• Requires the Department of Children and Families to develop a public and private partnership to promote and enhance the objectives of the "Teen Screen" **suicide prevention** program at Harding High School in Bridgeport (Effective July 1, 2002).

PUBLIC ACTS MAY 9 SPECIAL SESSION

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MAY 9 SPECIAL SESSION, P.A. 02-1 AN ACT CONCERNING ADJUSTMENTS TO THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2003, STATE REVENUES AND OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF INTOXICATING LIQUOR.

This act was passed by the General Assembly on June 30, 2002, and signed into law by the Governor on July 1, 2002. It amends the state budget for 2002-03 and has been briefly summarized in Circular Letter C-3, "2002-03 Education Budget Update," dated July 10, 2002.

The General Assembly did not take up the bills to implement the budget until August 12, 2002. Circular Letter C-11 is attached and summarizes the implementing language.

MAY 9 SPECIAL SESSION, P.A. 02-2 AN ACT CONCERNING AUTHORIZATION OF STATE GRANT COMMITMENTS FOR SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS

- Authorizes the Commissioner of Education to enter into **grant commitments** for school construction projects, including previously authorized projects that have changed substantially in scope or cost (Sec. 1, effective July 1, 2002).
- Enacts **special provisions** for individual school construction and school maintenance projects (Secs. 2 to 11, 13 to 33, and 36, effective July 1, 2002).
- Allows the State Board of Education to establish a three-year **pilot program** that authorizes up to two school construction projects per year to use a **design-build** contract and requires the State Board to report to the General Assembly on or before January 15, 2006, on the efficiency and efficacy of using the design-build approach to school construction projects (Sec. 12, effective July 1, 2002).
- Allows the General Assembly to add school building projects to the **list of projects** submitted by the Commissioner of Education if, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002, the projects are in a town operating under state governance (Sec. 34, effective July 1, 2002).
- Allows a board of education in a town that is a distressed municipality with a population greater than 90,000 to be eligible to (1) submit a **consolidated school construction grant** application for multiple school projects, (2) receive a single grant equal to the state share of the total project costs and (3) have such projects be considered renovations for purposes of receiving state grants (Sec. 35, effective July 1, 2002).

Attachment A

TABLE OF AMENDED AND REPEALED STATUTESAND PUBLIC ACTS FOR 2002 – as of July 1, 2002

Statute	Public Act/Special Act*
1-200	02-130, S. 17
1-210(a)	02-137, S. 2
1-210(b)	02-133, S. 1
1-210(d)	02-133, S. 2
1-212	02-137, S. 3
1-260 (repealed)	02-68, S. 22
1-261 (repealed)	02-68, S. 22
1-262 (repealed)	02-68, S. 22
1-263 (repealed)	02-68, S. 22
1-264 (repealed)	02-68, S. 22
1-265 (repealed)	02-68, S. 22
4b-131(b)	02-133, S. 3
10-29a(a)(23)	02-126, S. 8
10-145b(g)	02-106, S. 5
10-145b(k)	02-106, S. 6
10-145b(m)	02-106, S. 8
10-146b	02-89, S. 13
10-151c	02-138, S. 20
10-155i (repealed)	SA 02-12, S. 1
10-183e(b)	02-117, S. 1
10-183/	02-89, S. 14
10-183// (repealed)	SA 02-12, S. 1
10-230(c) (added)	02-119, S. 2
10-257h	02-89, S. 15
10-283(c)	MSS, 02-2, S. 34
14-44	02-70, S. 83
14-277	02-56, S. 1
17a-93(o) (added)	02-138, S. 11
17a-101	02-138, S. 12
17a-101(b)	02-106, S. 3
17a-101a	02-106, S. 4
	02-138, S. 13
17a-101b	02-138, S. 14
17a-101g(a)	02-138, S. 15
17a-101j	02-138, S. 16
17a-103a	02-138, S. 17
17a-105a	02-138, S. 18

Attachment A (continued)

TABLE OF AMENDED AND REPEALED STATUTES AND PUBLIC ACTS FOR 2002 – as of July 1, 2002

Statute	Public Act/Special Act*
31-23(b)	02-44, S. 1
46b-120	02-109, S. 1
	02-132, S. 18
46b-149b	02-109, S. 4
51-36	02-29, S. 1
52-577d	02-138, S. 2
53-21	02-138, S. 4
53a-70	02-138, S. 5
53a-70a	02-138, S. 6
53a-71	02-106, S. 1
	02-138, S. 7
53a-72a	02-138, S. 8
53a-72b	02-138, S. 9
53a-73a	02-106, S. 2
	02-138, S. 10
54-193a	02-138, S. 1
Public Act	
JSS, 01-1, S. 52	02-4, S. 14

* - All are public acts unless otherwise indicated
MSS - May 9 Special Session
SA - Special Act
S. - Section

Series: 2002-2003 Circular Letter: C-11

TO: Superintendents of Schools

FROM: Theodore S. Sergi, Commissioner of Education

DATE: August 15, 2002

SUBJECT: August 12, 2002, Education Legislation

As you know, on Monday, August 12, 2002, the Senate and the House of Representatives passed legislation to implement the budget that the Governor signed on July 1, 2002 (May 9 Special Session, P.A. 02-1) and to authorize state bonding. As of August 13, the Governor had not yet signed the bills adopted on August 12. However, it is expected that he will. Summarized below are the portions of those bills that concern education.

Senate Bill 701 AN ACT INCREASING CERTAIN BOND AUTHORIZATIONS FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

- Reduces state grants for the construction and equipping of **vocational agriculture centers and special education facilities** from 100% of the net eligible costs to 95% of those costs, to be paid through progress payments rather than in a lump sum. This impacts applications made after June 30, 2002 (Secs. 5 and 6, effective July 1, 2002).
- Reduces state grants for the construction and equipping of **interdistrict magnet schools**, but Senate Bill 704, described below, makes further changes to these provisions and contains the final language.
- Amends the provisions regarding when **school construction** applicants must secure **funding authorization for the local share** of project costs, but Senate Bill 704, described below, makes further changes and contains the final language.
- Provides that, for each school construction priority list submitted by the Commissioner of Education to the General Assembly in December 2003 and 2004, (1) the total amount requested by the Commissioner for grant commitments shall not exceed \$1B and (2) projects are to be listed in order of priority (Sec. 8, effective July 1, 2002).
- Decreases the amount of **bond funds** authorized to finance **school construction** grants and increases the amount of bond funds authorized for interest subsidy grants, to reflect actual payment needs (Secs. 9 and 10, effective July 1, 2002).

Senate Bill 702 AN ACT CONCERNING THE AUTHORIZATION OF BONDS OF THE STATE FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND OTHER PURPOSES

- For the **wiring of school buildings**, defers \$3M of the \$7.5M previously authorized, but not yet issued, until 2003-04 along with the \$2M of additional proposed funding for 2002-03. This leaves \$4.5M available for 2002-03 and \$5M deferred until 2003-04 (Sec. 24, effective July 1, 2003; Sec. 73, effective July 1, 2002).
- Reduces bond funding for alterations and improvements to buildings and grounds at the **regional vocational-technical schools** from an amount not exceeding \$15M to an amount not exceeding \$10M (Sec. 95, effective July 1, 2002).

Senate Bill 704 AN ACT CONCERNING TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO CERTAIN BOND AUTHORIZATIONS FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, AND INTERDISTRICT MAGNET SCHOOLS

- Provides that no **application for a school construction** project shall be accepted by the Commissioner of Education on or after July 1, 2002, unless the applicant has secured **funding authorization for the local share** of the project costs prior to application (Sec. 1, amending Sec. 8 of Senate Bill 701, above; effective when signed by the Governor).
- Reduces state grants for the construction and equipping of **interdistrict magnet schools** from 100% of the full reasonable costs to 95% of those costs. This impacts applications made after June 30, 2002, for authorization in 2003-04 (Sec. 2, amending Sec. 7 of Senate Bill 701, above; effective July 1, 2002).

House Bill 6004 AN ACT CONCERNING STATE EXPENDITURES, as amended

- Postpones until the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2003, the reduction in the local contribution for the **special education excess costs grant** (school district placements) from five times the school district's average per pupil education costs for the prior fiscal year to four and one-half times such costs (Sec. 1, effective when signed by the Governor).
- Provides that for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, each town shall receive an education cost sharing (**ECS**) grant that is at least equal to the grant it received for the prior fiscal year (Sec. 2, effective when signed by the Governor).

- Provides for the **proportional reduction of the grants** for the following purposes in order to remain within the reduced appropriations made available in the previously enacted budget (May 9 Special Session, P.A. 02-1): regional educational service centers, school transportation, bilingual education, adult education, health services for children in private schools, and the special education excess costs grant for state agency and LEA placed students (Secs. 3 and 9, effective when signed by the Governor).
- Requires each **regional vocational-technical school** to provide access to directory information and on-campus recruiting opportunities to representatives of the **military** to the extent necessary under federal law to prevent the loss of federal funds to the school or the state (Sec. 4, effective when signed by the Governor).
- Amends the provisions concerning the exemptions of **limited English proficient students** from participation in the **state mastery testing** program (Sec. 5, effective July 1, 2003).
- Requires the Commissioner of Education to prepare a state-wide education accountability plan in conformance with the federal No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110, and provides for a transition from the state's program identifying schools in need of improvement to a program consistent with federal laws and regulations (Secs. 6, 7, and 116, effective when signed by the Governor).
- Provides that **interdistrict magnet schools** that begin operations on or after July 1, 2005, shall (1) restrict the number of **students that enroll** in a school from one participating district to 75% of the total enrollment of the school and (2) maintain school enrollment so that at least 25%, but not more than 75%, of the students enrolled are pupils of racial minorities (Sec. 112, effective when signed by the Governor).
- Provides that in determining whether an application for an **interdistrict magnet school** operating grant is to be approved, the Commissioner shall consider the **proposed operating budget and the sources of funding** for the magnet school (Sec. 112, effective when signed by the Governor).
- Allows the Commissioner, within available appropriations, to provide **supplemental grants** to enhance educational programs in **interdistrict magnet schools** for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2003, and June 30, 2004 (Sec. 112, effective when signed by the Governor).

Please note that the Division of Grants Management will be providing further detailed information about changes to the school construction grant program. For questions regarding that program, please contact David Wedge at (860) 713-6467 or at <u>david.wedge@po.state.ct.us</u>. For questions about other grant programs, please contact Brian Mahoney at (860) 713-6465 or at <u>brian.mahoney@po.state.ct.us</u>. For general questions about this letter, please contact Katherine Nicoletti, Esq., of the Office of Legal and Governmental Affairs at (860) 713-6520 or at <u>katherine.nicoletti@po.state.ct.us</u>.