Sec. 10-153a. Rights concerning professional organization and negotiations.  
Duty of fair representation. Annual service fees negotiable item.  
(a) Members of the teaching profession shall have and shall be protected in the exercise of the right to form, join or assist, or refuse to form, join or assist, any organization for professional or economic improvement and to negotiate in good faith through representatives of their own choosing with respect to salaries, hours and other conditions of employment free from interference, restraint, coercion or discriminatory practices by any employing board of education or administrative agents or representatives thereof in derogation of the rights guaranteed by this section and sections 10-153b to 10-153n, inclusive.

(b) The organization designated as the exclusive representative of a teachers' or administrators' unit shall have a duty of fair representation to the members of such unit.

(c) Nothing in this section or in any other section of the general statutes shall preclude a local or regional board of education from making an agreement with an exclusive bargaining representative to require as a condition of employment that all employees in a bargaining unit pay to the exclusive bargaining representative of such employees an annual service fee, not greater than the amount of dues uniformly required of members of the exclusive bargaining representative organization, which represents the costs of collective bargaining, contract administration and grievance adjustment; and that such service fee be collected by means of a payroll deduction from each employee in the bargaining unit.


History: 1969 act substituted for "without prejudice", "free from interference, restraint, coercion or discriminatory practices by any employing board of education ..."; P.A. 76-403 included rights to form or assist and to refuse to form or assist organizations as well as rights to join or not join and included protection in the exercise of rights mentioned and bestowed right to negotiate in good faith; P.A. 79-422 added Subsec. (b) re annual service fees for bargaining representation; P.A. 83-72 amended Subsec. (a) to include all statutory references to provisions of teacher negotiation law, Secs. 10-153b to 10-153n, inclusive; P.A. 87-250 amended Subsec. (a) to include hours as a subject to be negotiated in good faith; P.A. 93-426 inserted new Subsec. (b) to impose a duty of fair representation on teachers' and educational administrators' collective bargaining representatives and redesignated existing Subsec. (b) as (c).
See Sec. 10-153k re applicability of this section to incorporated or endowed high schools or academies.


Cited. 38 CS 80, 85.

Subsec. (b):
Not a violation for local organization to allocate part of service fee to the state and national organizations. 206 C. 2530.

Cited. 23 CA 727, 729, 734.

Subsec. (c):
Cited. 42 CA 700; judgment reversed, see 240 C. 835 et seq.

Sec. 10-153b. Selection of teachers' representatives. (a) Whenever used in this section or in sections 10-153c to 10-153n, inclusive: (1) The "administrators' unit" means the certified professional employee or employees in a school district not excluded from the purview of sections 10-153a to 10-153n, inclusive, employed in positions requiring an intermediate administrator or supervisor certificate, or the equivalent thereof, and whose administrative or supervisory duties, for purposes of determining membership in the administrators' unit, shall equal at least fifty per cent of the assigned time of such employee. Certified professional employees covered by the terms and conditions of a contract in effect prior to October 1, 1983, shall continue to be covered by such contract or any successor contract until such time as the employee is covered by the terms and conditions of a contract negotiated by the exclusive bargaining unit of which the employee is a member for purposes of collective bargaining pursuant to the provisions of this section. (2) The "teachers' unit" means the group of certified professional employees who are employed by a local or regional board of education in positions requiring a
teaching or other certificate and are not included in the administrators' unit or excluded from the purview of sections 10-153a to 10-153n, inclusive. (3) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Education. (4) "To post a notice" means to post a copy of the indicated material on each bulletin board for teachers in every school in the school district or, if there are no such bulletin boards, to give a copy of such information to each employee in the unit affected by such notice. (5) "Budget submission date" means the date on which a school district is to submit its itemized estimate of the cost of maintenance of public schools for the next following year to the board of finance in each town having a board of finance, to the board of selectmen in each town having no board of finance and, in any city having a board of finance, to said board, and otherwise to the authority making appropriations therein. (6) "Days" means calendar days.

(b) The superintendent of schools, assistant superintendents, certified professional employees who act for the board of education in negotiations with certified professional personnel or are directly responsible to the board of education for personnel relations or budget preparation, temporary substitutes and all noncertified employees of the board of education are excluded from the purview of this section and sections 10-153c to 10-153n, inclusive.

c) The employees in either unit defined in this section may designate any organization of certified professional employees to represent them in negotiations with respect to salaries, hours and other conditions of employment with the local or regional board of education which employs them by filing, during the period between March first and March thirty-first of any school year, with the board of education a petition which requests recognition of such organization for purposes of negotiation under this section and sections 10-153c to 10-153n, inclusive, and is signed by a majority of the employees in such unit. Where a new school district is formed as the result of the creation of a regional school district, a petition for designation shall also be considered timely if it is filed at any time from the date when such regional school district is approved pursuant to section 10-45 through the first school year of operation of any such school district. Where a new school district is formed as a result of the dissolution of a regional school district, a petition for designation shall also be considered timely if it is filed at any time from the date of the election of a board of education for such school district through the first year of operation of any such school district. Within three school days next following the receipt of such petition, such board shall post a notice of such request for recognition and mail a copy thereof to the commissioner. Such notice shall state the name of the organization designated by the petitioners, the unit to be represented and the date of receipt of such petition by the board. If no petition which requests a representation election and is signed by twenty per cent of the employees in such unit is filed in accordance with the provisions of subsection (d) of this section, with the commissioner within the thirty days next following the date on which the board of education posts notice of the designation petition, such board shall recognize the designated organization as the exclusive representative of the employees in such unit for a period of one
year or until a representation election has been held for such unit pursuant to this section and section 10-153c, whichever occurs later. If a petition complying with the provisions of subsection (d) of this section is filed within such period of thirty days, the local or regional board of education shall not recognize any organization so designated until an election has been held pursuant to said sections to determine which organization shall represent such unit.

(d) Twenty per cent or more of the personnel in an administrators' unit or teachers' unit may file during the period between March first and April thirtieth of any school year with the commissioner a petition requesting that a representation election be held to elect an organization to represent such unit. Where a new school district is formed as the result of the creation of a regional school district, a petition for a representation election shall also be considered timely if it is filed at any time from the date when such regional school district is approved pursuant to section 10-45 through the first school year of operation of any such school district. Where a new school district is formed as a result of the dissolution of a regional school district, a petition for a representation election shall also be considered timely if it is filed at any time during the first school year of operation of any such school district. Whenever a multiple-year contract is in effect, a petition requesting that a representation election be held to elect an organization to represent such unit shall be considered timely if it is filed with the commissioner between March first and April thirtieth after two years of a contract have elapsed or is filed between March first and April thirtieth of the calendar year prior to the year of expiration of the collective bargaining contract covering the employees who are the subject of the petition, whichever is sooner. The commissioner shall file notice of such petition with the local or regional board of education on or before the fifth school day following receipt of the petition. The commissioner shall not divulge the names on such petition or any petition filed with the commissioner pursuant to this section to anyone except upon court order. Such notice shall state the name of the petitioning group, the unit for which an election is sought and the date the petition was filed. Within three school days after receipt of such notice, the local or regional board of education shall post a copy of the notice. Any organization interested in representing personnel in such unit may intervene within three school days after the board posts notice of such petition by filing with the commissioner a petition signed by ten per cent of the employees in such unit provided that any employee who signs more than one such petition between March first and April thirtieth in any one school year shall not be deemed to have signed any such petition. The commissioner shall notify the local or regional board on or before the third day following receipt of the intervening petition, and such board shall post notice of the intervening petition within three days following receipt thereof. No intervening petition shall be required from any incumbent organization previously designated by the board or elected and such incumbent organization shall be listed on the ballot if a petition for a representation election is filed. The petitioning organization, the incumbent organization, if any, and any intervening organization may agree on an impartial person or agency to conduct such an election consistent with the other provisions of this section, provided not more than one such
election shall be held to elect an organization to represent the employees in such unit in any one school year, except, however, if no organization receives a majority of the vote validly cast, the election shall not be deemed completed and within ten days after the initial election a runoff election shall be held. In the event of a disagreement on the agency to conduct the election, the method shall be determined by the board of arbitration selected in accordance with section 10-153c. The person or agency so selected shall conduct, between twenty and forty-five days after the first petition requesting an election is filed with the commissioner, an election by secret ballot to determine which organization, if any, shall represent such unit, provided if no organization receives a majority of the vote validly cast, such election shall not be deemed completed and a runoff election between the two choices receiving the largest and second largest number of valid votes cast in the election shall be held within ten days after the initial election. The organizations participating in the election and the organizations participating in the runoff election shall share equally in the cost incurred by the impartial person or agency selected to conduct each election. Such person or agency shall immediately report the results of the election or runoff election to the commissioner. Within five days after receipt of the tally of ballots in the election or runoff election, any party to said election or runoff election may file with the commissioner any objection to said election or runoff election. If timely objections are found to be valid and they affected the results of the election or runoff election, the commissioner shall order another election or runoff election, as appropriate, to be conducted within ten days of the commissioner's decision. If satisfied that the election or runoff election has been conducted properly, the commissioner shall certify that the organization receiving a majority of votes is the exclusive representative of the employees in such unit.

(e) The representative designated or elected in accordance with this section shall, from the date of such designation or election, be the exclusive representative of all the employees in such unit for the purposes of negotiating with respect to salaries, hours and other conditions of employment, provided any certified professional employee or group of such employees shall have the right at any time to present any grievance to such persons as the local or regional board of education shall designate for that purpose. The terms of any existing contract shall not be abrogated by the election or designation of a new representative. During the balance of the term of such contract the board of education and the new representative shall have the duty to negotiate pursuant to section 10-153d concerning a successor agreement. The new representative shall, from the date of designation or election, acquire the rights and powers and shall assume the duties and obligations of the existing contract during the period of its effectiveness.

(f) Any organization which has been designated or elected the exclusive representative of a unit which includes teachers and administrators shall continue to be the exclusive representative of such personnel upon expiration of the salary agreement in effect between such organization and the board of education employing such personnel
on July 1, 1969, until or unless employees of such board of education in either of the units defined in this section initiate a petition for designation or election of an organization to represent them in accordance with the procedures set forth in sections 10-153a to 10-153n, inclusive.


History: 1967 act detailed process for designating representative organization in Subsecs. (a) and (b), including petition procedure, intervening petitions and referendum provisions and made technical changes in old language; 1969 act replaced former Subsec. (a) with definitions of "administrators' unit", "teachers' unit", "secretary" and "to post a notice", inserted new Subsec. (b) excluding certain personnel from provisions of Secs. 10-153b to 10-153g, placed petitions provisions formerly in Subsec. (a) in new Subsec. (c), relettered Subsecs. (b) and (c) as Subsecs. (d) and (e) and added Subsec. (f) continuing previously chosen representatives of units containing both teachers and administrators until or unless otherwise elected by employees; P.A. 73-385 changed closing date for petition in Subsec. (c) from April fifteenth to October thirty-first and in Subsec. (d) from April fifteenth to November thirtieth and included in Subsec. (d) requirement that petitions filed be signed by twenty per cent or more of unit members and added provision concerning runoff election; P.A. 76-403 included definitions of "budget submission date" and "days" in Subsec. (a), changed filing period in Subsec. (b) from October to March, changed filing period in Subsec. (c) from period between October first and November thirtieth to period between March first and April thirtieth and further amended Subsec. (c) to prohibit employee from signing more than one intervening petition each year and to require runoff within ten days of initial election and amended Subsec. (e) to include provisions concerning multiple year contracts; P.A. 77-614 and P.A. 78-303 substituted commissioner of education for secretary of the state board of education, effective January 1, 1979; P.A. 78-218 substituted "local" for "town" boards of education; P.A. 82-225 amended Subsec. (d) to redefine timeliness for filing a request for a representative election when a multiple year contract is involved, including one year provision for multiple year contracts that expire in 1983; P.A. 83-72 added provisions concerning designation or election in a new school district formed as the result of the dissolution or creation of a regional school district in Subsecs. (c) and (d), further amended Subsec. (d) to require notice from commissioner to boards of education on requests received for a representation election within five, rather than three, school days following receipt of petition by commissioner, decreased from ten to three the number of days organizations have to file petition to intervene in election after board posts notice of election, and clarified provisions pertaining to runoff elections; P.A. 83-359 amended Subsec. (a) to provide that after October 1, 1983, members in the administrators' unit shall be those certified professional
employees in a school district in positions requiring an intermediate administrator or supervisor certificate and whose administrative or supervisory duties equal at least fifty per cent of the assigned time of the employee; P.A. 84-546 made technical changes in Subsecs. (a) and (d); P.A. 87-250 amended Subsec. (c) to include hours as a subject of negotiations with respect to which an organization may be designated to represent employees and amended Subsec. (e) to include hours as a subject of negotiations for which the representative is the exclusive representative; P.A. 87-499 in Subsec. (a) added "employee or" to the definition of administrator's unit and made technical changes; P.A. 88-136 deleted in Subsec. (a) a definition of "administrators' unit" applicable prior to October 1, 1983; P.A. 91-303 in Subsecs. (c) and (d) added provision allowing petition for designation to be filed at any time during the first school year of operation in the case of a new district formed as a result of the dissolution of a regional district; P.A. 98-56 changed the provisions for a petition for designation to be considered timely in the case of a new district formed as the result of the dissolution of a regional school district in Subsec. (c), effective January 1, 1999.

See Sec. 10-153k re applicability of this section to incorporated or endowed high schools or academies.


Organization chosen by employee teachers of defendant board of education short time prior to enactment of this statute was properly recognized by board as the exclusive teachers' representative hereunder. 27 CS 298. Act is permissive in nature, although some of its provisions are mandatory if act is employed. Act should be construed as operating prospectively not retroactively, no contrary intent clearly appearing. 27 CS 311. Cited. 28 CS 266. Cited. 38 CS 80, 85.

Subsec. (a):
Sec. 10-153c. Disputes as to elections. (a) Any dispute as to the eligibility of personnel to vote in an election, or the agency to conduct the election required by section 10-153b, shall be submitted to a board of arbitration for a binding decision with respect thereto. If there are two or more organizations seeking to represent employees, each may name an arbitrator within five days after receipt of a request for arbitration made in writing by any party to the dispute. Such arbitrators shall select an additional impartial member thereof within five days after the arbitrators have been named by the parties. The impartial agency selected to conduct the election shall decide all procedural matters relating to such election and shall conduct such election fairly. Each organization shall have, during the election process, equal access to school mailboxes and facilities.

(b) A local or regional board of education or the exclusive representative of a teachers' or administrators' unit may file a unit clarification petition with the Commissioner of Education in order to clarify questions concerning the appropriate composition of an existing unit if no question concerning representation is pending. Upon receipt of a properly filed petition, the commissioner shall render a final decision on the petition pursuant to chapter 54.


History: 1967 act required naming of arbitrators by disputants within five days of request for arbitration and naming of arbitrators by board of education within five days of naming of others and required equal access to school mailboxes and facilities for all parties; P.A. 76-403 replaced provision requiring equal number of arbitrators to be chosen by state board with provision for selection of one additional arbitrator by arbitrators selected by disputants; P.A. 86-333 added Subsec. (b) to provide for a unit clarification petition re questions re composition of an existing unit.

See Sec. 10-153k re applicability of this section to incorporated or endowed high schools or academies.

Sec. 10-153d. Meeting between board of education and fiscal authority required. Duty to negotiate. Procedure if legislative body rejects contract. (a) Within thirty days prior to the date on which the local or regional board of education is to commence negotiations pursuant to this section, such board of education shall meet and confer with the board of finance in each town or city having a board of finance, with the board of selectmen in each town having no board of finance and otherwise with the authority making appropriations therein. A member of such board of finance, such board of selectmen, or such other authority making appropriations, shall be permitted to be present during negotiations pursuant to this section and shall provide such fiscal information as may be requested by the board of education.

(b) The local or regional board of education and the organization designated or elected as the exclusive representative for the appropriate unit, through designated officials or their representatives, shall have the duty to negotiate with respect to salaries, hours and other conditions of employment about which either party wishes to negotiate. For purposes of this subsection and sections 10-153a, 10-153b and 10-153e to 10-153g, inclusive, (1) "hours" shall not include the length of the student school year, the scheduling of the student school year, the length of the student school day, the length and number of parent-teacher conferences and the scheduling of the student school day, except for the length and the scheduling of teacher lunch periods and teacher preparation periods and (2) "other conditions of employment" shall not include the establishment or provisions of any retirement incentive plan authorized by section 10-183jj. Such negotiations shall commence not less than two hundred ten days prior to the budget submission date. Any local board of education shall file forthwith a signed copy of any contract with the town clerk and with the Commissioner of Education. Any regional board of education shall file forthwith a signed copy of any such contract with the town clerk in each member town and with the Commissioner of Education. Upon receipt of a signed copy of such contract the clerk of such town shall give public notice of such filing. The terms of such contract shall be binding on the legislative body of the local or regional school district, unless such body rejects such contract at a regular or special meeting called and convened for such purpose within thirty days of the filing of the contract. If a vote on such contract is petitioned for in accordance with the provisions of section 7-7, in order to reject such contract, a minimum number of those persons eligible to vote equal to fifteen per cent of the electors of such local or regional school district shall be required to participate in the voting and a majority of those voting shall be required to reject. Any regional board of education shall call a district meeting to consider such contract within such thirty-day period if the chief executive officer of any member town so requests in writing within fifteen days of the receipt of the signed copy.
of the contract by the town clerk in such town. The body charged with making annual appropriations in any school district shall appropriate to the board of education whatever funds are required to implement the terms of any contract not rejected pursuant to this section. All organizations seeking to represent members of the teaching profession shall be accorded equal treatment with respect to access to teachers, principals, members of the board of education, records, mail boxes and school facilities and, in the absence of any recognition or certification as the exclusive representative as provided by section 10-153b, participation in discussions with respect to salaries, hours and other conditions of employment.

(c) If the legislative body rejects the contract pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, the parties shall commence the arbitration process, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (c) of section 10-153f, on the fifth day next following the rejection which, for the purposes of this procedure, shall serve as the equivalent of the one hundred thirty-fifth day prior to the budget submission date, provided, if requested by either party, the parties shall mediate the contract dispute prior to the initial arbitration hearing. The parties shall meet with a mediator mutually selected by them, provided such parties shall inform the commissioner of the name of such mediator. If the parties are unable to mutually select a mediator, then the parties shall meet with the commissioner or the commissioner's agent or a mediator designated by said commissioner. Mediators shall be chosen from a panel of mediators selected by the State Board of Education or from outside such panel if mutually agreed by the parties. Such mediators shall receive a per diem fee determined on the basis of the prevailing rate for such services, and the parties shall share equally in the cost of such mediation. In any civil or criminal case, any proceeding preliminary thereto, or in any legislative or administrative proceeding, a mediator shall not disclose any confidential communication made to such mediator in the course of mediation unless the party making such communication waives such privilege. The parties shall provide such information as the commissioner may require. The commissioner may recommend a basis for settlement but such recommendations shall not be binding upon the parties.


History: 1967 act substituted "town" for "local" boards of education and included provision for equal access to mailboxes and school facilities; 1969 act added detailed provisions re adoption and implementation of contracts; P.A. 73-391 required town clerk to give public notice of filing of contract; P.A. 76-403 inserted Subsec. (a) re role of
municipal appropriation-making authority in negotiation process, made former provisions Subsec. (b) and included in Subsec. (b) requirement that negotiations commence at least one hundred eighty days before budget submission date and requirement that copies of contracts be filed with secretary of state board as well as with town clerk(s) and modified provision re equal access and right to participate in discussion so that all have right to equal access, and discussion participation right applies only where no exclusive representative has been designated, whereas previously equal access and discussion participation rights were allowed to all only when no exclusive representative was designated, deleting details of what is involved in duty to negotiate and prohibition of interference with employees by board of education or its representatives, agents etc.; P.A. 77-614 substituted commissioner of education for secretary of the state board of education, effective January 1, 1979; P.A. 78-84 amended Subsec. (b) re required vote for rejection in petitioned vote on contract; P.A. 78-218 substituted "local" for "town" board of education and made technical corrections; P.A. 83-72 added Subsec. (c) concerning procedure to be followed if the legislative body rejects contract negotiated by board of education and exclusive bargaining representative; P.A. 84-225 changed minimum voter turnout from fifteen per cent of those eligible to vote to fifteen per cent of electors; P.A. 87-250 amended Subsec. (b) to provide that the parties have the duty to negotiate with respect to hours, and defined "hours"; P.A. 89-233 in Subsec. (b) added Subdiv. (1) designation and new Subdiv. (2) re establishment or provisions of retirement incentive plans as not included in "other conditions of employment"; P.A. 90-230 made technical change in Subsec. (b); P.A. 92-84 amended Subsec. (b) to require negotiations to commence not less than two hundred forty days, rather than one hundred eighty days, prior to the budget submission date; P.A. 92-170 amended Subsec. (b) to change two hundred forty days to two hundred ten days and amended Subsec. (c) to change the eighty-fifth day to the one hundred thirty-fifth day, effective May 26, 1992, and applicable to arbitration proceedings commencing on or after that date; P.A. 96-244 made a technical change in Subsec. (b), deleting reference to Secs. 10-257b to 10-257e, inclusive, repealed elsewhere in the act, effective July 1, 1996.

See Sec. 10-153k re applicability of this section to incorporated or endowed high schools or academies.

Sec. 10-153e. Prohibited practices of employers, employees and representatives. Hearing before State Board of Labor Relations. Appeal. Penalty. (a) No certified professional employee shall, in an effort to effect a settlement of any disagreement with the employing board of education, engage in any strike or concerted refusal to render services. This provision may be enforced in the superior court for any judicial district in which said board of education is located by an injunction issued by said court or a judge thereof pursuant to sections 52-471 to 52-479, inclusive, provided the Commissioner of Education shall be given notice of any hearing and the commissioner or said commissioner's designee shall be an interested party for the purposes of section 52-474.

(b) The local or regional board of education or its representatives or agents are prohibited from: (1) Interfering, restraining or coercing certified professional employees in the exercise of the rights guaranteed in sections 10-153a to 10-153n; (2) dominating or interfering with the formation, existence or administration of any employees' bargaining agent or representative; (3) discharging or otherwise discriminating against or for any certified professional employee because such employee has signed or filed any affidavit, petition or complaint under said sections; (4) refusing to negotiate in good faith with the employees' bargaining agent or representative which has been designated or elected as the exclusive representative in an appropriate unit in accordance with the provisions of said sections; or (5) refusing to participate in good faith in mediation or arbitration. A prohibited practice committed by a board of education, its representatives or agents shall not be a defense to an illegal strike or concerted refusal to render services.
(c) Any organization of certified professional employees or its agents is prohibited from: (1) Interfering, restraining or coercing (A) certified professional employees in the exercise of the rights guaranteed in this section and sections 10-153a to 10-153c, inclusive, provided that this shall not impair the right of an employees' bargaining agent or representative to prescribe its own rules with respect to acquisition or retention of membership provided such rules are not discriminatory and (B) a board of education in the selection of its representatives or agents; (2) discriminating against or for any certified professional employee because such employee has signed or filed any affidavit, petition or complaint under said sections; (3) breaching its duty of fair representation pursuant to section 10-153a; (4) refusing to negotiate in good faith with the employing board of education, if such organization has been designated or elected as the exclusive representative in an appropriate unit; (5) refusing to participate in good faith in mediation or arbitration; or (6) soliciting or advocating support from public school students for activities of certified professional employees or organizations of such employees.

(d) As used in this section, sections 10-153a to 10-153c, inclusive, and section 10-153g, "to negotiate in good faith" is the performance of the mutual obligation of the board of education or its representatives or agents and the organization designated or elected as the exclusive representative for the appropriate unit to meet at reasonable times, including meetings appropriately related to the budget-making process, and to participate actively so as to indicate a present intention to reach agreement with respect to salaries, hours and other conditions of employment, or the negotiation of an agreement, or any question arising thereunder and the execution of a written contract incorporating any agreement reached if requested by either party, but such obligation shall not compel either party to agree to a proposal or require the making of a concession.

(e) Whenever a board of education or employees' representative organization has reason to believe that a prohibited practice, as defined in subsection (b) or (c) of this section, has been or is being committed, or whenever a certified employee believes a breach of the duty of fair representation under subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of this section has occurred or is occurring, such board of education, representative organization or certified employee shall file a written complaint with the State Board of Labor Relations and shall mail a copy of such complaint to the party that is the subject of the complaint. Upon receipt of a properly filed complaint said board shall refer such complaint to the agent who shall, after investigation and within ninety days after the date of such referral, either (1) make a report to said board recommending dismissal of the complaint or (2) issue a written complaint charging prohibited practices. If no such report is made and no such written complaint is issued, the Board of Labor Relations in its discretion may proceed to a hearing upon the party's original complaint of the violation of this chapter which shall in such case be treated for the purpose of this section as a complaint issued by the agent. Upon receiving a report from the agent recommending dismissal of a complaint, said Board of Labor Relations may issue an order dismissing the complaint or may order a further investigation or a hearing thereon. Upon receiving a complaint issued by the agent, the Board of Labor
Relations shall set a time and place for the hearing. Any such complaint may be amended with the permission of said board. The party so complained of shall have the right to file an answer to the original or amended complaint within five days after the service of such complaint or within such other time as said board may limit. Such party shall have the right to appear in person or otherwise to defend against such complaint. In the discretion of said board any person may be allowed to intervene in such proceeding. In any hearing said board shall not be bound by technical rules of evidence prevailing in the courts. A stenographic or electronic record of the testimony shall be taken at all hearings of the Board of Labor Relations and a transcript thereof shall be filed with said board upon its request. Said board shall have the power to order the taking of further testimony and further argument. If, upon all the testimony, said board determines that the party complained of has engaged in or is engaging in any prohibited practice, it shall state its finding of fact and shall issue and cause to be served an order requiring it to cease and desist from such prohibited practice, and shall take such further affirmative action as will effectuate the policies of subsections (b) to (d), inclusive, of this section. Such order may further require such party to make reports from time to time showing the extent to which the order has been complied with. If upon all the testimony the Board of Labor Relations is of the opinion that the party named in the complaint has not engaged in or is not engaging in any such prohibited practice, then said board shall make its finding of fact and shall issue an order dismissing the complaint. Until a transcript of the record in a case has been filed in the Superior Court, as provided in subsection (g) of this section, said board may at any time, upon notice, modify or set aside in whole or in part any finding or order made or issued by it. Proceedings before said board shall be held with all possible expedition. Any party who wishes to have a transcript of the proceedings before the Board of Labor Relations shall apply therefor. The parties may agree on the sharing of the costs of the transcript but, in the absence of such agreement, the costs shall be paid by the requesting party.

(f) For the purpose of hearings pursuant to this section before the Board of Labor Relations said board shall have power to administer oaths and affirmations and to issue subpoenas requiring the attendance of witnesses. In case of contumacy or refusal to obey a subpoena issued to any person, the Superior Court, upon application by said board, shall have jurisdiction to order such person to appear before said board to produce evidence or to give testimony touching the matter under investigation or in question, and any failure to obey such order may be punished by said court as a contempt thereof. No person shall be excused from attending and testifying or from producing books, records, correspondence, documents or other evidence in obedience to the subpoena of the board, on the ground that the testimony or evidence required may tend to incriminate or subject such person to a penalty or forfeiture; but no individual shall be prosecuted
or subjected to any penalty or forfeiture for or on account of any transaction, matter or thing concerning which such individual is compelled, after claiming a privilege against self-incrimination, to testify or produce evidence, except that such individual so testifying shall not be exempt from prosecution and punishment for perjury committed in so testifying. Complaints, orders and other processes and papers of the Board of Labor Relations or the agent may be served personally, by registered or certified mail, by telegraph or by leaving a copy thereof at the principal office or place of business of the person required to be served. The verified return of service shall be proof of such service. Witnesses summoned before said board or the agent shall be paid the same fees and mileage allowances that are paid witnesses in the courts of this state, and witnesses whose depositions are taken and the person taking the same shall severally be entitled to the same fees as are paid for like services in the courts of this state. All processes of any court to which an application or petition may be made under this chapter may be served in the judicial district wherein the person or persons required to be served reside or may be found.

(g) (1) The Board of Labor Relations may petition the superior court for the judicial district wherein the prohibited practice in question occurred or wherein any party charged with the prohibited practice resides or transacts business, or, if said court is not in session, any judge of said court, for the enforcement of an order and for appropriate temporary relief or a restraining order, and shall certify and file in the court a transcript of the entire record of the proceedings, including the pleadings and testimony upon which such order was made and the finding and orders of said board. In the event an appeal has not been filed pursuant to section 4-183, the board may file its petition in the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford, or, if said court is not in session, the board may petition any judge of said court. Within five days after filing such petition in the Superior Court, said board shall cause a notice of such petition to be sent by registered or certified mail to all parties or their representatives. The Superior Court, or, if said court is not in session, any judge of said court, shall have jurisdiction of the proceedings and of the questions determined thereon, and shall have the power to grant such relief, including temporary relief, as it deems just and suitable and to make and enter a decree enforcing, modifying and enforcing as so modified, or setting aside in whole or in part, the order of said board. (2) No objection that has not been urged before the Board of Labor Relations shall be considered by the court, unless the failure to urge such objection is excused because of extraordinary circumstances. The findings of said board as to the facts, if supported by substantial evidence, shall be conclusive. If either party applies to the court for leave to adduce additional evidence and shows to the satisfaction of the court that such additional evidence is material and that there were reasonable grounds for the failure to adduce such evidence in the hearing before said board, the court may order such additional evidence to be taken before said board and to be made part of the transcript. The Board of Labor Relations may modify its findings as to the facts, or make new findings, by reason of additional evidence so taken, and it shall file such modified or new findings, which, if supported by substantial evidence, shall be conclusive, and shall file its recommendations, if any, for the modification or setting aside of its original order. (3) The
jurisdiction of the Superior Court shall be exclusive and its judgment and decree shall be final, except that the same shall be subject to review by the Appellate Court, on appeal, by either party, irrespective of the nature of the decree or judgment or the amount involved. Such appeal shall be taken and prosecuted in the same manner and form and with the same effect as is provided in other cases of appeal to the Appellate Court, and the record so certified shall contain all that was before the lower court. (4) Any party aggrieved by a final order of the Board of Labor Relations granting or denying in whole or in part the relief sought may appeal pursuant to the provisions of chapter 54 to the superior court for the judicial district where the prohibited practice was alleged to have occurred, in the judicial district of Hartford, or in the judicial district wherein such party resides or transacts business. (5) Petitions filed under this subsection shall be heard expeditiously and determined upon the transcript filed, without requirement of printing. Hearings in the Superior Court or Appellate Court under this chapter shall take precedence over all other matters, except matters of the same character.

(h) Subject to regulations to be made by the Board of Labor Relations, the complaints, orders and testimony relating to a proceeding instituted under subsection (e) of this section may be available for inspection or copying. All proceedings pursuant to said subsection shall be open to the public.

(i) Any person who wilfully resists, prevents or interferes with any member of the Board of Labor Relations or the agent in the performance of duties pursuant to subsections (e) to (i), inclusive, of this section shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than six months or both.


History: 1969 act included provisions for enforcement of prohibition against strikes by professional employees by temporary injunction; P.A. 76-403 added Subsecs. (b) to (i) re prohibited activities by board of education and by professional employees; P.A. 77-235 amended Subsec. (a) to require that notice of hearing be given secretary of the state board and to designate secretary or his designee as interested party; P.A. 77-614 and P.A. 78-303 substituted commissioner of education for secretary of the state board of education, effective January 1, 1979; P.A. 78-218 substituted "local" for "town" board of education in Subsec. (b) and made technical changes; P.A. 78-280 deleted reference to county in Subsec. (g); P.A. 83-72 amended Subsec. (b) to include statutory reference to all provisions concerning teacher negotiation law, Secs. 10-153a to 10-153n, inclusive; P.A. 83-308 amended
Subsec. (g) to allow the board to file its petition for enforcement of an order in the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford-New Britain if an appeal of the order has not been filed; June Sp. Sess. P.A. 83-29 deleted reference to supreme court and substituted appellate court in lieu thereof in Subsec. (g); P.A. 87-250 amended Subsec. (d) to include hours as a subject with respect to which the parties are to indicate a present intention to reach agreement; P.A. 88-230 replaced "judicial district of Hartford-New Britain" with "judicial district of Hartford", effective September 1, 1991; P.A. 88-317 amended Subdiv. (1) of Subsec. (g) by deleting "or subdivision (4) of this subsection" after "4-183" and amended Subdiv. (4) of Subsec. (g) to require appeal to be made "pursuant to the provisions of chapter 54", instead of specifying the procedure for the appeal, and to superior court in judicial district of Hartford-New Britain, effective July 1, 1989, and applicable to all agency proceedings commencing on or after that date; P.A. 90-98 changed effective date of P.A. 88-230 from September 1, 1991, to September 1, 1993; P.A. 93-142 changed the effective date of P.A. 88-230 from September 1, 1993, to September 1, 1996, effective June 14, 1993; P.A. 93-426 inserted new Subdiv. (3) in Subsec. (c) to prohibit a bargaining representative for certified professional employees from breaching its duty of fair representation to such employees and redesignated existing Subdiv. (3) as (4) and amended Subsec. (e) to allow certified employees to file written complaints with the state board of labor relations against their bargaining representatives alleging breach of the duty of fair representation; P.A. 95-220 changed the effective date of P.A. 88-230 from September 1, 1996, to September 1, 1998, effective July 1, 1995.

See Sec. 10-153k re applicability of this section to incorporated or endowed high schools or academies.


Cited. 27 CS 298. Cited. 30 CS 63. Cited. 38 CS 80, 83.

Subsec. (b):
Sec. 10-153f. Mediation and arbitration of disagreements. (a) There shall be in the Department of Education an arbitration panel of not less than twenty-four nor more than twenty-nine persons to serve as provided in subsection (c) of this section. The Governor shall appoint such panel, with the advice and consent of the General Assembly, as follows: (1) Seven members shall be representative of the interests of local and regional boards of education and shall be selected from lists of names submitted by such boards; (2) seven members shall be representative of the interests of exclusive bargaining representatives of certified employees and shall be selected from lists of names submitted by such bargaining representatives; and (3) not less than ten nor more than fifteen members shall be impartial representatives of the interests of the public in general and shall be residents of the state of Connecticut, experienced in public sector collective bargaining interest impasse resolution and selected from lists of names submitted by the State Board of Education. Each member of the panel shall serve a term of two years, provided each arbitrator shall hold office until a successor is appointed and, provided further, any arbitrator not reappointed shall finish to conclusion any arbitration for which such arbitrator has been selected or appointed. Arbitrators may be removed for good cause. If any vacancy occurs in such panel, the Governor shall act within forty days to fill such vacancy in the manner provided in section 4-19. Persons appointed to the arbitration panel shall serve without compensation but each shall receive a per diem fee for each day during which he is engaged in the arbitration of a dispute pursuant to this section. The parties to the dispute so arbitrated shall pay the fee in accordance with subsection (c) of this section.

(b) If any local or regional board of education cannot agree with the exclusive representatives of a teachers' or administrators' unit after negotiation concerning the terms and conditions of employment applicable to the employees in such unit, either party may submit the issues to the commissioner for mediation. On the one hundred sixtieth day prior to the budget submission date, the commissioner shall order the parties to report their settlement. If, on such one hundred sixtieth day, the parties have not reached agreement and have failed to initiate mediation, the commissioner shall order the parties to notify the commissioner of the name of a mutually selected mediator and to commence mediation. The commissioner may order the parties to appear before said commissioner during the mediation period. In either case, the parties shall meet with a mediator mutually selected by them, provided such parties shall inform the
commissioner of the name of such mediator, or with the commissioner or the
commissioner's agents or a mediator
designated by said commissioner. Mediators shall be chosen from a panel of mediators
selected by the State Board of Education or from outside such panel if mutually agreed
by the parties. Such
mediators shall receive a per diem fee determined on the basis of the prevailing rate for
such services, and the parties shall share equally in the cost of such mediation. In any
civil or criminal case, any proceeding preliminary thereto, or in any legislative or
administrative proceeding, a mediator shall not disclose any confidential communication
made to such mediator in the course of mediation unless the party making such
communication waives such privilege. The parties shall provide such information as the
commissioner may require. The commissioner may recommend a basis for settlement but
such recommendations shall not be binding upon the parties. Such
recommendation shall be made within twenty-five days after the day on which mediation
begins.

(c) (1) On the fourth day next following the end of the mediation session or on the
one hundred thirty-fifth day prior to the budget submission date, whichever is sooner, the
commissioner shall order the parties to report their settlement of the dispute or, if there is
no settlement, to notify the commissioner of either their agreement to submit their dispute
to a single
arbitrator or the name of the arbitrator selected by each of them. Within five days of
providing such notice, the parties shall notify the commissioner of the name of the
arbitrator if there is an agreement on a single arbitrator appointed to the panel pursuant to
subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section or agreement on the third arbitrator
appointed to the panel pursuant to said subdivision. The commissioner may order the
parties to appear before said commissioner during the arbitration period. If the parties
have notified the commissioner of their agreement to submit their dispute to a single
arbitrator and they have not agreed on such arbitrator, within five days
after such notification, the commissioner shall select such single arbitrator who shall be
an impartial representative of the interests of the public in general. If each party has
notified the commissioner of the name of the arbitrator it has selected and the parties
have not agreed on the third arbitrator, within five days after such notification, the
commissioner shall select a third arbitrator, who shall be an impartial representative of
the interests of the public in general. If either party fails to notify the commissioner of the
name of an arbitrator, the commissioner shall select an arbitrator to serve and the
commissioner shall also select a third arbitrator who shall be an impartial representative
of the interests of the public in general. Any selection pursuant to this section by the
commissioner of an impartial arbitrator shall be made at random from among the
members appointed under subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section. Arbitrators
shall be selected from the panel appointed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and
shall receive a per diem fee determined on the basis of the prevailing rate for such
services. Whenever a panel of
three arbitrators is selected, the chairperson of such panel shall be the impartial
representative of the interests of the public in general.
(2) The chairperson of the arbitration panel or the single arbitrator shall set the date, time and place for a hearing to be held in the school district between the fifth and twelfth day, inclusive, after such chairperson or such single arbitrator is selected. At least five days prior to such hearing, a written notice of the date, time and place of the hearing shall be sent to the board of education and the representative organization which are parties to the dispute, and, if a three-member arbitration panel is selected or designated, to the other members of such panel. Such written notice shall also be sent to the fiscal authority having budgetary responsibility or charged with making appropriations for the school district, and a representative designated by such body may be heard at the hearing as part of the presentation and participation of the board of education. At the hearing each party shall have full opportunity to submit all relevant evidence, to introduce relevant documents and written material, and to argue on behalf of its positions. At the hearing a representative of the fiscal authority having budgetary responsibility or charged with making appropriations for the school district shall be heard regarding the financial capability of the school district, unless such opportunity to be heard is waived by the fiscal authority. The nonappearance of the representative shall constitute a waiver of the opportunity to be heard unless there is a showing that proper notice was not given to the fiscal authority. The chairperson of the arbitration panel or the single arbitrator shall preside over such hearing.

(3) The hearing may, at the discretion of the arbitration panel or the single arbitrator, be continued but in any event shall be concluded within twenty-five days after its commencement.

(4) After hearing all the issues, the arbitrators or the single arbitrator shall, within twenty days, render a decision in writing, signed by a majority of the arbitrators or the single arbitrator, which states in detail the nature of the decision and the disposition of the issues by the arbitrators or the single arbitrator. The written decision shall include a narrative explaining the evaluation by the arbitrators or the single arbitrator of the evidence presented for each item upon which a decision was rendered by the arbitrators or the single arbitrator and shall state with particularity the basis for the decision as to each disputed issue and the manner in which the factors enumerated in this subdivision were considered in arriving at such decision, including, where applicable, the specific similar groups and conditions of employment presented for comparison and accepted by the arbitrators or the single arbitrator and the reason for such acceptance. The arbitrators or the single arbitrator shall file one copy of the decision with the commissioner, each town clerk in the school district involved and the board of education and organization which are parties to the dispute. The decision of the arbitrators or the single arbitrator shall be final and binding upon the parties to the dispute unless a rejection is filed in accordance with subdivision (7) of this subsection. The decision of the arbitrators or the single arbitrator shall incorporate those items of agreement the parties have reached prior to its issuance. At any time prior to the
issuance of a decision by the arbitrators or the single arbitrator, the parties may jointly file with the arbitrators or the single arbitrator, any stipulations setting forth contract provisions which both parties agree to accept. In arriving at a decision, the arbitrators or the single arbitrator shall give priority to the public interest and the financial capability of the town or towns in the school district, including consideration of other demands on the financial capability of the town or towns in the school district. In assessing the financial capability of the town or towns, there shall be an irrebuttable presumption that a budget reserve of five per cent or less is not available for payment of the cost of any item subject to arbitration under this chapter. The arbitrators or the single arbitrator shall further consider, in light of such financial capability, the following factors: (A) The negotiations between the parties prior to arbitration, including the offers and the range of discussion of the issues; (B) the interests and welfare of the employee group; (C) changes in the cost of living averaged over the preceding three years; (D) the existing conditions of employment of the employee group and those of similar groups; and (E) the salaries, fringe benefits, and other conditions of employment prevailing in the state labor market, including the terms of recent contract settlements or awards in collective bargaining for other municipal employee organizations and developments in private sector wages and benefits. The parties shall submit to the arbitrators or the single arbitrator their respective positions on each individual issue in dispute between them in the form of a last best offer. The arbitrators or the single arbitrator shall resolve separately each individual disputed issue by accepting the last best offer thereon of either of the parties, and shall incorporate in a decision each such accepted individual last best offer and an explanation of how the total cost of all offers accepted was considered. The award of the arbitrators or single arbitrator shall not be subject to rejection by referendum. The parties shall each pay the fee of the arbitrator selected by or for them and share equally the fee of the third arbitrator or the single arbitrator and all other costs incidental to the arbitration.

(5) The commissioner shall assist the arbitration panel or the single arbitrator as may be required in the course of arbitration pursuant to this section.

(6) If the day for filing any document required pursuant to this section falls on Saturday, Sunday or a holiday, the time for such filing shall be extended to the next business day thereafter.

(7) The award of the arbitrators or single arbitrator may be rejected by the legislative body of the local school district or, in the case of a regional school district, by the legislative bodies of the participating towns. Such rejection shall be by a two-thirds majority vote of the members of such legislative body or, in the case of a regional school district, the legislative body of each participating town, present at a regular or special meeting called and convened for such purpose within twenty-five days of the receipt of the award. If the legislative body or legislative bodies, as appropriate, reject any such award, they shall notify, within ten days after the vote to reject, the
commissioner and the exclusive representative for the teachers' or administrators' unit of such vote and submit to them a written explanation of the reasons for the vote. Within ten days after receipt of such notice, the exclusive representative of the teachers' or administrators' unit shall prepare, and the board of education may prepare, a written response to such rejection and shall submit it to such legislative body or legislative bodies, as appropriate, and the commissioner. Within ten days after the commissioner has been notified of the vote to reject, (A) the commissioner shall select a review panel of three arbitrators or, if the parties agree, a single arbitrator, who are residents of Connecticut and labor relations arbitrators approved by the American Arbitration Association and not members of the panel who issued the rejected award, and (B) such arbitrators or single arbitrator shall review the decision on each rejected issue. The review conducted pursuant to this subdivision shall be limited to the record and briefs of the hearing pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection, the written explanation of the reasons for the vote and a written response by either party. In conducting such review, the arbitrators or single arbitrator shall be limited to consideration of the criteria set forth in subdivision (4) of this subsection. Such review shall be completed within twenty days of the appointment of the arbitrators or single arbitrator. The arbitrators or single arbitrator shall accept the last best offer of either of the parties. Within five days after the completion of such review, the arbitrators or single arbitrator shall render a final and binding award with respect to each rejected issue. The decision of the arbitrators or single arbitrator shall be in writing and shall include the specific reasons and standards used by each arbitrator in making his decision on each issue. The decision shall be filed with the parties. The reasonable costs of the arbitrators or single arbitrator and the cost of the transcript shall be paid by the legislative body or legislative bodies, as appropriate. Where the legislative body of the school district is the town meeting, the board of selectmen shall have all of the authority and responsibilities required of and granted to the legislative body under this subdivision.

(8) The decision of the arbitrators or a single arbitrator shall be subject to judicial review upon the filing by a party to the arbitration, within thirty days following receipt of a final decision pursuant to subdivision (4) or (7), as appropriate, of a motion to vacate or modify such decision in the superior court for the judicial district wherein the school district involved is located. The superior court, after hearing, may vacate or modify the decision if substantial rights of a party have been prejudiced because such decision is: (A) In violation of constitutional or statutory provisions; (B) in excess of the statutory authority of the panel; (C) made upon unlawful procedure; (D) affected by other error of law; (E) clearly erroneous in view of the reliable, probative and substantial evidence on the whole record; or (F) arbitrary or capricious or characterized by abuse of discretion or clearly unwarranted exercise of discretion. In any action brought pursuant to this subdivision to vacate or modify the decision of the arbitrators or single arbitrator, reasonable attorney's fees, costs and legal interest on salary withheld as the result of an appeal of said decision may be awarded in
accordance with the following: Where the board of education moves to vacate or modify the decision and the decision is not vacated or modified, the court may award to the organization which is the exclusive representative reasonable attorney's fees, costs and legal interest on salary withheld as the result of an appeal; or, where the organization which is the exclusive representative moves to vacate or modify the decision and the decision is not vacated or modified, the court may award to the board of education reasonable attorney's fees, costs and legal interest on salary withheld as the result of an appeal.

(d) The commissioner and the arbitrators or single arbitrator shall have the same powers and duties as the board under section 31-108 for the purposes of mediation or arbitration pursuant to this section, and subsection (c) of section 10-153d, and all provisions in section 31-108 with respect to procedure, jurisdiction of the Superior Court, witnesses and penalties shall apply.

(e) The local or regional board of education and the organization designated or elected as the exclusive representative for the appropriate unit, through designated officials or their representatives, which are parties to a collective bargaining agreement, and which, for the purpose of negotiating with respect to salaries, hours and other conditions of employment, mutually agree to negotiate during the term of the agreement or are ordered to negotiate said agreement by a body of competent jurisdiction, shall notify the commissioner of the date upon which negotiations commenced within five days after said commencement. If the parties are unable to reach settlement twenty-five days after the date of the commencement of negotiations, the parties shall notify the commissioner of the name of a mutually selected mediator and shall conduct mediation pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, notwithstanding the mediation time schedule of subsection (b) of this section. On the fourth day next following the end of the mediation session or on the fiftieth day following the date of the commencement of negotiations, whichever is sooner, if no settlement is reached the parties shall commence arbitration pursuant to the provisions of subsections (a), (c) and (d) of this section, notwithstanding the reference to the budget submission date.

(f) The State Board of Education shall adopt regulations pursuant to chapter 54 concerning the method by which names of persons who are impartial representatives of the interests of the public in general are placed on lists submitted by the State Board of Education to the Governor for appointment to the arbitration panel established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section. Such regulations shall include, but not be limited to (1) a description of the composition of the group which screens persons applying to be such impartial representatives, which group shall include representatives of local legislative and fiscal authorities and local and regional boards of education and exclusive bargaining representatives of certified employees, (2) application requirements and procedures and (3) the selection criteria and process, including an evaluation of an applicant's experience in arbitration. Such regulations shall provide for a training program for applicants who lack experience in arbitration but who are otherwise qualified and shall describe the criteria for participation in the training program.
History: 1969 act inserted new Subsec. (a) re appointment of arbitration panel, made former Subsec. (a) new Subsec. (b) and clarified secretary of state board's role in mediation procedure, deleted former Subsec. (b) except for provision that arbitrators' decision is advisory and not binding which was incorporated into otherwise new provisions of Subsec. (c) re selection of arbitrators, hearings, decision and payment of arbitrators' fees and added Subsec. (d) re general powers and duties of secretary and arbitrators; P.A. 76-403 deleted provisions in Subsec. (a) which had given only temporary existence to arbitration panel, amended Subsec. (b) to require mediation if agreement not reached within one hundred twenty days of budget submission date, to allow parties to select mediator themselves, to provide per diem payment, to require confidentiality of communications and to require that secretary's recommendation be made within thirty days of beginning of mediation, amended Subsec. (c) to include specific timetable for actions, inserted new Subsecs. (d) and (e) concerning recommencement of negotiations upon failure of arbitration or rejection of contract and secretary's power to meet with group involved and designated former Subsec. (d) as Subsec. (f); P.A. 77-614 and P.A. 78-303 substituted commissioner of education for secretary of the state board of education and specified that arbitration panel is within department of education under Subsec. (a), effective January 1, 1979; P.A. 78-218 substituted "local" for "town" boards of education and "chairperson" for "chairman" and made other technical changes; P.A. 79-405 amended Subsec. (a) to change number of panel members from twenty-five to fifteen and specified that five each shall represent boards of education, bargaining representatives and the general public, amended Subsec. (c)(1) to require that third member of three-member panel represent interests of general public, amended Subsec. (c)(4) to make decisions final and binding rather than advisory and to include provisions concerning points of agreement and last best offer, added Subdiv. (7) in Subsec. (c) re judicial review, deleted former Subsecs. (d) and (e) and designated Subsec. (f) as Subsec. (d); P.A. 80-483 gave subparagraphs in Subdivs. (4) and (7) of Subsec. (c) alphabetic rather than numeric designators; P.A. 83-72 amended Subsec. (a) to increase size of arbitration panel from fifteen to twenty-one by increasing each group of representatives from five to seven, to add provisions re arbitrator remaining in office until successor is appointed and requiring arbitrator not reappointed to complete any matter for which he was selected or appointed and to authorize governor to fill vacancies in manner provided in Sec. 4-19, amended Subsec. (b) to decrease from one hundred
twenty to one hundred ten days the length of time parties have to reach settlement prior to initiating mediation, to allow parties to select mediator from outside panel and to decrease from thirty to twenty-five the number of days commissioner may recommend a settlement to parties and amended Subsec. (c) to require that report made to commissioner on settlement or lack of settlement be made in eighty-five days rather than ninety days, to specify that chairperson of arbitration panel has between seventh and fifteenth day after designation to set date, time and place for hearing to be held, rather than on tenth day, to increase hearing duration from twenty to twenty-five days, and to specify that panel has twenty rather than fifteen days to render a decision in writing; P.A. 83-342 amended Subdiv. (7) of Subsec. (c) to provide for awarding of reasonable attorney’s fees, costs and legal interest on money withheld as the result of an appeal of the decision of the arbitrators or single arbitrator; P.A. 84-459 amended Subdiv. (4) of Subsec. (c) to require that the written decision of the arbitrators contain a narrative explaining the evaluation by the arbitrators of the evidence presented for each item upon which a decision was rendered; P.A. 85-343 increased number of panel members from twenty-one to twenty-three, adding two additional public members and amended Subdiv. (4) to provide that the commissioner designate rather than the arbitrators select a third arbitrator and in Subdiv. (4) made technical changes; P.A. 86-1 in Subsec. (a) increased the number of impartial representatives on the arbitration panel from nine to fifteen, required that such representatives be state residents and have certain experience and substituted a panel of labor arbitrators submitted by the American Arbitration Association for a list submitted by the state board of education in Subdiv. (1) of Subsec. (c) provided that the commissioner designate rather than the arbitrators select a third arbitrator and in Subdiv. (4) made technical changes; P.A. 87-1 made technical corrections; P.A. 87-206 amended Subsec. (a) to change the number of impartial representatives on the panel from fifteen to "not less than ten nor more than fifteen" and to substitute lists of names submitted by the state board of education for a panel of labor arbitrators submitted by the American Arbitration Association and in Subdiv. (1) of Subsec. (c) provided that the arbitrators select rather than the commissioner designate a third arbitrator, unless the arbitrators fail to agree on the selection of a third within five days, that the parties notify the commissioner of the name of the third arbitrator and that any recommendation or selection by the commissioner of an impartial arbitrator be made at random, deleted provision that each party may refuse to accept one designated member and made a technical change; P.A. 87-250 added Subsec. (e) re negotiations during the term of an agreement; P.A. 90-325 in Subsec. (c) provided that if the parties agree to submit their dispute to a single arbitrator the commissioner of education, rather than the parties, shall select the arbitrator and if the parties agree to submit the dispute to three arbitrators the commissioner, rather than the arbitrators shall select the third arbitrator and made technical changes in Subdiv. (1), in Subdiv. (2) provided that the chairperson or single arbitrator be selected rather than designated and required that at the hearing a representative of the fiscal authority be heard, unless such opportunity is waived, in Subdiv. (4) added that the decision state certain matters with particularity and that it incorporate an explanation of how the total costs of all offers accepted was considered and added new Subsec. (f) re the adoption of regulations concerning the method by which names of persons who are impartial representatives of the interests of the public.
in general are placed on lists for appointment to the arbitration panel; P.A. 91-352 in Subsec. (c)(4) expanded the factors to be considered by arbitrators to include offers and range of discussion prior to arbitration and financial capability of town or towns in school district and to specify that changes in cost of living be averaged over preceding three years; P.A. 92-84 amended Subsec. (a) to require a term of two years for each member of the panel, replacing terms concurrent with that of governor, amended Subsec. (b) to require the commissioner to order the parties to report settlement or commence mediation on the one hundred seventieth day, rather than one hundred tenth day, prior to the budget submission date, and amended Subsec. (c) to change the date by which the commissioner shall order the parties to report settlement or submit their dispute to arbitration from the eighty-fifth to the one hundred forty-fifth day prior to the budget submission date in Subdiv. (1), to move provision requiring the arbitrators or the single arbitrator to give priority to the public interest and the financial capability of the town or towns in the school district in arriving at a decision and to require consideration of developments in private sector wages and benefits, to delete provisions that the arbitration decision shall not be subject to rejection by the legislative body or by referendum from Subdiv. (4), and to add Subdiv. (7) providing for rejection of any issue in the decision of the arbitrators or single arbitrator by the legislative body of the local or regional school district; P.A. 92-170 amended Subsec. (b) to change one hundred seventieth to one hundred sixtieth day, and amended Subsec. (c) in Subdiv. (1) to change forty-fifth to thirty-fifth day, in Subdiv. (2) to change seventh and fifteenth to fifth and twelfth, in Subdiv. (4) to remove language prohibiting rejection by the legislative body of the school district and make technical changes, and in Subdiv. (7) to add language concerning rejection in cases of regional school districts, to change thirty to twenty-five days, to require the employee unit to prepare and submit a written response, to change the requirement that the arbitrators be members of the American Arbitration Association to labor relations arbitrators approved by the association and residents of Connecticut, to limit the review to the criteria set forth in Subdiv. (4), to remove language allowing the arbitrators to render an award somewhere in between the last best offers, to require the decision to be in writing, to include specific reasons and standards used, and to be filed with the parties, and to add language concerning the town meeting, effective May 26, 1992, and applicable to arbitration proceedings commencing on or after that date; P.A. 97-177 amended Subdiv. (1) of Subsec. (c) to add requirement for notification to the commissioner to include the name of the arbitrator if there is agreement on a single arbitrator or agreement on the third arbitrator and provisions re lack of agreement on the arbitrator, and amended Subdiv. (4) of Subsec. (c) to add provision re an irrebuttable presumption that a budget reserve of five per cent or less is not available for payment of the cost of any item subject to arbitration under this chapter; P.A. 98-252 amended Subdiv. (1) of Subsec. (c) to give the parties five days to notify the commissioner of the name of the single arbitrator in cases in which there is no settlement and the parties have agreed to submit their dispute to a single arbitrator, effective July 1, 1998.
See Sec. 10-153k re applicability of this section to incorporated or endowed high schools or academies.

Cited. 162 C. 393. Sections 10-153a10-153j include coverage of teachers employed in summer school programs. 177 C. 68, 70, 71. Since plaintiff was not a proper "party to the arbitration" he lacked standing to seek judicial review of the arbitration award. 184 C. 116-120.


Cited. 27 CS 298. Arbitrators selected under this statute are all to be impartial. Former school board chairman and personal friend of superintendent of schools cannot serve as impartial member of board. 27 CS 421. Cited. 30 CS 63. Cited. 38 CS 80, 85.

Subsec. (b):


Subsec. (c):


Subsec. (d):

Cited. 234 C. 704, 717.

Sec. 10-153g. Negotiations concerning salaries, hours and other conditions of employment unaffected by special acts, charters, ordinances. Notwithstanding the provisions of any special act, municipal charter or local ordinance, the provisions of sections 10-153a to 10-153n, inclusive, shall apply to negotiations concerning salaries, hours and other conditions of employment conducted by boards of education and certified personnel.

(1969, P.A. 811, S. 6; P.A. 83-72, S. 6, 9; P.A. 87-250, S. 6, 11.)

History: P.A. 83-72 amended internal reference to include all statutory provisions concerning negotiation, Secs. 10-153a to 10-153n, inclusive; P.A. 87-250 included hours as a subject of negotiations to which the provisions of Secs. 10-153a to 10-153n, inclusive, shall apply.


Cited. 38 CS 80, 85.

Sec. 10-153h. Appropriation. Section 10-153h is repealed.

(1969, P.A. 811, S. 7; P.A. 76-403, S. 7, 11.)

Sec. 10-153i. Designation of statutory agent for service of process. (a) (1) Each administrators' or teachers' representative organization shall file with the commissioner a written designation, on such form as the commissioner shall prescribe, of a statutory agent for service of process who shall be the statutory agent for all members of the administrators' unit or teachers' unit, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10-153b, who shall be (A) a natural person who is a resident of this state, or (B) a domestic corporation. (2) Each written appointment shall be signed by the president or vice president or secretary of the appointing organization. Each written appointment shall also be signed by the statutory agent for service therein appointed.

(b) If a statutory agent for service dies, dissolves, removes from the state or resigns, the organization shall forthwith appoint another statutory agent for service. If the statutory agent for service changes such agent's address within the state from that appearing upon the record in the office of the commissioner, the organization shall forthwith file with the commissioner notice of the new address. A statutory agent for service may resign by filing with the commissioner a signed statement in duplicate to that effect. The commissioner shall forthwith file one copy and mail the other copy of such statement to the organization at its principal office. Upon the expiration of thirty days after such filing, the resignation shall be effective and the authority of such statutory agent for service shall terminate. An organization may revoke the appointment of a statutory agent for service by making a new appointment as provided in this section and any new appointment so made shall revoke all appointments theretofore made.

(P.A. 76-403, S. 9, 11; P.A. 77-614, S. 302, 610; P.A. 78-218, S. 92.)
History: P.A. 77-614 substituted commissioner of education for secretary of the state board of education, effective January 1, 1979; P.A. 78-218 made technical change in Subsec. (b) substituting "such agent's" for "his or its".


Sec. 10-153j. The making of service of process, notice or demand. (a) Except for citations for contempt, any process, notice or demand in connection with any action or proceeding pursuant to subsection (a) of section 10-153e, to be served upon any member of an administrators' unit or any member of a teachers' unit as defined in subsection (a) of section 10-153b, may be served upon the statutory agent for service by any proper officer or other person lawfully empowered to make service. The person making service of such process, notice or demand shall immediately send a true and attested copy thereof by registered or certified mail to each person named in such process, notice or demand.

(b) If it appears from the records of the commissioner that such an organization has failed to appoint or maintain a statutory agent for service, or if it appears by affidavit endorsed on the return of the officer or other proper person directed to serve any process, notice or demand upon such a statutory agent for service appearing on the records of the commissioner that such agent cannot, with reasonable diligence, be found at the address shown on such records as the agent's address, service of such process, notice or demand may, when timely made, be made by such officer or other proper person by: (1) Leaving a true and attested copy thereof at the office of the commissioner or depositing the same in the United States mails, by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, addressed to such office, and (2) depositing in the United States mails, by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, a true and attested copy thereof, together with a statement by such officer that service is being made pursuant to this section, addressed to such organization at its principal office and to each person named in such process, notice or demand.

(c) The commissioner shall file the copy of each process, notice or demand received by him as provided in subsection (b) and keep a record of the day and hour of such
receipt. Service made as provided in this section shall be effective as of such day and hour.

(P.A. 76-403, S. 10, 11; P.A. 77-614, S. 302, 610.)

History: P.A. 77-614 substituted commissioner of education for secretary of the state board of education, effective January 1, 1979.


Cited. 5 CA 253, 264-266, 272. Teacher negotiations act cited.
Cited. 38 CS 80, 85.

**Sec. 10-153k. Teacher Negotiation Act applies to incorporated or endowed high schools or academies.** The provisions of sections 10-153a to 10-153n, inclusive, shall apply to all certified professional employees of an incorporated or endowed high school or academy approved pursuant to section 10-34.

(P.A. 79-504, S. 2, 4; P.A. 83-72, S. 7, 9.)

History: P.A. 83-72 applied all statutory provisions concerning teacher negotiation act, Secs. 10-153a to 10-153n, inclusive, to certified employees of incorporated or endowed high schools or academies.

See Sec. 10-153l re time when Sec. 10-151 and this section take effect with respect to incorporated or endowed high schools or academies.


Cited. 38 CS 80, 85.
Sec. 10-153l. Applicability of employment of teachers statute and teacher negotiation law to incorporated or endowed high schools or academies. The provisions of section 10-151 as it pertains to employment of certified professional employees of an incorporated or endowed high school or academy approved pursuant to section 10-34 and the provisions of section 10-153k shall not become effective until a majority of all the certified professional employees at such incorporated or endowed high school or academy elect to come under the provisions of said sections 10-151 and 10-153k. The election shall be conducted by secret ballot in September, 1979 and the results thereof certified to the Commissioner of Education.

(P.A. 79-504, S. 3, 4.)

See Sec. 10-153k re applicability of this section to incorporated or endowed high schools or academies.

Cited. 38 CS 80, 85.

Sec. 10-153m. Payment of attorney's fees in proceedings to vacate or confirm teacher grievance arbitration awards. In any action brought pursuant to section 52-418 to vacate an arbitration award rendered in a controversy between a board of education and a teacher or the organization which is the exclusive representative of a group of teachers, or to confirm, pursuant to section 52-417, such an arbitration award, reasonable attorney's fees and costs may be awarded in accordance with the following: (1) Where the board of education moves to vacate an award and the award is not vacated, the court may award reasonable attorney's fees and costs to the teacher; (2) where the teacher moves to vacate an award and the award is not vacated, the court may award reasonable attorney's fees and costs to the board of education; (3) where the teacher moves to confirm an award, if the board of education refuses to stipulate to such confirmation and if the award is confirmed, the court may award reasonable attorney's fees and costs to the teacher; (4) where the board of education moves to confirm an award, if the teacher refuses to stipulate to such confirmation and if the award is confirmed, the court may award reasonable attorney's fees and costs to the board of education.

(P.A. 80-192.)
Sec. 10-153n. Applicability of employment of teachers statute and teacher negotiation law to the Gilbert School in Winchester. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10-153l, the provisions of section 10-151 as it pertains to employment of certified professional employees of an incorporated or endowed high school or academy approved pursuant to section 10-34, and the provisions of sections 10-153a to 10-153m, inclusive, shall apply to all certified professional employees of the Gilbert School in Winchester.

(P.A. 82-225, S. 2, 3; 82-472, S. 167, 183; P.A. 83-72, S. 8, 9.)

History: P.A. 82-472 specified applicability of Sec. 10-151 provisions; P.A. 83-72 incorporated reference to all statutory provisions concerning teacher negotiation law, Secs. 10-153a to 10-153m, inclusive.

Cited. 38 CS 80, 85.