



Dannel P. Malloy

GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

June 24, 2015

I hereby return, without my signature, Senate Bill 926, *An Act Concerning Unsubstantiated Allegations of Abuse and Neglect by School Employers*. This bill, as amended, is overly broad in its requirement that any records related to a complaint of abuse and neglect that is unsubstantiated be removed.

I understand and share the concerns regarding the impact of complaints against a teacher that are found to be unsubstantiated. However, this legislation is overly broad in its requirement of not only the removal of the record of an unsubstantiated complaint from the State Department of Education, the local school district and the teachers file, but in its requirement that it remove “any other records relating to such school employee.” Protecting teachers from unsubstantiated allegations is a valid and important issue, but any protections must be balanced against the protection of the children in our care.

I stand ready to work with all parties to craft a solution that is appropriate and provides the necessary protections for all concerned.

For these reasons, I disapprove of Senate Bill 926, *An Act Concerning Unsubstantiated Allegations of Abuse and Neglect by School Employers*. Pursuant to Section 15 of Article Fourth of the Constitution of the State of Connecticut, I am returning Senate Bill 926 without my signature.