



# CAS Legislative Committee Year End Update

Update

May, 2003

## 2002—2003

### Legislative Website is Launched

*Legislative Website is <http://www.casciac.org/index.shtml>*

This link on the website includes:

- Legislative Alerts
- Important Bills with links for more information
- Search for info on any bill
- CAS Legislative committee survey on-line
- Legislator contact information
- Attorney Tom Mooney's Legal Mailbag
- Links to other resources (U.S. Dept. of Education, Education Week, Legislative Committee)

### Legislative Lobbying & Testimony

Committee members George Synnott and Patricia Llodra, along with Marshall Collins and staff, met with Legislative Education committee's co-chair, Demetrios Giannaros, in January. Discussion included "No Child Left Behind," new driver legislation, the shortage of administrative applicants and the new legislation related to alternative ways to meet credit requirements. Staff met with Education Committee ranking member Robert Heagney and reviewed the same items as discussed with Demetrios Giannaros.

Howard Sheldon, principal of Nathan Hale Ray High School and Dr. David Perry, principal of North Branford High School gave testimony before the Education Committee advocating the legislation for alternative credit proposals. Patricia Llodra, principal of Northwest Regional High School, gave testimony before the Education Committee expressing concern about the proposed bill to regulate scheduling and requirements for an audit of CIAC.

**The CAS Website** and email broadcast were used to solicit support opposing Senator Thomas Gaffey's bill (SB1131) that legislative auditors to perform a biennial audit of the CIAC. This is seen as duplicative and unnecessary. CIAC and office staff have worked closely with our lobbyist to oppose this bill.

In addition to the CIAC's opposition of the "audit" bill – SB1131, position papers were sent to legislators in support of the following proposals:

- Action to address the school administrator shortage
- Legislation to provide gradual access to full motor vehicle operation of 16 and 17 year olds
- An act concerning nutrition in school (recommending that the legislation be limited to actual school session hours)
- An act implementing provisions of "No Child Left Behind," A SDE proposal
- An act concerning truancy with a recommendation that, in lieu of withholding driving licenses from truants, alternative programs be funded
- Equivalent /Alternative Credits for Graduation (Signed by Dr. Dave Perry, Howard Sheldon, Dr. Mike Buckley, and CAS)

### Special points of interest:

#### CAS 2002—2003 Legislative Survey

#### (Most replies were on-line!)

- Need to address the shortage of qualified administrator applicants.
- "No Child Left Behind" needs attention and modification.
- A variety of mandates, including testing, is affecting the amount of time available for instruction in school.

#### Federal Contacts:

Emails to Senators Dodd & Lieberman:

- Supporting Senator Murray's 7 billion dollar amendment to "No Child Left Behind"
- Supporting the Senate Leadership Initiative for school principals
- Full funding for IDEA
- Increased funding for "No Child Left Behind"

Email to Dr. Tirozzi (NASSP) supporting of the "Reciprocal Agreement."