

PA 11-133

HB6485

House	6192-6210	19
<u>Senate</u>	<u>6565, 6573-6578</u>	<u>7</u>
		26

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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2011**

**VOL.54
PART 19
6188 – 6541**

THE CLERK:

House Bill 6284 as amended by House "A".

Total Number Voting 147

Necessary for Passage 74

Those voting Yea 147

Those voting Nay 0

Those absent and not voting 4

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

The Bill as amended is passed.

The Clerk will please call Calendar 213.

THE CLERK:

On Page 37, Calendar 213, Substitute for House Bill
Number 6485 AN ACT CONCERNING JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS AT THE
COMMUNITY TECHNICAL COLLEGES AND ALIGNMENT OF POSTSECONDARY
EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT. Favorable Report of the
Committee on Labor.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

The distinguished Chair of the Higher Education
Committee, Roberta Willis.

REP. WILLIS (64th):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I move the
acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and
passage of the Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

The question is on acceptance and passage. Will you explain the Bill, please, ma'am.

REP. WILLIS (64th):

Mr. Speaker, this Bill originated in the Program Review and Investigations Committee in response to their study of alignment of postsecondary education and employment.

It is the intent of this Bill to align postsecondary degrees with the demands of today's workforce.

I do want to take this opportunity to thank Representative Mushinsky and Senator Kissel as Co-Chairs of that Committee for really taking the lead on this and bringing it to the attention of the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee.

This Bill requires the Office of Workforce Competitiveness to every two years they will identify and report on workforce shortage issues, and where they exist, what workforce skills are needed for those jobs, and which career pathways should be established.

The Office of Workforce Competitiveness must first develop a report with the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission and the Departments of Education, Higher Education, Economic and Community Development and

Labor, and they are to submit this to the Board of Trustees of Higher Education.

Lastly, this Bill requires the Department of Education to electronically distribute this information on teacher shortage areas. This information must be distributed annually to all higher education institutions in Connecticut, both private and public and offer teacher preparation, that offer teacher preparation programs.

The Education Commissioner must annually determine the subject areas and where those teacher shortage areas exist in the state.

Mr. Speaker, the Clerk has an Amendment, LCO 7382. I move that the reading of the Amendment be waived and I be allowed to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

The Clerk is in possession of LCO 7382, which will be designated House Amendment Schedule "A". Will the Clerk please call the Amendment.

THE CLERK:

LCO Number 7382, House "A", offered by Representatives Willis, Aresimowicz and Olson and Senator Bye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

pat/gbr
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The gentlewoman has asked leave of the Chamber to summarize. Is there objection? Hearing none, Representative Willis.

REP. WILLIS (64th):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. This Amendment strikes Section 1 of the original Bill.

It also moves the implementation date back to permit more time in order for them to provide the requested information and provide more time for the information to be conveyed to the presidents of higher education institutions in Connecticut, both private and public.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

The question is on adoption of House Amendment Schedule "A". Will you remark further? Representative LeGeyt, the distinguished Ranking Member of the Higher Education Committee.

REP. LEGEYT (17th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask a couple of questions regarding the Amendment.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Please proceed, sir.

REP. LEGEYT (17th):

Section 1 of the Bill underlying this Amendment is being stricken by the Amendment itself and that Section involves the waiving of any state service agreement requirements that companies might be required to submit to when contracting with the community technical colleges to provide workforce development.

If the Amendment survives, what will the result be? What is existing law right now regarding companies having to submit to state service agreement requirements that would continue to be in place if this Amendment survives?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Willis, do you care to respond?

REP. WILLIS (64th):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, I don't have that information on the specifics on the existing law, so I really can't speak to it.

I do know that this was put forth by Legislators that were interested in their particular area in working out an agreement between companies and their local community college, and apparently this would not work out for them, so they asked that it be stricken from the Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative LeGeyt.

pat/gbr
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REP. LEGEYT (17th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And so a follow up. In that regard then, the law as it presently stands will be continued regarding this, and does the Representative know to what extent companies have to abide by state service agreements and what prompted this section to be put in the Bill in the first place? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Willis.

REP. WILLIS (64th):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, I do not know.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative LeGeyt.

REP. LEGEYT (17th):

All right. That's a fair answer. I'd like to make some comments on the Bill if we get that far.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Proceed, sir.

REP. LEGEYT (17th):

Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

On House "A"? Oh, thank you. Will you remark further on House Amendment Schedule "A"? Will you remark further on House Amendment Schedule "A"?

If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor signify by saying Aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Opposed, Nay. The Ayes, all three of them have it.
The Amendment is adopted.

Will you remark on the Bill as amended?

Representative LeGeyt.

REP. LEGEYT (17th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are essentially two provisions of this Bill that now survive and the first one involves the Office of Workforce Competitiveness to identify and report on the sectors of workforce shortages every two years.

And my question is, that this report will have to be submitted to the Board of Governors of Higher Ed. Under the law that, under the reorg bill that we just passed yesterday, how would that change?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Willis.

REP. WILLIS (64th):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, the change would be, it would now be the regents, the Board of Regents of Higher Education.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative LeGeyt.

REP. LEGEYT (17th):

Thank you. And the fiscal note is a big zero. I'm not surprised about that. Obviously, the Office of Workforce Competitiveness is going to handle this with existing staff and within their budgetary resources.

Is that correct? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Willis.

REP. WILLIS (64th):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, to my knowledge, that is indeed correct.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative LeGeyt.

REP. LEGEYT (17th):

Thank you. And the last section of the Bill, or the second section now, Department of Education to electronically distribute information on teacher shortage areas.

My question is, does that information presently get distributed albeit not in an electronic form, or is this instituting a new process for the Department of Education?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. WILLIS (64th):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, to my Ranking Member on Higher Education, this is indeed, new. And that was the intent of this legislation was to address the issue of students in college who are pursuing education to become teachers, that they should know where the shortages are and that the schools should take some responsibility to communicate that to students who are selecting their majors.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative LeGeyt.

REP. LEGEYT (17th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the Chairman of the Higher Education Committee for those answers.

I support this legislation and I encourage my colleagues to support it as well. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Thank you, sir. Representative Mushinsky.

REP. MUSHINSKY (85th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to support the Bill as amended. It is the same as House Bill 5349 of last year's Session, which passed the House unanimously and then died on the Senate Calendar as things sometimes happen around here on the last day of the Session.

It was one of the principal recommendations of Program Review and Investigations to solve the problem of the lack of alignment between Higher Education and careers and job openings in the Connecticut workplace.

And what Program Review and Investigations found is that Connecticut's decentralized decision making in our higher education system makes it more difficult to produce graduates that fill the job opening slots and meet the workforce needs of our state.

I thank Representative Willis and her Committee for having the persistence to send this Bill out again and I thank Governor Malloy who also supports addressing this problem.

And as you know, we took an important step in addressing the problem yesterday by creating a consolidated Board of Regents.

In the Program Review study, we found that the state was creating far too many elementary school teachers,

mechanical engineers, attorneys and realtors for the projected job openings in the State of Connecticut.

And on the other hand, we were creating too few industrial engineers, civil engineers, comprehensive special education teachers and world language teachers as well as physical therapists for the expected job openings in Connecticut, so we had a definite mismatch between degrees of students existing the higher education system and job openings in Connecticut.

There was a definite mismatch between degrees of students exiting the higher education system and job openings in Connecticut. There was a definite mismatched no strategic plan to produce the right workforce for Connecticut so that when graduates leave college, into which they've invested considerable dollars of their own, and their parents, to make sure they are ready to work when they leave college, and there was no organized effort to communicate the workforce shortage areas to the state's higher education system.

So our Committee made five recommendations to change this. Several of them passed last year, including restating the goals of the state's higher education system, upgrading the standards for high school graduation, and

creating career pathways for green technology careers. So those all passed previously.

This Bill will complete the process of alignment. The alignment report noted that Connecticut's highly skilled jobs will require workers with postsecondary degrees or certificates in order for our people to succeed in the global economy.

Our students compare poorly to some of our economic competitors in 30 other industrialized countries, and it's essential to our state's future and the Higher Education Committee understands this also, that we confront the issue of misalignment head on and fix it.

Today's measure puts the remaining pieces in place recommended by Program Review and Investigations to help our graduates prepare for skilled, high-wage employment.

And as Ranking Member and the previous chairwoman, I urge your support for this important workforce Bill and I hope our colleagues upstairs will take it up this time.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Thank you. I'd like to interrupt extraordinarily the debate for just a moment for an announcement.

The State Capitol Police have contacted us and are warning that hail is on the way to Hartford, and those of

you who may be parked out of doors may want to move your cars into the garage for a little bit of protection.

The decision is obviously yours, but I thought I would interrupt and let you all know.

The Chair will take it into account if there is a vote pending. Don't run. Don't hurt yourself. Don't fall down the stairs or do anything else that would cost us money.

Thank you for your indulgence. Let's return to the discussion of the Bill at hand. Representative Lavielle.

REP. LAVIELLE (143rd):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, good afternoon. I have the good fortune not to be parked outdoors.

I have a couple of small questions for the proponent of the Bill if I may.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Thank you. So, through you, Mr. Speaker --

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Just a moment.

REP. LAVIELLE (143rd):

Sure.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

(Gavel.)

Now I know we're all a little excited, but if we could keep the noise level down a little bit. Representative Lavielle, please proceed.

REP. LAVIELLE (143rd):

Thank you so much. A couple of questions for clarification to the distinguished Chair of Higher Education.

I did vote for this Bill in the Education Committee and just want to clear up a couple of small things.

In what was formerly Section 2a, lines 11 to 13, the Bill says that the Commissioner of Education shall notify gaps, subject and geographic gaps for teacher shortages to the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, and I wondered why it was the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Willis.

REP. WILLIS (64th):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I don't know if I have that answer to your question other than the Finance does educational fundings, so I'm not sure why that would be.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Lavielle.

REP. LAVIELLE (143rd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's not what I'd call in colloquial terms a deal breaker, but that has puzzled me ever since we had it in the Education Committee, and I couldn't understand what the role of the CHFA would be in this regard. That would be interesting to know.

And my second question is similar. It refers to lines 24 and 25 concerning the Office of Workforce Competitiveness and then the other organizations that are mentioned there.

I'm interested to know what their ongoing interface and relationship and mode of communication is with companies and others in the State of Connecticut who might employ skilled workers, and was curious if they do have an ongoing sort of forum and framework for communication with them. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. WILLIS (64th):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, I'm not sure of what the form of communication is, but clearly the Department of Labor, for instance, puts out a report on employment areas and job categories.

So I'm sure that that would be, it's a report, but now we're really saying to them, you need to communicate this information directly.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Lavielle.

REP. LAVIELLE (143rd):

I thank the Chair of Higher Education for her answers, and I'll explain a little bit my interest in that particular question.

When we were discussing in the Education Committee, 6385, the Governor's Bill, we, I believe it was in the context of the vo-tech schools study.

One of the things that I brought up that it might be interesting to pursue in that regard was an ongoing dialogue between the vo-tech schools and manufacturing and other companies that need skilled labor, and we agreed that that would be something to stick in the study although I don't know if it ended up in the final Bill we voted on yesterday.

And I'll just elaborate what my interest in that is. I was in the corporate world for 26 years and during 26 years, you do go through various peaks and valleys in terms of the economy.

And one of the things I learned was that counter-intuitively when there is a very tough economic period, and employment is low, strangely when you have an opening it's much harder to find someone competent to fill it. That just seems to be a sort of Murphy's Law.

And because of that, I'm very encouraged to see this Bill and the other things that we discussed in the context of the education implementer because whenever I have talked to small businesses, medium businesses, large businesses in Connecticut, what they are most preoccupied about when it comes to employing skilled workers is the ability to find them. They don't always find people in our rather small state who are qualified in their particular specialty areas.

So anything that we can do to cement the link between the higher education system and the job creators in this state is really quite important and quite vital to do and urgent.

This Bill probably could go even further if it incorporated some activity specific language encouraging dialogue with the job creating company, but it is a first step and in that spirit, I do urge everyone in the Chamber to support it. Thank you very much.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Thank you, madam. Will you remark further on the Bill as amended? Will you remark further on the Bill as amended?

If not, staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. Members take your seats. The machine will be opened.

THE CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by Roll Call.

Members to the Chamber. Don't run.

The House is voting by Roll Call. Members to the Chamber, please.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

And again, with your indulgence. This may take even longer then, because I understand there's now a traffic jam on Capitol Avenue from Legislators who are trying to move their cars down to the LOB garage.

Well, we seem to be all present and accounted for.

Have all the Members voted? And all the Members have, so the machine will be locked.

The Clerk will take a tally and the Clerk will announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

House Bill 6485 as amended by House "A".

Total Number Voting 149

Necessary for Passage 75

Those voting Yea 149

Those voting Nay 0

pat/gbr
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

209
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Those absent and not voting 2

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

The Bill as amended is passed.

The Clerk please call Calendar 96.

THE CLERK:

On Page 34, Calendar 96, Substitute for House Bill
Number 6282 AN ACT REQUIRING AN ANNUAL RESULTS-BASED
ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT CARD EVALUATING STATE POLICIES AND
PROGRAMS IMPACTING CHILDREN. Favorable Report of the
Committee on Government Administration and Elections.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

Representative Urban.

REP. URBAN (43rd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move the Joint Committee's
Favorable Report and passage of the Bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER GODFREY:

The question is on acceptance and passage. Would you
explain the Bill please, madam.

REP. URBAN (43rd):

Yes, Mr. Speaker. This Bill emanates from a study
that was done by the Program Review and Investigations
Committee on results-based accountability in 2009, and this
Bill intends to take the recommendations from that study
and to implement them.

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SENATE

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Thank you, Madam President.

Also, calendar page 28, Calendar 608, House
Bill Number 6284.

Move to place the item on the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, moving to calendar page 30,
Calendar 615, House Bill Number 6485.

Madam President, move to place the item on the
Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Also, calendar page 30, Calendar 616, House
Bill Number 6498.

Madam President, move to place on the Consent
Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

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Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

Immediate roll call's been ordered in the Senate on the Consent Calendar. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber. Immediate roll call's been ordered in the Senate on the Consent Calendar. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber.

THE CLERK:

Madam President, the items placed...

THE CHAIR:

I would ask the Chamber to be quiet please so we can hear the call of the Calendar for the Consent Calendar.

Thank you.

Please proceed, Mr. Clerk

THE CLERK:

Madam President, the items placed on the first Consent Calendar begin on calendar page 5, Calendar 336, House Bill 5697.

Calendar page 7, Calendar 421, Substitute for House Bill 6126.

Calendar page 8, Calendar 449, Senate Bill 1149.

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SENATE

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Calendar page 10, Calendar 470, Substitute for House Bill 5340. Calendar 474, Substitute for House Bill 6274. Calendar 476, House Bill 6635.

Calendar page 12, Calendar 499, Substitute for House Bill 6638. Calendar 500, House Bill 6614. Calendar 508, House Bill 6222.

Calendar page 13, Calendar 511, House Bill 6356. Calendar 512, Substitute for House Bill 6422. Calendar 514, House Bill 6590. Calendar 515, House Bill 6221. Calendar 516, House Bill 6455.

Calendar page 14, Calendar 517, House Bill 6350. Calendar 519, House Bill 5437. Calendar 522, House Bill 6303.

Calendar page 15, Calendar 523, Substitute for House Bill 6499. Calendar 524, House Bill 6490. Calendar 525, House Bill 5780. Calendar 526, House Bill 6513. Calendar 527, Substitute for House Bill 6532.

Calendar page 16, Calendar 528, House Bill 6561. Calendar 529, Substitute for House Bill 6312. Calendar 530, Substitute for House Bill 5032. Calendar 532, House Bill 6338.

Calendar page 17, Calendar 533, Substitute for House Bill 6325. Calendar 534, House Bill 6352.

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SENATE

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Calendar 536, House Bill 5300. Calendar 537, House
Bill 5482.

calendar page 18, Calendar 543, House Bill 6508.

Calendar 544, House Bill 6412. Calendar 546,
Substitute for House Bill 6538. Calendar 547,
Substitute for House Bill 6440. Calendar 548,
Substitute for House Bill 6471.

Calendar page 19, Calendar 550, Substitute for
House Bill 5802. Calendar 551, House Bill 6433.
Calendar 552, House Bill 6413. Calendar 553,
Substitute for House Bill 6227.

Calendar page 20, Calendar 554, Substitute for
House Bill 5415. Calendar 557, Substitute for House
Bill 6318. Calendar 558, Substitute for House Bill
6565.

Calendar page 21, Calendar 559, Substitute for
House Bill 6636.

Calendar page 22, Calendar 563, Substitute for
House Bill 6600. Calendar 564, Substitute for House
Bill 6598. Calendar 566, House Bill 5585.

Calendar page 23, Calendar 568, Substitute for
House Bill 6103. Calendar 570, Substitute for House
Bill 6336. Calendar 573, Substitute for House Bill
6434.

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SENATE

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Calendar page 24, Calendar 577, Substitute for
House Bill 5795.

Calendar page 25, Calendar 581, House Bill
6354.

Calendar page 26, Calendar 596, Substitute for
House Bill 6282. Calendar 598, Substitute for House
Bill 6629.

Calendar page 27, Calendar 600, House Bill
6314. Calendar 601, Substitute for House Bill 6529.
Calendar 602, Substitute for House Bill 6438.
Calendar 604, Substitute for House Bill 6639.

Calendar page 28, Calendar 605, Substitute for
House Bill 6526. Calendar 608, House Bill 6284.

Calendar page 30, Calendar number 615,
Substitute for House Bill 6485. Calendar 616,
Substitute for House Bill 6498.

Calendar page 31, Calendar 619, Substitute for
House Bill 6634. Calendar 627, Substitute for House
Bill 6596.

Calendar page 32, Calendar 629, House Bill
5634. Calendar 630, Substitute for House Bill 6631.
Calendar 631, Substitute for House Bill 6357.
Calendar 632, House Bill 6642.

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SENATE

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Calendar page 33, Calendar 634, Substitute for
House Bill 5431. Calendar 636, Substitute for
House, correction, House Bill 6100.

Page 34, Calendar 638, Substitute for House
Bill 6525.

Calendar page 48, Calendar 399, Substitute for
Senate Bill 1043.

Calendar page 49, Calendar 409, Substitute for
House Bill 6233. Calendar 412, House Bill 5178.
Calendar 422, Substitute for House Bill 6448.

Calendar page 52, Calendar 521, Substitute for
House Bill 6113.

Madam President, that completes the item placed
on the first Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, sir.

We call for another roll call vote. And the
machine will be open for Consent Calendar number 1.

THE CLERK:

The Senate is now voting by roll on the Consent
Calendar. Will all Senators please return to the
Chamber. The Senate is now voting by roll on the
Consent Calendar, will all Senators please return to
the Chamber.

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SENATE

525
June 7, 2011

Senator Cassano, would you vote, please, sir.

Thank you.

Well, all members have voted. All members have voted. The machine will be closed, and Mr. Clerk, will you call the tally?

THE CLERK:

Motion is on option Consent Calendar Number 1.

Total Number Voting	36
Those voting Yea	36
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	0

THE CHAIR:

Consent Calendar Number 1 has passed.

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

We might stand at ease for just a moment as we prepare the next item..

THE CHAIR:

The Senate will stand at ease.

(Chamber at ease.)