

Legislative History for Connecticut Act

PA 14-65

HB5028

House	4681-4690	10
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<u>Education</u>		
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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2014**

**VOL.57
PART 14
4451 – 4808**

On page 1, House Calendar 27, favorable report of the joint Senate committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement. House Bill 5028, AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION STATUTES.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

Representative Willis, the esteemed chair of Higher Education in the House. Madam.

REP. WILLIS (64th):

Thank -- thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, always a pleasure to see you up there.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

Thank you, madam.

REP. WILLIS (64th):

You're such a credit to the City of Waterbury.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

Thank you so much, madam, and so are you.

REP. WILLIS (64th):

Mr. Speaker, I move acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

Motion before the Chamber is the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill. Please proceed, madam.

REP. WILLIS (64th):

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Mr. Speaker, this is a technical revisions bill. It makes changes to the high education statutes to conform with name and definition changes.

Mr. Speaker, the Clerk has an amendment, LCO 4947. I move that the reading of the amendment be waived and I be allowed to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

Will the Clerk please call LCO Number 4947 which will be designated House Amendment Schedule "A."

THE CLERK:

House Amendment "A", LCO 4947 introduced by Representative Willis, LeGeyt, Sawyer, and Haddam.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

Thank you, sir. The Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the amendment. Is there objection to the summarization? Is there objection for the summarization. Seeing none, please proceed with your summarization, madam.

REP. WILLIS (64th):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. The amendment removes the Board of Regents as having the responsibility for preparing the report for the commission, since The Planning Commission for Higher Education covers all colleges, private and public. It's more appropriate to

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make this change. It also changes the date of the report. It's now due January 1, 2016. I move adoption, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

Request before the Chamber is adoption of House Amendment Schedule "A." Will you remark further on the amendment? Will you remark further on the amendment?

Representative LeGeyt of the 17th, sir, you have the floor.

REP. LEGEYT (17th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, good afternoon to you, sir.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

Good afternoon, sir. Thank you.

REP. LEGEYT (17th):

Mr. Speaker, a question or two, through you, to the Chairwoman of the Higher Education Committee.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

Yes, sir, please proceed.

REP. LEGEYT (17th):

Thank you. With regard to this amendment, which I'm pleased to be on as a cosponsor, the change was from October 1 to January 1. For purposes of legislative intent, can I ask the good chairwoman to explain why that change was made? Through you.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

Representative Willis.

REP. WILLIS (64th):

It was -- through you, Mr. Speaker, it was made to just be consistent. There was some concern about reporting to the Governor's Office before the Legislature. So this way the commission report is due to both, simultaneously, on or before January 1.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

Thank you, madam.

Representative LeGeyt.

REP. LEGEYT (17th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that answer, and I'm glad to support this amendment. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

Thank you, sir.

Representative Sawyer of the 55th, madam.

REP. SAWYER (55th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I would like to say a special thank you to the Chairwoman for this particular amendment. You know, as we have equal branches of government, I believe it's very important, when we're going to have a report brought to us that we have an opportunity to review it, to come up with, perhaps, a plan

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if something needs to be done or to even accept it as the report -- it just comes out the way it is.

So the Chairwoman was very gracious in talking to the appropriate parties and having their acceptance to this. And I believe that it makes the bill stronger. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

Thank you, madam

Will you remark further on the amendment before us? Will you remark further on the amendment before us? If not, I'll try your minds. All those in favor of the amendment signify by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

Opposed. The ayes have it. The amendment is adopted.

Representative Hennessey of the 127th.

REP. HENNESSY (127th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Clerk has an amendment, LCO 4901. I would ask the Clerk to please call the amendment and that I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

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Yes, sir. Will the Clerk please call LCO Number 4901, please. It will be designated as House Amendment Schedule "B."

HB5299

THE CLERK:

House Amendment "B," LCO 4901 introduced by Representative Willis, Hennessey, et al.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the amendment. Is there objection to summarization? Is there objection? Seeing none, please proceed, Representative Hennessey.

REP. HENNESSY (127th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this is a technical fix to the Veteran's Occupational Workforce Bill we just passed a few days ago. State agencies came to us and asked if we could make some technical language changes regarding the reporting requirements the bill creates.

These changes in no way alter the intent of the bill. I'd like to thank the Chair of Higher Ed to accommodate this change and I'd also like to thank the Veterans' Committee House Ranking Member David Yaccarino for his help and support. I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

Motion before until the Chamber is adoption of House

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Amendment Schedule "B." Will you comment further? Will you comment further?

Representative Yaccarino, sir, of the 87th, you have the floor.

REP. YACCARINO (87th):

Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'd like to comment on this amendment. It is a fix -- technical fix from House Bill 5299, the MOS bill. I'd like to thank the good chair, Jack Hennessey of Veteran's, The Chair of Higher Ed, Roberta Willis, and the Ranking Member Tim LeGeyt.

What the problem was earlier, the way it was written earlier, the previous bill, the MOS or the occupations were not in the credits of the purview of each department. So this clarifies it. It's very clear. If you're an engine man in the Navy you can't go back and go into business classes at UCONN. So it clarifies what you're training, what your specialties are, and I urge adoption. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

Thank you, sir.

Representative LeGeyt of the 17th, sir.

REP. LEGEYT (17th):

Thank you, again, Mr. Speaker. I also seem to be on this amendment, so I'm rising in support of it as well.

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And I'm looking at the language of the change or the fix that's being done and would just like the Chairman of the Veteran's Committee to go through the recurring phraseology that says, that is within such licensing authorities purview, and where military training or experience is relevant and could be applied.

Could he give a summation of why that language was chosen to be repeated several times and therefore make the fix that this amendment makes to the bill that we passed previously. Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

Thank you, sir.

Representative Hennessey.

REP. HENNESSY (127th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, through you, what the reason is in Section A, there are sundry list of state agencies of which they have their own purview. So in recognition of that those -- that language is included each time to, you know, basically designate that a department like The Department of Labor doesn't have to be concerned about Department of Public Safety's issues, so it just delineates it, and as such it's a technical fix. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

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Representative LeGeyt.

REP. LEGEYT (17th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the answer, and encourage my colleagues to support the amendment. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

Thank you, sir.

Representative Dillon of the 92nd, madam, you have the floor.

Representative Dillon, do you wish to speak on the amendment before us? All set? Okay.

Representative Dillon is all set.

Will you comment further on the bill -- the amendment before us? House Amendment Schedule "B." Will you remark further on the bill -- the amendment before us? If not I'll try your minds. All those in favor of House Amendment "B," signify by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

Opposed. The ayes have it. The amendment is adopted

Will you remark further on the bill as amended? Will you remark further on the bill as amended? If not, will staff and guests please come to the well of the house.

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Members take your seats, the machine will be open.

THE CLERK:

House of Representatives voting by roll. The House of Representatives is voting by roll. Will members please return to the Chamber immediately.

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

Have all the members voted? Have all the members voted? If all the members have voted, please check the board to make sure your vote has been properly cast. If all members have voted, the machine will be locked, and the Clerk will take a tally.

Will the Clerk please announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

House Bill 5028 as amended by House "A" and House "B."

Total number voting	147
Necessary for passage	74
Those voting Yea	147
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	4

DEPUTY SPEAKER BERGER:

The bill as amended passes

Will the Clerk please call House Calendar Number 283.

THE CLERK:

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Next, Madam President, Calendar page 12, Calendar 426, House Bill 5023, move to place on the Consent Calendar.

Then Calendar page 20, Calendar 498, House Bill 5467, move to place on the Consent Calendar.

And Calendar page 24, Calendar 526, House Bill 5556, move to place on the Consent Calendar.

Also Calendar page 24, Calendar 524, House Bill 5219, move to place on the Consent Calendar.

Calendar page 25, Calendar 530, House Bill 5368, move to place on the Consent Calendar.

Calendar, page 29, Calendar 554, House Bill 5148, move to place on the Consent Calendar.

Calendar page 31, Calendar 567, House Bill 5229, move to place on the Consent Calendar.

Calendar page 31, Calendar 565, House Bill 5028, move to place on the Consent Calendar.

Calendar page 42, Calendar 384, Senate Bill 442, move to place on the Consent Calendar.

And if we might stand at ease for a moment, Madam President, to mark additional items.

THE CHAIR:

Stand at ease. The Senate will stand at ease.

(Chamber at ease).

THE CHAIR:

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.. Additional items, Madam President -- we might stand at ease for just a moment.

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And on page 22 Calendar 513, House Bill 5353.
Calendar 515, House Bill 5361.

And on page 24, Calendar 526, House Bill 5556.
Calendar 524, House Bill 5219.

Page 25, Calendar 4 -- sorry, Calendar 530, House Bill 5368,
page 27, Calendar 546, House Bill 5061.
Calendar 543, House Bill 5037.

On page 28, Calendar 550, House Bill 5514.

Page 29, Calendar 554, House Bill 5148.

Page 30, Calendar 563, House Bill 5554.

Page 31, Calendar 567, House Bill 5229. Calendar 565,
House Bill 5028.

And on page 42, Calendar 384, Senate Bill 442.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Looney, do you have any more good news for us?

SENATOR LOONEY:

Yes, thank you, Madam President. One additional item
to add before we call for the actual vote on the
Consent Calendar, and that is item an Calendar page
33, Calendar 575, House Bill 5359. With that one
addition it would call for a vote on the Consent
Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk, please call for a vote on the Consent
Calendar, and the machine will be open.

THE CLERK:

Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate.
Immediate roll call on the second Consent Calendar
today has been ordered in the Senate.

THE CHAIR:

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If all members have voted? All membered voted, the machine will be closed. Mr. Clerk, will you please call the tally.

THE CLERK:

On the second Consent Calendar for today.

Total number voting	35
Those voting Yea	35
Those voting Nay	0
Absent not voting	1

THE CHAIR:

Consent Calendar passes. Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President. If the Clerk would call the first item marked go to follow the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

On page 33, Calendar 579, Substitute for House Bill Number 5348, AN ACT CONCERNING THE PAYMENT OF DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES. Favorable Report of the Committee on Planning and Development.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY:

Thank you. Thank you, Madam President. Pursuant to Rule 15 of the Joint Rules, I am recusing myself from consideration of this bill.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, sir. Please leave the Chamber.

**JOINT
STANDING
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Testimony by Ernestine Weaver, Counsel
Board of Regents for Higher Education
Connecticut State Colleges & Universities
Presented to the Higher Education and
Employment Advancement Committee
February 11, 2014

Senators Cassano and Boucher, Representatives Willis and LeGeyt, and members of the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit comments for your consideration on **House Bill 5028, An Act Concerning Revisions to the Higher Education Statutes**. For the record, my name is Ernestine Weaver and I am Counsel for the Board of Regents for Higher Education, which governs our state's four state universities, 12 community colleges and Charter Oak State College. Collectively, we are known as the Connecticut State Colleges & Universities.

The Board of Regents has submitted three minor revisions to the Committee for consideration. Unfortunately, they were not submitted in time for this first draft. I would like to call them to your attention for inclusion as you continue to refine this bill. Your legislative attorney has received these proposals and I have attached them for your review.

First, we request a modification to section 10a-1 of the Connecticut General Statutes for the purpose of classifying the system of the Board of Regents of Higher Education as a constituent unit. Prior to consolidation, the system office for each constituent unit was considered part of the constituent unit. As a result, the system was able to contract on behalf of its constituent unit. Moreover, the system as a constituent unit was able to form a foundation, such as the CSUS Foundation, on behalf of the system. The current system office functions similarly to the manner in which the previous system offices operated. Labeling such system as a constituent unit is consistent with past practice. It appears that the reason that the system office is not currently considered part of the constituent units is because the nomenclature Board of Regents for Higher Education is used to refer to the Board of Regents as it assumes the role of the former Board of Governors as well as to refer to the consolidated system.

Though we previously submitted this change to the legislative attorney, we request the following language be substituted for our original request:

Sec. 10a-1: There shall be a state system of public higher education to consist of (1) The University of Connecticut and all campuses thereof, (2) the state colleges, which shall be known collectively as the Connecticut State University System, (3) the regional community-technical colleges, (4) the Board for State Academic Awards, and (5) [the staff of the Board of Regents for Higher Education] the Board of Regents for Higher Education consolidated system for the regional community technical colleges, Connecticut State University System, and Charter Oak State College as established pursuant to section 10a-1a "Constituent units" as used in the general statutes means those units in subdivisions (1) to [(4)] (5), inclusive, of this section.

Second, subsection (c) of section 10a-1b requires the Board to appoint a vice-president for each constituent unit. Constituent unit as defined in the state statutes includes the University of Connecticut. In practice, the Board appoints one vice-president for the Connecticut State University system and one for the community college system. Language is attached in the supporting materials.

Finally, to clarify powers that exist within Charter Oak State College and powers that are held by the Board and the system office, we have submitted a request to eliminate the use of the term "Board for State Academic Awards." Our request reassigns the powers and responsibilities of the various statutes using this name to either the Board or the College as appropriate. Language for this change is also included in the supporting document.

Please contact Kyle Thomas, Legislative Program Manager, at 860-692-2350 should you have any questions regarding this testimony or the attached language.



CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

2014 Legislative Proposals

Minor Revisions

<p>Document Name (e.g. OPM1015Budget.doc; OTG1015Policy.doc): 011514_BOR_MinorRevisions (If submitting an electronically, please label with date, agency, and title of proposal – 092611_SDE_TechRevisions)</p>
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<p>State Agency. Board of Regents for Higher Education</p>
<p>Liaison: Kyle Thomas Phone: 860-723-0017 E-mail: Thomask@ct.edu</p>
<p>Lead agency division requesting this proposal: N/A</p>
<p>Agency Analyst/Drafter of Proposal: Kyle Thomas/Ernestine Weaver</p>

<p>Title of Proposal AAC Minor Revisions to the Higher Education Statutes</p>
<p>Statutory Reference: 10a-1, 10a-1b, 10a-6, Various others – for the purpose of a name change</p>
<p>Proposal Summary The proposal changes several provisions of Title 10a of the General Statutes to accomplish the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarify that the BOR has the authorities of a constituent unit of higher education • Clarify the appointments of vice-presidents of the BOR • Remove references to the Board of State Academic Awards and replace with Charter Oak State College or Board of Regents as appropriate
<p><i>Please attach a copy of fully drafted bill (required for review)</i></p>

PROPOSAL BACKGROUND

- Reason for Proposal!

Please consider the following, if applicable

- (1) Have there been changes in federal/state/local laws and regulations that make this legislation necessary?
- (2) Has this proposal or something similar been implemented in other states? If yes, what is the outcome(s)?
- (3) Have certain constituencies called for this action?
- (4) What would happen if this was not enacted in law this session?

The primary rationale for the proposal is continued refinement of the statutes overhauled in 2011 as part of the consolidation and restructuring of the public system of higher education.

- **Origin of Proposal** **New Proposal** **Resubmission**

If this is a resubmission, please share:

- (1) What was the reason this proposal did not pass, or if applicable, was not included in the Administration's package?
- (2) Have there been negotiations/discussions during or after the previous legislative session to improve this proposal?
- (3) Who were the major stakeholders/advocates/legislators involved in the previous work on this legislation?
- (4) What was the last action taken during the past legislative session?

PROPOSAL IMPACT

- **Agencies Affected** (please list for each affected agency)

Agency Name: Agency Contact (name, title, phone): Date Contacted: Approve of Proposal <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> Talks Ongoing
Summary of Affected Agency's Comments
Will there need to be further negotiation? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Agency Name: Agency Contact (name, title, phone): Date Contacted: Approve of Proposal <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> Talks Ongoing
Summary of Affected Agency's Comments
Will there need to be further negotiation? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

- **Fiscal Impact** (please include the proposal section that causes the fiscal impact and the anticipated impact)

Municipal (please include any municipal mandate that can be found within legislation)
State
Federal
Additional notes on fiscal impact

- **Policy and Programmatic Impacts** (Please specify the proposal section associated with the impact)

--

Sec. x Section 10a-1 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective upon passage*).

(a) There shall be a state system of public higher education to consist of (1) The University of Connecticut and all campuses thereof, (2) the state colleges, which shall be known collectively as the Connecticut State University System, (3) the regional community-technical colleges, (4) the Board for State Academic Awards and, (5) the staff of the Board of Regents for Higher Education as established pursuant to section 10a-1a. "Constituent units" as used in the general statutes means those units in subdivisions (1) to ~~(4)~~ (5), inclusive, of this section.

Section x Subsection (c) of section 10a-1b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*).

(c) Upon recommendation of the president, the Board of Regents for Higher Education shall appoint two vice-presidents. One vice president shall represent each constituent unit the Connecticut State University system and the other vice president shall represent the regional-community technical colleges. Each vice president shall perform such duties and responsibilities as the board and president shall prescribe, so that each said constituent unit fulfills its mission. Such duties shall include, but not be limited to, oversight of academic programs, student support services and institutional support.

Sec. x (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2014*) (a) Wherever the term "Board for State Academic Awards" is used or referred to in the following sections of the general statutes, the term "Charter Oak State College" shall be substituted in lieu thereof: 10a-1, 10a-8, 10a-25h, and 10a-25i.

(b) Wherever the term "Board for State Academic Awards" is used or referred to in the following sections of the general statutes, the term "Board of Regents for Higher Education" shall be substituted in lieu thereof. 3-27a, 10a-

143, 10a-143a, 10a-143b and 10a-149.

(c) The Legislative Commissioners' office shall, in codifying the provisions of this section, make such technical, conforming, grammatical and punctuation changes as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.