



A Voice For Faculty

Capitol Monitor

A Weekly Report on Activity at the State Capitol

Vol. 3, Issue 4 | February 5, 2013

CSU-AAUP Proposes Legislation to Allow Faculty Representation on the BOR

CSU-AAUP leaders met in December to discuss concerns about the Board of Regents (BOR) actions last fall and possible solutions to address our concerns. As one result of that meeting, CSU-AAUP is proposing that the chairperson and vice-chairperson of the Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) be ex-officio, nonvoting members of the BOR. In addition, CSU-AAUP proposes that there be two faculty representatives, appointed by the FAC, on all standing and special committees of the BOR except those responsible for personnel matters. ([Read CSU-AAUP's proposed legislation here](#)).

In the brief history of the BOR, it has been demonstrated that faculty-board collaboration and communication have been extremely constructive. However, the faculty have had to be very assertive to make their voices heard. CSU-AAUP believes that if members of the FAC are given the opportunity to provide their expertise in board and committee discussions and decisions, it will benefit all parties.

Since the membership of the BOR is determined by legislation, this proposal will require legislative approval. The Higher Education Committee met and voted to raise the legislation during the session.

Please look for more information about this proposal as we move further into the legislative session. For more information, please see CSU-AAUP's [fact sheet](#) about the legislation and [data about other institutions](#) that allow for faculty representation on the board.

Governor Malloy to Release Budget on February 6

Governor Malloy is due to release his budget plan on February 6. The state is facing a project deficit of over \$1 billion next fiscal year and the Governor has announced that he does not plan to raise taxes, so state agencies are expecting more cuts.

Bills: Week of 1/28

"I support or oppose one of these bills; what should I do?"

1. Write to your legislators! Find them [here](#).
2. Track the bill so you know when public hearings are

The following list of bills have been identified as having a potential impact on our members if passed. We will follow the progress of the bills throughout the session and alert our members if action is needed.

Please remember that these are simply proposals. Thousands of bills are filed in a legislative session but only a few hundred make it to the Governor for consideration.

EDUCATION & HIGHER EDUCATION

H.B. No. 5500: AN ACT REQUIRING INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH UNIFORM FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

Statement of Purpose: To require institutions of higher education to provide financial aid information in a uniform way to ensure that students understand their true higher education costs.

Proposed H.B. No. 6182: AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF SELF DEFENSE AND CLASSROOM DEFENSE AS PART OF IN-SERVICE TRAINING FOR EDUCATORS

Statement of Purpose: To require regional educational service centers to develop and make available information regarding self defense and classroom defense.

Proposed H.B. No. 6274: AN ACT CONCERNING TRAINING FOR THE INVESTIGATION AND MANAGEMENT OF CLAIMS OF SCHOOL BULLYING

Statement of Purpose: To provide training for those persons responsible for investigating and managing claims of school bullying.

Proposed H.B. No. 6292: AN ACT CONCERNING TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Statement of Purpose: To ensure that teachers receive a comprehensive education that includes the social and emotional development and learning of children.

LABOR & PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Proposed H.B. No. 6172: AN ACT EXCLUDING OVERTIME PAYMENTS FROM THE CALCULATION OF RETIREMENT INCOME FOR STATE EMPLOYEES SUBJECT TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

Statement of Purpose: To help reduce the cost of retirement income payments to unionized state employees from the State Employees Retirement Fund.

H.B. No. 6333: AN ACT CONCERNING THE FILING FEE AT THE STATE BOARD OF MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION

Statement of Purpose: To increase the filing fee for the submission of grievances to the Board of Mediation and Arbitration in order to increase revenue and to further ensure that any party filing such grievances is doing so in good faith.

**What are the Hot
Topics at the
Capitol?**

From the Office of Legislative Research:

1. 2012 OLR Major Issues
2. Speed Limit Increases and Accident Rates
3. Summary of President Obama's Gun Control Proposals
4. New York Gun Legislation
5. Medicaid -- Eligibility, Administration, and Provider Participation