



A Voice For Faculty

Capitol Monitor

A Weekly Report on Activity at the State Capitol Vol. 3, Issue 5 | February 19, 2013

Bill Number Given to CSU-AAUP's Legislation

CSU-AAUP proposed legislation allowing the chairperson and vice-chairperson of the Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) to be ex-officio, nonvoting members of the Board of Regents. The legislation also 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. The bill has recently been raised by the Higher Education & Employment Advancement Committee and given a number, SB 867.

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's Budget for Higher Education

One of the cornerstones of the Governor's budget is *Next Generation Connecticut*, "a major expansion of and investment in UConn—increasing enrollment, bringing in new faculty, and improving the infrastructure. The proposal calls for:

- \$137 million in state funds to support a 30 percent increase in enrollment at UConn—adding 6580 students and 259 faculty to the UConn Storrs and UConn Stamford campuses.
- Expansion of the School of Engineering by increasing enrollment by 70 percent.
- A 47 percent expansion in the total number of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) graduates.
- Addition of 50 STEM doctoral fellowships and creation of the premier STEM honors program in the U.S.
- Relocating the Hartford campus to improve accessibility, strengthen collaboration with regional business, and addition of real-world internships to help students launch careers.
- \$1.54 billion in bonding to construct new STEM facilities, build out teaching and research labs, upgrade information technology, and renovate and build additional housing and parking.

Continued... Governor's Budget for Higher Education

In comparison, the Governor proposed a current services budget for CSU and the Community Colleges. For more information about the budget for UConn and the ConnSCU institutions, please see

**Advocates for State Universities, Community Colleges
Complain Of Neglect** (*Hartford Courant*)

Malloy Presents Details of \$2 Billion Plan For UConn (*Hartford Courant*)

The Appropriations Committee held a hearing on the higher education budget on February 14. You can read testimony from higher education officials, including BOR President Austin and CSU-AAUP President Vijay Nair [here](#). You can also watch video of the hearing [here](#).

Bills: Week of 2/5 & 2/12

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.

"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 scheduled.

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

S.B. No. 867 (RAISED): AN ACT CONCERNING FACULTY REPRESENTATION ON THE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Statement of Purpose: To ensure faculty representation on the Board of Regents for Higher Education.

S.B. No. 869 (RAISED): AN ACT CONCERNING THE STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Statement of Purpose: To change the makeup of the student advisory committee by making the chairperson and vice-chairperson cochairpersons and adding Charter Oak State College as an alternate school for one of the cochairpersons and require the committee to report to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education and appropriations regarding its work.

**Continued....Bills:
Week of 2/5 & 2/12**

S.B. No. 878 (RAISED): *AN ACT MAKING CLARIFYING CHANGES TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION STATUTES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REORGANIZATION OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM*

Statement of Purpose: To make clarifying changes to the higher education statutes in accordance with the higher education reorganization.

S.B. No. 904 (RAISED): *AN ACT CONCERNING REGIONALLY COORDINATED CONTEXTUALIZED LEARNING AND CAREER PATHWAYS PARTNERSHIPS*

Statement of Purpose: To support Connecticut's jobs agenda and focus on state investments and alignment to better meet the state's workforce development goals, to fill job openings state-wide and to turn the underemployed who receive government benefits into consumers and independent taxpayers.

H.B. No. 6430 (RAISED): *AN ACT ESTABLISHING A REGIONAL COUNCIL TO SUPPORT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT*

Statement of Purpose: To support Connecticut's jobs agenda and focus on state investments and alignment to better meet the state's workforce development outcomes and to further develop a regional action plan to align comprehensive early childhood, primary and secondary school programs with programs of higher education and workforce needs.

S.B. No. 868 (RAISED): *AN ACT TARGETING STATE FINANCIAL AID TO SUPPORT TECHNICAL TRAINING*

Statement of Purpose: To target state financial aid to support technical training that prepares students in higher education for careers in job shortage areas in Connecticut.

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

From the Office of Legislative Research:

1. Gun-Related Bills
2. Transfer of Persons Receiving Home Care During Weather Emergency
3. Crimes with Mandatory Minimum Prison Sentences- Updated and Revised
4. Guardians Ad Litem