



A Voice For Faculty

Capitol Monitor

A Weekly Report on Activity at the State Capitol

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Hearing on the Governor's Budget for Higher Education

The Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee held a public hearing on S.B. 844, *An Act Implementing the Budget Recommendation of the Governor Concerning Higher Education*, on Thursday, February 28.

Testimony from BOR Interim President Philip Austin, CSU-AAUP President Vijay Nair, and several CSU students can be read [here](#). Video of the hearing can be viewed [here](#) (testimony by CSU begins about four hours into the video).

Faculty Advisory Committee Presents to Higher Ed Committee

The Faculty Advisory Committee to the Board of Regents is legislatively mandated to present to the Higher Education & Employment Advancement Committee annually. The presentation for 2013 took place on Thursday, February 28.

At the hearing, the FAC raised a number of concerns that it encountered during its first year. Video of the hearing can be viewed [here](#) (testimony by the FAC begins two hours into the video).

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 scheduled.

H.B. No. 6491 (RAISED): AN ACT REQUIRING A REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT REGARDING ADMINISTRATORS

Statement of Purpose: To require a report on the comparisons of the salaries of administrators and the ratio of administrators to faculty and to students at the constituent units and central office of the Board of Regents for Higher Education with the salaries of administrators and the ratio of administrators to faculty and to students at peer public institutions of higher education and peer central offices of similar state university systems in the United States.

Continued

Bills: Week of 1/28

S.B. No. 1045 (RAISED): AN ACT CONCERNING GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM AND THE REGIONAL COMMUNITY-TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

Statement of Purpose: To require a study of the different graduation requirements of the public institutions of higher education within the Connecticut State University System and the regional community-technical college system.

S.B. No. 330 (COMM): AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONDS OF THE STATE TO ESTABLISH A BUSINESS SUCCESS CENTER AT SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

Statement of Purpose: To create space for Southern Connecticut State University's new School of Business

H.B. No. 6292 (COMM): 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.

S.B. No. 989 (RAISED): AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE CONCERNING A PLAN FOR PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO REDUCE THE STATE'S ACHIEVEMENT GAP

Statement of Purpose: To require the public institutions of higher education to assist in closing the achievement gap.

S.B. No. 997 (RAISED): AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN EDUCATOR PREPARATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Statement of Purpose: To establish the Educator Preparation Advisory Council to assist in the development and implementation of a system for the approval, regulation, oversight and accreditation of teacher preparation programs.

S.B. No. 1033 (RAISED): AN ACT CONCERNING STATE EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Statement of Purpose: To increase the spousal allowance for preretirement death benefits from fifty per cent to one hundred per cent.

Hearings This Week

The Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee held a public hearing on Monday, March 4 at 10:30 A.M. in Room 2E of the Legislative Office Building on S.B. No. 840, *AN ACT CONCERNING NEXT GENERATION CONNECTICUT.*

The Program Review and Investigations Committee will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, March 5, 2013 at 12:00 P.M. in Room 2E of the Legislative Office Building on S.B. No. 989, *AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PR&I REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE CONCERNING A PLAN FOR PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO REDUCE THE STATE'S ACHIEVEMENT GAP.*

What are the Hot Topics at the Capitol?

From the Office of Legislative Research:

1. DUI Urine Tests for Marijuana
2. Comprehensive Energy Strategy Bill
3. Firearms Boards in Connecticut and Other States
4. Assault Weapons Ban and Takings Clause