



A Voice For Faculty

Capitol Monitor

A Weekly Report on Activity at the State Capitol

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Bill to Add Another Faculty Rep on the BOR Approved by Higher Ed Committee

The Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee held a public hearing on Tuesday, March 11 on several bills, including S.B. 402, *AN ACT CONCERNING FACULTY REPRESENTATION ON THE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION*, to add the vice-chairperson of the faculty advisory committee to serve as an ex-officio, nonvoting member of the Board of Regents for Higher Education.

Vijay Nair, CSU-AAUP President, spoke in support of SB 402, and Faculty Advisory Committee members Stephen Adair (Chair) and Patricia O’Neill submitted testimony in support of the bill (please click on the individual’s name to read their testimony).

The Higher Ed Committee met two days later and passed SB 402 with no changes (other bills on the agenda can be viewed [here](#)). The next step is for SB402 to be taken up by the full Senate.

Finance, Revenue & Bonding Committee Hears “Transform CSCU”

The Board of Regents presented in front of the Finance, Revenue, and Bonding Committee on March 11 in regards to Transform CSCU. Dr. Gray’s presentation to the Committee can be viewed [here](#) (approximately 47:30 into the video). His presentation includes a summary of Transform CSCU and is worthwhile to watch.

Bills: Week of 3/10

“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.

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.

Continued: Bills

EDUCATION & HIGHER EDUCATION

H.B. No. 5553: AN ACT EXEMPTING CERTAIN AGREEMENTS BETWEEN INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND PRIVATE ENTITIES FROM CONTRACTING REQUIREMENTS

Statement of Purpose: To exclude certain agreements between institutions of higher education and private entities from being subject to state contracting requirements.

S.B. No. 476 (RAISED): AN ACT CONCERNING THE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT GAP

Statement of Purpose: To require all alliance districts to provide full-day kindergarten and to increase the amount of time a student may spend in bilingual education from thirty months to sixty months.

H.B. No. 5583 (RAISED): AN ACT CONCERNING THE PAYMENT OF REAL PROPERTY TAXES BY CERTAIN INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING AND HOSPITAL FACILITIES

Statement of Purpose: To make certain private institutions of higher learning and hospital facilities liable for the payment of real property taxes and to provide a mechanism for the state to provide grants in order to reimburse such institutions and facilities for such payments.

What are the Hot Topics at the Capitol?

From the Office of Legislative Research:

1. Gestational Agreements
2. Connecticut Penal Code-Updated and Revised
3. Hepatitis C
4. Intellectual Disability

Have a question? Get the answer!
Call (860) 832-3790 or email us at benesonell@ccsu.edu