



A Voice For Faculty

Capitol Monitor

A Weekly Report on Activity at the State Capitol

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Bill to Allow Faculty on the Board of Regents

Please contact your State Representative and State Senator (find your legislators [here](#)) and ask them to please bring SB 867 to the floor for a vote and to support an amendment allowing two faculty members from the Faculty Advisory Committee to serve on the following BOR Committees: Academic & Student Affairs, Information Technology, Finance, and Strategic Planning. Please explain to your legislators why faculty input on these committees is important.

Appropriations Committee Releases its Budget—Includes Funding for More Faculty at ConnSCU

The Appropriations Committee released its budget on Friday, April 19 and it included funding for more faculty at the ConnSCU institutions. According to *The Connecticut Mirror*, “The committee's proposed budget would increase funding for the Board of Regents system...by \$14.7 million a year over the next two fiscal years. Some of that funding will go to pay for the required 5 percent a year raises required for unionized members and the remainder to fill vacant faculty positions and hire additional counselors.”

It is also interesting to note that the Appropriations Committee recommended \$2 million (the equivalent of 20 positions) in FY14 and FY15 for remediation programs in the Community College System, necessitated by PA 12-40, *An Act Concerning College Readiness and Completion*.

Further, “UConn's budget would see a \$20.3 million annual increase, which would pay for employee raises and hire new faculty and counselors so the governor's "Next Generation" initiative to expand enrollment could move forward. However, the committee proposal would only provide about 57 percent of the operating funding the governor sought to launch the initiative in the 2014-15 school year” (*The Connecticut Mirror*).

Read more: [Legislature's budget matches Malloy's bottom line, reverses him on details](#) (*The Connecticut Mirror*)

Board of Regents to Appoint its own President

House Bill 6648, *AN ACT CONCERNING THE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION*, was approved by both the House and Senate. This bill permits the Board of Regents for Higher Education to appoint its own president, who shall serve at the pleasure of the board, removing the Governor's authority to appoint the President of the BOR. The Governor signed the bill into law on April 22, 2013.

Files: Week of 4/15

Please note that once a bill becomes a file it possibly could go to the House or Senate floor within two days to be voted on.

File No. 480: *AN ACT CONCERNING FACULTY REPRESENTATION ON THE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION*. The Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement reported through SEN. BYE of the 5th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

File No. 481 : *AN ACT MAKING CLARIFYING CHANGES TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION STATUTES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REORGANIZATION OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM*. The Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement reported through SEN. BYE of the 5th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

FILE NO. 497 : *AN ACT CONCERNING CHANGES TO PROGRAM APPROVAL FOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION*. The Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement reported through SEN. BYE of the 5th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

FILE NO. 505 : *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*. The Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement reported through REP. WILLIS of the 64th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

FILE NO. 510 : *AN ACT CONCERNING STUDENT FEES*. The Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement reported through REP. WILLIS of the 64th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

FILE NO. 511 : AN ACT CONCERNING TRANSPARENCY OF EXPENSES. The Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement reported through REP. WILLIS of the 64th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

FILE NO. 516 : AN ACT CONCERNING CAMPUS SAFETY AND SECURITY. The Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement reported through REP. WILLIS of the 64th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

What are the Hot Topics at the Capitol?

From the Office of Legislative Research:

1. Connecticut Energy Advisory Board
2. Summary of *Berman v. Parker*
3. DEEP Renewable Portfolio Standard Study
4. Summary of Colorado's New Gun Control Laws