



A Voice For Faculty

Capitol Monitor

A Weekly Report on Activity at the State Capitol Vol. 2, Issue 3 | February 13, 2012

Upcoming Hearings:

CSU-AAUP Encourages Members to Testify

There are three legislative hearings coming up at which CSU-AAUP leadership encourages our members to attend and testify.

Higher Education & Employment Advancement: Tuesday, February 14 at 11am-4pm, Legislative Office Building, Room 1E. Bills on the agenda are [S.B. No. 39](#) and [H.B. No. 5030](#) (see descriptions of these bills below).

Higher Education & Employment Advancement: Thursday, February 16 at 11am-4pm, Legislative Office Building, Room 1E. Bills on the agenda are [S.B. No. 40](#), [H.B. No. 5028](#), and [H.B. No. 5029](#) (see below for a description of these bills).

Appropriations Committee Hearing on Higher Education, Tuesday, February 21, starting at 6pm, Legislative Office Building, Room 2C. CSU's budget is facing an \$11 million cut for next year. Come speak out!

Bills Filed: Week of 2/6

The following list of bills have been identified by our lobbying firm, [Betty Gallo & Co](#), as having a potential impact on our members if passed. CSU-AAUP and our lobbying firm will follow the progress of the bills throughout the session and alert our members if action is needed.

SB 24: AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATIONAL COMPETITIVENESS

Statement of Purpose: To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

SB 28: AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING HIGHER EDUCATION

Statement of Purpose: To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

SB 34: AN ACT ALLOWING CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM TO PURCHASE CREDITED SERVICE

Statement of Purpose: To allow full-time teachers to purchase credit for time spent as a part-time lecturer at a community college.

"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.

**Bills Filed:
Week of 2/6**

SB 40: *AN ACT CONCERNING OPEN ACCESS TO COLLEGE LEVEL COURSES*

Statement of Purpose: To allow all students open access to entry level courses in a college level program and prohibit public institutions of higher education from forcing any student to enroll in a remedial course.

SB 41: *AN ACT CONCERNING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT*

Statement of Purpose: To study issues concerning workforce development.

SB 42: *AN ACT CONCERNING THE SELECTION PROCESS FOR MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION*

Statement of Purpose: To ensure that the selection process for members of the faculty advisory committee to the Board of Regents for Higher Education is a uniform process.

SB 43: *AN ACT CONCERNING HIGHER EDUCATION*

Statement of Purpose: To require a study of issues concerning higher education.

HB 5028: *AN ACT CONCERNING THE ALIGNMENT OF COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS WITH COLLEGE CURRICULUM*

Statement of Purpose: To ensure that students graduating from Connecticut public high schools are prepared to enroll in and successfully complete college level programs at Connecticut's public institutions of higher education and reduce the need for remediation at the college level.

HB 5029: *AN ACT CONCERNING COLLEGE READINESS ASSESSMENTS*

Statement of Purpose: To require college readiness assessments in high school and require any necessary remediation in advance of high school graduation.

HB 5030: *AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A GENERAL EDUCATION CORE OF COURSES TO ALLOW FOR THE SEAMLESS TRANSFER FROM THE REGIONAL COMMUNITY-TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM TO THE CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM AND THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT*

Statement of Purpose: To require the development of a general education core of courses to allow for the seamless transfer from the regional community-technical college system to the Connecticut State University System and The University of Connecticut.

HB 5031: *AN ACT CONCERNING SEXUAL VIOLENCE ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES*

Statement of Purpose: To update the federal sexual assault policy requirements set forth in the Jeanne Clery Act, Section 1920f of Title 20 of the United States Code.

HB 5032: *AN ACT CONCERNING TECHNICAL REVISIONS TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION STATUTES*

Statement of Purpose: To make technical changes to the higher education statutes.

Governor's Budget Address

Governor Malloy focused on three things in his budget address: education reform, fiscal discipline, and job creation. [Read the full text of Governor Malloy's State of the State.](#)

The Governor explained his six priorities for education reform:

1. Enhance families' access to high-quality early childhood education opportunities
2. Authorize the intensive interventions and enable the supports necessary to turn around Connecticut's lowest-performing schools and districts
3. Expand the availability of high-quality school models, including traditional schools, magnets, charters, and others
4. Unleash innovation by removing red tape and other barriers to success, especially in high-performing schools and districts
5. Ensure that schools are home to the very best teachers and principals—working within a fair system that values skill and effectiveness over seniority and tenure
6. Deliver more resources, targeted to districts with the greatest need—provided that they enact key reforms that position our students for success

Read more about these priorities [here](#).

The Governor did make a call for additional faculty, noting that “Higher education creates research and technology jobs, generates revenue, and keeps Connecticut’s talented young people here in the state.” However, following up on that statement, the Governor notes that he is allocating over \$1 million for additional faculty at the University of Connecticut. UConn still faces over a \$16.5 million cut, while CSU faces a \$11 million cut and the Regional Community-Technical Colleges face a \$6.5 million cut. See the budget summary for higher education [here](#).

New England Board of Higher Education Policy Briefing

On Thursday, February 9, members of the New England Board of Higher Education were invited to give a policy briefing to the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee. At this meeting, the NE Board of Higher Ed discussed a report on performance-based funding in higher education and remediation. Watch the meeting [here](#).