



*A Voice For Faculty*

# Capitol Monitor

A Weekly Report on Activity at the State Capitol

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## Higher Ed Hearing on Bill Regarding the Selection Process for the Faculty Advisory Committee

The Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee held a public hearing on February 28 on SB 42, *AN ACT CONCERNING THE SELECTION PROCESS FOR MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION*. The bill proposes to make the selection process for the faculty representatives to the Committee uniform across the CSUs and the Community-Technical Colleges. In addition, the legislation also proposes that faculty be further defined as “teaching” faculty.

Several members of the current Faculty Advisory Committee to the Board of Regents testified on this matter. You can read the testimony submitted on this bill [here](#).

## Public Hearing on Workplace Bullying Bill

The Labor and Public Employees Committee will hold a public hearing on Thursday, March 8 at noon on S.B. 154, *AN ACT CONCERNING STATE EMPLOYEES AND VIOLENCE AND ABUSIVE CONDUCT IN THE WORKPLACE*. This bill would require the Department of Administrative Services to report the number of complaints of abusive conduct in the workplace between state employees to the General Assembly.

The CSU-AAUP Council supports legislation to examine the prevalence of workplace bullying in the state of Connecticut's workforce and encourages our members to testify in support of this bill.

## Bills Filed: Week of 2/27

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.

**HB 5356**, *AN ACT CONCERNING BRIDGES BETWEEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION*

**Statement of Purpose:** To improve college preparedness by

## **Bills Filed: Week of 2/27**

*"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.

aligning high school and college curricula by establishing a pilot program that requires each priority school district to partner with a public institution of higher education to evaluate and align curricula based on Connecticut's common core state standards and to test students and assess the results to determine college readiness.

### **SB 286, AN ACT EXEMPTING INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT OFFER FREE COURSES TO INMATES FROM STATE CONTRACTING REQUIREMENTS**

**Statement of Purpose:** To exempt institutions of higher education that arrange for professors to teach free for-credit courses to inmates from state contracting requirements.

### **SB 292, AN ACT ALIGNING CONNECTICUT'S INTELLECTUAL CAPITAL WITH THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY**

**Statement of Purpose:** To develop an occupational job training program and an assessment system to ensure the alignment of Connecticut's intellectual capital with the needs of the business community.

### **SB 304, AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF LABOR HISTORY IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CURRICULUM**

**Statement of Purpose:** To include labor history in the prescribed courses of study in the public school curriculum.

### **SB 315, AN ACT PROHIBITING THE UNNECESSARY COLLECTION OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS**

**Statement of Purpose:** To prohibit the unnecessary collection of Social Security numbers.

### **HB 5404, AN ACT PROHIBITING LOBBYING BY STATE EMPLOYEES ON STATE TIME**

**Statement of Purpose:** To prevent union representatives who are also state employees from engaging in lobbying during the period of time they are being paid to perform services for the state.

**SB 340, AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE BY STATE EMPLOYEES OF SERVICES PROVIDED BY CONNECTICUT TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM STUDENTS**

**Statement of Purpose:** To permit public officials, state employees and their immediate family members to contract, outside of the normal bidding process, with the regional-technical school system for the provision of services by students that exceed one hundred dollars in value.

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

From the Office of Legislative Research:

1. Summaries of Governor's Bills
2. Milestones in Connecticut Education: 1912-2012
3. Connecticut and the Federal NCLB Waiver Process
4. State Gasoline and Diesel Tax Rates
5. Funding Heating System Conversions in Housing Authorities