



*A Voice For Faculty*

# Capitol Monitor

A Weekly Report on Activity at the State Capitol

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## Higher Ed Committee Amends Bill in Response to Faculty Comments on the Creation of a General Education Core of Courses

The Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee held a public hearing on February 14 regarding HB5030, AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A GENERAL EDUCATION CORE OF COURSES. Six CSU-AAUP members testified on HB5030 and a few others submitted electronic testimony. All the testimony from the hearing can be viewed [here](#).

**The Higher Education Committee met last week and recommended substitute language for HB5030. This bill may be voted on at any point during the session with little prior notice, so if you have any concerns about the bill, please contact your legislators (see find your legislators) as soon as possible to share your concerns.**

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

The Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, February 28 at 11am in Room 1E of the Legislative Office Building. Among the bills being heard is SB 42, AN ACT CONCERNING THE SELECTION PROCESS FOR MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION.

## Bills Filed: Week of 2/20

*"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 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 242, AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY ON THE RELEASE OF FACULTY FROM CERTAIN TEACHING REQUIREMENTS**

**Statement of Purpose:** To require a study of issues concerning course releases and the feasibility and potential effects of reducing the number of faculty members who receive course releases.

**SB 239, AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF THE DISTRIBUTIONS OF THE BLOCK GRANT TO THE REGIONAL COMMUNITY-TECHNICAL COLLEGES AND THE CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

**Statement of Purpose:** To require a study of issues concerning distributions of the block grant to the Connecticut State University System and the regional community-technical colleges.

**SB 241, AN ACT ALLOWING ADJUNCT FACULTY MEMBERS OF THE REGIONAL COMMUNITY-TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM TO WAIVE MEMBERSHIP IN A STATE RETIREMENT PLAN**

**Statement of Purpose:** To permit adjunct faculty members of the regional community-technical colleges to waive membership in a Connecticut retirement plan just as adjunct faculty members employed by the Connecticut State University System or The University of Connecticut are permitted to do.

**HB 5222, AN ACT FACILITATING THE REEMPLOYMENT OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**Statement of Purpose:** To facilitate the reemployment of highly qualified public school teachers with exceptional expertise in teaching faculty positions at public institutions of higher education.

**HB 5216, AN ACT MANDATING COVERAGE OF CHIROPRACTIC SERVICES UNDER STATE EMPLOYEE HEALTH CARE PLANS**

**Statement of Purpose:** To assure coverage of chiropractic services under state employee health care plans.

**HB 5221, AN ACT CONCERNING CHANGES TO PROGRAM APPROVAL FOR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

**Statement of Purpose:** To eliminate the requirement that nonprofit independent institutions of higher education authorized to operate in this state for more than twenty years obtain approval from the State Board of Education to implement new and revised academic programs.

**SB 237, AN ACT CONCERNING THE SHARING OF INFORMATION BETWEEN THE LABOR DEPARTMENT AND INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**Statement of Purpose:** To permit the Labor Department to share wage and employment data with institutions of higher education for purposes of program evaluation.

**HB 5278, AN ACT FACILITATING DUAL ENROLLMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**Statement of Purpose:** To identify and facilitate dual enrollment opportunities for secondary school students participating in a career cluster curriculum.

**HB 5279, AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**Statement of Purpose:** To conform the purchasing statute governing public institutions of higher education with the current practice of and statutory framework regarding advertising for competitive bids and proposals for goods and services on the part of the Department of Administrative Services; to require that the audit of faculty consulting agreements occur on an annual, rather than a semiannual, basis; to eliminate the requirement that independent auditors estimate the book value of The University of Connecticut Health Center's patient account receivables; and to require the automatic vesting of title to inventions in The University of Connecticut in certain circumstances.

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

From the Office of Legislative Research:

1. Summaries of Governor's Bills
2. State Implementation of Common Core Education Standards
3. School District Pay-to-Play Requirements for School Sports
4. "Predictive Neglect" Cases Based on Parent's Mental Health
5. State Ignition Interlock Laws

Have a question? Get the answer!  
Call (860) 832-3790 or email us at [AaupDistList@ccsu.edu](mailto:AaupDistList@ccsu.edu)