



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Raised Bill No. 7102

LCO No. 4026

04026_____HED

Referred to Committee on Higher Education and Employment
Advancement

Introduced by:
(HED)

***AN ACT ADOPTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
CONNECTICUT ALLIED HEALTH WORKFORCE POLICY BOARD.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) As used in this section,
2 "allied health faculty member" means a faculty member qualified by
3 special training, education, skills and experience to provide instruction
4 in a health-related program, including, but not limited to, nursing,
5 physical therapy, dental hygiene, physician assistant, radiation
6 therapy, radiologic technology, occupational therapy, cardiovascular
7 technology, cardiovascular perfusion, nuclear medicine technology,
8 respiratory care and surgical technology.

9 (b) There is established an allied health faculty scholarship for
10 service program to encourage students to teach in an allied health-
11 related program in the state. The program shall be administered by the
12 Department of Higher Education, in consultation with the Connecticut
13 Allied Health Workforce Policy Board. The program shall provide
14 grants to students to cover the costs of tuition, fees and books in
15 exchange for service as a faculty member at an institution of higher

16 education with a shortage of allied health faculty. To be eligible under
17 this program, a student shall: (1) Be enrolled and graduate from an
18 institution of higher education with a master's or doctoral degree in a
19 field that qualifies such person to teach in an allied health program in
20 an institution of higher education in the state, and (2) commit to
21 teaching in an allied health program in an institution of higher
22 education in the state for a period of time to be determined by the
23 Commissioner of Higher Education. The Department of Higher
24 Education shall develop additional eligibility requirements for
25 recipients. Such requirements may include income guidelines.
26 Students may receive such scholarships for each year they are enrolled
27 in a field that qualifies such students to teach in an allied health
28 program. Students may apply for such scholarships to the Department
29 of Higher Education at such time and in such manner as the
30 Commissioner of Higher Education prescribes.

31 (c) Any unexpended funds appropriated for purposes of this section
32 shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year but shall be available for
33 expenditure during the next fiscal year.

34 (d) The Department of Higher Education may use up to two per
35 cent of the funds appropriated for purposes of this section for program
36 administration, promotion and recruitment activities.

37 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The Department of Higher
38 Education, in collaboration with the Office of Workforce
39 Competitiveness and the Labor Department, shall conduct a state-wide
40 marketing campaign to raise public awareness of various allied health
41 programs and careers in the state. The marketing campaign shall
42 target, in particular, older adults who are currently in entry level
43 health care jobs. Such campaign shall include, but not be limited to, the
44 issuance of press releases and the distribution of pamphlets, films and
45 public service announcements concerning the state's current and
46 future need for allied health professionals.

47 Sec. 3. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) The sum of one million five hundred

48 thousand dollars is appropriated to the Department of Higher
49 Education from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30,
50 2008, for funding the allied health faculty scholarship for service
51 program.

52 (b) The sum of one million five hundred thousand dollars is
53 appropriated to the Department of Higher Education from the General
54 Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, for funding the allied
55 health faculty scholarship for service program.

56 Sec. 4. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) The sum of three hundred fifty
57 thousand dollars is appropriated to the Department of Higher
58 Education from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30,
59 2008, for funding the state-wide marketing campaign.

60 (b) The sum of three hundred fifty thousand dollars is appropriated
61 to the Department of Higher Education from the General Fund, for the
62 fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, for funding the state-wide marketing
63 campaign.

64 Sec. 5. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The sum of one million dollars is
65 appropriated to the Department of Higher Education from the General
66 Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, for the purpose of
67 funding program-specific student services to increase retention in
68 nursing and allied health programs.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To address the state's current shortage of allied health professionals and allied health faculty.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]