



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 529**

February Session, 2000

House Bill No. 5220

*House of Representatives, April 11, 2000*

The Committee on Appropriations reported through REP. DYSON of the 94<sup>th</sup> Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

## ***An Act To Allow Increased State Support Of Academic Endowed Chairs.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 10a-20a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) The Board of Governors of Higher Education may establish and  
4 administer a fund to be known as the Endowed Chair Investment  
5 Fund. Within the limits of funds available, the board may deposit state  
6 funds for an endowed chair approved under subsection (c) of this  
7 section to an account within said fund in an amount not less than five  
8 hundred thousand dollars.

9 (b) State funds deposited by the board of governors to the Endowed  
10 Chair Investment Fund shall be invested by the State Treasurer.

11 (c) The Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut and the  
12 Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System may

13 apply for the establishment of an endowed chair to be supported by a  
14 grant of not less than five hundred thousand and not more than [seven  
15 hundred fifty thousand] one million dollars from the Endowed Chair  
16 Investment Fund and a matching nonstate contribution. Applications  
17 for endowed chairs shall be accepted on October first and April first in  
18 each year in which funds are available. To apply for the state grant, the  
19 board of trustees shall notify the board of governors that it has raised a  
20 matching nonstate contribution and that it is eligible for a grant of state  
21 funds to establish an endowed chair in a specific academic discipline.  
22 The board of trustees shall submit for the board's review and approval  
23 evidence that the chair will be established in a center of excellence, as  
24 defined in subsection (b) of section 10a-25h.

25 (d) Following approval of state funding for an endowed chair by the  
26 board of governors, the board of trustees of the institution at which the  
27 chair is established shall select candidates to fill the endowed chair and  
28 shall develop a budget for expenditures associated with the chair.

29 (e) Interest income earned under subsection (b) of this section shall  
30 be deposited to the Endowed Chair Investment Fund and, following  
31 establishment of an endowed chair under subsection (c) of this section  
32 shall be allocated, upon request, to The University of Connecticut or to  
33 the Connecticut State University system, as appropriate, to support the  
34 endowed chair. Nonstate matching contributions shall be held by a  
35 duly established foundation of The University of Connecticut or the  
36 Connecticut State University system and the interest on such  
37 contributions shall be used to support the endowed chair.

38 (f) The boards of trustees shall submit annual reports to the board of  
39 governors concerning endowed chair expenditures.

40 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

**ED Committee Vote:** Yea 31 Nay 0 JF C/R APP

**APP Committee Vote:** Yea 50 Nay 0 JF

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

---

**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** Potential Cost

**Affected Agencies:** Department of Higher Education, University of Connecticut, Connecticut State University

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

**State Impact:**

The bill proposes to increase the maximum level of state matching grants for endowed chairs from \$750,000 to \$1 million. To the extent that universities apply and receive matching grants, passage of the bill would result in potential cost to the state. The University of Connecticut and Connecticut State University may apply to the Board of Governors of Higher Education’s Endowed Chair Investment Fund for matching support of the establishment of endowed chairs after private contributions have been raised for the same purpose.

It should be noted that the Governor’s FY 01 budget directs that \$1 million in funding from the FY 2000 surplus be appropriated for the establishment of an endowed chair in Public Policy at Central Connecticut State University in honor of former Governor William A. O’Neill.

**OLR Bill Analysis**

HB 5220

***AN ACT TO ALLOW INCREASED STATE SUPPORT OF  
ACADEMIC ENDOWED CHAIRS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill increases the maximum state matching grant for University of Connecticut (UConn) and Connecticut State University (CSU) endowed chairs from \$750,000 to \$1 million. By law, to establish an endowed chair and receive a grant from the Endowed Chair Investment Fund that the Board of Governors of Higher Education administers, UConn or CSU must raise a nonstate contribution equal to the state contribution.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2000

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference

Yea 31 Nay 0

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 50 Nay 0