



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 634**

*January Session, 2001*

Substitute House Bill No. 5254

*House of Representatives, May 7, 2001*

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

## ***AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT INDEPENDENT COLLEGE STUDENT GRANT PROGRAM.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 10a-39 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 In administering sections 10a-36 to 10a-42a, inclusive, the Board of  
4 Governors of Higher Education shall annually request an  
5 appropriation for this program to be derived by: (1) Calculating the  
6 actual General Fund expenditures per full-time equivalent student at  
7 The University of Connecticut and in the Connecticut State University  
8 system, by taking the actual General Fund expenditures at The  
9 University of Connecticut and for the Connecticut State University  
10 system for the fiscal year two years prior to the grant year, as reported  
11 for higher education in the annual report on the state budget prepared  
12 by the Office of Fiscal Analysis, and dividing by the number of full-  
13 time equivalent students enrolled at The University of Connecticut and



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:

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

- State Impact:** Potential Future Costs
- Affected Agencies:** Department of Higher Education
- Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

Passage of the bill would result in potential future cost to the state. The Connecticut Independent College Student Grant Program (CICSG), which is administered by the state Department of Higher Education (DHE), provides grant assistance to Connecticut residents attending private institutions in the state that exhibit financial need. Through a statutory formula, the annual appropriation and the maximum annual grant per student are linked to actual expenditures per student at Connecticut’s public four-year institutions. The program began in FY 1989 and had not been fully funded, as provided by the formula, until the current fiscal year. Funding for FY 2001 is \$18.8 million. This year approximately 4,800 students received awards that averaged about \$3900 per grant.

The bill provides that the current CICSG formula be adjusted to reflect 25% of the actual General Fund expenditures per full-time equivalent student as opposed to 17%. Such an adjustment would increase the formula cap amount from \$19.3 million to \$28.3 million. To the extent that additional funding is appropriated in order to meet

the program's statutory formula, passage of the bill would result in potential future cost to the state.

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**OLR Bill Analysis**

sHB 5254

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT INDEPENDENT COLLEGE STUDENT GRANT PROGRAM.**

**SUMMARY:**

Starting in FY 2002-03, the bill requires the Board of Governors of Higher Education to increase its requested appropriation for the Connecticut Independent College Student (CICS) grant program from 17% to 25% of General Fund spending for each full-time equivalent University of Connecticut (UConn) and Connecticut State University (CSU) undergraduate. CICS funds grants of up to \$8,548 per year based on financial need to Connecticut undergraduate students attending independent colleges in Connecticut. Students apply for grants at college financial aid offices.

By law, the CICS appropriation request is calculated using the specified percentage of General Fund spending for each full-time-equivalent UConn and CSU undergraduate in the fiscal year two years before the request and multiplying it by the number of full-time-equivalent undergraduates from Connecticut enrolled at independent colleges during the fall semester of the same year.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2001

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference  
Yea 29 Nay 0

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 51    Nay 0