



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

Committee Bill No. 5772

LCO No. 4319

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:
(PH)

AN ACT CONCERNING FREE TUITION AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS IN CERTAIN HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 10a-16 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) The Board of Governors of Higher Education shall adopt
4 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, for
5 determining financial need for tuition waivers granted pursuant to
6 subsection (e) of section 10a-77, section 10a-99 and subsection (f) of
7 section 10a-105. Such regulations shall prohibit the designation of
8 graduate students as graduate assistants solely to provide tuition and
9 fee waivers.

10 (b) The Board of Governors of Higher Education shall adopt
11 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to
12 establish criteria for tuition waivers for prospective physician
13 assistants, registered nurses, licensed practical nurses and certified
14 nursing assistants granted pursuant to subdivision (7) of subsection (d)

15 of section 10a-77, as amended by this act, subdivision (7) of subsection
16 (d) of section 10a-99, as amended by this act, and subdivision (6) of
17 subsection (e) of section 10a-105, as amended by this act. Such
18 regulations shall include provisions requiring reimbursement of
19 tuition fees for failure to fulfill the requirements for such tuition
20 waivers.

21 Sec. 2. Subsection (d) of section 10a-77 of the general statutes is
22 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

23 (d) Said board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition at any
24 of the regional community-technical colleges (1) for any dependent
25 child of a person whom the armed forces of the United States has
26 declared to be missing in action or to have been a prisoner of war
27 while serving in such armed forces after January 1, 1960, which child
28 has been accepted for admission to such institution and is a resident of
29 Connecticut at the time such child is accepted for admission to such
30 institution, (2) for any veteran having served in time of war, as defined
31 in subsection (a) of section 27-103, or who served in either a combat or
32 combat support role in the invasion of Grenada, October 25, 1983, to
33 December 15, 1983, the invasion of Panama, December 20, 1989, to
34 January 31, 1990, or the peace-keeping mission in Lebanon, September
35 29, 1982, to March 30, 1984, who has been accepted for admission to
36 such institution and is a resident of Connecticut at the time such
37 veteran is accepted for admission to such institution, (3) for any
38 resident of Connecticut sixty-two years of age or older, provided, at
39 the end of the regular registration period, there are enrolled in the
40 course a sufficient number of students other than those persons
41 eligible for waivers pursuant to this subdivision to offer the course in
42 which such person intends to enroll and there is space available in
43 such course after accommodating all such students, (4) for any student
44 attending the Connecticut State Police Academy who is enrolled in a
45 law enforcement program at said academy offered in coordination
46 with a regional community-technical college which accredits courses
47 taken in such program, (5) for any active member of the Connecticut

48 Army or Air National Guard who (A) is a resident of Connecticut, (B)
49 has been certified by the Adjutant General or such Adjutant General's
50 designee as a member in good standing of the guard, and (C) is
51 enrolled or accepted for admission to such institution on a full-time or
52 part-time basis in an undergraduate degree-granting program, [and]
53 (6) for any dependent child of a (A) police officer, as defined in section
54 7-294a, (B) firefighter, as defined in section 7-323j, (C) municipal
55 employee, or (D) state employee, as defined in section 5-154, killed in
56 the line of duty, and (7) for any person enrolled or accepted for
57 admission to such institution on a full-time or part-time basis in an
58 undergraduate degree-granting program that will prepare such person
59 to become a physician assistant, registered nurse, licensed practical
60 nurse or certified nursing assistant, provided (A) such person shall
61 furnish a written commitment to enter such profession after
62 completion of such person's program of studies and to work in such
63 profession in this state for a period of not less than two consecutive
64 years after such completion, and (B) if such person fails to work in
65 such profession in this state for a period of not less than two
66 consecutive years after such completion, such person shall reimburse
67 the full amount of the tuition waived. If any person who receives a
68 tuition waiver in accordance with the provisions of this subsection also
69 receives educational reimbursement from an employer, such waiver
70 shall be reduced by the amount of such educational reimbursement.
71 Veterans described in subdivision (2) of this subsection and members
72 of the National Guard described in subdivision (5) of this subsection
73 shall be given the same status as students not receiving tuition waivers
74 in registering for courses at regional community-technical colleges.

75 Sec. 3. Subsection (d) of section 10a-99 of the general statutes is
76 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

77 (d) Said board shall waive the payment of tuition fees at the
78 Connecticut State University system (1) for any dependent child of a
79 person whom the armed forces of the United States has declared to be
80 missing in action or to have been a prisoner of war while serving in

81 such armed forces after January 1, 1960, which child has been accepted
82 for admission to such institution and is a resident of Connecticut at the
83 time such child is accepted for admission to such institution, (2) for
84 any veteran having served in time of war, as defined in subsection (a)
85 of section 27-103, or who served in either a combat or combat support
86 role in the invasion of Grenada, October 25, 1983, to December 15,
87 1983, the invasion of Panama, December 20, 1989, to January 31, 1990,
88 or the peace-keeping mission in Lebanon, September 29, 1982, to
89 March 30, 1984, who has been accepted for admission to such
90 institution and is a resident of Connecticut at the time such veteran is
91 accepted for admission to such institution, (3) for any resident of
92 Connecticut sixty-two years of age or older who has been accepted for
93 admission to such institution, provided such person is enrolled in a
94 degree-granting program or, provided, at the end of the regular
95 registration period, there are enrolled in the course a sufficient number
96 of students other than those persons eligible for waivers pursuant to
97 this subdivision to offer the course in which such person intends to
98 enroll and there is space available in such course after accommodating
99 all such students, (4) for any student attending the Connecticut Police
100 Academy who is enrolled in a law enforcement program at said
101 academy offered in coordination with the university which accredits
102 courses taken in such program, (5) for any active member of the
103 Connecticut Army or Air National Guard who (A) is a resident of
104 Connecticut, (B) has been certified by the Adjutant General or such
105 Adjutant General's designee as a member in good standing of the
106 guard, and (C) is enrolled or accepted for admission to such institution
107 on a full-time or part-time basis in an undergraduate degree-granting
108 program, [and] (6) for any dependent child of a (A) police officer, as
109 defined in section 7-294a, (B) firefighter, as defined in section 7-323j,
110 (C) municipal employee, or (D) state employee, as defined in section 5-
111 154, killed in the line of duty, and (7) for any person enrolled or
112 accepted for admission to such institution on a full-time or part-time
113 basis in an undergraduate degree-granting program that will prepare
114 such person to become a physician assistant, registered nurse, licensed

115 practical nurse or certified nursing assistant, provided (A) such person
116 shall furnish a written commitment to enter such profession after
117 completion of such person's program of studies and to work in such
118 profession in this state for a period of not less than two consecutive
119 years after such completion, and (B) if such person fails to work in
120 such profession in this state for a period of not less than two
121 consecutive years after such completion, such person shall reimburse
122 the full amount of the tuition fees waived. If any person who receives a
123 tuition waiver in accordance with the provisions of this subsection also
124 receives educational reimbursement from an employer, such waiver
125 shall be reduced by the amount of such educational reimbursement.
126 Veterans described in subdivision (2) of this subsection and members
127 of the National Guard described in subdivision (5) of this subsection
128 shall be given the same status as students not receiving tuition waivers
129 in registering for courses at Connecticut state universities.

130 Sec. 4. Subsection (e) of section 10a-105 of the general statutes is
131 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

132 (e) Said board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition fees at
133 The University of Connecticut (1) for any dependent child of a person
134 whom the armed forces of the United States has declared to be missing
135 in action or to have been a prisoner of war while serving in such armed
136 forces after January 1, 1960, which child has been accepted for
137 admission to The University of Connecticut and is a resident of
138 Connecticut at the time such child is accepted for admission to such
139 institution, (2) for any veteran having served in time of war, as defined
140 in subsection (a) of section 27-103, or who served in either a combat or
141 combat support role in the invasion of Grenada, October 25, 1983, to
142 December 15, 1983, the invasion of Panama, December 20, 1989, to
143 January 31, 1990, or the peace-keeping mission in Lebanon, September
144 29, 1982, to March 30, 1984, who has been accepted for admission to
145 said institution and is a resident of Connecticut at the time such
146 veteran is accepted for admission to said institution, (3) for any
147 resident of Connecticut sixty-two years of age or older who has been

148 accepted for admission to said institution, provided such person is
149 enrolled in a degree-granting program or, provided, at the end of the
150 regular registration period, there are enrolled in the course a sufficient
151 number of students other than those persons eligible for waivers
152 pursuant to this subdivision to offer the course in which such person
153 intends to enroll and there is space available in such course after
154 accommodating all such students, (4) for any active member of the
155 Connecticut Army or Air National Guard who (A) is a resident of
156 Connecticut, (B) has been certified by the Adjutant General or such
157 Adjutant General's designee as a member in good standing of the
158 guard, and (C) is enrolled or accepted for admission to such institution
159 on a full-time or part-time basis in an undergraduate degree-granting
160 program, [and] (5) for any dependent child of a (A) police officer, as
161 defined in section 7-294a, (B) firefighter, as defined in section 7-323j,
162 (C) municipal employee, or (D) state employee, as defined in section 5-
163 154, killed in the line of duty, and (6) for any person enrolled or
164 accepted for admission to such institution on a full-time or part-time
165 basis in an undergraduate degree-granting program that will prepare
166 such person to become a physician assistant, registered nurse, licensed
167 practical nurse or certified nursing assistant, provided (A) such person
168 shall furnish a written commitment to enter such profession after
169 completion of such person's program of studies and to work in such
170 profession in this state for a period of not less than two consecutive
171 years after such completion, and (B) if such person fails to work in
172 such profession in this state for a period of not less than two
173 consecutive years after such completion, such person shall reimburse
174 the full amount of the tuition fees waived. If any person who receives a
175 tuition waiver in accordance with the provisions of this subsection also
176 receives educational reimbursement from an employer, such waiver
177 shall be reduced by the amount of such educational reimbursement.
178 Veterans described in subdivision (2) of this subsection and members
179 of the National Guard described in subdivision (4) of this subsection
180 shall be given the same status as students not receiving tuition waivers
181 in registering for courses at The University of Connecticut.

182 Sec. 5. The sum of two million dollars is appropriated to the
183 Department of Higher Education, from the General Fund surplus, for
184 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, for tuition waivers for prospective
185 physician assistants, registered nurses, licensed practical nurses and
186 certified nursing assistants granted pursuant to subdivision (7) of
187 subsection (d) of section 10a-77 of the general statutes, as amended by
188 this act, subdivision (7) of subsection (d) of section 10a-99 of the
189 general statutes, as amended by this act, and subdivision (6) of
190 subsection (e) of section 10a-105 of the general statutes, as amended by
191 this act.

192 Sec. 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

Statement of Purpose:

To encourage people to go into certain health care professions in which there is a shortage in the state.

[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.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. SAYERS, 60th Dist.; REP. TRUGLIA, 145th Dist.
 REP. WINKLER, 41st Dist.; REP. CURREY, 10th Dist.
 REP. THOMPSON, 13th Dist.; REP. NAFIS, 27th Dist.
 REP. MARTINEZ, 95th Dist.; SEN. PRAGUE, 19th Dist.