



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 645

January Session, 2005

Substitute House Bill No. 5371

House of Representatives, May 3, 2005

The Committee on Appropriations reported through REP. MERRILL of the 54th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING IN-STATE TUITION AND THE "A BETTER CHANCE" PROGRAM AND THE INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

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

1 Section 1. Section 10a-29 of the general statutes is amended by
2 adding subdivision (7) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2005*):

3 (NEW) (7) A student that is from another state, territory or
4 possession of the United States, the District of Columbia or the
5 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or a resident alien thereof shall be
6 classified as an in-state student, if such student (A) graduated from a
7 public high school in this state, and (B) was sponsored and supported
8 during attendance at such school by a program established by a
9 nonprofit organization that raises charitable funds on the local level for
10 the purpose of giving students who are minority students, from single
11 parent homes or live in poverty, an opportunity to attend school in a
12 different environment. For purposes of this subdivision, "minority

13 student" means a student whose racial ancestry is defined as other
14 than white by the Bureau of Census of the United States Department of
15 Commerce.

16 Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 10-27 of the general statutes is
17 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
18 *passage*):

19 (b) The Commissioner of Education, with advice from the
20 Commissioner of Higher Education, shall establish an international
21 education advisory committee to explore international opportunities
22 for learning, exchange programs and the availability of curriculum
23 materials for students, teachers, administrators and educational policy
24 makers. The advisory committee shall:

25 (1) Investigate and compile information concerning international
26 education programs and opportunities. The committee shall make
27 recommendations to the [commissioner] Commissioners of Education
28 and Higher Education on the expansion of international education
29 programs and opportunities and shall consider ways to encourage
30 participation in such programs. The committee shall advise the
31 [Department] Departments of Education and Higher Education, and
32 the joint standing [committee] committees of the General Assembly
33 having cognizance of matters relating to education and higher
34 education and employment advancement on international program
35 opportunities and the availability of federal or nonprofit agency
36 funding for such programs. The [department] departments shall
37 provide information on international education opportunities to local
38 and regional boards of education and public institutions of higher
39 education;

40 (2) Develop guidelines and standards to aid local and regional
41 boards of education and public institutions of higher education in the
42 establishment of programs of international studies. Such guidelines
43 and standards shall describe the essential components of a quality
44 educational program incorporating international education concepts.
45 The committee shall submit such guidelines and standards to the State

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:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 06 \$	FY 07 \$
Constituent Units of Higher Education	Tuition Fund - Revenue Loss	Potential	Potential

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This bill results in a potential revenue loss to the constituent units of higher education as it would allow certain Connecticut high school graduates who are not currently state residents to pay in-state rather than out-of-state tuition at Connecticut’s public colleges. It is anticipated that the number of students taking advantage of the reduced tuition rate would be small and thus result in an overall potential minimal revenue loss in the tuition funds of the constituent units. Currently the approximate differential in tuition rates is as follows: University of Connecticut (UConn) = \$12,500, Connecticut State University (CSU) = \$6,800 and Regional Community Technical Colleges (RCTC) = \$4,400.

In the case where the reduced tuition rates actually attract additional students there would be an increase in state costs as the state currently subsidizes those paying in-state tuition.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5371

AN ACT CONCERNING IN-STATE TUITION AND THE "A BETTER CHANCE" PROGRAM AND THE INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**SUMMARY:**

This bill makes certain minority students from outside Connecticut eligible for in-state tuition at UConn, the Connecticut State Universities, and the community-technical colleges if they graduated from a public high school here while under the sponsorship of a nonprofit organization that meets specified criteria. The bill also expands the role of the International Education Advisory Committee to include higher education.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage for the International Education Advisory Council provision; July 1, 2005 for the in-state tuition provision.

IN-STATE TUITION EXTENSION

The bill permits students from other states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and U.S. territories and possessions, and resident aliens that come from these places, to obtain in-state tuition if they:

1. graduated from a public high school in Connecticut and
2. during high school, were sponsored and supported by a nonprofit organization that raises funds locally in order to give minority students from single family or impoverished homes the chance to attend school in a different environment.

The bill defines "minority student" as someone whose racial ancestry is other than white according to U.S. Census Bureau definitions.

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The bill extends the role of the International Education Advisory

Committee to include higher education. It authorizes the higher education commissioner to advise the education commissioner concerning the committee. It requires the committee to:

1. recommend to the higher education commissioner ways to expand international education opportunities;
2. advise her and the Higher Education Committee on international education programs and opportunities and the availability of federal and private funds for these programs;
3. develop guidelines and standards to help public colleges and universities establish international studies programs and submit them to the Department of Higher Education (DHE) for approval; and
4. develop, and submit to DHE for approval, criteria for establishing sister school partnerships between Connecticut colleges, and their foreign counterparts and advise DHE on incentives to encourage partnerships.

The bill also requires DHE to provide information on international education opportunities to public colleges and universities.

BACKGROUND

A Better Chance Program

A Better Chance is a national nonprofit academic talent search organization that recruits highly motivated students of color and places them in outstanding public and private high schools. Its Community Schools Program operates through local volunteer boards who select students referred from the national office, provide and maintain group housing and academic support for them, provide social support through host families, and raise money. Currently, nine Connecticut towns participate in the Community Schools Program: Darien, Glastonbury, Guilford, Madison, New Canaan, Ridgefield, Simsbury, Westport, and Wilton.

Resident Alien

The U.S. Customs and Immigration Service Bureau defines a resident alien as someone currently residing in the United States who is not a

U.S. citizen. It applies the term to lawful permanent residents (people admitted lawfully, i.e., who have green cards); conditional residents (people granted permanent resident status with a condition that must be removed within two years); and returning residents (lawful permanent residents who left the country and wish to return). The Internal Revenue Service defines a resident alien as (1) a lawful permanent resident or (2) someone has been in the U.S. for at least 31 days during the current year and 183 during the current and previous two years.

Racial Ancestry

The Census Bureau defined “white” for the 2000 census as referring to people having origins in Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa. It includes people who indicated their race as “white” or wrote in entries such as Irish, German, Lebanese, Arab, or Polish. The bureau uses federal standards for collecting data on Hispanic origins. These standards define Hispanic or Latino as a person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American ancestry, regardless of race.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference
Yea 20 Nay 0

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Report
Yea 49 Nay 0