



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Raised Bill No. 5527

LCO No. 2076

02076_____HED

Referred to Committee on Higher Education and Employment
Advancement

Introduced by:
(HED)

AN ACT CONCERNING TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) All publishers of college
2 textbooks shall provide prospective purchasers of their products a
3 complete list of all of the publisher's products, wholesale prices of such
4 products and estimated length of time that the publisher intends to
5 keep the products on the market. The publisher shall provide the list to
6 the prospective purchaser at the start of any sales interaction, whether
7 it be in person, by phone or electronically. The publisher shall publish
8 such information on any Internet web site such publisher operates. For
9 purposes of this section, "products" means all versions of a textbook or
10 set of textbooks in a subject area, including supplemental items, both
11 when sold together or separately from a textbook.

12 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) The Board of Trustees of the
13 Community-Technical Colleges shall develop policies governing the
14 use of store credits at stores on the campuses of the colleges under its
15 jurisdiction that sell required textbooks for courses taught at the
16 colleges. Such policies shall (1) require the credits be available at such

17 stores, (2) allow the credits to be used toward the purchase of such
18 textbooks, (3) require the credits to be available to students who
19 receive financial aid, and (4) provide that if such credit is used by a
20 student receiving financial aid, the amount of the purchase price of the
21 textbooks for which the credit is used be deducted from the amount of
22 aid money the student is scheduled to receive and the amount of the
23 credit deducted be repaid by the student under the original terms of
24 the aid agreement.

25 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) The Board of Trustees of the
26 Connecticut State University System shall develop policies governing
27 the use of store credits at stores on the campuses of the universities
28 under its jurisdiction that sell required textbooks for courses taught at
29 the universities. Such policies shall (1) require the credits be available
30 at such stores, (2) allow the credits to be used toward the purchase of
31 such textbooks, (3) require the credits to be available to students who
32 receive financial aid, and (4) provide that if such credit is used by a
33 student receiving financial aid, the amount of the purchase price of the
34 textbooks for which the credit is used be deducted from the amount of
35 aid money the student is scheduled to receive and the amount of the
36 credit deducted be repaid by the student under the original terms of
37 the aid agreement.

38 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) The Board of Trustees for The
39 University of Connecticut shall develop policies governing the use of
40 store credits at stores on the campuses of the university under its
41 jurisdiction that sell required textbooks for courses taught at the
42 university. Such policies shall (1) require the credits be available at
43 such stores, (2) allow the credits to be used toward the purchase of
44 such textbooks, (3) require the credits to be available to students who
45 receive financial aid, and (4) provide that if such credit is used by a
46 student receiving financial aid, the amount of the purchase price of the
47 textbooks for which the credit is used be deducted from the amount of
48 aid money the student is scheduled to receive and the amount of the
49 credit deducted be repaid by the student under the original terms of

50 the aid agreement.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To make college textbooks more affordable and accessible by requiring disclosure of textbook pricing before a sales transaction is entered into and to provide for a system for students to purchase textbooks using financial aid that has not yet been received by the student.

[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.]