



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5656

January Session, 2007

* _____ HB05656HED __ 041707 _____ *

AN ACT CONCERNING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO INDIVIDUALS TO PURSUE POST SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The Department of Children
2 and Families may provide financial assistance for post secondary
3 school educational or vocational opportunities to any individual who
4 is committed to the department or was committed to the department at
5 the time of such individual's eighteenth birthday. The department
6 shall prescribe conditions of eligibility for the receipt of such financial
7 assistance and other program requirements deemed necessary in the
8 department's policy manual. Prior to awarding financial assistance to
9 an applicant, the department shall (1) identify any other financial
10 assistance opportunity available to the applicant and assist the
11 applicant in applying for such assistance, and (2) ensure that the
12 issuance of assistance pursuant to this section, except in the case of
13 assistance for a vocational opportunity, shall be used to attend an
14 institution of higher education accredited by the Board of Governors of
15 Higher Education pursuant to section 10a-34 of the general statutes or
16 the board's equivalent in another state or that is regionally accredited.
17 For any new application for financial assistance received by the
18 department on or after July 1, 2007, financial assistance provided to an
19 individual by the department may not exceed, on an annual basis, the

20 total cost of in-state tuition, room, board and matriculation fees
21 associated with attending The University of Connecticut at Storrs on
22 September first of the calendar year in which the request for financial
23 assistance is made. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, (A)
24 if an individual has been determined eligible for post secondary school
25 financial assistance by the department prior to the effective date of this
26 section, and the amount of financial assistance being provided by the
27 department on behalf of such individual exceeds or will exceed the
28 limit prescribed by this section, such individual may continue to
29 receive the higher amount of financial assistance provided the
30 individual is in full compliance with the department's program
31 requirements, and (B) within the discretion of the Commissioner of
32 Children and Families, the commissioner may issue financial
33 assistance to an individual in an amount that exceeds the limit
34 prescribed by this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
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HED *Joint Favorable Subst.*