

From: Neil Rathjen [mailto:neilrathjen@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2011 5:43 PM
To: Phillips, Jeanie
Subject: Please oppose an amendment to HB 6390

- Please oppose an amendment to HB 6390 that would offer illegal aliens access to in-state tuition rates. At a time in which Connecticut's public colleges and universities face up to 10% funding cuts, and the cost of tuition is expected to rise, extending in-state tuition to illegal aliens makes no sense.
- In-state tuition fees are highly subsidized by state taxpayers. Students who qualify for in-state tuition benefits receive a savings of more than \$10,000. That means adding a provision to HB 6390 that would extend the benefit to illegal aliens would force Connecticut taxpayers to pay the difference.
- Connecticut faces a budget deficit of \$3 billion. This is not the time to be handing out benefits to illegal aliens thereby encouraging more illegal immigration.
- The Illegal Immigration Reform and Illegal Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 prohibits offering in-state tuition to illegal aliens without offering the same benefit to all U.S. citizens. Adding language to Hb 6390 that extends in-state tuition benefits to illegal aliens not only violates this federal law, but it is also a slap in the face to Connecticut taxpayers.

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