
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6485 (as amended by House "A")*

AN ACT CONCERNING JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS AT THE COMMUNITY-TECHNICAL COLLEGES AND ALIGNMENT OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT.

SUMMARY:

This bill requires the Office of Workforce Competitiveness (OWC), every two years, to identify and report on the sectors or subsectors in which workforce shortages exist, the workforce skills needed in those sectors or subsectors, and which career pathways should be established. The OWC must (1) develop its report in consultation with the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission and the departments of Education, Higher Education, Economic and Community Development, and Labor and (2) submit the report to the Board of Governors of Higher Education.

The bill also requires the Department of Education to electronically distribute information on teacher shortage areas for at least the previous five-year period. This information must be distributed annually, by March 1, to the president of every higher education institution in Connecticut that offers teacher preparation programs. By law, the education commissioner must annually, by December 1, determine subject and geographic areas in which teacher shortages exist and certify them to the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority.

*House Amendment "A" changes, from January 1 to March 1, the distribution date of the teacher shortage information and specifies that it is sent to each institution's president. It also eliminates a provision that would have waived state service agreement requirements for certain contracts with regional community-technical colleges.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2011, except the provisions relating to the OWC, which are effective October 1, 2011.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 19 Nay 0 (03/17/2011)

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 11 Nay 0 (04/18/2011)

Education Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 26 Nay 0 (04/29/2011)

Labor and Public Employees Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 11 Nay 0 (05/10/2011)