
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5028

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ALIGNMENT OF COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS WITH COLLEGE CURRICULUM AND BRIDGES BETWEEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

SUMMARY:

This bill requires local and regional boards of education, in collaboration with the Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR) and the UConn Board of Trustees, to develop a plan to align Connecticut's common core state standards (see BACKGROUND) with college-level programs at Connecticut public higher education institutions. The standards and programs must be aligned within one year of Connecticut's implementation of the standards.

The bill also requires the State Department of Education (SDE), by July 1, 2013, in collaboration with BOR and the UConn Board of Trustees, to develop a pilot program to incorporate the common standards into priority school district curricula. The program must also, for the 2013-2014 through the 2017-2018 school years, align the districts' curricula with college-level programs at Connecticut public higher education institutions.

Under the pilot program, the local or regional board of education for a priority school district must partner with BOR and the UConn Board of Trustees to (1) evaluate and align curricula, (2) test grade 11 students using a college readiness assessment adopted or developed by SDE, (3) use the results to assess college readiness, and (4) offer a support plan for grade 12 students found to be unready for college. The local or regional board must annually report the test results to SDE, BOR, and UConn. The bill does not include a reporting deadline.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2012, except for the provisions affecting priority school districts, which are effective upon passage.

BACKGROUND

Common Core State Standards

The common core state standards are a set of state K-12 education standards for English language arts and mathematics developed by the National Governors Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers. The standards, which states may voluntarily adopt, seek to raise student achievement and provide more uniform curricula and instruction among states. The State Board of Education adopted the standards in July 2010.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference
Yea 16 Nay 3 (03/06/2012)

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference
Yea 28 Nay 3 (03/23/2012)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 42 Nay 12 (04/03/2012)