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**Written Testimony for the  
Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee  
Judith B. Greiman  
Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges  
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On behalf of the member institutions of the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges (CCIC), I am submitting testimony regarding **Senate Bill 441, An Act Requiring Institutions of Higher Education to Report Instances of Child Abuse.**

We are concerned that the bill requires that **any** employee of an institution of higher education be considered a mandated reporter. *Few of these people are in contact with children under eighteen years old on their campuses. A better approach might be to amend the mandated reporter statute (17a-101) to include "person entrusted with the care of a child or youth", as defined in 17a-93 (o) of the CGS.* This seems to be a more targeted approach that would address the issue but not put an additional and likely unnecessary training burden on either DCF or the campuses.

Physicians and psychologists are currently mandated reporters as are employees of campus-based preschools and K-12 schools and these campus-based employees are required to report child abuse to the Department of Child and Family Services or to the local police. These employees are notified of this requirement. Many campuses routinely include information about mandated reporting in the sexual harassment training provided annually to employees. While there is usually a campus person to whom a report should be given, employees are also told of the requirement to report to the commissioner of DCF and/or the local police.

Currently, all colleges are subject to [Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act](#). The Act mandates that colleges and universities must annually file a Campus Security Report with the federal government and must make the report available to students and employees. This report must include crime statistics for the prior three years, policy statements regarding various safety and security measures, campus crime prevention program descriptions, and procedures to be followed in the investigation and prosecution of alleged sexual offenses. Additionally, campuses have behavioral codes of conduct for students to follow and campus judicial processes that cover an array of offenses.