



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 24

January Session, 2013

Substitute House Bill No. 5500

House of Representatives, March 5, 2013

The Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement reported through REP. WILLIS of the 64th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT REQUIRING INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH UNIFORM FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2014*) Each institution of higher
2 education, as defined in section 10a-55 of the general statutes, shall
3 provide uniform financial aid information to every prospective student
4 who has been accepted for admission to such institution. Each
5 institution shall provide such information prior to such institution's
6 enrollment deadline for purposes of providing each student with
7 sufficient time to make an informed decision about enrollment. Each
8 institution shall use the financial aid shopping sheet developed by the
9 Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and the United States
10 Department of Education pursuant to the Higher Education
11 Opportunity Act, P.L. 110-315, to provide such information.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	New section

HED *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 14 \$	FY 15 \$
Charter Oak College; Colleges, Regional Comm.-Tech.; CT State Univ.; UConn; UConn Health Ctr.	GF - Cost	5,000 to 30,000 each	None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a one-time cost to each of the constituent units of higher education of \$5,000 to \$30,000 due to reprogramming financial aid systems to meet the requirements of the bill. The lower end of the estimate assumes the use of software provided by vendors while the upper end assumes creating an in-house customized version.

The Out Years

None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5500*****AN ACT REQUIRING INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH UNIFORM FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires public and private higher education institutions to provide uniform financial aid information to each admitted prospective student. The institutions must provide the information (1) before their enrollment deadline to allow students to make an informed enrollment decision and (2) using the financial aid shopping sheet developed by the federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and U.S. Department of Education under the Higher Education Opportunity Act.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

BACKGROUND***Financial Aid Shopping Sheet***

The Higher Education Opportunity Act (P.L. 110-315) required the development of a model financial aid offer form for higher education institutions. The form must include, among other things, the (1) student's cost of attendance, (2) amount of financial aid that does not need to be repaid, (3) types and amounts of federal loans for which the student is eligible, and (4) net price to attend the institution.

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and Department of Education released the model form in 2012. However, federal law does not require institutions to use it.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 19 Nay 0 (02/19/2013)