



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 416

January Session, 2015

House Bill No. 6844

House of Representatives, April 2, 2015

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

AN ACT CONCERNING IN-STATE TUITION ELIGIBILITY.

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision (9) of section 10a-29 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2015*):

4 (9) In accordance with 8 USC 1621(d), a person, other than a
5 nonimmigrant alien as described in 8 USC 1101(a)(15), shall be entitled
6 to classification as an in-state student for tuition purposes, (A) if such
7 person (i) resides in this state, (ii) attended any educational institution
8 in this state and completed at least [four] two years of high school level
9 education in this state, (iii) graduated from a high school in this state,
10 or the equivalent thereof, and (iv) is registered as an entering student,
11 or is enrolled at a public institution of higher education in this state,
12 and (B) if such person is without legal immigration status, such person
13 files an affidavit with such institution of higher education stating that
14 he or she has filed an application to legalize his or her immigration

15 status, or will file such an application as soon as he or she is eligible to
16 do so.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	10a-29(9)

HED *Joint Favorable*

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:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None***Explanation***

The bill results in no fiscal impact to the state as the University of Connecticut and the Connecticut State University System have the ability to adjust the ratio of in-state to out-of-state students and therefore charging students impacted by the bill in-state rates can be made revenue neutral. The Regional Community Technical College System have no persons impacted by the bill being charged out-of-state tuition and therefore are not impacted by the bill.

The Out Years***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 6844*****AN ACT CONCERNING IN-STATE TUITION ELIGIBILITY.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill reduces, from four years to two, the number of years of high school education that certain students must complete in Connecticut to receive in-state tuition benefits at the state's public higher education institutions.

By law, with limited exceptions, eligibility for in-state tuition is based on an applicant's domicile, which is his or her "true, fixed and permanent home" and the place where he or she intends to remain and return to when he or she leaves (CGS § 10a-28). One of the exceptions allows a person, except a nonimmigrant alien (someone with a visa permitting temporary entrance to the country for a specific purpose), to qualify for in-state tuition if he or she:

1. resides in Connecticut (i.e., maintains a continuous and permanent physical presence, except for short, temporary absences);
2. attended an in-state educational institution and completed at least four years of high school in Connecticut (the bill reduces this to two years);
3. graduated from a high school or the equivalent in Connecticut; and
4. is registered as an entering student, or is currently a student at, UConn, a Connecticut State University, a community-technical college, or Charter Oak State College.

Students without legal immigration status who meet the above

criteria must file an affidavit with the institution stating that they have applied to legalize their immigration status or will do so as soon as they are eligible.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2015

BACKGROUND

Related Bill

SB 398, reported favorably by the Higher Education Committee, extends, to certain students who lack legal immigration status, eligibility for state higher education assistance programs.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 14 Nay 3 (03/19/2015)