



Testimony of
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Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee
February 10, 2015

***SB 861 AN ACT CONCERNING CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECKS AND DISCIPLINE
OF FACULTY MEMBERS OF INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.***

Good afternoon Senator Bartolomeo, Representative Willis and members of the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee. My name is Dennis Boguski and I am the President of Federation of Technical Colleges, a statewide federation of over 200 higher education personnel.

I am submitting testimony in opposition of SB 861 An Act Concerning Criminal History Records Checks and Discipline of Faculty Members of Institutions of Higher Education.

The current in depth nature of the promotion system consists of a committee and peer review of academic credentials as well as the individual's contributions to the college, then the College President has final approval over the recommendations. The employee who is up for promotion would have already passed the background checks which are required for new hires. Any new changes to the promotion system would be best addressed through the collective bargaining process where both the employees and the institution are able to address any problems with the promotion system.

The additional and independent disciplining of a currently employed faculty member for any criminal conduct while under the employment of the institution could cause numerous unforeseen problems. The creation for a code of conduct for minor infractions followed by an intricate appeals process could cripple what is already a tight budget for our higher education institutions.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony for you today on this very important bill. I urge you to oppose SB 861.