



**AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF DIGITAL OPEN-SOURCE
TEXTBOOKS IN HIGHER EDUCATION.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2015*) (a) Not later than September
2 1, 2015, the Board of Regents for Higher Education, in collaboration
3 with the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut and the
4 Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges, shall establish an
5 open-source textbook consortium of not less than five institutions of
6 higher education, including, but not limited to, The University of
7 Connecticut, one state university, one regional community-technical
8 college, Charter Oak State College and one independent institution of
9 higher education. The consortium shall annually (1) assess the use of
10 high-quality and affordable digital open-source textbooks and related
11 materials to lower the cost of higher education to students, (2) promote
12 the use of and access to open-source textbooks, and (3) collaborate for
13 the purposes of developing and acquiring open-source textbooks. For
14 purposes of this section, "open-source textbooks" means a college-level
15 textbook licensed under an open copyright license and made available
16 on an Internet web site to be freely used by students, faculty and
17 members of the public.

18 (b) Not later than January 1, 2016, and annually thereafter, the
19 consortium of public institutions of higher education shall submit a
20 report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general

21 statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
22 having cognizance of matters relating to higher education regarding its
23 duties described in subsection (a) of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Subsec (a), "2016" was changed to "2015" for accuracy.

HED *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*