



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 414**

January Session, 2015

Substitute House Bill No. 6812

*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 substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING FACULTY REPRESENTATION ON THE COMMITTEES AND SUBCOMMITTEES OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION.***

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

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2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  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

4 (a) There shall be a Board of Regents for Higher Education who  
5 shall serve as the governing body for the regional community-technical  
6 college system, the Connecticut State University System and Charter  
7 Oak State College. The board shall consist of twenty-one members who  
8 shall be distinguished leaders of the community in Connecticut. The  
9 board shall reflect the state's geographic, racial and ethnic diversity.  
10 The voting members shall not be employed by or be a member of a  
11 board of trustees for any independent institution of higher education  
12 in this state or the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut

13 nor shall they be employed by or be elected officials of any public  
14 agency, as defined in subdivision (1) of section 1-200, during their term  
15 of membership on the Board of Regents for Higher Education. The  
16 Governor shall appoint nine members to the board as follows: Three  
17 members for a term of two years; three members for a term of four  
18 years; and three members for a term of six years. Thereafter, the  
19 Governor shall appoint members of the board to succeed such  
20 appointees whose terms expire and each member so appointed shall  
21 hold office for a period of six years from the first day of July in the year  
22 of his or her appointment. Four members of the board shall be  
23 appointed as follows: One appointment by the president pro tempore  
24 of the Senate, who shall be an alumnus of the regional community-  
25 technical college system, for a term of four years; one appointment by  
26 the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be a specialist in the  
27 education of children in grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, for a  
28 term of three years; one appointment by the speaker of the House of  
29 Representatives, who shall be an alumnus of the Connecticut State  
30 University System, for a term of four years; and one appointment by  
31 the minority leader of the House of Representatives, who shall be an  
32 alumnus of Charter Oak State College, for a term of three years.  
33 Thereafter, such members of the General Assembly shall appoint  
34 members of the board to succeed such appointees whose terms expire  
35 and each member so appointed shall hold office for a period of four  
36 years from the first day of July in the year of his or her appointment.  
37 The chairperson and vice-chairperson of the student advisory  
38 committee created under section 10a-3 shall serve as members of the  
39 board. The chairperson and vice-chairperson of the faculty advisory  
40 committee created under section 10a-3a shall serve as ex-officio,  
41 nonvoting members of the board for a term of two years and, in their  
42 respective roles as chairperson and vice-chairperson, shall be  
43 permitted to serve on any committee or subcommittee of the board  
44 that does not have cognizance over personnel matters, except the  
45 executive committee, and, unless invited to an executive session, as  
46 defined in section 1-200, by the board, excluded from any executive  
47 session [, as defined in section 1-200,] of the board. The Commissioners

48 of Education, Economic and Community Development and Public  
49 Health and the Labor Commissioner shall serve as ex-officio,  
50 nonvoting members of the board.

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

**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.

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**OFA Fiscal Note****State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

The bill results in no fiscal impact to the state as it is procedural in nature.

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

**OLR Bill Analysis****sHB 6812*****AN ACT CONCERNING FACULTY REPRESENTATION ON THE COMMITTEES AND SUBCOMMITTEES OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill expands the role of faculty members serving on the Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR). It requires that the chairperson and vice-chairperson of BOR's faculty advisory committee, who serve as nonvoting, ex-officio members on BOR, be allowed to serve on any board committee or subcommittee that does not oversee personnel matters. It is unclear, however, whether they may serve on the executive committee.

The bill also allows them to attend a BOR executive session at the board's invitation, rather than excludes them from all executive sessions as under current law.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2015

**BACKGROUND*****Executive Session***

An executive session is a meeting that is closed to the public for the purpose of discussing:

1. the appointment, employment, performance, evaluation, health, or dismissal of a public officer or employee;
2. pending claims or litigation to which a public agency or member is a party;
3. security strategy, deployment of security personnel, or public security devices;

4. the lease, sale, or purchase of real estate by a political subdivision of the state, when public discussion may cause a price increase prior to final transaction; or
5. any matter that would disclose information in public records that are not subject to the Freedom of Information Act (CGS § 1-200 (6)).

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 14    Nay 3    (03/19/2015)