



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

Raised Bill No. 5071

LCO No. 256



Referred to Committee on HIGHER EDUCATION AND
EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT

Introduced by:
(HED)

***AN ACT REQUIRING CONNECTICUT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STATE
AUTHORIZATION RECIPROCITY AGREEMENT REGARDING
DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAMS.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2016*) Not later than January 1,
2 2017, the Office of Higher Education shall enter into a multistate or
3 regional reciprocity agreement for purposes of enabling the state and
4 Connecticut institutions of higher education to participate in a nation-
5 wide state authorization reciprocity agreement (1) establishing
6 uniform standards for distance learning programs across states, and (2)
7 eliminating the need for a state participating in the state authorization
8 reciprocity agreement to assess the quality of a distance learning
9 program offered by an out-of-state institution of higher education
10 through the participating state's authorization, licensing and
11 accreditation process. Notwithstanding the provisions of part III of
12 chapter 185 of the general statutes and upon the Office of Higher
13 Education entering into the multistate or regional reciprocity
14 agreement, an out-of-state institution of higher education that
15 participates in the state authorization reciprocity agreement may

16 operate a distance learning program in the state in accordance with the
17 uniform standards.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	New section

HED *Joint Favorable*