



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 100

February Session, 2016

Senate Bill No. 273

Senate, March 21, 2016

The Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement reported through SEN. BARTOLOMEO of the 13th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION STATUTES.

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

1 Section 1. Section 10a-173 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) For the purposes of this section:

4 (1) "Family contribution" means the expected family contribution for
5 educational costs as computed from the student's Free Application for
6 Federal Student Aid;

7 (2) "Full-time or part-time undergraduate student" means a student
8 who is enrolled at an institution of higher education in a course of
9 study leading to such student's first associate or [bachelor] bachelor's
10 degree and who is carrying, for a full-time student, twelve or more
11 semester credit hours, or, for a part-time student, between six and
12 eleven semester credit hours at such institution of higher education;

13 (3) "Independent institution of higher education" means a nonprofit
14 institution established in this state (A) that has degree-granting
15 authority in this state; (B) that has its main campus located in this state;
16 (C) that is not included in the Connecticut system of public higher
17 education; and (D) whose primary function is not the preparation of
18 students for religious vocation;

19 (4) "Public institution of higher education" means the constituent
20 units of the state system of higher education identified in subdivisions
21 (1) to (4), inclusive, of section 10a-1, as amended by this act;

22 (5) "Eligible educational costs" means the tuition and required fees
23 for an individual student that are published by each institution of
24 higher education participating in the grant program established under
25 this section, plus a fixed amount for required books and educational
26 supplies as determined by the Office of Higher Education.

27 (b) The state, acting through the Office of Higher Education, shall
28 establish the Governor's Scholarship program to annually make need-
29 based financial aid available for eligible educational costs for
30 Connecticut residents enrolled at Connecticut's public and
31 independent institutions of higher education as full-time or part-time
32 undergraduate students beginning with new or transfer students in the
33 fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. Any award made to a student in the
34 fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, under the capitol scholarship grant
35 program, established under section 10a-169 of the general statutes,
36 revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, the Connecticut aid to
37 public college students grant program, established under section 10a-
38 164a of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013,
39 Connecticut aid to Charter Oak, established under subsection (c) of
40 section 10a-164a of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to
41 January 1, 2013, or the Connecticut independent college student grant
42 program, established under section 10a-36 of the general statutes,
43 revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, shall be offered under the
44 Governor's Scholarship program and be renewable for the life of the
45 original award, provided such student meets and continues to meet

46 the need and academic standards established for purposes of the
47 program under which such student received the original award.

48 (c) Within available appropriations, the Governor's Scholarship
49 program shall be comprised of a need and merit-based grant, a need-
50 based grant, a Charter Oak grant, and a performance incentive pool.
51 The need and merit-based grant shall be funded at not less than twenty
52 per cent of available appropriations. The need-based grant shall be
53 funded at up to eighty per cent of available appropriations. The
54 Charter Oak grant shall be not less than one hundred thousand dollars
55 of available appropriations. The incentive pool shall be not less than
56 two and one-half per cent of available appropriations. There shall be
57 an administrative allowance based on one-quarter of one per cent of
58 the available appropriations, but not less than one hundred thousand
59 dollars. Not less than thirty-eight per cent of the annual appropriation
60 shall be allocated to the independent institutions of higher education
61 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, and not less than thirty-six per
62 cent of such appropriation shall be allocated to such institutions for the
63 fiscal year ending June 30, 2015.

64 (d) The Governor's Scholarship need and merit-based grant shall be
65 available to any Connecticut resident who is a full-time or part-time
66 undergraduate student at any public or independent institution of
67 higher education beginning in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. The
68 Office of Higher Education shall determine eligibility by financial need
69 based on family contribution and eligibility by merit based on either
70 previous high school academic achievement or performance on
71 standardized academic aptitude tests. The Office of Higher Education
72 shall make awards according to a sliding scale, annually determined
73 by said office, up to a maximum family contribution and based on
74 available appropriations and eligible students. The Governor's
75 Scholarship need and merit-based grant shall be awarded in a higher
76 amount than the need-based grant awarded pursuant to subsection (e)
77 of this section. Recipients of the need and merit-based grant shall not
78 be eligible to receive an additional need-based award. The accepting
79 institution of higher education shall disburse sums awarded under

80 such grant for payment of the student's eligible educational costs.

81 (e) The Governor's Scholarship need-based grant shall be available
82 to any Connecticut resident who is a full-time or part-time
83 undergraduate student at any public or independent institution of
84 higher education beginning in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. The
85 Office of Higher Education shall determine eligibility based on family
86 contribution. The amount of the annual appropriation to be allocated
87 to each institution of higher education shall be determined by its actual
88 eligible enrollment based on family contribution during the fiscal year
89 one year prior to the grant year. Participating institutions of higher
90 education shall make awards according to a sliding scale, annually
91 determined by the Office of Higher Education, up to a maximum
92 family contribution and based on available appropriations and the
93 number of eligible students. Each participating institution of higher
94 education shall expend all of the moneys received under the
95 Governor's Scholarship program as direct financial assistance only for
96 eligible educational costs based on the sliding scale determined by the
97 Office of Higher Education and the maximum award amounts set by
98 said office.

99 (f) Participating institutions of higher education shall annually
100 provide the Office of Higher Education with data and reports on all
101 Connecticut students who applied for financial aid, including, but not
102 limited to, students receiving a Governor's Scholarship grant, in a form
103 and at a time determined by said office. If an institution of higher
104 education fails to submit information to the Office of Higher Education
105 as directed, such institution shall be prohibited from participating in
106 the scholarship program in the fiscal year following the fiscal year in
107 which such institution failed to submit such information. Each
108 participating institution of higher education shall maintain, for a
109 period of not less than three years, records substantiating the reported
110 number of Connecticut students and documentation utilized by the
111 institution of higher education in determining eligibility of the student
112 grant recipients. Such records shall be subject to audit. Funds not
113 obligated by an institution of higher education shall be returned by

114 February fifteenth in the fiscal year the grant was made to the Office of
115 Higher Education for reallocation. Financial aid provided to
116 Connecticut residents under this program shall be designated as a
117 grant from the Governor's Scholarship program.

118 (g) The Governor's Scholarship Charter Oak grant shall be available
119 to any full-time or part-time undergraduate student enrolled in
120 Charter Oak State College beginning in the fiscal year ending June 30,
121 2014. The Office of Higher Education shall allocate any appropriation
122 to Charter Oak State College to be used to provide grants for eligible
123 educational costs to residents of this state who demonstrate substantial
124 financial need and who are matriculated in a degree program at
125 Charter Oak State College. Individual awards shall not exceed a
126 student's calculated eligible educational costs. Financial aid provided
127 to Connecticut residents under this program shall be designated as a
128 grant from the Governor's Scholarship program.

129 (h) The Governor's Scholarship incentive pool shall be created to
130 encourage retention and completion for any student who (1) receives
131 the Governor's Scholarship need-based grant, (2) returns with
132 sufficient credits to complete such student's associate degree in two
133 years or [bachelor] bachelor's degree in four years, and (3) exceeds the
134 minimum satisfactory academic performance standards as determined
135 by the Office of Higher Education. Such student shall be eligible
136 beginning in the second year of such student's need-based grant. The
137 pool shall be distributed to participating institutions of higher
138 education based on eligibility as determined by the Office of Higher
139 Education.

140 (i) In administering the Governor's Scholarship program, the Office
141 of Higher Education shall develop and utilize fiscal procedures
142 designed to ensure accountability of the public funds expended. Such
143 procedures shall include provisions for compliance audits that shall be
144 conducted by the Office of Higher Education on any institution of
145 higher education that participates in the program. Commencing with
146 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, and biennially thereafter, each

147 such institution of higher education shall submit the results of an audit
148 done by an independent certified public accountant for each year of
149 participation in the program. Any institution of higher education
150 determined by the Office of Higher Education not to be in substantial
151 compliance with the provisions of the Governor's Scholarship program
152 shall be ineligible to receive funds under the program for the fiscal
153 year following the fiscal year in which the institution of higher
154 education was determined not to be in substantial compliance.
155 Funding shall be restored when the Office of Higher Education
156 determines that the institution of higher education has returned to
157 substantial compliance.

158 Sec. 2. Subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 31-11ff of the
159 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
160 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

161 (2) "Early college high school" means a school in which persons who
162 are underrepresented in higher education, including, but not limited
163 to, low-income youth, first-generation college students, English
164 language learners and minority students, may simultaneously earn,
165 tuition free, a high school diploma and an associate degree or up to
166 two years of credit toward a [bachelor] bachelor's degree; and

167 Sec. 3. Subsections (b) to (e), inclusive, of section 10-16p of the 2016
168 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
169 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

170 (b) (1) The office shall be the lead agency for school readiness. For
171 purposes of this section and section 10-16u, school readiness program
172 providers eligible for funding from the office shall include local and
173 regional boards of education, regional educational service centers,
174 family resource centers and providers of child care centers, as defined
175 in section 19a-77, Head Start programs, preschool programs and other
176 programs that meet such standards established by the commissioner.
177 The office shall establish standards for school readiness programs. The
178 standards may include, but need not be limited to, guidelines for staff-
179 child interactions, curriculum content, including preliteracy

180 development, lesson plans, parent involvement, staff qualifications
181 and training, transition to school and administration. The office shall
182 develop age-appropriate developmental skills and goals for children
183 attending such programs. The commissioner, in consultation with the
184 president of the [Board of Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut
185 State Colleges and Universities, the Commissioners of Education and
186 Social Services and other appropriate entities, shall develop a
187 professional development program for the staff of school readiness
188 programs.

189 (2) For purposes of this section:

190 (A) Prior to July 1, 2017, "staff qualifications" means there is in each
191 classroom an individual who has at least the following: (i) A childhood
192 development associate credential or an equivalent credential issued by
193 an organization approved by the commissioner and twelve credits or
194 more in early childhood education or child development, as
195 determined by the commissioner or the president of the [Board of
196 Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and
197 Universities, after consultation with the commissioner, from an
198 institution of higher education (I) accredited by the Board of Regents
199 for Higher Education or Office of Higher Education, and (II) regionally
200 accredited; (ii) an [associate's] associate degree with twelve credits or
201 more in early childhood education or child development, as
202 determined by the commissioner or the president of the [Board of
203 Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and
204 Universities, after consultation with the commissioner, from such an
205 institution; (iii) a four-year degree with twelve credits or more in early
206 childhood education or child development, as determined by the
207 commissioner or the president of the [Board of Regents for Higher
208 Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, after
209 consultation with the commissioner, from such an institution; or (iv)
210 certification pursuant to section 10-145b with an endorsement in early
211 childhood education or special education;

212 (B) From July 1, 2017, until June 30, 2020, "staff qualifications" means

213 that for each early childhood education program accepting state funds
214 for infant, toddler and preschool spaces associated with such
215 program's child care program or school readiness program, (i) at least
216 fifty per cent of those individuals with the primary responsibility for a
217 classroom of children hold (I) certification pursuant to section 10-145b
218 with an endorsement in early childhood education or early childhood
219 special education, or (II) a bachelor's degree with a concentration in
220 early childhood education, including, but not limited to, a bachelor's
221 degree in early childhood education, child study, child development or
222 human growth and development, from an institution of higher
223 education accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or
224 Office of Higher Education, and regionally accredited, provided such
225 bachelor's degree program is approved by the Board of Regents for
226 Higher Education or the Office of Higher Education and the Office of
227 Early Childhood, and (ii) such remaining individuals with the primary
228 responsibility for a classroom of children hold an associate degree with
229 a concentration in early childhood education, including, but not
230 limited to, an [associate's] associate degree in early childhood
231 education, child study, child development or human growth and
232 development, from an institution of higher education (I) accredited by
233 the Board of Regents for Higher Education or Office of Higher
234 Education, and (II) regionally accredited, provided such associate
235 degree program is approved by the Board of Regents for Higher
236 Education or the Office of Higher Education and the Office of Early
237 Childhood; and

238 (C) On and after July 1, 2020, "staff qualifications" means that for
239 each early childhood education program accepting state funds for
240 infant, toddler and preschool spaces associated with such program's
241 child care program or school readiness program, one hundred per cent
242 of those individuals with the primary responsibility for a classroom of
243 children hold (i) certification pursuant to section 10-145b with an
244 endorsement in early childhood education or early childhood special
245 education, or (ii) a bachelor's degree with a concentration in early
246 childhood education, including, but not limited to, a bachelor's degree
247 in early childhood education, child study, child development or

248 human growth and development, from an institution of higher
249 education (I) accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education
250 or the Office of Higher Education, and (II) regionally accredited,
251 provided such bachelor's degree program is approved by the Board of
252 Regents for Higher Education or the Office of Higher Education and
253 the Office of Early Childhood.

254 (3) Any individual with a bachelor's degree in early childhood
255 education or child development or a bachelor's degree and twelve
256 credits or more in early childhood education or child development,
257 who, on or before June 30, 2015, is employed by an early childhood
258 education program that accepts state funds for infant, toddler and
259 preschool spaces associated with such program's child care program or
260 school readiness program shall be considered to meet the staff
261 qualifications required under subparagraphs (B) and (C) of
262 subdivision (2) of this subsection. No such early childhood education
263 program shall terminate any such individual from employment for
264 purposes of meeting the staff qualification requirements set forth in
265 subparagraph (B) or (C) of subdivision (2) of this subsection.

266 (4) Any individual with a bachelor's degree in early childhood
267 education or child development or a bachelor's degree and twelve
268 credits or more in early childhood education or child development,
269 other than those bachelor's degrees specified in subparagraphs (B) and
270 (C) of subdivision (2) of this subsection, may submit documentation
271 concerning such degree for review and assessment by the office as to
272 whether such degree has a sufficient concentration in early childhood
273 education so as to satisfy the requirements set forth in said
274 subparagraphs (B) and (C).

275 (5) Any individual with an associate's degree with twelve credits or
276 more in early childhood education or child development, as
277 determined by the commissioner or the president of the [Board of
278 Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and
279 Universities, after consultation with the commissioner, from an
280 institution of higher education (A) accredited by the Board of Regents

281 for Higher Education or Office of Higher Education, and (B) regionally
282 accredited, who has been employed in the same early childhood
283 education program that accepts state funds for infant, toddler and
284 preschool spaces associated with such program's child care program or
285 school readiness program since 1995 shall be considered to meet the
286 staff qualifications required under subparagraphs (B) and (C) of
287 subdivision (2) of this subsection until June 30, 2025. On and after July
288 1, 2025, such individual shall hold a childhood development associate
289 credential or an equivalent credential, described in subparagraph (A)
290 of subdivision (2) of this subsection, or otherwise meet the staff
291 qualifications required under subparagraph (C) of subdivision (2) of
292 this subsection. Any such individual who terminates his or her
293 employment with such early childhood education program on or
294 before June 30, 2025, and accepts a position at another early childhood
295 education program accepting state funds for spaces associated with
296 such program's child care program or school readiness program shall
297 submit documentation of such individual's progress toward meeting
298 the staff qualification requirements set forth in subparagraph (B) or (C)
299 of subdivision (2) of this subsection in a manner determined by the
300 office.

301 (c) The commissioner shall establish a grant program to provide
302 spaces in accredited school readiness programs located in priority
303 school districts, as described in section 10-266p, or in former priority
304 school districts for eligible children. Under the program, the grant shall
305 be provided, in accordance with this section, to the town in which such
306 priority school district or former priority school district is located.
307 Eligibility shall be determined for a five-year period based on an
308 applicant's designation as a priority school district for the initial year
309 of application, except that if a school district that receives a grant
310 pursuant to this subsection is no longer designated as a priority school
311 district at the end of such five-year period, such former priority school
312 district shall continue to be eligible to receive a grant pursuant to this
313 subsection. Grant awards shall be made annually contingent upon
314 available funding and a satisfactory annual evaluation. The chief
315 elected official of such town and the superintendent of schools for such

316 priority school district or former priority school district shall submit a
317 plan for the expenditure of grant funds and responses to the local
318 request for proposal process to the commissioner. The commissioner
319 shall review and approve such plans. The plan shall: (1) Be developed
320 in consultation with the local or regional school readiness council
321 established pursuant to section 10-16r; (2) be based on a needs and
322 resource assessment; (3) provide for the issuance of requests for
323 proposals for providers of accredited school readiness programs,
324 provided, after the initial requests for proposals, facilities that have
325 been approved to operate a child care program financed through the
326 Connecticut Health and Education Facilities Authority and have
327 received a commitment for debt service from the Department of Social
328 Services, pursuant to section 17b-749i, on or before June 30, 2014, and
329 on or after July 1, 2014, from the office, are exempt from the
330 requirement for issuance of annual requests for proposals; and (4)
331 identify the need for funding pursuant to section 17b-749a in order to
332 extend the hours and days of operation of school readiness programs
333 in order to provide child care services for children attending such
334 programs.

335 (d) (1) The commissioner shall establish a competitive grant
336 program to provide spaces in accredited school readiness programs or
337 school readiness programs seeking accreditation located in (A) an area
338 served by a priority school or a former priority school, (B) a town
339 ranked one to fifty when all towns are ranked in ascending order
340 according to town wealth, as defined in subdivision (26) of section 10-
341 262f, whose school district is not a priority school district pursuant to
342 section 10-266p, (C) a town formerly a town described in subparagraph
343 (B) of this subdivision, as provided for in subdivision (2) of this
344 subsection, or (D) a town designated as an alliance district, as defined
345 in section 10-262u, whose school district is not a priority school district
346 pursuant to section 10-266p. A town in which a priority school is
347 located, a regional school readiness council, pursuant to subsection (c)
348 of section 10-16r, for a region in which such a school is located or a
349 town described in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision may apply for
350 such a grant in an amount equal to the number of spaces in an

351 accredited school readiness program or a school readiness program
352 seeking accreditation multiplied by the per child cost set forth in
353 subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 10-16q. Eligibility shall be
354 determined for a five-year period based on an applicant's designation
355 as having a priority school or being a town described in subparagraph
356 (B) of this subdivision for the initial year of application. Grant awards
357 shall be made annually contingent upon available funding and a
358 satisfactory annual evaluation. The chief elected official of such town
359 and the superintendent of schools of the school district or the regional
360 school readiness council shall submit a plan, as described in subsection
361 (c) of this section, for the expenditure of such grant funds to the
362 commissioner. In awarding grants pursuant to this subsection, the
363 commissioner shall give preference to applications submitted by
364 regional school readiness councils and may, within available
365 appropriations, provide a grant to such town or regional school
366 readiness council that increases the number of spaces for eligible
367 children who reside in an area or town described in subparagraphs (A)
368 to (D), inclusive, of this subdivision, in an accredited school readiness
369 program or a school readiness program seeking accreditation. A town
370 or regional school readiness council awarded a grant pursuant to this
371 subsection shall use the funds to purchase spaces for such children
372 from providers of accredited school readiness programs or school
373 readiness programs seeking accreditation.

374 (2) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (C) of this subdivision,
375 commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, if a town
376 received a grant pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection and is
377 no longer eligible to receive such a grant, the town may receive a
378 phase-out grant for each of the three fiscal years following the fiscal
379 year such town received its final grant pursuant to subdivision (1) of
380 this subsection.

381 (B) The amount of such phase-out grants shall be determined as
382 follows: (i) For the first fiscal year following the fiscal year such town
383 received its final grant pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, in
384 an amount that does not exceed seventy-five per cent of the grant

385 amount such town received for the town or school's final year of
386 eligibility pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection; (ii) for the
387 second fiscal year following the fiscal year such town received its final
388 grant pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, in an amount that
389 does not exceed fifty per cent of the grant amount such town received
390 for the town's or school's final year of eligibility pursuant to
391 subdivision (1) of this subsection; and (iii) for the third fiscal year
392 following the fiscal year such town received its final grant pursuant to
393 subdivision (1) of this subsection, in an amount that does not exceed
394 twenty-five per cent of the grant amount such town received for the
395 town's or school's final year of eligibility pursuant to subdivision (1) of
396 this subsection.

397 (C) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, and each fiscal year
398 thereafter, any town that received a grant pursuant to subparagraph
399 (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection for the fiscal year ending June
400 30, 2010, shall continue to receive a grant under this subsection even if
401 the town no longer meets the criteria for such grant pursuant to
402 subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection.

403 (e) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, and each fiscal year
404 thereafter, priority school districts and former priority school districts
405 shall receive grants based on the sum of the products obtained by (A)
406 multiplying the district's number of contracted slots on March thirtieth
407 of the fiscal year prior to the fiscal year in which the grant is to be paid,
408 by the per child cost pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of
409 section 10-16q, except that such per child cost shall be reduced for slots
410 that are less than year-round, and (B) multiplying the number of
411 additional or decreased slots the districts have requested for the fiscal
412 year in which the grant is to be paid by the per child cost pursuant to
413 subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 10-16q, except such per
414 child cost shall be reduced for slots that are less than year-round. If
415 said sum exceeds the available appropriation, such number of
416 requested additional slots shall be reduced, as determined by the
417 commissioner, to stay within the available appropriation.

418 (2) (A) If funds appropriated for the purposes of subsection (c) of
419 this section are not expended, the commissioner may deposit such
420 unexpended funds in the account established under section 10-16aa
421 and use such unexpended funds in accordance with the provisions of
422 section 10-16aa.

423 (B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, and each fiscal year
424 thereafter, if funds appropriated for the purposes of subsection (c) of
425 this section are not expended, an amount up to one million dollars of
426 such unexpended funds may be available for the provision of
427 professional development for early childhood care and education
428 program providers, and staff employed in such programs, provided
429 such programs accept state funds for infant, toddler and preschool
430 slots. Such unexpended funds may be available for use in accordance
431 with the provisions of this subparagraph for the subsequent fiscal year.
432 The commissioner may use such unexpended funds on and after July
433 1, 2015, to support early childhood education programs accepting state
434 funds in satisfying the staff qualifications requirements of
435 subparagraphs (B) and (C) of subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this
436 section. The commissioner shall use any such funds to provide
437 assistance to individual staff members, giving priority to those staff
438 members (i) attending an institution of higher education accredited by
439 the Board of Regents for Higher Education or the Office of Higher
440 Education, and approved by the Office of Early Childhood, and
441 regionally accredited, at a maximum of ten thousand dollars per staff
442 member per year for the cost of higher education courses leading to a
443 bachelor's degree or, not later than December 31, 2015, an [associate's]
444 associate degree, as such degrees are described in said subparagraphs
445 (B) and (C), or (ii) receiving noncredit competency-based training
446 approved by the office, at a maximum of one thousand dollars per staff
447 member per year, provided such staff members have applied for all
448 available federal and state scholarships and grants, and such assistance
449 does not exceed such staff members' financial need. Individual staff
450 members shall apply for such unexpended funds in a manner
451 determined by the commissioner. The commissioner shall determine
452 how such unexpended funds shall be distributed.

453 (C) If funds appropriated for the purposes of subsection (c) of this
454 section are not expended pursuant to subsection (c) of this section,
455 deposited pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, or used
456 pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, the commissioner
457 may use such unexpended funds to support local school readiness
458 programs. The commissioner may use such funds for purposes
459 including, but not limited to, (i) assisting local school readiness
460 programs in meeting and maintaining accreditation requirements, (ii)
461 providing training in implementing the preschool assessment and
462 curriculum frameworks, including training to enhance literacy
463 teaching skills, (iii) developing a state-wide preschool curriculum, (iv)
464 developing student assessments for students in grades kindergarten to
465 two, inclusive, (v) developing and implementing best practices for
466 parents in supporting preschool and kindergarten student learning,
467 (vi) developing and implementing strategies for children to transition
468 from preschool to kindergarten, (vii) providing for professional
469 development, including assisting in career ladder advancement, for
470 school readiness staff, (viii) providing supplemental grants to other
471 towns that are eligible for grants pursuant to subsection (c) of this
472 section, and (ix) developing a plan to provide spaces in an accredited
473 school readiness program or a school readiness program seeking
474 accreditation to all eligible children who reside in an area or town
475 described in subparagraphs (A) to (D), inclusive, of subdivision (1) of
476 subsection (d) of this section.

477 (3) Notwithstanding subdivision (2) of this subsection, for the fiscal
478 years ending June 30, 2015, to June 30, 2016, inclusive, the office may
479 retain up to one hundred ninety-eight thousand two hundred dollars
480 of the amount appropriated for purposes of this section for
481 coordination, program evaluation and administration.

482 Sec. 4. Section 20-74b of the general statutes is repealed and the
483 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

484 Any person who (1) if an applicant for licensure as an occupational
485 therapist, has attained a bachelor's degree and has graduated from an

486 educational program accredited by the American Occupational
487 Therapy Association, or has completed educational preparation
488 deemed equivalent by the commissioner, or if an applicant for
489 licensure as an occupational therapy assistant, has attained an
490 [associate's] associate degree or its equivalent and has graduated from
491 an educational program approved by the American Occupational
492 Therapy Association, or has completed educational preparation
493 deemed equivalent by the commissioner, and (2) has successfully
494 completed not less than twenty-four weeks of supervised field work
495 experience in the case of an occupational therapy applicant or eight
496 weeks of such field work in the case of an occupational therapy
497 assistant applicant at a recognized educational institution or a training
498 program approved by the educational institution where he met the
499 academic requirements, and (3) has successfully completed an
500 examination prescribed by the commissioner shall be eligible for
501 licensure as an occupational therapist or assistant. An applicant who
502 has practiced as an occupational therapy assistant for four years with a
503 minimum of twenty-four weeks of supervised field experience and has
504 earned a bachelor's degree shall be eligible for licensure as an
505 occupational therapist, provided such applicant has successfully
506 completed the examination for licensure not later than January 1, 1988.
507 The department shall prescribe examinations for licensure and their
508 passing scores.

509 Sec. 5. Section 10a-1 of the general statutes is repealed and the
510 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

511 There shall be a state system of public higher education to consist of
512 (1) The University of Connecticut and all campuses thereof, and (2) the
513 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, which include (A) the
514 state [colleges] universities, which shall be known collectively as the
515 Connecticut State University System, [(3)] (B) the regional community-
516 technical colleges, [(4)] which shall be known collectively as the
517 regional community-technical college system, and (C) Charter Oak
518 State College. [, and (5) the staff of the Board of Regents for Higher
519 Education as established pursuant to section 10a-1a.] "Constituent

520 units" as used in the general statutes means those units in subdivisions
521 (1) [to (4), inclusive,] and (2) of this section.

522 Sec. 6. Subsection (a) of section 4-124z of the general statutes is
523 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
524 *1, 2016*):

525 (a) The Labor Commissioner, the Commissioner of Economic and
526 Community Development, working with the Office of Workforce
527 Competitiveness, the Commissioners of Education and Social Services,
528 the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and the
529 president of the [Board of Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut
530 State Colleges and Universities, in consultation with the
531 superintendent of the technical high school system and one member of
532 industry representing each of the economic clusters identified by the
533 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development pursuant to
534 section 32-1m shall (1) review, evaluate and, as necessary, recommend
535 improvements for certification and degree programs offered by the
536 technical high school system and the community-technical college
537 system to ensure that such programs meet the employment needs of
538 business and industry, and (2) develop strategies to strengthen the
539 linkage between skill standards for education and training and the
540 employment needs of business and industry.

541 Sec. 7. Subsection (b) of section 4-124bb of the general statutes is
542 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
543 *1, 2016*):

544 (b) The Connecticut Career Ladder Advisory Committee shall be
545 comprised of the following thirteen members: (1) The Commissioners
546 of Education and Public Health and the president of the [Board of
547 Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and
548 Universities, or their designees; (2) the Labor Commissioner, or a
549 designee; and (3) the following public members, all of whom shall be
550 selected by the Labor Commissioner, with recommendation of the staff
551 of the Office of Workforce Competitiveness, in conjunction with the
552 Permanent Commission on the Status of Women, and knowledgeable

553 about issues relative to career ladder programs or projected workforce
554 shortage areas: (A) One member with expertise in the development of
555 the early childhood education workforce; (B) one member with
556 expertise in job training for women; (C) one member with expertise in
557 the development of the health care workforce; (D) one member with
558 expertise in labor market analysis; (E) one member representing health
559 care employers; (F) one member representing early childhood
560 education employers; and (G) three members with expertise in
561 workforce development programs.

562 Sec. 8. Subdivision (5) of subsection (b) of section 4-124dd of the
563 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
564 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

565 (5) The Commissioners of Public Health and Education, the
566 president of the [Board of Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut
567 State Colleges and Universities and the executive director of the Office
568 of Higher Education, or their designees;

569 Sec. 9. Subsection (b) of section 4-124ff of the general statutes is
570 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
571 *1, 2016*):

572 (b) There is established a Council of Advisors on Strategies for the
573 Knowledge Economy to promote the formation of university-industry
574 partnerships, identify benchmarks for technology-based workforce
575 innovation and competitiveness and advise the award process (1) for
576 innovation challenge grants to public postsecondary schools and their
577 business partners, and (2) grants under section 4-124hh. The council
578 shall be chaired by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
579 Management and shall include the Commissioner of Economic and
580 Community Development, the president of the [Board of Regents for
581 Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, the
582 Labor Commissioner, the chief executive officer of Connecticut
583 Innovations, Incorporated and four representatives from the
584 technology industry, one of whom shall be appointed by the president
585 pro tempore of the Senate, one of whom shall be appointed by the

586 speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be
587 appointed by the minority leader of the Senate and one of whom shall
588 be appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives.

589 Sec. 10. Subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of section 4a-82 of the
590 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
591 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

592 (a) For the purposes of this section:

593 (1) "Person with a disability" means any individual with a disability,
594 excluding blindness, as such term is applied by the Department of
595 Mental Health and Addiction Services, the Department of
596 Developmental Services, the Department of Rehabilitation Services or
597 the Veterans' Administration and who is certified by the Department
598 of Rehabilitation Services as qualified to participate in a qualified
599 partnership, as described in subsections (e) to (l), inclusive, of this
600 section;

601 (2) "Vocational rehabilitation service" means any goods and services
602 necessary to render a person with a disability employable, in
603 accordance with Title I of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 USC 701 et
604 seq., as amended from time to time;

605 (3) "Community rehabilitation program" means any entity or
606 individual that provides directly for or facilitates the provision of
607 vocational rehabilitation services to, or provides services in connection
608 with, the recruiting, hiring or managing of the employment of persons
609 with disabilities based on an individualized plan and budget for each
610 worker with a disability;

611 (4) "Commercial contractor" means any for-profit proprietorship,
612 partnership, joint venture, corporation, limited liability company,
613 trust, association or other privately owned entity that employs persons
614 to perform janitorial work or contractual services, and that enters into
615 contracts to provide janitorial services or contractual services;

616 (5) "Janitorial work" means work performed in connection with the

617 care or maintenance of buildings, including, but not limited to, work
618 customarily performed by cleaners, porters, janitors and
619 handypersons;

620 (6) "Janitorial contract" means a contract or subcontract to perform
621 janitorial work for a department or agency of the state;

622 (7) "Person with a disadvantage" means any individual who is
623 determined by the Labor Department, or its designee, to be eligible for
624 employment services in accordance with the Workforce Investment
625 Act or whose verified individual gross annual income during the
626 previous calendar year was not greater than two hundred per cent of
627 the federal poverty level for a family of four;

628 (8) "Awarding authority" means the Commissioner of
629 Administrative Services, Chief Court Administrator of the Judicial
630 Branch and president of the [Board of Regents for Higher Education]
631 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, as applicable; and

632 (9) "Contractual services" includes, but is not limited to, any and all
633 laundry and cleaning services, mail supply room staffing, data entry,
634 telephone call center staffing and other services specified by the
635 Commissioner of Administrative Services under subsection (b) of this
636 section.

637 (b) (1) The Commissioner of Administrative Services shall establish
638 a program to create and expand janitorial work job opportunities for
639 persons with a disability and persons with a disadvantage. The
640 program shall create full-time jobs or full-time equivalents at standard
641 wage rates for persons with disabilities and persons with
642 disadvantages. The Judicial Branch and Board of Regents for Higher
643 Education may participate in such program.

644 (2) The Commissioner of Administrative Services may expand such
645 program to include contractual services that the commissioner deems
646 appropriate and shall post a list of such services on the department's
647 Internet web site.

648 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of the general statutes,
649 under such program, the awarding authority may award janitorial
650 contracts or contracts for contractual services pursuant to the following
651 procedures: (1) Upon receipt of a request for janitorial services or a
652 contractual service that the Commissioner of Administrative Services
653 has deemed appropriate for inclusion in the program by an agency or
654 department of the state, the awarding authority shall notify each
655 qualified partnership, as described in subsections (e) to (l), inclusive, of
656 this section, of such request and invite each qualified partnership in
657 good standing to submit a bid proposal for such janitorial contract or
658 service contract to the awarding authority in a manner and form as
659 prescribed by the awarding authority; (2) in the event that only one
660 such qualified partnership submits a bid or proposal for such janitorial
661 or service contract, the awarding authority shall award such contract
662 to such qualified partnership, provided such bid or proposal does not
663 exceed the fair market value for such contract, as determined by the
664 awarding authority; (3) if more than one qualified partnership submits
665 a bid or proposal, the awarding authority shall award the contract to
666 the lowest responsible qualified bidder or most advantageous
667 proposer, as described in section 4a-59; and (4) in the event that a
668 qualified partnership does not submit a bid or proposal or is not
669 awarded such contract, the awarding authority shall award such
670 contract in accordance with the provisions of sections 4a-52a, 4a-59,
671 10a-151b and 17b-656, or title 51, as applicable. No awarding authority
672 shall award a contract under the provisions of this subsection at a site
673 where employees are employed pursuant to an existing collective
674 bargaining agreement or where a contract has been awarded pursuant
675 to section 17b-656 unless a contract has been previously awarded to a
676 qualified partnership pursuant to this section at such site.

677 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of the general statutes, the
678 responsibilities of the Commissioner of Administrative Services, Chief
679 Court Administrator or president of the [Board of Regents for Higher
680 Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities as established
681 in subsections (b) and (c) of this section, may not be delegated to an
682 outside vendor.

683 (e) The Connecticut Community Providers Association shall
684 designate a commercial contractor and a community rehabilitation
685 program as a "qualified partnership" whenever the following criteria
686 have been established: (1) Such commercial contractor has entered into
687 a binding agreement with such community rehabilitation program in
688 which such contractor agrees to fill not less than one-third of the jobs
689 from a successful bid for a janitorial or service contract under the
690 program established in subsections (b) to (d), inclusive, of this section
691 with persons with disabilities and not less than one-third of such jobs
692 with persons with a disadvantage; (2) such contractor employs not less
693 than two hundred persons who perform janitorial work or contractual
694 services in the state; and (3) such contractor certifies, in writing, that it
695 will pay the standard wage to employees, including persons with
696 disabilities, under such janitorial or service contract. Any partnership
697 between a commercial contractor and a community rehabilitation
698 program that has been denied designation as a qualified partnership
699 may appeal such denial, in writing, to the Commissioner of
700 Administrative Services and said commissioner may, after review of
701 such appeal, designate such program as a qualified partnership.

702 (f) The requirement established in subsection (e) of this section to fill
703 not less than one-third of the jobs from a successful bid for a janitorial
704 or service contract with persons with disabilities and one-third with
705 persons with a disadvantage shall be met whenever such contractor
706 employs the requisite number of persons with disabilities and persons
707 with a disadvantage throughout the entirety of its operations in the
708 state provided any persons with disabilities employed by such
709 contractor prior to the commencement date of any such contract shall
710 not be counted for the purpose of determining the number of persons
711 with disabilities employed by such contractor.

712 (g) The number of persons with disabilities and the number of
713 persons with a disadvantage that such contractor is required to employ
714 pursuant to the provisions of subsection (e) of this section shall be
715 employed not later than six months after the commencement of
716 janitorial work or the contractual service under the terms of any

717 contract awarded pursuant to the provisions of subsections (b) to (d),
718 inclusive, of this section, provided such contractor shall fill any
719 vacancy for janitorial work or contractual service that arises during the
720 first six months of any such contract with persons with disabilities and
721 persons with disadvantages.

722 (h) The Connecticut Community Providers Association shall
723 develop an application process and submit a list of employees who
724 have applied to participate in a partnership to the Department of
725 Rehabilitation Services for certification. Such association shall maintain
726 a list of certified employees who are persons with disabilities and
727 community rehabilitation programs.

728 (i) Any qualified partnership awarded a janitorial or service contract
729 pursuant to the provisions of subsections (b) to (d), inclusive, of this
730 section shall provide to the Connecticut Community Providers
731 Association, not later than six months after the commencement date of
732 such contract and annually thereafter, a list of the persons with
733 disabilities and persons with a disadvantage employed by such
734 contractor that includes the date of hire and employment location for
735 each such person. Such association shall certify annually to the
736 Department of Administrative Services, the Judicial Branch or the
737 Board of Regents for Higher Education, as applicable, in such manner
738 and form as prescribed by the Commissioner of Administrative
739 Services, Chief Court Administrator or the president of the Board of
740 Regents for Higher Education, that the requisite number of persons
741 with disabilities for such contract continue to be employed by such
742 contractor in positions equivalent to those created under such contract
743 and have been integrated into the general workforce of such
744 contractor.

745 Sec. 11. Subsection (a) of section 4d-80 of the general statutes is
746 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
747 *1, 2016*):

748 (a) There is established a Commission for Educational Technology
749 within the Department of Administrative Services. The commission

750 shall consist of the following members or their designees: (1) The
751 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the Commissioner
752 of Administrative Services, the Commissioner of Education, the
753 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, the
754 president of The University of Connecticut and the president of the
755 [Board of Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges
756 and Universities, the State Librarian and the Consumer Counsel, (2)
757 one member each representing the Connecticut Conference of
758 Independent Colleges, the Connecticut Association of Boards of
759 Education, the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities, the
760 Connecticut Council of Small Towns and the Connecticut Library
761 Association, (3) four members who represent business or have
762 expertise in information technology, two of whom shall be appointed
763 by the Governor, one of whom shall be appointed by the speaker of the
764 House of Representatives and one of whom shall be appointed by the
765 president pro tempore of the Senate, (4) one member who is a chief
766 elected official of a municipality, who shall be appointed by the
767 minority leader of the Senate, and (5) one member who is a
768 representative of small business who shall be appointed by the
769 minority leader of the House of Representatives. The commission shall
770 convene a meeting at least once during each calendar quarter.

771 Sec. 12. Section 5-199d of the general statutes is repealed and the
772 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

773 The Department of Administrative Services or any other state
774 agency which seeks to contract for training for their employees shall,
775 prior to entering into a contract, contact the president of the [Board of
776 Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and
777 Universities, or said president's designee, to determine if an
778 appropriate training program exists or can be designed at a regional
779 community-technical college. Nothing in this section shall preclude an
780 agency from considering or choosing other providers to meet such
781 training need.

782 Sec. 13. Subsection (a) of section 7-323k of the general statutes is

783 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
784 *1, 2016*):

785 (a) There is established a Commission on Fire Prevention and
786 Control to consist of twelve members appointed by the Governor. The
787 State Fire Marshal or his or her designee and the president of the
788 [Board of Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges
789 and Universities or his or her designee shall serve as ex-officio, voting
790 members of said commission. Of the twelve members appointed by the
791 Governor, two shall represent The Connecticut State Firefighter's
792 Association, two shall represent the Connecticut Fire Chiefs
793 Association, two shall represent the Uniformed Professional
794 Firefighters of the International Association of Firefighters, AFL-CIO,
795 two shall represent the Connecticut Fire Marshals Association, two
796 shall represent the Connecticut Fire Department Instructors
797 Association and two shall represent the Connecticut Conference of
798 Municipalities.

799 Sec. 14. Subsection (a) of section 7-608 of the general statutes is
800 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
801 *1, 2016*):

802 (a) There is established a Neighborhood Revitalization Zone
803 Advisory Board. The board shall consist of the following voting
804 members: (1) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management;
805 (2) the president of the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at
806 Central Connecticut State University; (3) the president of the [Board of
807 Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and
808 Universities; (4) the heads of those state agencies deemed appropriate
809 by the secretary; (5) the chief executive officer of a municipality in
810 which a neighborhood revitalization zone planning committee,
811 pursuant to this chapter, was established on or before July 1, 1998; and
812 (6) one member of each such neighborhood revitalization zone
813 planning committee appointed by the chief executive officer based
814 upon recommendations submitted to him by such committee. In a
815 municipality having more than one neighborhood revitalization zone

816 planning committee, each committee shall submit its recommendations
817 to the chief executive officer and he shall choose the board member to
818 be appointed from such recommendations. Each member of the board
819 may designate a person to represent him on said board. The
820 membership of the board shall be increased on September 1, 1999, and
821 annually thereafter, to reflect the addition of a municipal chief
822 executive officer and a member of a neighborhood revitalization zone
823 planning committee having been established in the preceding twelve
824 months, in a municipality not previously represented on said board.
825 The members of the board shall serve without compensation.

826 Sec. 15. Subsection (b) of section 10-1 of the general statutes is
827 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
828 *1, 2016*):

829 (b) The Governor shall appoint, with the advice and consent of the
830 General Assembly, the members of said board, provided each student
831 member (1) is on the list submitted to the Governor pursuant to section
832 10-2a, (2) is enrolled in a public high school in the state, (3) has
833 completed eleventh grade prior to the commencement of his term, (4)
834 has at least a B plus average, and (5) provides at least three references
835 from teachers in the school the student member is attending. The
836 nonstudent members shall serve for terms of four years commencing
837 on March first in the year of their appointment. The student members
838 shall serve for terms of one year commencing on July first in the year
839 of their appointment. The president of the [Board of Regents for
840 Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities and the
841 chairperson of the technical high school system board shall serve as ex-
842 officio members without a vote. Any vacancy in said State Board of
843 Education shall be filled in the manner provided in section 4-19.

844 Sec. 16. Subsection (a) of section 10-16z of the 2016 supplement to
845 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
846 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

847 (a) There is established the Early Childhood Cabinet. The cabinet
848 shall consist of: (1) The Commissioner of Early Childhood, or the

849 commissioner's designee, (2) the Commissioner of Education, or the
850 commissioner's designee, (3) the Commissioner of Social Services, or
851 the commissioner's designee, (4) the president of the [Board of Regents
852 for Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, or
853 the president's designee, (5) the Commissioner of Public Health, or the
854 commissioner's designee, (6) the Commissioner of Developmental
855 Services, or the commissioner's designee, (7) the Commissioner of
856 Children and Families, or the commissioner's designee, (8) the
857 executive director of the Commission on Children, or the executive
858 director's designee, (9) the project director of the Connecticut Head
859 Start State Collaboration Office, (10) a parent or guardian of a child
860 who attends or attended a school readiness program appointed by the
861 minority leader of the House of Representatives, (11) a representative
862 of a local provider of early childhood education appointed by the
863 minority leader of the Senate, (12) a representative of the Connecticut
864 Family Resource Center Alliance appointed by the majority leader of
865 the House of Representatives, (13) a representative of a state-funded
866 child care center appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, (14)
867 two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, one of
868 whom is a member of a board of education for a town designated as an
869 alliance district, as defined in section 10-262u, and one of whom is a
870 parent who has a child attending a school in an educational reform
871 district, as defined in section 10-262u, (15) two appointed by the
872 president pro tempore of the Senate, one of whom is a representative
873 of an association of early education and child care providers and one
874 of whom is a representative of a public elementary school with a
875 prekindergarten program, (16) eight appointed by the Governor, one
876 of whom is a representative of the Connecticut Head Start Association,
877 one of whom is a representative of the business community in this
878 state, one of whom is a representative of the philanthropic community
879 in this state, one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut State
880 Employees Association, one of whom is an administrator of the child
881 care development block grant pursuant to the Child Care and
882 Development Block Grant Act of 1990, one of whom is responsible for
883 administering grants received under section 1419 of Part B of the

884 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 USC 1419, as amended
885 from time to time, one of whom is responsible for administering the
886 provisions of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act,
887 20 USC 6301 et seq., and one of whom is responsible for coordinating
888 education services to children and youth who are homeless, (17) the
889 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's
890 designee, (18) the Lieutenant Governor, or the Lieutenant Governor's
891 designee, (19) the Commissioner of Housing, or the commissioner's
892 designee, and (20) the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction
893 Services, or the commissioner's designee.

894 Sec. 17. Subsection (a) of section 10-16nn of the general statutes is
895 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
896 *1, 2016*):

897 (a) There is established an Interagency Council for Ending the
898 Achievement Gap. The council shall consist of: (1) The Lieutenant
899 Governor, or the Lieutenant Governor's designee, (2) the
900 Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee, (3) the
901 Commissioner of Children and Families, or the commissioner's
902 designee, (4) the Commissioner of Social Services, or the
903 commissioner's designee, (5) the Commissioner of Public Health, or the
904 commissioner's designee, (6) the president of the [Board of Regents for
905 Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, or the
906 president's designee, (7) the Commissioner of Economic and
907 Community Development, or the commissioner's designee, (8) the
908 Commissioner of Administrative Services, or the commissioner's
909 designee, (9) the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or
910 the secretary's designee, and (10) the Commissioner of Housing, or the
911 commissioner's designee. The chairperson of the council shall be the
912 Lieutenant Governor, or the Lieutenant Governor's designee. The
913 council shall meet at least quarterly.

914 Sec. 18. Subsection (c) of section 10-16pp of the 2016 supplement to
915 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
916 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

917 (c) Not later than January 1, 2015, the Commissioner of Education,
918 the president of the [Board of Regents for Higher Education]
919 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, the chairperson of the
920 Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut and the Banking
921 Commissioner shall report to the joint standing committee of the
922 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to banks on
923 the status of the plan described in subsection (a) of this section.

924 Sec. 19. Subsection (a) of section 10-151d of the general statutes is
925 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
926 *1, 2016*):

927 (a) There is established a Performance Evaluation Advisory Council
928 within the Department of Education. Membership of the council shall
929 consist of: (1) The Commissioner of Education and the president of the
930 [Board of Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges
931 and Universities, or their designees, (2) one representative from each of
932 the following associations, designated by the association, the
933 Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, the Connecticut
934 Association of Public School Superintendents, the Connecticut
935 Federation of School Administrators, the Connecticut Education
936 Association and the American Federation of Teachers-Connecticut,
937 and (3) persons selected by the Commissioner of Education who shall
938 include, but not be limited to, teachers, persons with expertise in
939 performance evaluation processes and systems, and any other person
940 the commissioner deems appropriate.

941 Sec. 20. Subsection (c) of section 10-155l of the general statutes is
942 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
943 *1, 2016*):

944 (c) Not later than October 1, 2007, the Regional Educational Service
945 Center Minority Recruiting Alliance, in consultation with the
946 Department of Education, the Board of Regents for Higher Education,
947 the constituent units of the state system of higher education and the
948 Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges, shall propose
949 guidelines to the Commissioner of Education and the president of the

950 [Board of Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges
951 and Universities for pilot programs to recruit and retain minority
952 teachers and may consider, but such consideration need not be limited
953 to, the establishment and operation of the following pilot programs:

954 (1) A fellows program leading to the eligibility for an educator
955 certificate for minority individuals who have (A) completed an
956 intensive summer session focusing on classroom management and
957 methodology, (B) received a bachelor's degree from an institution of
958 higher education accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher
959 Education or Office of Higher Education or regionally accredited, (C)
960 achieved a satisfactory score on the examination required pursuant to
961 section 10-145f or have had such requirement waived pursuant to said
962 section, and (D) have such other qualifications for the issuance of an
963 educator certificate as are required for individuals participating in the
964 alternate route to certification program under section 10-155d;

965 (2) A competitive grant program to assist local and regional boards
966 of education to form and operate future teachers' clubs as part of the
967 extracurricular activities at middle and high schools under their
968 jurisdiction; and

969 (3) A program to allow minority college seniors who are majoring in
970 subject shortage areas pursuant to section 10-8b but who are not
971 enrolled in a teacher preparation program to receive up to three credits
972 for working as cadet teachers in a public school and, upon graduation
973 and recommendation by school officials, to allow such cadet teachers
974 to enter a fellows program pursuant to subdivision (1) of this
975 subsection if such a program is in operation.

976 Sec. 21. Section 10a-1b of the 2016 supplement to the general statutes
977 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
978 *1, 2016*):

979 (a) The Board of Regents for Higher Education shall appoint a
980 president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities who shall
981 serve at the pleasure of the board. The president of the [Board of

982 Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and
983 Universities shall (1) have the authority to implement the policies,
984 directives and rules of the board and any additional responsibilities as
985 the board may prescribe, (2) implement the goals identified in section
986 10a-11c and recommendations made pursuant to section 10a-11b, as
987 amended by this act, (3) build interdependent support among the
988 Connecticut State University System, the regional community-
989 technical college system and Charter Oak State College, (4) balance
990 central authority with institutional differentiation, autonomy and
991 creativity, and (5) facilitate cooperation and synergy among the
992 Connecticut State University System, the regional community-
993 technical college system and Charter Oak State College. [Said] The
994 president may designate an alternate to serve as a member of any
995 commission, foundation or committee upon which the general statutes
996 require [said] the president to serve. Such designee may vote on behalf
997 of [said] the president. There shall be an executive staff responsible for
998 the operation of the Board of Regents for Higher Education. The
999 executive staff shall be under the direction of the president of the
1000 [Board of Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges
1001 and Universities, who shall be the chief executive officer of the Board
1002 of Regents for Higher Education.

1003 (b) The president may employ staff as is deemed necessary,
1004 including, but not limited to, temporary assistants and consultants.
1005 The board shall establish terms and conditions of employment of [its]
1006 the president and the board's staff, prescribe their duties and fix the
1007 compensation of [its] the president and the board's professional and
1008 technical personnel.

1009 (c) Upon recommendation of the president, the Board of Regents for
1010 Higher Education shall appoint two vice-presidents. One vice-
1011 president shall represent the Connecticut State University System and
1012 the other vice-president shall represent the regional community-
1013 technical college system. Each vice-president shall perform such duties
1014 and responsibilities as the board and president shall prescribe, so that
1015 each said constituent unit fulfills its mission. Such duties shall include,

1016 but not be limited to, oversight of academic programs, student support
1017 services and institutional support.

1018 Sec. 22. Subsection (a) of section 10a-6a of the general statutes is
1019 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1020 *1, 2016*):

1021 (a) There is established a Higher Education Coordinating Council
1022 composed of: The vice-president for each constituent unit appointed
1023 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10a-1b, as amended by this act,
1024 the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the
1025 Commissioner of Education, the president of The University of
1026 Connecticut, the chief academic officer of The University of
1027 Connecticut, the chairperson of the Board of Trustees for The
1028 University of Connecticut, the chairperson of the Board of Regents for
1029 Higher Education and the president of the [Board of Regents for
1030 Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities. The
1031 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall call an annual
1032 meeting of the council.

1033 Sec. 23. Subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 10a-11b of the
1034 2016 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following
1035 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

1036 (2) The following persons shall serve as ex-officio nonvoting
1037 members on the commission: (A) The president of the [Board of
1038 Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and
1039 Universities, the Commissioner of Education, the Commissioner of
1040 Economic and Community Development and the Labor
1041 Commissioner, or their designees; (B) the chairpersons of the boards of
1042 trustees and the chief executive officers of each constituent unit of the
1043 state system of higher education, or their designees; (C) the
1044 chairperson of the board and president of the Connecticut Conference
1045 of Independent Colleges, or their designees; (D) the chairpersons and
1046 ranking members of the joint standing committee of the General
1047 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education
1048 and employment advancement; and (E) the Secretary of the Office of

1049 Policy and Management, or the secretary's designee.

1050 Sec. 24. Section 10a-19d of the general statutes is repealed and the
1051 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

1052 (a) The president of the [Board of Regents for Higher Education]
1053 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities shall, within available
1054 appropriations, expand the capacity of programs for training early
1055 childhood education teachers through the development of accelerated,
1056 alternate route programs to initial teacher certification with an
1057 endorsement in early childhood education.

1058 (b) The president of the [Board of Regents for Higher Education]
1059 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, in consultation with the
1060 Labor Department's Office of Workforce Competitiveness, the
1061 Department of Education, the Department of Social Services, Charter
1062 Oak State College, early childhood education faculty at two and four-
1063 year public and independent institutions of higher education, early
1064 childhood education professional associations, early childhood
1065 education advocates and practitioners, and persons knowledgeable in
1066 the area of career development and programs in early childhood care
1067 and education, shall define the preservice and minimum training
1068 requirements and competencies for persons involved in early
1069 childhood education, from birth to five years of age, including
1070 requirements for individual levels of early childhood credentialing and
1071 licensing.

1072 Sec. 25. Subsection (c) of section 10a-19e of the general statutes is
1073 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1074 *1, 2016*):

1075 (c) Persons who qualify under subsection (b) of this section shall be
1076 reimbursed on an annual basis for qualifying student loan payments in
1077 amounts as determined by the president of the [Board of Regents for
1078 Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities. A
1079 person qualifying under subsection (b) of this section shall only be
1080 reimbursed for loan payments made while such person is employed in

1081 the state as an engineer. The Board of Regents for Higher Education
1082 shall develop eligibility requirements for recipients of such
1083 reimbursements. Such requirements may include income guidelines.
1084 Persons may apply for grants to the Board of Regents for Higher
1085 Education at such time and in such manner as the president of the
1086 [Board of Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges
1087 and Universities prescribes.

1088 Sec. 26. Subsection (c) of section 10a-19f of the general statutes is
1089 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1090 *1, 2016*):

1091 (c) Persons who qualify under subsection (b) of this section shall
1092 receive reimbursement grants on an annual basis for qualifying
1093 student loan payments in amounts as determined by the president of
1094 the [Board of Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut State
1095 Colleges and Universities. A person qualifying under subsection (b) of
1096 this section shall only be reimbursed for loan payments made while
1097 such person is employed in Connecticut by a qualifying company or in
1098 research at an institution of higher education in an economically
1099 valuable field. The Board of Regents for Higher Education shall
1100 develop eligibility requirements for recipients of such reimbursement
1101 grants in consultation with the Department of Economic and
1102 Community Development. Such requirements may include income
1103 guidelines. Persons may apply for grants to the Board of Regents for
1104 Higher Education at such time and in such manner as the president of
1105 the [Board of Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut State
1106 Colleges and Universities prescribes.

1107 Sec. 27. Subsection (a) of section 10a-55a of the general statutes is
1108 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1109 *1, 2016*):

1110 (a) On or before October 1, 1991, and annually thereafter, each
1111 institution of higher education shall prepare in such manner as the
1112 president of the [Board of Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut
1113 State Colleges and Universities shall prescribe a uniform campus crime

1114 report concerning crimes committed in the immediately preceding
1115 calendar year within the geographical limits of the property owned or
1116 under the control of such institution. Such report shall be in
1117 accordance with the uniform crime reporting system pursuant to
1118 section 29-1c, provided such report is limited to those offenses
1119 included in part I of the most recently published edition of the
1120 Uniform Crime Reports for the United States as authorized by the
1121 Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Department of
1122 Justice, sexual assault under sections 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-70b, 53a-71,
1123 53a-72a, 53a-72b and 53a-73a, stalking under sections 53a-181c, 53a-
1124 181d and 53a-181e and family violence as designated under section
1125 46b-38h. The state police, local police departments and special police
1126 forces established pursuant to section 10a-156b shall cooperate with
1127 institutions of higher education in preparing such reports. Institutions
1128 with more than one campus shall prepare such reports for each
1129 campus.

1130 Sec. 28. Section 10a-55e of the general statutes is repealed and the
1131 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

1132 Each technical high school and public institution of higher
1133 education shall develop, in such manner as the Commissioner of
1134 Education and president of the [Board of Regents for Higher
1135 Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities prescribe,
1136 agreements to share equipment required for students participating in
1137 green jobs certificate or degree programs or enrolled in a course of
1138 study concerning green jobs, including, but not limited to, solar
1139 photovoltaic installation.

1140 Sec. 29. Subdivision (3) of section 10a-91c of the general statutes is
1141 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1142 *1, 2016*):

1143 (3) "CSCU 2020" means the projects at the [Connecticut state colleges
1144 and universities system] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities
1145 and system-wide that are identified in the facilities and academic plans
1146 necessary to modernize, rehabilitate, renew, expand and otherwise

1147 stabilize the physical plant and technology infrastructure of the system
1148 so as to provide a concentrated, accelerated and cooperative effort for
1149 the benefit of the educational and economic development needs of this
1150 state and the system in an efficient, cost effective and timely manner
1151 and to assure that the system continues to compete successfully for
1152 students, faculty and staff.

1153 Sec. 30. Subsection (a) of section 10a-144 of the general statutes is
1154 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1155 *1, 2016*):

1156 (a) There is established a higher education center for the central
1157 Naugatuck Valley region. The regional community-technical college
1158 established for the greater Waterbury area pursuant to subsection (g)
1159 of section 10a-78, shall be located at such center. The University of
1160 Connecticut shall have access to classrooms, faculty office space and
1161 concurrent and cooperative use of common student facilities including,
1162 but not limited to, library and athletic fields, at such center. The Board
1163 of Trustees for the Regional Community-Technical Colleges and the
1164 Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut shall jointly
1165 develop, in conjunction with the president of the [Board of Regents for
1166 Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, or his
1167 designee, an annual joint use plan for such center. On or before
1168 September 1, 1993, and annually thereafter, the president of the [Board
1169 of Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and
1170 Universities shall call and convene an initial meeting for the
1171 development of such plan.

1172 Sec. 31. Section 10a-161a of the general statutes is repealed and the
1173 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

1174 The president of the [Board of Regents for Higher Education]
1175 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities and the Office of Higher
1176 Education shall report, biennially, in accordance with the provisions of
1177 section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
1178 having cognizance of matters relating to higher education on state,
1179 northeast regional and national trends in (1) the cost of attendance at

1180 public and independent institutions of higher education and private
1181 occupational schools, and (2) the availability and utilization of all
1182 forms of student financial aid for academic and noncredit vocational
1183 courses and programs relative to economic conditions and personal
1184 income.

1185 Sec. 32. Subsection (b) of section 10a-169a of the general statutes is
1186 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1187 *1, 2016*):

1188 (b) Within available appropriations, the program shall provide
1189 grants for students entering or enrolling in an information technology
1190 related degree or certification program at any public or independent
1191 institution of higher education in this state. The scholarship shall not
1192 exceed three thousand dollars per student per year. The scholarship
1193 shall not exceed the combined costs of tuition and fees of an institution
1194 at which a recipient is or will be enrolled. The Board of Regents for
1195 Higher Education shall develop eligibility requirements for recipients.
1196 Such requirements may include income guidelines. Students shall be
1197 eligible for such scholarships for each year they are enrolled in an
1198 information technology related degree or certification program for a
1199 total of not more than four years per student. Students may apply for
1200 such scholarships to the Board of Regents for Higher Education at such
1201 time and in such manner as the president of the [Board of Regents for
1202 Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities
1203 prescribes.

1204 Sec. 33. Subsection (c) of section 10a-169b of the general statutes is
1205 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1206 *1, 2016*):

1207 (c) Persons who qualify under subsection (b) of this section and
1208 meet any additional requirements established by the Board of Regents
1209 for Higher Education pursuant to this subsection shall be reimbursed
1210 on an annual basis for qualifying student loans. Such reimbursement
1211 shall not exceed two thousand five hundred dollars for each year of
1212 employment and for no more than a total of two years per person. A

1213 person qualifying under subsection (b) of this section shall only be
1214 reimbursed if such person is employed by a qualifying company at the
1215 time of application for loan reimbursement pursuant to this section.
1216 The Board of Regents for Higher Education may develop additional
1217 eligibility requirements for recipients. Such requirements may include
1218 income guidelines. Persons may apply for grants to the Board of
1219 Regents for Higher Education at such time and in such manner as the
1220 president of the [Board of Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut
1221 State Colleges and Universities prescribes.

1222 Sec. 34. Subsection (b) of section 10a-179a of the 2016 supplement to
1223 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1224 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

1225 (b) The Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan
1226 Authority shall be governed by a board of directors consisting of the
1227 following nine members: (1) The State Treasurer, or the Treasurer's
1228 designee, who shall serve as an ex-officio voting member; (2) the
1229 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's
1230 designee, who shall serve as an ex-officio voting member; (3) the
1231 president of the [Board of Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut
1232 State Colleges and Universities, or the president's designee, who shall
1233 serve as an ex-officio voting member; (4) the chairperson of the board
1234 of directors of the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities
1235 Authority; (5) the executive director of the Connecticut Health and
1236 Educational Facilities Authority; (6) two residents of the state, each of
1237 whom is an active or retired trustee, director, officer or employee of a
1238 Connecticut institution for higher education, appointed by the board of
1239 directors of the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities
1240 Authority; (7) a resident of this state with a favorable reputation for
1241 skill, knowledge and experience in the higher education loan field,
1242 appointed by the board of directors of the Connecticut Health and
1243 Educational Facilities Authority; and (8) a resident of this state with a
1244 favorable reputation for skill, knowledge and experience in either the
1245 higher education loan field or in state and municipal finance,
1246 appointed by the board of directors of the Connecticut Health and

1247 Educational Facilities Authority. Of the four appointed members, not
1248 more than two may be members of the same political party. One
1249 appointed member shall serve until the earlier of July 1, 2017, or, if
1250 such person was a member of the Connecticut Higher Education
1251 Supplemental Loan Authority board on June 30, 2012, the date on
1252 which such member's then current term was originally scheduled to
1253 end. One appointed member shall serve until the earlier of July 1, 2018,
1254 or, if such person was a member of the Connecticut Higher Education
1255 Supplemental Loan Authority board on June 30, 2012, the date on
1256 which such member's then current term was originally scheduled to
1257 end. Except as provided in this subsection and notwithstanding the
1258 original date of expiration of the term of any person who is an
1259 appointed member of the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental
1260 Loan Authority board on June 30, 2012, the term of all such persons
1261 shall expire on July 1, 2012. The Connecticut Health and Educational
1262 Facilities Authority board shall appoint a member or members each for
1263 a term of six years or until his or her successor is appointed and has
1264 qualified to succeed the members whose terms expire. Said authority
1265 board shall fill any vacancy for the unexpired term. A member of the
1266 Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority board
1267 shall be eligible for reappointment. Any member of the Connecticut
1268 Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority board may be
1269 removed by the appointing authority for misfeasance, malfeasance or
1270 wilful neglect of duty. Each member of the Connecticut Higher
1271 Education Supplemental Loan Authority board before entering upon
1272 his or her duties shall take and subscribe the oath or affirmation
1273 required by section 1 of article eleventh of the State Constitution. A
1274 record of each such oath shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of
1275 the State.

1276 Sec. 35. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 12-413b of the general
1277 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
1278 (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

1279 (a) The president of the [Board of Regents for Higher Education]
1280 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities may select a direct

1281 payment permit holder, as described in section 12-409a, for a pilot
1282 program in accordance with the provisions of this section.

1283 (b) There shall be allowed a credit to such direct payment permit
1284 holder in an amount equal to the amount of a qualified investment, as
1285 defined in subsection (c) of this section, that is made on or after July 1,
1286 2000, against the use tax liability that is incurred under this chapter by
1287 such holder in making purchases on or after July 1, 2000, of computer
1288 equipment to be used in this state in electronic commerce. The total
1289 amount of such credits allowed under this section shall not exceed four
1290 million dollars in the aggregate. No credit shall be allowed under this
1291 section unless the president of the [Board of Regents for Higher
1292 Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities certifies, in a
1293 manner satisfactory to the Commissioner of Revenue Services, that a
1294 qualified investment has been made by the direct payment permit
1295 holder and that projects related to such investment have been
1296 completed. The Commissioner of Revenue Services may adopt
1297 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, which
1298 prescribe the procedures for the direct payment permit holder to claim
1299 the credit allowed under this section.

1300 Sec. 36. Subsection (a) of section 17a-52 of the 2016 supplement to
1301 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1302 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

1303 (a) There is established a Youth Suicide Advisory Board, within the
1304 Department of Children and Families, which shall be a coordinating
1305 source for youth suicide prevention. The board shall consist of twenty
1306 members, which shall include one psychiatrist licensed to practice
1307 medicine in this state, one psychologist licensed in this state, one
1308 representative of a local or regional board of education, one high
1309 school teacher, one high school student, one college or university
1310 faculty member, one college or university student and one parent, all
1311 appointed by the Commissioner of Children and Families, one
1312 representative of the Department of Public Health appointed by the
1313 Commissioner of Public Health, one representative of the state

1314 Department of Education appointed by the Commissioner of
1315 Education and one representative of the Board of Regents for Higher
1316 Education appointed by the president of the [Board of Regents for
1317 Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities. The
1318 balance of the board shall be comprised of persons with expertise in
1319 the mental health of children or mental health issues with a focus on
1320 suicide prevention and shall be appointed by the Commissioner of
1321 Children and Families. Members of the board shall serve for two-year
1322 terms, without compensation. Any member who fails to attend three
1323 consecutive meetings or fifty per cent of all meetings held during any
1324 calendar year shall be deemed to have resigned from the board. The
1325 Commissioner of Children and Families shall be a nonvoting, ex-officio
1326 member of the board. The board shall elect a chairman, and a vice-
1327 chairman to act in the chairman's absence.

1328 Sec. 37. Section 31-3c of the general statutes is repealed and the
1329 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

1330 The Labor Commissioner, with the approval of the Commissioners
1331 of Economic and Community Development and Education, shall
1332 establish a customized job training program for preemployment and
1333 postemployment job training for the purpose of meeting the labor
1334 requirements of manufacturing or economic base businesses, as
1335 defined in subsection (l) of section 32-222, and shall implement such
1336 job training program. Such job training program shall include training
1337 designed to increase the basic skills of employees, including, but not
1338 limited to, training in written and oral communication, mathematics or
1339 science, or training in technical and technological skills. The Labor
1340 Commissioner shall use funds appropriated to the Labor Department
1341 for vocational and manpower training in carrying out such job training
1342 program, except that not more than four per cent of such funds may be
1343 used to pay the cost of its administration. Upon receipt of a request for
1344 job training pursuant to this section, the Labor Commissioner shall
1345 notify the president of the [Board of Regents for Higher Education]
1346 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, or his or her designee, of
1347 such request. The president, or his or her designee, shall determine if a

1348 training program exists or can be designed at a regional
1349 community-technical college to meet such training need and shall
1350 notify the Labor Commissioner of such determination. The Labor
1351 Commissioner shall to the extent possible make arrangements for the
1352 participation of the regional community-technical colleges, the
1353 Connecticut State University System, other institutions of higher
1354 education, other postsecondary institutions, adult education programs,
1355 opportunities industrialization centers and state technical high schools
1356 in implementing the program. Nothing in this section shall preclude
1357 the Labor Commissioner from considering or choosing other providers
1358 to meet such training need. Nothing in this section shall preclude an
1359 employer from considering or choosing other providers to meet the
1360 training needs of such employer, provided the Labor Commissioner
1361 approves such employer's use of such other providers. For the period
1362 from July 1, 1996, to June 30, 1999, the Labor Commissioner, or his or
1363 her designee, the chancellor of the community-technical colleges and
1364 the chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General
1365 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education shall
1366 meet semiannually to review actions taken pursuant to this section and
1367 section 32-6j, as amended by this act.

1368 Sec. 38. Subsection (g) of section 31-254 of the general statutes is
1369 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1370 *1, 2016*):

1371 (g) (1) Notwithstanding any of the information disclosure
1372 provisions of this section, the administrator shall disclose information
1373 obtained pursuant to subsection (a) of this section to: (A) A regional
1374 workforce development board, established pursuant to section 31-3k,
1375 to the extent necessary for the effective administration of the federal
1376 Trade Adjustment Assistance Program of the Trade Act of 1974, as
1377 amended from time to time, the federal Workforce Investment Act, as
1378 amended from time to time, and the state employment services
1379 program established pursuant to section 17b-688c for recipients of
1380 temporary family assistance, provided a regional workforce
1381 development board, enters into a written agreement with the

1382 administrator, pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection,
1383 concerning protection of the confidentiality of such information prior
1384 to the receipt of any such information; (B) a nonpublic entity that is
1385 under contract with the administrator where necessary for the effective
1386 administration of this chapter or with the United States Department of
1387 Labor to administer grants which are beneficial to the interests of the
1388 administrator, provided such nonpublic entity enters into a written
1389 agreement with the administrator, pursuant to subdivision (2) of this
1390 subsection, concerning protection of the confidentiality of such
1391 information prior to the receipt of any such information; (C) the
1392 president of the [Board of Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut
1393 State Colleges and Universities, appointed under section 10a-1a, for
1394 use in the performance of such president's official duties to the extent
1395 necessary for evaluating programs at institutions of higher education
1396 governed by said board pursuant to section 10a-1a, provided such
1397 president enters into a written agreement with the administrator,
1398 pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection, concerning protection of
1399 the confidentiality of such information prior to the receipt of any such
1400 information; or (D) a third party pursuant to written, informed consent
1401 of the individual or employer to whom the information pertains.

1402 (2) Any written agreement shall contain safeguards as are necessary
1403 to protect the confidentiality of the information being disclosed,
1404 including, but not limited to a:

1405 (A) Statement from the regional workforce development board,
1406 nonpublic entity, or president of the [Board of Regents for Higher
1407 Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, as
1408 appropriate, of the purposes for the requested information and the
1409 specific use intended for the information;

1410 (B) Statement from the regional workforce development board,
1411 nonpublic entity, or president of the [Board of Regents for Higher
1412 Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, as
1413 appropriate, that the disclosed information shall only be used for such
1414 purposes as are permitted by this subsection and consistent with the

1415 written agreement;

1416 (C) Requirement that the regional workforce development board,
1417 nonpublic entity, or president of the [Board of Regents for Higher
1418 Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, as
1419 appropriate, store the disclosed information in a location that is
1420 physically secure from access by unauthorized persons;

1421 (D) Requirement that the regional workforce development board,
1422 nonpublic entity, or president of the [Board of Regents for Higher
1423 Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, as
1424 appropriate, store and process the disclosed information maintained in
1425 an electronic format in such a way that ensures that unauthorized
1426 persons cannot obtain the information by any means;

1427 (E) Requirement that the regional workforce development board,
1428 nonpublic entity, or president of the [Board of Regents for Higher
1429 Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, as
1430 appropriate, establish safeguards to ensure that only authorized
1431 persons, including any authorized agent of the board, nonpublic
1432 entity, or president of the [Board of Regents for Higher Education]
1433 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, are permitted access to
1434 disclosed information stored in computer systems;

1435 (F) Requirement that the regional workforce development board,
1436 nonpublic entity, or president of the [Board of Regents for Higher
1437 Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, as
1438 appropriate, enter into a written agreement, that has been approved by
1439 the administrator, with any authorized agent of the board, nonpublic
1440 entity, or president of the [Board of Regents for Higher Education]
1441 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, which agreement shall
1442 contain the requisite safeguards contained in the written agreement
1443 between the board, nonpublic entity, or president of the [Board of
1444 Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and
1445 Universities and the administrator;

1446 (G) Requirement that the regional workforce development board,

1447 nonpublic entity, or president of the [Board of Regents for Higher
1448 Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, as
1449 appropriate, instruct all persons having access to the disclosed
1450 information about the sanctions specified in this section, and further
1451 require each employee of such board, nonpublic entity, or president of
1452 the [Board of Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut State
1453 Colleges and Universities, and any agent of such board, nonpublic
1454 entity, or president of the [Board of Regents for Higher Education]
1455 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, authorized to review such
1456 information, to sign an acknowledgment that such employee or such
1457 agent has been advised of such sanctions;

1458 (H) Statement that redisclosure of confidential information is
1459 prohibited, except with the written approval of the administrator;

1460 (I) Requirement that the regional workforce development board,
1461 nonpublic entity, or president of the [Board of Regents for Higher
1462 Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, as
1463 appropriate, dispose of information disclosed or obtained under this
1464 subsection, including any copies of such information made by the
1465 board, nonpublic entity, or president of the [Board of Regents for
1466 Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, after
1467 the purpose for which the information is disclosed has been served,
1468 either by returning the information to the administrator, or by
1469 verifying to the administrator that the information has been destroyed;

1470 (J) Statement that the regional workforce development board,
1471 nonpublic entity, or president of the [Board of Regents for Higher
1472 Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, as
1473 appropriate, shall permit representatives of the administrator to
1474 conduct periodic audits, including on-site inspections, for the purpose
1475 of reviewing such board's, nonpublic entity's, or adherence of the
1476 president of the [Board of Regents for Higher Education's adherence]
1477 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities to the confidentiality and
1478 security provisions of the written agreement; and

1479 (K) Statement that the regional workforce development board,

1480 nonpublic entity, or president of the [Board of Regents for Higher
1481 Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, as
1482 appropriate, shall reimburse the administrator for all costs incurred by
1483 the administrator in making the requested information available and
1484 in conducting periodic audits of the board's, nonpublic entity's, or
1485 procedures of the president of the [Board of Regents for Higher
1486 Education's procedures] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities in
1487 safeguarding the information.

1488 (3) Any employee or agent of a regional workforce development
1489 board, nonpublic entity, or president of the [Board of Regents for
1490 Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, as
1491 appropriate, who discloses any confidential information in violation of
1492 this section and the written agreement, entered into pursuant to
1493 subdivision (2) of this subsection, shall be fined not more than two
1494 hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than six months, or both, and
1495 shall be prohibited from any further access to confidential
1496 information.

1497 Sec. 39. Subsection (a) of section 32-4i of the general statutes is
1498 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1499 *1, 2016*):

1500 (a) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development,
1501 in consultation with the Commissioner of Revenue Services and the
1502 president of the [Board of Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut
1503 State Colleges and Universities, may establish the Learn Here, Live
1504 Here program. Such program may provide an incentive for graduates
1505 of a public institution of higher education, private university or
1506 college, or health care training school in this state, or graduates from a
1507 technical high school, to buy a first home in the state. Persons who
1508 graduate on or after January 1, 2014, from such institutions,
1509 universities, colleges or schools may have their income tax liability, up
1510 to a maximum of two thousand five hundred dollars annually,
1511 segregated into the Connecticut first-time homebuyers account
1512 established pursuant to section 32-4j, provided not more than one

1513 million dollars from all program participants may be so segregated in
1514 any calendar year. After a period not exceeding ten years after
1515 graduation, any amounts so segregated may be withdrawn by a
1516 participant for the purchase of a first home in the state. The
1517 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development may make
1518 payments in accordance with this section from said fund to the
1519 participants. For the purposes of this section, "health care training
1520 school" means a medical or dental school, chiropractic college, school
1521 or college of optometry, school or college of chiropody or podiatry,
1522 school of occupational therapy, hospital-based occupational school,
1523 school or college of naturopathy, school of dental hygiene, school of
1524 physical therapy or any other school or institution giving instruction in
1525 the healing arts.

1526 Sec. 40. Section 32-6j of the general statutes is repealed and the
1527 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

1528 In the assessment and provision of job training for employers, the
1529 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development and the
1530 chief executive officer of Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated shall
1531 request the assistance of the Labor Commissioner. Upon receipt of a
1532 request for job training pursuant to this section, the Labor
1533 Commissioner shall notify the president of the [Board of Regents for
1534 Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, or his
1535 or her designee, of such request. The president, or his or her designee,
1536 shall determine if a training program exists or can be designed at a
1537 regional community-technical college to meet such training need and
1538 shall notify the Labor Commissioner of such determination. The Labor
1539 Commissioner shall to the extent possible make arrangements for the
1540 participation of the regional community-technical colleges, the
1541 Connecticut State University System, other institutions of higher
1542 education, other postsecondary institutions, adult education programs
1543 and state technical high schools in implementing the program.
1544 Nothing in this section shall preclude the Labor Commissioner from
1545 considering or choosing other providers to meet such training need.

1546 Sec. 41. Subsection (b) of section 32-35 of the general statutes is
1547 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1548 *1, 2016*):

1549 (b) The corporation shall be governed by a board of seventeen
1550 directors. Nine members shall be appointed by the Governor, six of
1551 whom shall be knowledgeable, and have favorable reputations for
1552 skill, knowledge and experience, in the development of innovative
1553 start-up businesses, including, but not limited to, expertise in academic
1554 research, technology transfer and application, the development of
1555 technological invention and new enterprise development and three of
1556 whom shall be knowledgeable, and have favorable reputations for
1557 skill, knowledge and experience, in the field of financial lending or the
1558 development of commerce, trade and business. Four members shall be
1559 the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, the
1560 president of the [Board of Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut
1561 State Colleges and Universities, the Treasurer and the Secretary of the
1562 Office of Policy and Management, who shall serve ex officio and shall
1563 have all of the powers and privileges of a member of the board of
1564 directors. Each ex-officio member may designate his deputy or any
1565 member of his staff to represent him at meetings of the corporation
1566 with full power to act and vote in his behalf. Four members shall be
1567 appointed as follows: One by the president pro tempore of the Senate,
1568 one by the minority leader of the Senate, one by the speaker of the
1569 House of Representatives and one by the minority leader of the House
1570 of Representatives. Each member appointed by the Governor shall
1571 serve at the pleasure of the Governor but no longer than the term of
1572 office of the Governor or until the member's successor is appointed
1573 and qualified, whichever is longer. Each member appointed by a
1574 member of the General Assembly shall serve in accordance with the
1575 provisions of section 4-1a. A director shall be eligible for
1576 reappointment. The Governor shall fill any vacancy for the unexpired
1577 term of a member appointed by the Governor. The appropriate
1578 legislative appointing authority shall fill any vacancy for the unexpired
1579 term of a member appointed by such authority.

1580 Sec. 42. Subdivision (19) of section 32-39 of the general statutes is
 1581 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
 1582 *1, 2016*):

1583 (19) To advise the Governor, the General Assembly, the
 1584 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development and the
 1585 president of the [Board of Regents for Higher Education] Connecticut
 1586 State Colleges and Universities on matters relating to science,
 1587 engineering and technology which may have an impact on state
 1588 policies, programs, employers and residents, and on job creation and
 1589 retention;

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	10a-173
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	31-11ff(a)(2)
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	10-16p(b) to (e)
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	20-74b
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10a-1
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	4-124z(a)
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	4-124bb(b)
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	4-124dd(b)(5)
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	4-124ff(b)
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	4a-82(a) to (i)
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	4d-80(a)
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	5-199d
Sec. 13	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	7-323k(a)
Sec. 14	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	7-608(a)
Sec. 15	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10-1(b)
Sec. 16	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10-16z(a)
Sec. 17	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10-16nn(a)
Sec. 18	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10-16pp(c)
Sec. 19	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10-151d(a)
Sec. 20	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10-155l(c)
Sec. 21	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10a-1b
Sec. 22	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10a-6a(a)
Sec. 23	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10a-11b(a)(2)
Sec. 24	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10a-19d
Sec. 25	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10a-19e(c)

Sec. 26	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10a-19f(c)
Sec. 27	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10a-55a(a)
Sec. 28	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10a-55e
Sec. 29	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10a-91c(3)
Sec. 30	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10a-144(a)
Sec. 31	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10a-161a
Sec. 32	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10a-169a(b)
Sec. 33	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10a-169b(c)
Sec. 34	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10a-179a(b)
Sec. 35	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	12-413b(a) and (b)
Sec. 36	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	17a-52(a)
Sec. 37	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	31-3c
Sec. 38	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	31-254(g)
Sec. 39	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	32-4i(a)
Sec. 40	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	32-6j
Sec. 41	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	32-35(b)
Sec. 42	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	32-39(19)

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 makes various technical, grammatical, and conforming changes, which are not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact.

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

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 273*****AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION STATUTES.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill changes the title of the Connecticut State University System leader from "President of the Board of Regents for Higher Education" to "President of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities." It does so to differentiate this position from the Board of Regents for Higher Education leader, whose title is "Chairman of the Board of Regents for Higher Education." These two positions have different responsibilities under state law.

The bill also makes various technical, grammatical, and conforming changes, including grammatical changes to postsecondary academic degree titles.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2016, except sections making technical revisions to academic degree titles take effect upon passage.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 18 Nay 0 (03/03/2016)