



General Assembly

Corrected Copy
Raised Bill No. 5338

February Session, 2018

LCO No. 1723

01723 _____ HED

Referred to Committee on HIGHER EDUCATION AND
EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT

Introduced by:
(HED)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE FUNDING AND EXPANSION OF
CERTAIN CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2018*) (a) As used in this section
2 and sections 2 and 3 of this act:

3 (1) "Public institution of higher education" means the constituent
4 units of the state system of higher education identified in subdivisions
5 (1) and (2) of section 10a-1 of the general statutes; and

6 (2) "Qualifying certificate program" means a for-credit or noncredit
7 sub-baccalaureate certificate program offered by a public institution of
8 higher education in which at least seventy-five per cent of the
9 graduates of such certificate program are employed in the field related
10 to or requiring such certificate in the year following such students'
11 graduation.

12 (b) The Office of Higher Education shall establish a program to

13 provide supplemental funding grants to public institutions of higher
14 education that offer qualifying certificate programs. Such program
15 shall be administered in accordance with the provisions of this section
16 and sections 2 and 3 of this act.

17 (c) A public institution of higher education may submit an
18 application to the office for a supplemental grant under this section for
19 each qualifying certificate program offered by such institution. An
20 application shall be made at such time and in such manner as the
21 executive director of the Office of Higher Education prescribes. An
22 application shall include, but need not be limited to, documentation
23 substantiating the employment rate of the qualifying certificate
24 program. Upon receipt of an application, the office shall (1) review the
25 application and verify the employment rate of the qualifying certificate
26 program, and (2) may issue a provisional acceptance.

27 (d) Following a provisional acceptance of an application submitted
28 under subsection (c) of this section, but prior to awarding a
29 supplemental funding grant, the office shall submit a request to the
30 executive board of the Connecticut Preschool through Twenty and
31 Workforce Information Network, established pursuant to section 10a-
32 57g of the general statutes, for data elements, as defined in said
33 section, related to all graduates of the qualifying certificate program.
34 Upon receipt of such data elements, the office shall transfer such
35 information to the Commissioner of Revenue Services for purposes of
36 segregating the income tax liability of graduates of such qualifying
37 certificate program pursuant to section 2 of this act into the qualifying
38 certificate program account established pursuant to section 3 of this
39 act. The office shall withdraw an amount equal to the sum of the
40 income tax liability of graduates of the qualifying certificate program
41 from the qualifying certificate program account and pay a
42 supplemental funding grant to the public institution of higher
43 education.

44 (e) A public institution of higher education receiving a
45 supplemental funding grant under this section shall use such grant for

46 the purpose of funding its qualifying certificate program.

47 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2018*) As part of the supplemental
48 funding program for qualifying certificate programs established
49 pursuant to section 1 of this act, for taxable years commencing on or
50 after January 1, 2019, the Commissioner of Revenue Services shall
51 segregate the income taxes paid by graduates of a qualifying certificate
52 program pursuant to subsection (d) of section 1 of this act. The
53 commissioner shall segregate an annual amount of such tax liability in
54 an amount equal to fifteen per cent of such tax liability per year. The
55 total amount segregated under this section shall not exceed one million
56 dollars in any calendar year. The commissioner shall deposit such
57 segregated amounts into the qualifying certificate program account
58 established pursuant to section 3 of this act.

59 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2018*) There is established a qualifying
60 certificate program account which shall be a separate, nonlapsing
61 account within the General Fund. Funds segregated by the
62 Commissioner of Revenue Services pursuant to section 2 of this act
63 shall be deposited in the account. An amount equal to the amount
64 deposited in the account shall be available to the Office of Higher
65 Education for providing supplemental funding grants, pursuant to
66 section 1 of this act, to public institutions of higher education that offer
67 qualifying certificate programs. The State Treasurer shall invest the
68 proceeds of the account. Investment earnings, after paying any costs
69 incurred by the State Treasurer in administering the account, shall be
70 credited to the General Fund. On or before September 1, 2020, and
71 annually thereafter, the State Treasurer shall notify the Office of
72 Higher Education of the total amount deposited in the account. Any
73 funds segregated on behalf of a public institution of higher education
74 that are not used for a qualifying certificate program shall be
75 transferred to the General Fund.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2018</i>	New section

Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2018</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2018</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To provide a means of additional funding for those certificate programs that have a high employment rate for students in their field of study following graduation.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]