OLR Bill Analysis
HB 6072

AN ACT CONCERNING A PLAN FOR THE RETENTION OF STUDENTS STUDYING SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the UConn Board of Trustees and the Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR), by January 1, 2020, to each establish a program that provides support and resources to retain science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) students at public higher education institutions within each board’s jurisdiction.

Under the bill, each program must:

1. include a plan to identify at-risk STEM students before they (a) fail to successfully complete a course, course of study, or degree program, or (b) terminate their enrollment;
2. establish work-study opportunities for STEM students to offer weekly tutoring sessions to other students at the institution;
3. implement adaptive learning technologies (see definition below) in introductory level STEM courses; and
4. provide academic advisors to STEM students with the goal of achieving the ratio of 320 STEM students to one academic advisor.

Beginning by January 1, 2021, UConn’s Board of Trustees and BOR must each annually report on the program to the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2019

DEFINITION OF ADAPTIVE LEARNING TECHNOLOGY
Under the bill, adaptive learning technology is a computer-based or online educational system that modifies the presentation of material in response to student performance.

COMMITTEE ACTION
Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable
Yea 22  Nay 0  (03/14/2019)