



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2019

LCO No. 9640



Offered by:
REP. HADDAD, 54th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 7162 File No. 345 Cal. No. 223

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CONNECTICUT OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE COORDINATING COUNCIL."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2019*) (a) For the purposes of this
4 section:

5 (1) "Open educational resource" means a college level resource
6 made available on an Internet web site to be used by students, faculty
7 and members of the public on an unlimited basis at a cost lower than
8 the market value of the printed textbook or other educational resource,
9 including full courses, course materials, modules, textbooks, streaming
10 videos, tests, software and other similar teaching, learning and
11 research resources that reside in the public domain or have been
12 released under a creative commons attribution license that permits the
13 free use and repurposing of such resources;

14 (2) "Creative commons attribution license" means a copyright

15 crediting the author of a digital work product that allows for the free
16 use and distribution of such work product; and

17 (3) "High-impact course" means a course of instruction for which
18 open educational resources would make a significant positive financial
19 impact on the students taking the course due to the number of
20 students taking the course or the market value of the printed textbook
21 or other educational resources required for such course.

22 (b) There is established the Connecticut Open Educational Resource
23 Coordinating Council, which shall be part of the Executive
24 Department. The executive director of the Office of Higher Education
25 shall appoint the members of the council which shall consist of the
26 following: (1) A state-wide coordinator, who shall collaborate with all
27 institutions of higher education to promote open educational resources
28 and administer grants; (2) one faculty member, one administrator and
29 one staff member from The University of Connecticut; (3) one faculty
30 member, one administrator and one staff member from the regional
31 community-technical college system; (4) one faculty member, one
32 administrator and one staff member from Charter Oak State College;
33 (5) one faculty member, one administrator and one staff member from
34 the Connecticut State University System; (6) one faculty member, one
35 administrator and one staff member from the independent institutions
36 of higher education; and (7) one student from any public or
37 independent institution of higher education in the state. All initial
38 appointments to the council shall be made not later than September 1,
39 2019, and shall expire on August 30, 2022, regardless of when the
40 initial appointment was made. Any member of the council may serve
41 more than one term.

42 (c) The state-wide coordinator appointed by the executive director
43 of the Office of Higher Education shall serve as the chairperson of the
44 council. The chairperson shall schedule the first meeting of the council,
45 which shall be held not later than October 1, 2019. The administrative
46 staff of the Office of Higher Education shall serve as administrative
47 staff of the council.

48 (d) Appointed members of the council shall serve for three-year
49 terms which shall commence on the date of appointment, except as
50 provided in subsection (b) of this section. Members shall continue to
51 serve until their successors are appointed. Any vacancy shall be filled
52 by the executive director of the Office of Higher Education. Any
53 vacancy occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled for
54 the balance of the unexpired term. A majority of the council shall
55 constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business. The members
56 of the council shall serve without compensation, but shall, within the
57 limits of available funds, be reimbursed for expenses necessarily
58 incurred in the performance of their duties.

59 (e) The council shall perform the following functions:

60 (1) Identify high-impact courses for which open educational
61 resources will be developed, converted or adopted;

62 (2) Establish a program of competitive grants for faculty members of
63 institutions of higher education in the state for the development,
64 conversion or adoption of open educational resources for high-impact
65 courses with any funds identified by the council and within available
66 appropriations;

67 (3) Accept, review and approve competitive grant applications,
68 provided any faculty member who is approved for a competitive grant
69 shall license such open educational resources through a creative
70 commons attribution license;

71 (4) Administer a standardized review and approval process for the
72 development, conversion or adoption of open educational resources;
73 and

74 (5) Promote strategies for the production, use and access of open
75 educational resources.

76 (f) The council shall meet quarterly, or as often as deemed necessary
77 by a majority of the council.

78 (g) Not later than January 1, 2021, and annually thereafter, the
79 council shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of
80 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of
81 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher
82 education regarding (1) the number and percentage of high-impact
83 courses for which open educational resources have been developed, (2)
84 the degree to which institutions of higher education promote the use
85 and access to open educational resources, (3) the amount of grants
86 awarded by the council and the number of open educational resources
87 developed by grant recipients, and (4) its recommendations for any
88 amendments to the general statutes necessary to develop open
89 educational resources."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2019	New section