



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 177

January Session, 2021

House Bill No. 6580

House of Representatives, March 29, 2021

The Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement reported through REP. ELLIOTT of the 88th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The University of Connecticut
2 shall study the feasibility of establishing or expanding programs of
3 study and community outreach programs related to food and
4 agricultural literacy by increasing opportunities for interactions with
5 farms in rural, suburban and urban communities. Such study shall
6 include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the feasibility of
7 (1) developing certificate, degree or extension programs or programs for
8 independent study related to best management practices for
9 agricultural or aquaculture sustainability, ecosystem health concerning
10 plants and animals, urban farming and gardening and food product
11 development and marketing, (2) developing community outreach
12 programs for students in grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive,
13 through agriculture and aquaculture science programs or through
14 participation with organizations such as Future Farmers of America, a

15 local 4-H organization or an independent farm that provides
 16 agricultural education programs, (3) developing community outreach
 17 programs to support state residents in identifying means of accessing
 18 fresh food products, exploring healthy eating and interacting with local
 19 farms, and (4) using grants or other funding opportunities to establish
 20 such programs or support existing programs.

21 (b) Not later than January 1, 2022, The University of Connecticut shall
 22 submit a report on the findings of the feasibility study, in accordance
 23 with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint
 24 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
 25 matters relating to higher education.

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

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, which requires the University of Connecticut (UConn) to conduct a feasibility study regarding establishing or expanding programs related to food and agricultural literacy, results in no fiscal impact to the university. UConn has staff with expertise who can complete the study within the scope of their duties.

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

OLR Bill Analysis

HB 6580

AN ACT CONCERNING AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 22 Nay 0 (03/11/2021)