



71 Raymond Road
West Hartford, CT 06107
(860) 678-0005
www.theccic.org

**Testimony for the
Transportation Committee
Jennifer Widness, President
Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges
March 7, 2022**

On behalf of the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges, I am submitting testimony on **SB 215: AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERING RECRUITMENT PROGRAM**, which seeks to require the Commissioners of Administrative Services and Transportation to develop a transportation engineering recruitment program.

CCIC supports this bill. Eight of our fifteen member institutions have bachelor's in engineering programs and collectively award nearly 36% of the bachelor's degrees in engineering earned in the state this year. Many of these programs have capacity to enroll more students and are eager to support the state in the development of such a program.

We would ask that the bill be amended such that DOT and DAS be required to consult with public *and* independent institution of higher education with the development of the program so that the state may leverage the capacity of all of the engineering programs in the state to address the great need for additional engineers given impending retirements and significant federal investment.

Thank you for considering our request. We look forward to working with the state on this important initiative.

**2020 Engineering Bachelor Degrees
Awarded in Connecticut, by Sector**

Source: IPEDS

