
OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 1108 (File 151, as amended by Senate "A")*

AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE BY STUDENTS AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR) and the UConn Board of Trustees (BOT), by January 1, 2024, to establish and update as needed a plan to provide reproductive health care services by a licensed health care provider to students who live on residential campuses (i.e., any public higher education institution campus with school-owned dorms or fraternities and sororities) under the boards' jurisdiction. The plan must address:

1. the availability of equipment and licensed health care providers to provide reproductive health care services on the residential campus or in the surrounding community;
2. opportunities for providing reproductive health care or other associated services, including telehealth counseling services;
3. means for ensuring continuity of care during holiday and vacation periods and between semesters; and
4. an estimate of the costs associated with plan implementation and the availability of public and private funding sources to cover the costs.

The plan must also cover how the school will provide:

1. referrals for, and transportation services to, access reproductive health care services at any off-campus location;
2. information and materials about pregnancy being a qualifying life event for health insurance coverage in the state; and

3. educational materials on maternal mental health care and resources for maternal mental health screenings

Under the bill and existing law, “reproductive health care services” include all medical, surgical, counseling, or referral services relating to the human reproductive system, including services relating to pregnancy, contraception, or pregnancy termination, and all medical care relating to the treatment of gender dysphoria.

The bill requires BOR and BOT, within 30 days of establishing or updating the plan, to (1) submit it to the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee, and (2) post it on its website and the website of the public higher education institution associated with each residential campus.

*Senate Amendment “A” requires BOR and BOT to include in the plan the provision of available educational materials on maternal mental health care and resources for maternal mental health screenings.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2023

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 18 Nay 4 (03/07/2023)