

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 23-41—sSB 1108

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

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

SUMMARY: This act 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 college or university campus with school-owned or controlled- dorms, 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 counseling, through telehealth;
3. ways of 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 and transportation services for accessing 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 act 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. (PA 23-204 expands this definition; see BACKGROUND.)

The act 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 their respective websites and the website of the public higher education institution associated with each residential campus.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2023

BACKGROUND

Related Act

OLR PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY

PA 23-204, § 306, (1) expands the definition of “reproductive health care services” used in this act to include gender incongruence and (2) specifies that for purposes of this definition, gender dysphoria is based on the most recent edition of the American Psychiatric Association’s “Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.”