



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

Committee Bill No. 6355

LCO No. 5032



Referred to Committee on HIGHER EDUCATION AND
EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT

Introduced by:
(HED)

***AN ACT INCREASING THE NUMBER OF STUDENT MEMBERS ON
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT
AND THE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 10a-103 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

3 (a) There shall continue to be a Board of Trustees [for] of The
4 University of Connecticut to consist of [twenty-one] twenty-three
5 persons, twelve to be appointed by the Governor, who shall reflect the
6 state's geographic, racial and ethnic diversity; two to be elected by the
7 university alumni; [two] four to be elected by the students enrolled at
8 the institutions under the jurisdiction of said board; and five [members
9 ex officio] who shall serve as ex-officio members.

10 (b) On or before July 1, 1983, the Governor shall appoint [members]
11 trustees to the board as follows: Four [members] trustees for a term of
12 two years from said date; four [members] trustees for a term of four
13 years from said date; and four [members] trustees for a term of six

14 years from said date. Thereafter, the Governor shall appoint trustees of
15 said university to succeed those appointees whose terms expire, and
16 each trustee so appointed shall hold office for a period of six years
17 from the first day of July in the year of his or her appointment,
18 provided two of the trustees appointed for terms commencing July 1,
19 1995, and their successors shall be alumni of the university, one of the
20 trustees appointed for a term commencing July 1, 1997, and his or her
21 successors shall be such alumni and one of the [members] trustees
22 appointed for a term commencing July 1, 1999, and his or her
23 successors shall be such alumni.

24 (c) The Commissioner of Agriculture, the Commissioner of
25 Education, the Commissioner of Economic and Community
26 Development and the chairperson of The University of Connecticut
27 Health Center Board of Directors shall be, ex officio, members of the
28 board of trustees. The Governor shall be, ex officio, president of said
29 board.

30 (d) The graduates of all of the schools and colleges of said university
31 shall, prior to September first in the odd-numbered years, elect one
32 trustee, who shall be a graduate of the institution and who shall hold
33 office for four years from the first day of September succeeding his or
34 her election. Not less than two or more than four nominations for each
35 such election shall be made by the alumni association of said
36 university, provided no person who has served as an alumni trustee
37 for the two full consecutive terms immediately prior to the term for
38 which such election is to be held shall be nominated for any such
39 election. Such election shall be conducted by mail prior to September
40 first under the supervision of a canvassing board consisting of three
41 members, one appointed by the board of trustees, one by the board of
42 directors of the alumni association of the university and one by the
43 president of the university. No ballot in such election shall be opened
44 until the date by which ballots must be returned to the canvassing
45 board. In such election, all graduates shall be entitled to vote by signed
46 ballots which have been circulated to them by mail and which shall be

47 returned by mail. Vacancies occurring by death or resignation of either
48 of such alumni trustees shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the
49 term by special election, if such unexpired term is for more than
50 eighteen months. When the unexpired term is eighteen months or less,
51 such vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the board of directors
52 of said alumni association.

53 (e) On or before November 1, 1975, the students of The University of
54 Connecticut shall, in such manner as the board of trustees of said
55 university shall determine, elect two trustees, each of whom shall be
56 enrolled as a full-time student of said university at the time of his or
57 her election. One such [member] trustee shall be elected for a term of
58 one year from November 1, 1975, and one for a term of two years from
59 said date. Prior to July first, annually, until and including the election
60 held on or before July 1, 2023, such students shall, in accordance with
61 this section and in such manner as the board shall determine, elect one
62 [member of said] trustee of the board, who shall be so enrolled at said
63 university at the time of his or her election and who shall serve for a
64 term of two years from July first in the year of his or her election. On or
65 before July 1, 2024, such students shall, in accordance with this
66 subsection and in such manner as the board shall determine, elect
67 three trustees, each of whom shall be enrolled as a full-time student at
68 said university at the time of his or her election. One such trustee shall
69 be elected for a term of one year commencing July 1, 2024, and the
70 other two trustees shall be elected for a term of two years from said
71 date. On or before July 1, 2025, and annually thereafter, in accordance
72 with this subsection and in such manner as the board shall determine,
73 such students shall elect two trustees of the board who shall be
74 enrolled as full-time students at said university at the time of their
75 election and who shall serve for a term of two years from July first in
76 the year of their election. The student [member] trustee elected to fill
77 the term expiring on June 30, 2003, and the student trustee elected to
78 fill the term commencing on July 1, 2024, and expiring on June 30,
79 2025, and [such elected member's] their successors, shall be enrolled as
80 a full-time undergraduate student at a school or college of the

81 university and shall be elected by the undergraduate students of the
82 schools and colleges of the university. The student [member] trustees
83 elected to fill the term expiring on June 30, [2004] 2026, and [such
84 elected member's] their successors, shall be enrolled as a full-time
85 student in the School of Law, the School of Medicine, the School of
86 Dentistry, the School of Social Work, or as a graduate student of a
87 school or college of the university, and shall be elected by the students
88 of the School of Law, the School of Medicine, the School of Dentistry,
89 the School of Social Work and the graduate students of the schools and
90 colleges of the university. Any student [member] trustee elected after
91 July 1, 2013, shall be enrolled as a full-time student at the time of his or
92 her election and for the duration of his or her term of service. Any
93 vacancies in the elected membership of said board shall, except as
94 otherwise provided in this section, be filled by special election for the
95 balance of the unexpired term.

96 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 10a-1a of the general statutes is
97 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
98 *1, 2023*):

99 (a) There shall be a Board of Regents for Higher Education that shall
100 serve as the governing body for the regional community-technical
101 college system, the Connecticut State University System and Charter
102 Oak State College. The board shall consist of [twenty-two] twenty-four
103 members who shall be distinguished leaders of the community in
104 Connecticut. The board shall reflect the state's geographic, racial and
105 ethnic diversity. The voting members shall not be employed by or be a
106 member of a board of trustees for any independent institution of
107 higher education in this state or the Board of Trustees for The
108 University of Connecticut nor shall they be public officials or state
109 employees, as such terms are defined in section 1-79, during their term
110 of membership on the Board of Regents for Higher Education. The
111 Governor shall appoint nine members to the board as follows: Three
112 members for a term of two years; three members for a term of four
113 years; and three members for a term of six years. Thereafter, the

114 Governor shall appoint members of the board to succeed such
115 appointees whose terms expire and each member so appointed shall
116 hold office for a period of six years from the first day of July in the year
117 of his or her appointment. Four members of the board shall be
118 appointed as follows: One appointment by the president pro tempore
119 of the Senate, who shall be an alumnus of the regional community-
120 technical college system, for a term of four years; one appointment by
121 the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be a specialist in the
122 education of children in grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, for a
123 term of three years; one appointment by the speaker of the House of
124 Representatives, who shall be an alumnus of the Connecticut State
125 University System, for a term of four years; and one appointment by
126 the minority leader of the House of Representatives, who shall be an
127 alumnus of Charter Oak State College, for a term of three years.
128 Thereafter, such members of the General Assembly shall appoint
129 members of the board to succeed such appointees whose terms expire
130 and each member so appointed shall hold office for a period of four
131 years from the first day of July in the year of his or her appointment.
132 The [chairperson and vice-chairperson] following members of the
133 student advisory committee created under section 10a-3 shall serve as
134 members of the board: (1) The chairperson, (2) the vice-chairperson,
135 and (3) two members elected by a majority vote of the members of the
136 student advisory committee, one of whom shall be a student of the
137 Connecticut State University System and one of whom shall be a
138 student of the regional community-technical colleges. The chairperson
139 and vice-chairperson of the faculty advisory committee created under
140 section 10a-3a shall serve as ex-officio, nonvoting members of the
141 board for a term of two years and, in their respective roles as
142 chairperson and vice-chairperson, may be invited to any executive
143 session, as defined in section 1-200, of the board by the chairperson of
144 the board. The Commissioners of Education, Economic and
145 Community Development and Public Health, the Labor Commissioner
146 and the Chief Workforce Officer shall serve as ex-officio, nonvoting
147 members of the board.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10a-103
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10a-1a(a)

HED *Joint Favorable*