



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 191

February Session, 2024

House Bill No. 5338

House of Representatives, April 2, 2024

The Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement reported through REP. HADDAD of the 54th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADMISSION OF STATE RESIDENTS TO VETERINARY SCHOOLS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 10a-19h of the general statutes is amended by
2 adding subsection (c) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

3 (NEW) (c) As part of the Kirklyn M. Kerr program, the president of
4 The University of Connecticut shall enter into an agreement with a
5 school of veterinary medicine that is accredited by the American
6 Veterinary Medical Association for the reservation of a certain number
7 of spaces, as determined by the president, each academic year to allow
8 for the continuation of education of not more than five qualified
9 students who are state residents.

10 Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2024*) The sum of one hundred thousand
11 dollars is appropriated to The University of Connecticut from the
12 General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, for the Kirklyn

13 M. Kerr grant program established pursuant to section 10a-19g of the
14 general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10a-19h(c)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2024</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:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 25 \$	FY 26 \$
UConn	GF - Cost	100,000	None

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill appropriates \$100,000 in FY 25 for the Kirklyn M. Kerr grant program. It requires the University of Connecticut, as part of the program, to enter into an agreement with an accredited school of veterinary medicine to reserve seats within such school for up to five Connecticut residents annually. There is not expected to be a cost to UConn to administer the program.

The bill has no fiscal impact in FY 26 and annually thereafter. It does not: (1) appropriate any funding in FY 26 or annually thereafter; or (2) require UConn cover any costs, beyond a state appropriation, to any student associated with attending a school of veterinary medicine.

The Out Years

The bill has no fiscal impact in the out years.

OLR Bill Analysis

HB 5338

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADMISSION OF STATE RESIDENTS TO VETERINARY SCHOOLS.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the UConn president, as part of the Kirklyn M. Kerr program, to enter into an agreement with a veterinary school accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association to reserve, each academic year, a certain number of spaces as she determines to allow up to five qualified state residents to continue their education.

The bill also appropriates \$100,000 to UConn from the General Fund in FY 25 for this program.

The Kirklyn M. Kerr Program provides grants to Connecticut residents enrolled in an accredited veterinary graduate school who plan to practice veterinary medicine in Connecticut. UConn administers the program and awards up to five four-year grants per student class (CGS §§ 10a-19g & -19h). In practice, the program has been dormant in recent years. While the program was active, Connecticut residents could attend Iowa State University’s College of Veterinary Medicine and pay reduced tuition. (There are no veterinary schools in Connecticut.)

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2024

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 22 Nay 0 (03/14/2024)