

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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SB-236

AN ACT CONCERNING A FEE WAIVER AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR CERTAIN VETERANS AND MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 25 \$	FY 26 \$
CSCU	Tuition Fund - Revenue Loss	Potential Significant	Potential Significant
UConn	Tuition Fund - Revenue Loss	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a revenue loss to the constituent units of higher education beginning in FY 25 as a result of expanding the higher education tuition waiver program to cover certain extension fees and summer school, for eligible veterans and active Connecticut National Guard members. The revenue loss would be dependent upon the number of veterans who took advantage of the additional fee waivers and the amount of the additional fees waived.

It is anticipated that there are approximately 1,650 eligible students (1,220 veterans and 430 National Guard members) within the Connecticut State University System and CT State Community College who could take advantage of the additional waivers. Both extension and summer school fees vary by institution and number of credit hours. For example, the average community college three credit

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hour extension fee is \$903 annually. The cost of summer school courses at Central Connecticut State University averages approximately \$600 per credit. If each eligible student at CSCU were to take one three credit course, the waived fees would total approximately \$2.4 million.

The overall scope of the revenue loss to the tuition funds at CSCU is unknown and may be significant. The impact would vary by the number of eligible veterans taking advantage of the additional waivers, and the total amount of fees waived.

The bill results in a minimal revenue loss annually beginning in FY 25 to UConn. There are currently no veterans attending UConn extension programs. To the extent that any veterans begin attending, there is a minimal revenue loss to UConn. The bill's provision waiving summer course fees has no fiscal impact to UConn as the university already provides such a waiver.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of waiver recipients and extension and summer school fee increases.