

# Government Administration and Elections Committee

## JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No:** HB-5550 / [Bill Status](#) / [Public Hearing Testimony](#)

AN ACT CONCERNING A TECHNICAL CHANGE CONCERNING  
GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND EXEMPTING COURSE SYLLABI  
**Title:** FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.

**Vote Date:** 3/23/2026

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable Substitute

**PH Date:** 3/18/2026

**File No.:**

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### SPONSORS OF BILL:

The Government Administration and Elections Committee

### REASONS FOR BILL:

The bill is intended to protect faculty of institutions of higher education from being targeted. It makes a technical change to a statute concerning government administration and to exempt course syllabi from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.

### SUBSTITUTE LANGUAGE (IF APPLICABLE):

Removes the technical changes.

### RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Paula S. Pearlman, Managing Director - The Freedom of Information (FOI) Commission

The Commission opposes this bill. It states that the public is very interested in the teaching conducted at public institutions of higher education, including, but not limited to, what is taught, how instruction is delivered, and how students are evaluated. Providing access to course syllabi ensures that the public understands how taxpayer-funded educational programs function and promotes transparency in public education. Therefore, public institutions like the University of Connecticut, have implemented publicly accessible databases of course syllabi.

Additionally, the FOI Commission does not believe that adopting a wholesale exemption

for course syllabi is necessary and that the existing law already provides protections against disclosure where appropriate.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

None Expressed.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

Kevin Kauffman

He firmly opposes this bill. He believes that it is an insult and affront to the taxpayers and tuition payers. He adds that there was nothing to hide, this bill would not be necessary. Further eroding the transparency of taxpayer funded entities is just not acceptable. This bill should not make it out of committee.

Christina D.

This bill undermines transparency and is not needed. This is public knowledge and the number of bills you are suggesting this year to block all info and FOIA this year is telling and reprehensible. Leave all FAOI information alone and open. No to blocking any information.

One anonymous opposition to this bill was submitted and had issues on constitutional grounds.

**Reported by: Diane Young-Rodney**

**Date: 4/7/2026**