

Final 2014 Session PRI Bill Status: Summary

In calendar 2013, PRI began and completed five studies, and concluded the second phase of a study begun in 2012. In the 2014 legislative session, PRI raised 13 bills based on these six projects. After combining four bills into two on its own as it reported the bills out of committee, the remaining 11 bills continued through the legislative process with these results:

- Six of the 11 were enacted, four as public acts, two as special acts.
 - One of the public acts was vetoed by the governor, with representations the governor would work with PRI in the 2015 session on the legislation
- For three of the 11 bills raised and not passed, UCONN committed to the PRI co-chairs to respond to all the study recommendations in lieu of legislation, which occurred in December 2014.
- Parts of one of the 11 bills that did not pass resurfaced in the budget.

Reemployment of Older Workers

HB 5375 → PA 14-59

HB 5377 → PA 14-225

Hospital Emergency Room Use and Its Impact on the State Medicaid Budget

HB 5378 → PA 14-62

DCF Services to Prepare Youth Aging Out of State Care

HB 5374 → SA 14-8

Access to Substance Use Treatment for Youth Phase II

HB 5371 → SA 14-7

HB 5373 → PA 14-58 (**governor vetoed**)

Details follow.

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Bills from Reemployment of Older Workers (December 2013)

<p><u>HB 5375, File 209, 724, House Cal. 137, Sen Cal 519</u> AAI the Recommendations of the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee on the Reemployment of Older Workers Concerning the Technical High School System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Requires the superintendent of the technical high school system to collect certain information on both traditional and adult students enrolled in vocational programs and to annually report the same to the General Assembly.</i> • <i>No fiscal impact</i> <p><i>House A – Responsive to SDE/ technical high school system (CTHSS) concerns about cost, these changes means CTHSS will continue to gather currently required employment status data as it does now (via survey), but gather more information and include both graduates (high school aged) and program completers (adults), which was the goal of the PRI recommendations. SDE/CTHSS said this amendment removed their cost concerns.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raised: 2/26/14 • Public Hearing: 3/4/14 • <u>PRI JFS</u> to Floor: 3/13/14 • House Cal #137 • File 209 • Ref. to Educ 4/8/14 • Educ. JF 4/11 • On House Calendar 4/15 • House passed 4/28 as amended by House A (143-0) • New File 724 • Sen Cal 519 • Sen adopted House A 5/5 • Sen passed as amended on consent 5/5 • PA 14-59 (signed by governor 5/28/14)
<p><u>HB 5376, File 159, House Cal. #118</u> AAI the Recommendations of the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee on the Reemployment of Older Workers as They Relate to the Board of Regents for Higher Education</p> <p><i>Requires the Board of Regents to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Conduct a feasibility study to determine whether to expand the manufacturing technology center model to create centers of excellence for other high-demand career areas; House A replaced feasibility study with already underway academic and facilities master plan (line 118)</i> • <i>Implement the Plus 50 Initiative model throughout the regional community-technical college system; House A provides “within available resources” (line 122)</i> • <i>Establish consistent parameters for noncredit vocational courses and programs to be recognized by each of the constituent units of the state system of public higher education; House A changed deadline to Jan. 1, 2015 (line 129)</i> • <i>Collect data on students and noncredit vocational courses and programs to better serve such students; Not in House A</i> • <i>Explore financial aid options for students enrolled in noncredit vocational courses and programs. Not in House A</i> • <i>Add items relative to study to accountability measures to be developed by Higher Education Coordinating Council House A added “goals adopted by the Planning Commission for Higher Education” to list of items council shall consider in developing the measures (lines 160-161)</i> • <i>No fiscal impact</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raised: 2/26/14 • Public Hearing: 3/4/14 • <u>PRI JFS</u> to Floor: 3/13/14 • File 159 • House Cal #118 • House to HE 4/1/14 • HED JF 4/7/14 • On House Calendar 4/8 • House A (LCO 5477) to HB 5377 is a strike all amendment, which incorporates negotiated parts of HB 5376 into negotiated parts of HB5377 (see notes to HB 5376 for provisions included) • No further action taken on HB 5376 as parts of it amended into HB 5377 with House A, and ultimately became PA 14-225 (see HB 5377 below)
<p><u>HB 5377, File 210, 659, House Cal. # 138</u> AAI the Recommendations of the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee on the Reemployment of Older Workers as They Relate to the Department of Labor</p> <p><i>Requires:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Reemployment of older workers be included in the plan for coordination of Connecticut employment and training programs currently developed by the</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raised: 2/26 • Public Hearing: 3/4/13 • <u>PRI JFS</u> to Floor: 3/13 • File 210 • House Cal # 138 • Ref. to Finance 4/8/14

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<p><i>Connecticut Employment and Training Commission (CETC). In House A (line 20)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An electronic state hiring campaign through DOL website to inform potential <u>employers</u> of the advantages to hiring older workers and one year status report (1/1/15) In House A(lines 73-81) • A one page quick-reference guide be developed by DOL summarizing public and private resources available for older unemployed workers in Connecticut, accessible by 2-1-1 Infoline program House A changed “2-1-1 Infoline program” to “2-1-1 Infoline Internet web site” to clarify wasn’t intended to be a cost item. (line 90) • An informational campaign for the apprenticeship training program be developed by DOL to address common misperceptions of the program, targeted to the Workforce Investment Boards, CTWorks One Stop Career Centers and other Connecticut job centers In House A (lines 99-107) <i>Specifies the formation of a workgroup to consider requirement of a professional resume writer credential for all individuals providing resume writing assistance at CTWorks One Stop Career Centers, and to include representatives of Workforce Investment Boards, CTWorks One Stop Career Centers and other Connecticut job centers. In House A (lines 108-116)</i> • {Adds access to on-line learning courses to the list of available resources for unemployed individuals at CTWorks One Stop Career Centers.} Finance JFS removed due to fiscal note. <p><u>Nothing about STEP UP in House A</u> <i>Requires reauthorization of the STEP UP program for FY 15 and FY 16:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • {Specifies the State Bond Commission may authorize the issuance of up to \$20 million in bonds for FY 15 and FY 16 for continuation of the STEP UP program.} Finance JFS removed (b/c there is already \$10 million in bonds authorized for FY 15) • For the STEP UP Small Business Wage Subsidy Program, eliminates the participant requirement of residency in a municipality with a higher than average unemployment rate, or with a population of 80,000 or more. <u>Not in House A</u> • Combines the funding for the STEP UP Small Business Wage Subsidy Program and the STEP UP Small Manufacturer Training Grant Program. <u>Not in House A</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance JFS 4/11 (see notes to left) • New File 659 4/22 • Referred to Labor 4/25 • Labor JF 4/29 • House A (LCO 5477) filed to HB 5377, a strike all amendment, which incorporated negotiated parts of HB 5376 into negotiated parts of HB 5377 (see notes to HB 5377 for provisions included) • 5/6-House passed as amended by House A • 5/7- Senate passed as amended by House A on consent • PA 14-225 (signed by governor on 6/13)
<p><u>HB 5382, File 214 , House Cal # 142</u> AAI the Recommendations of the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee study on the Reemployment of Older Workers as they Relate to Job Advertisements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibits job advertisements from excluding unemployed individuals • Minimal fiscal impact <p>4/25 Note: HB 5274(Commerce) is similar, but with broader reach beyond ads</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raised: 2/26 • Public Hearing: 3/4 • PRI JFS to Floor: 3/13 • File 214 • House Cal: 142 • On House Cal 3/31/14 • SEE HB 5274 w/Ho A passed House 4/25 (81-55 vote) (similar to PRI bill but broader reach) • No action taken in Senate
Bills from State Parks and Forests: Funding (December 2013)	
<p><u>HB 5369,</u> AAI the Recommendations of the Program Review and Investigations Committee Concerning Certain Fiscal and Resource-Related Matters Pertaining to State Parks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raised: 2/26 • Public Hearing: 3/4; 3/11 • No Action 3/13 (parts merged with HB 5370 as substitute language)
<p><u>HB 5370, File 205, House Cal # 133</u> AAI the Recommendations of the Program Review and Investigations Committee Concerning the Performance of Connecticut’s State Parks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raised: 2/26 • Public Hearing: 3/4; 3/11 • PRI JFS to Floor: 3/13

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<p><i>Note: Approps Budget includes nine new positions for DEEP parks (including 3 supervisors), and provides that all rental from cabins will be retained by the host parks. (Both items responsive to findings and recommendations from the PRI study and sHB 5370) Plan is to find another bill to amend the other non-financial parts of sHB 5370 (e.g., RBA report card).</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •File 205 •House Cal. # 133 •Ref. to Approps 4/8/14 •Not acted on in Approps (but see Approps budget)
Bill from Hospital Emergency Room Use and Its Impact on the State Medicaid Budget (December 2013)	
<p><u>HB 5378, File 211, 672, 741 House Cal #139, Sen Cal 542</u> AAI the Recommendations of the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee Concerning Medicaid-Funded Emergency Department Visits</p> <p><i>Approps. JFSed HB 5378 removing Secs. 6-9.</i></p> <p>House A: <i>As result of negotiations, House A replaces requirement that ASO contract include provision that ASO help to arrange visits by Medicaid clients with primary care providers not later than fourteen days after such clients are treated at an emergency department, <u>with a feasibility study</u>, i.e., “DSS shall report to the PRI and Public Health Committees by 12/31/2014 on the feasibility of arranging visits by Medicaid clients with primary care providers not later than 14 days after such clients are treated at an emergency department.”</i></p> <p><i>House A also delays implementation date for sections 1-5 from July 1, 2014 to July 1, 2016.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Raised: 2/26 •Public Hearing: 3/4; 3/11 •PRI JFS to Floor: 3/13 •File 211 •House Cal. # 139 •Ref. to Approps 4/8/14 •Approps. JFS 4/15 •New File 672 4/24 •Doublestarred on Ho Cal 4/28 •House passed 5/1 as amended by House A •Sen Cal 542 •New File 741 •Sen adopted House A 5/5 •Sen passed as amended on consent 5/5 •P.A. 14-62 (signed by governor on 5/28/14)
Bill from DCF Services to Prepare Youth Aging Out of State Care (February 2014)	
<p><u>HB 5374, File 208, House Cal #136, Senate Cal #471</u> AAI the Recommendations of the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee Study on the Department of Children and Families as They Relate to Preparation of Youths Aging Out of State Care</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Raised: 2/26 •Public Hearing 3/4 •PRI JFS to Floor 3/13 •File 208 •House Cal. # 136 •Ref. to HS 4/8/14 •HS JF 4/10 •On House Calendar 4/10 •House passed 4/23 (142-0) •Senate Calendar # 471 •Sen passed on consent 5/5 •Special Act 14-8 (signed by governor on 5/28/14)
Bills from Study on University of Connecticut’s Affordability to Students (December 2013)	
<p><u>HB 5379, File 212, House Cal #140</u> AAI the Recommendations of the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee Concerning a Study of the Establishment of a Tuition Pledge Program and a Financial Aid Pledge Program at the University of Connecticut</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Raised: 2/26 •Public Hearing 3/11 •PRI JF to Floor 3/13

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •File 212 •House Cal. #140 •Ref. to HED 4/8/14 •HED JF 4/15 •On House Calendar 4/16 •No further action (see note to HB 5380)
<p><u>HB 5380, File 213, House Cal # 141, Sen Cal #472</u> AAI the Recommendations of the Program Review and Investigations Committee Concerning a Report on Financial Aid Awards and Tracking Transfer Credits by the University of Connecticut</p> <p>Note: In May 2014, UCONN informed the PRI co-chairs that it would respond to all the PRI recommendations, whether or not there was legislation. Thus no further action was intended to be pursued on any of the UCONN bills – inadvertently, after HB 5380 passed in the House, it was presented and passed by the Senate. To roll back the Senate action, the bill was reconsidered under Senate rules and then pass retained (meaning no action would be taken), to match the intent of not pursuing any of the UCONN bills because of UCONN’s pledge to respond</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Raised: 2/26 •Public Hearing 3/11 •PRI JF to Floor 313 •File 213 •House Cal. # 141 •Ref. to HED 4/8 •HED JF 4/15 •On House Calendar 4/16 •House passed 4/23 (145-0) •Senate Calendar # 472 •Sen passed on consent 5/5 •Sen reconsidered 5/6 •Matter pass retained 5/6 •See note
<p><u>sHB 5381, File 160, House Cal # 119</u> AAI the Recommendations of the Legislative Program Review an Investigations Committee Concerning the Publication of Tuition and Fee Schedule Increases and the Development of a System to Track Graduates’ Success by the University of Connecticut</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Raised: 2/26 •Public Hearing 3/4 •<u>PRI JFS</u> to Floor 3/13 •File 160 •House Cal. #119 •Ref. to HED 4/1/14 •<u>HED JF</u> 4/7/14 •On House Calendar 4/8/14 •No further action taken (see note to HB 5380)
Bills from Study on Access to Substance Use Treatment for Youth Phase II (June 2013)	
<p><u>HB 5371, File 206, 678, House Cal # 134, Sen. Cal # 450</u> AAI the Recommendations of the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee Study on Access to Substance Use Treatment for Insured Youth as they Relate to the Department of Children and Families</p> <p><i>4/22 Note: House A added Human Services committee to three places where legislative committees receive reports.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Raised: 2/26 •Public Hearing 3/4 •PRI JF to Floor 3/13 •File 206 •House Cal. # 134 •Ref. to HS 4/8/14 •HS JF 4/10 •On House Calendar 4/10 •House adopted Ho A 4/22 •House passed w/Ho A 4/22 (143-0)

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •New File 678 4/24 •Senate Calendar # 450 •Sen adopted Ho A 5/5 •Sen passed as amended on consent 5/5 •Special Act 14-7 (signed by governor 5/28/14)
<p><u>HB 5372.</u> AAI the Recommendations of the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee Concerning the Alcohol and Drug Policy Council</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Raised: 2/26 •Public Hearing 3/4 •No Action 3/14
<p><u>sHB 5373, File 207, 679, House Cal # 135, Senate Cal # 451</u> AAI the Recommendations of the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee Concerning the Reporting of Certain Data by Managed Care Organizations and Health Insurance Companies to the Insurance Department</p> <p><i>5/2 Note: Based on feedback from Health Insurance Exchange, plan is to not pursue quarterly reporting requirement for Exchange (part of House A), but to look for a bill to which to attach original Sections 1 and 2 (which another part of House A delayed implementation, to be responsive to commercial health plan concerns. (Didn't hear back in time from Health Exchange to make change, but was reported issue wasn't reason governor vetoed)</i></p> <p><i>[House A filed by Rep. Mushinsky delays implementation for more than a year of HB 5373 requirements to report more--and more detailed-- information about commercial health plan coverage issues related to substance use disorder treatment, including network status info, to give the newly established All Payer Claims Database (APCD) some time to get started (even though most current information indicates APCD is only gathering claims data, not, for example, information about substance use treatment coverage denials as HB 5373 calls for). To make sure the need for better information about commercial health plan coverage issues related to substance use disorder treatment does not get lost during this delay, and to see whether the APCD will include any data required under the bill, the amendment puts in a quarterly reporting requirement for the entity in charge of the APCD (which is the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange Board).It must inform the relevant legislative committees of any steps taken to address the data called for in HB 5373. The amendment also clarifies language related to confidentiality and types of insurance covered by the new (delayed) reporting requirements.]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Raised: 2/26 •Public Hearing 3/4 •PRI JFS to Floor 3/13 •File 207 •House Cal. # 135 •Ref. to Ins. 4/8/14 •Ins. JF 4/8/14 •On House Calendar 4/9 •House adopted Ho A 4/22 •House passed w/Ho A 4/22 (143-0) •New File 679 •Senate Cal # 451 •Sen adopted Ho A 5/5 •Sen passed as amended on consent 5/5 •PA 14-58 •Vetoed by governor on 5/29/14