



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2018

LCO No. 5726



Offered by:

REP. HADDAD, 54th Dist.
SEN. BYE, 5th Dist.
REP. ZIOGAS, 79th Dist.
SEN. FLEXER, 29th Dist.

REP. ACKERT, 8th Dist.
REP. SOTO, 39th Dist.
REP. BOYD, 50th Dist.
REP. GODFREY, 110th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5373

File No. 195

Cal. No. 154

**"AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF EMERGENCY
EXPENSE GRANT PROGRAMS AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF
HIGHER EDUCATION."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 10a-6 of the general statutes is
4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
5 *passage*):

6 (a) The Board of Regents for Higher Education shall: (1) Establish
7 policies and guidelines for the Connecticut State University System,
8 the regional community-technical college system and Charter Oak
9 State College; (2) develop a master plan for higher education and
10 postsecondary education at the Connecticut State University System,
11 the regional community-technical college system and Charter Oak

12 State College consistent with the goals identified in section 10a-11c; (3)
13 establish tuition and student fee policies for the Connecticut State
14 University System, the regional community-technical college system
15 and Charter Oak State College; (4) monitor and evaluate the
16 effectiveness and viability of the state universities, the regional
17 community-technical colleges and Charter Oak State College in
18 accordance with criteria established by the board; (5) merge or close
19 institutions or campuses within the Connecticut State University
20 System, the regional community-technical college system and Charter
21 Oak State College in accordance with criteria established by the board,
22 provided (A) such recommended merger or closing of a campus that is
23 not a full-service campus, as defined in section 2 of this act, shall
24 require a two-thirds vote of the board [,] and [(B)] notice of such
25 recommended merger or closing shall be sent to the joint standing
26 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance [over] of
27 matters relating to higher education, [and to the General Assembly]
28 and (B) such recommended closing of an institution or a full-service
29 campus, as those terms are defined in section 2 of this act, is conducted
30 in accordance with the provisions of sections 3 and 4 of this act; (6)
31 review and approve mission statements for the Connecticut State
32 University System, the regional community-technical college system
33 and Charter Oak State College and role and scope statements for the
34 individual institutions and campuses of such constituent units; (7)
35 review and approve any recommendations for the establishment of
36 new academic programs submitted to the board by the state
37 universities within the Connecticut State University System, the
38 regional community-technical colleges and Charter Oak State College,
39 and, in consultation with the affected constituent units, provide for the
40 initiation, consolidation or termination of academic programs; (8)
41 develop criteria to ensure acceptable quality in (A) programs at the
42 Connecticut State University System, the regional community-
43 technical college system and Charter Oak State College, and (B)
44 institutions within the Connecticut State University System and the
45 regional community-technical college system and enforce standards
46 through licensing and accreditation; (9) prepare and present to the

47 Governor and General Assembly, in accordance with section 10a-8,
48 consolidated operating and capital expenditure budgets for the
49 Connecticut State University System, the regional community-
50 technical college system and Charter Oak State College developed in
51 accordance with the provisions of said section 10a-8; (10) review and
52 make recommendations on plans received from the Connecticut State
53 University System, the regional community-technical college system
54 and Charter Oak State College to implement the goals identified in
55 section 10a-11c; (11) appoint advisory committees with representatives
56 from public and independent institutions of higher education to study
57 methods and proposals for coordinating efforts of the public
58 institutions of higher education under its jurisdiction with The
59 University of Connecticut and the independent institutions of higher
60 education to implement the goals identified in section 10a-11c; (12)
61 evaluate (A) means of implementing the goals identified in section 10a-
62 11c, and (B) any recommendations made by the Planning Commission
63 for Higher Education in implementing the strategic master plan
64 pursuant to section 10a-11b through alternative and nontraditional
65 approaches such as external degrees and credit by examination; (13)
66 coordinate programs and services among the Connecticut State
67 University System, the regional community-technical college system
68 and Charter Oak State College; (14) assess opportunities for
69 collaboration with The University of Connecticut and the independent
70 institutions of higher education to implement the goals identified in
71 section 10a-11c; (15) make or enter into contracts, leases or other
72 agreements in connection with its responsibilities under this part,
73 provided all acquisitions of real estate by lease or otherwise shall be
74 subject to the provisions of section 4b-23; (16) be responsible for the
75 care and maintenance of permanent records of institutions of higher
76 education dissolved after September 1, 1969; (17) prepare and present
77 to the Governor and General Assembly legislative proposals affecting
78 the Connecticut State University System, the regional community-
79 technical college system and Charter Oak State College; (18) develop
80 and maintain a central higher education information system and
81 establish definitions and data requirements for the Connecticut State

82 University System, the regional community-technical college system
83 and Charter Oak State College; (19) report all new programs and
84 program changes at the Connecticut State University System, the
85 regional community-technical college system and Charter Oak State
86 College to the Office of Higher Education; and (20) undertake such
87 studies and other activities as will best serve the higher educational
88 interests of the Connecticut State University System, the regional
89 community-technical college system and Charter Oak State College.

90 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) As used in this section and
91 sections 3 and 4 of this act:

92 (1) "Board" means the Board of Regents for Higher Education;

93 (2) "President" means the president of the Connecticut State
94 Colleges and Universities;

95 (3) "Institution" means any institution within the Connecticut State
96 University System, the regional community-technical college system
97 and Charter Oak State College; and

98 (4) "Full-service campus" means any facility where an institution
99 under the governance of the Board of Regents for Higher Education
100 offers programs leading to a degree or certificate and provides
101 students access to adequate equipment, library resources, academic
102 advising and other necessary instructional support services.

103 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Board of Regents for
104 Higher Education shall develop criteria to be used in any decision to
105 close an institution or a full-service campus within the Connecticut
106 State University System, the regional community-technical college
107 system and Charter Oak State College. Such criteria shall be consistent
108 with the following goals: (1) To align with the goals of the state system
109 of higher education outlined in subsection (b) of section 10a-6 of the
110 general statutes and section 10a-11c of the general statutes, (2) to
111 ensure that the residents of the geographic areas in which an
112 institution or full-service campus may be closing have access to a

113 conveniently located institution or full-service campus, (3) to minimize
114 the negative effects of such closing on students enrolled at the
115 institutions and the community surrounding the campuses of the
116 institutions, and (4) to preserve those programs and fields of study
117 which (A) are unique to the institution or full-service campus which
118 may be closing, or (B) serve specific industries, employment needs or
119 community needs in the state.

120 (b) Prior to approving the criteria developed pursuant to subsection
121 (a) of this section, the board shall hold one or more public hearings to
122 receive public comment on the criteria. The president and a majority of
123 the members of the board shall attend each public hearing. Not later
124 than fifteen days before the first public hearing, the board shall post on
125 its Internet web site and send to the electronic mail address on record
126 of all enrolled students and employees of each institution (1) a notice
127 of the time and place of each public hearing, (2) the criteria developed
128 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, and (3) a means for all
129 interested persons to submit written testimony or recommendations.

130 (c) Following the completion of all public hearings, the board may
131 amend the criteria based on the oral and written testimony and
132 recommendations received through the public hearings. The criteria
133 for closing an institution or full-service campus, as amended through
134 the public hearing process, shall be approved by a majority vote of the
135 board. Not later than fifteen days after said approval, the board shall
136 submit the criteria, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a
137 of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General
138 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education
139 and shall post the same on its Internet web site.

140 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) If the board or the president
141 determines that it is necessary to close any institution or full-service
142 campus within the Connecticut State University System, the regional
143 community-technical college system and Charter Oak State College,
144 the board shall use the criteria approved pursuant to section 3 of this
145 act to assess each institution, determine which institutions or full-

146 service campuses should be closed and develop a closure plan for such
147 institutions or full-service campuses. For each institution or full-service
148 campus to be closed, the closure plan shall include, but not be limited
149 to, (1) an explanation of the reasons for such closure, (2) the annual net
150 cost of keeping such institution or full-service campus open, (3) the net
151 savings of closing such institution or full-service campus, (4) an
152 explanation of how students currently enrolled at such institution or
153 attending such full-service campus may be able to complete their
154 degree or certificate with minimal impact, (5) an explanation of how
155 any program or field of study which (A) is unique to such institution
156 or full-service campus, or (B) serves specific industries, employment
157 needs or community needs in the state will be preserved, and (6)
158 recommendations for any alternatives to closing such institution or
159 full-service campus, including, but not limited to, tuition increases or
160 other cost savings.

161 (b) Prior to approving any closure plan developed pursuant to
162 subsection (a) of this section, the board shall hold one or more public
163 hearings at each institution or full-service campus for which a closing
164 is planned. The president and a majority of the members of the board
165 shall attend each public hearing. Not later than fifteen days before each
166 public hearing, the board shall post on its Internet web site and send to
167 the electronic mail address on record of all enrolled students and
168 employees of each institution or full-service campus for which a
169 closing is planned (1) a notice of the time and place of such public
170 hearing, (2) the closure plan developed pursuant to subsection (a) of
171 this section, and (3) a means for all interested persons to submit
172 written testimony or recommendations.

173 (c) Following the completion of all public hearings, the board may
174 amend the closure plan based on the oral or written testimony and
175 recommendations received through the public hearings. If the board
176 amends such closure plan to include another institution or full-service
177 campus, the board shall hold an additional public hearing at such
178 institution or campus in accordance with subsection (b) of this section.
179 The closure plan, as amended through the public hearing process, shall

180 be approved by a two-thirds vote of the board. Not later than fifteen
 181 days after said approval, the board shall file the closure plan, along
 182 with its assessment of all the institutions using the approved criteria,
 183 with the clerks of the House of Representatives and the Senate and
 184 shall post the same on its Internet web site.

185 (d) The General Assembly may reject the closure plan by a majority
 186 vote of both houses not later than thirty days or three session days
 187 from the receipt of the plan, whichever is later. The thirty-day period
 188 shall not begin or expire unless the General Assembly is in regular
 189 session. For the purpose of this subsection, any closure plan filed with
 190 the clerks while the General Assembly is not in session shall be
 191 deemed filed on the first day of the next regular session. If the plan is
 192 rejected by the General Assembly, the board may conduct a new
 193 analysis of the institutions under the approved criteria and develop a
 194 new closure plan in accordance with the provisions of this section. If
 195 the General Assembly takes no action on the closure plan, the board
 196 shall implement the closure plan."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	10a-6(a)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	New section