



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 219

February Session, 2022

Substitute Senate Bill No. 279

Senate, March 30, 2022

The Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement reported through SEN. SLAP of the 5th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE REGARDING MINOR AND TECHNICAL CHANGES TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT STATUTES.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 4-124jj of the 2022 supplement to
2 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

4 (b) Not later than October 1, 2022, and annually thereafter until
5 October 1, 2025, the Chief Workforce Officer shall submit to the
6 Governor and, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the
7 joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance
8 of matters relating to finance, higher education and employment
9 advancement, education, commerce, and labor and public employees a
10 report regarding the workforce training programs funded through the
11 Office of Workforce Strategy account. Such report shall include, but not

12 be limited to, information on the number of individuals served,
13 demographic information about such individuals and outcomes of such
14 individuals after completion of a workforce training program.

15 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 10a-1a of the 2022 supplement to the
16 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
17 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

18 (a) There shall be a Board of Regents for Higher Education that shall
19 serve as the governing body for the regional community-technical
20 college system, the Connecticut State University System and Charter
21 Oak State College. The board shall consist of [twenty-one] twenty-two
22 members who shall be distinguished leaders of the community in
23 Connecticut. The board shall reflect the state's geographic, racial and
24 ethnic diversity. The voting members shall not be employed by or be a
25 member of a board of trustees for any independent institution of higher
26 education in this state or the Board of Trustees for The University of
27 Connecticut nor shall they be public officials or state employees, as such
28 terms are defined in section 1-79, during their term of membership on
29 the Board of Regents for Higher Education. The Governor shall appoint
30 nine members to the board as follows: Three members for a term of two
31 years; three members for a term of four years; and three members for a
32 term of six years. Thereafter, the Governor shall appoint members of the
33 board to succeed such appointees whose terms expire and each member
34 so appointed shall hold office for a period of six years from the first day
35 of July in the year of his or her appointment. Four members of the board
36 shall be appointed as follows: One appointment by the president pro
37 tempore of the Senate, who shall be an alumnus of the regional
38 community-technical college system, for a term of four years; one
39 appointment by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be a
40 specialist in the education of children in grades kindergarten to twelve,
41 inclusive, for a term of three years; one appointment by the speaker of
42 the House of Representatives, who shall be an alumnus of the
43 Connecticut State University System, for a term of four years; and one
44 appointment by the minority leader of the House of Representatives,
45 who shall be an alumnus of Charter Oak State College, for a term of

46 three years. Thereafter, such members of the General Assembly shall
47 appoint members of the board to succeed such appointees whose terms
48 expire and each member so appointed shall hold office for a period of
49 four years from the first day of July in the year of his or her appointment.
50 The chairperson and vice-chairperson of the student advisory
51 committee created under section 10a-3 shall serve as members of the
52 board. The chairperson and vice-chairperson of the faculty advisory
53 committee created under section 10a-3a shall serve as ex-officio,
54 nonvoting members of the board for a term of two years and, in their
55 respective roles as chairperson and vice-chairperson, may be invited to
56 any executive session, as defined in section 1-200, of the board by the
57 chairperson of the board. The Commissioners of Education, Economic
58 and Community Development and Public Health, the Labor
59 Commissioner and the Chief Workforce Officer shall serve as ex-officio,
60 nonvoting members of the board.

61 Sec. 3. Subsection (d) of section 10-14aa of the 2022 supplement to the
62 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
63 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

64 (d) Not later than January 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, the office
65 shall (1) review, and request updates of as necessary, the webinar
66 modules and trainings developed or endorsed by the Department of
67 Education for the purpose of aligning such webinar modules with the
68 compliance measures developed by the office pursuant to subsection (c)
69 of section 10-14z; and (2) submit, in accordance with the provisions of
70 section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly
71 [have] having cognizance of matters relating to higher education and
72 education status reports on the compliance of such webinar modules
73 and trainings.

74 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 10a-22f of the 2022 supplement to the
75 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
76 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

77 (a) A certificate of authorization issued to a private occupational
78 school pursuant to sections 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, and sections

79 10a-22u to 10a-22w, inclusive, may be revoked by the executive director
80 if such school (1) ceases to meet the conditions of its authorization; (2)
81 commits a material or substantial violation of sections 10a-22a to 10a-
82 22o, inclusive, or sections 10a-22u to 10a-22w, inclusive, or the
83 regulations prescribed thereunder; (3) makes a false statement about a
84 material fact in application for authorization or renewal; (4) fails to make
85 a required payment to the private occupational school student
86 protection account pursuant to section 10a-22u; or (5) fails to submit a
87 complete application for a [renewed] renewal of a certificate of
88 authorization pursuant to section 10a-22d.

89 Sec. 5. Subdivision (18) of section 10a-223 of the 2022 supplement to
90 the general statutes, as amended by section 273 of public act 21-2 of the
91 June special session, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
92 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

93 (18) "Education assistance program" means a program to assist in
94 financing the costs of education through education loans, [or] education
95 grants [, or both] or any other form of financial assistance;

96 Sec. 6. Section 31-3j of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is
97 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
98 *passage*):

99 As used in [sections 31-3j to 31-3r, inclusive] this section and sections
100 31-3k to 31-3o, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 31-3r, as amended
101 by this act:

102 (1) "Board" means a regional workforce development board
103 established under section 31-3k, as amended by this act;

104 (2) "Commissioner" means the Labor Commissioner;

105 (3) "Municipality" means a town, city, borough, consolidated town
106 and city or consolidated town and borough;

107 (4) "Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act" means the federal
108 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as

109 amended from time to time; and

110 (5) "Workforce development region" or "region" means an area
111 designated as a service delivery area in accordance with the provisions
112 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

113 Sec. 7. Subsection (c) of section 31-3k of the 2022 supplement to the
114 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
115 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

116 (c) Each board shall make use of grants or contracts with appropriate
117 service providers to furnish all program services under sections 31-3j to
118 [31-3r] 31-3o, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 31-3r, as amended
119 by this act, unless the Governor's Workforce Council concurs with the
120 board that direct provision of a service by the board is necessary to
121 assure adequate availability of the service or that a service of
122 comparable quality can be provided more economically by the board.
123 Any board seeking to provide services directly shall submit to the
124 commissioner, the Chief Workforce Officer and the Governor's
125 Workforce Council a plan of service and appropriate justification for the
126 need to provide services directly. Such plan of service shall be subject to
127 review and approval by the Governor's Workforce Council.

128 Sec. 8. Section 31-3m of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is
129 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
130 *passage*):

131 Not later than July 1, 1992, the Governor shall designate appropriate
132 state agencies as agencies involved in employment and training. The
133 department heads of each agency involved in employment and training
134 shall: Not later than August 15, 1992, and annually thereafter, identify
135 to the commissioner and the Chief Workforce Officer the employment
136 and training programs administered by the agency that are subject to
137 oversight by one or more boards under the provisions of sections 31-3j
138 to [31-3r] 31-3o, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 31-3r, as amended
139 by this act. The Chief Workforce Officer, jointly with the commissioner
140 and the Governor's Workforce Council, shall facilitate communication

141 and the exchange of information between the boards and the state
142 agencies involved in employment and training.

143 Sec. 9. Section 31-3n of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is
144 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
145 *passage*):

146 (a) The commissioner, in consultation with the Chief Workforce
147 Officer and the Governor's Workforce Council, may adopt regulations
148 in accordance with chapter 54 to carry out the provisions of sections 31-
149 3j to ~~[31-3r]~~ 31-3o, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 31-3r, as
150 amended by this act.

151 (b) The Chief Workforce Officer shall distribute all information
152 received under the provisions of sections 31-3j to ~~[31-3r]~~ 31-3o, inclusive,
153 as amended by this act, and 31-3r, as amended by this act, to the
154 Governor's Workforce Council in order to ensure that the review and
155 coordination duties of the council are effectively carried out.

156 (c) The Governor may approve, upon the recommendation of the
157 Governor's Workforce Council, each board established pursuant to
158 section 31-3k, as amended by this act, which meets the requirements of
159 sections 31-3j to ~~[31-3r]~~ 31-3o, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 31-
160 3r, as amended by this act.

161 Sec. 10. Section 31-3r of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is
162 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
163 *passage*):

164 Nothing in this section or sections 31-3j to ~~[31-3r]~~ 31-3o, inclusive, as
165 amended by this act, shall be construed or administered in any manner
166 that would conflict with the requirements of the Workforce Innovation
167 and Opportunity Act or supersede any statutory duties, responsibilities
168 or obligations of any agency or board, including, but not limited to, any
169 local board of education.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	4-124jj(b)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	10a-1a(a)
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	10-14aa(d)
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	10a-22f(a)
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	10a-223(18)
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	31-3j
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	31-3k(c)
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	31-3m
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	31-3n
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>	31-3r

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Sections 8 and 9(b), "31-30" was changed to "31-3o" for accuracy.

HED *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*

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: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill makes various technical and conforming changes that do not result in a fiscal impact.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

SB 279

AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE REGARDING MINOR AND TECHNICAL CHANGES TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT STATUTES.

SUMMARY

This bill makes a conforming change in the statute establishing the Board of Regents for Higher Education, increasing its total membership count by one to account for the 2021 addition of the Office of Workforce Strategy’s chief workforce officer to the board (§ 2).

It also makes conforming changes in laws governing (1) the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority’s (CHESLA) ability to offer education financing assistance (§ 5) and (2) various workforce development statutes (§§ 6-10).

Additionally, it makes several grammatical changes to the higher education, education, and workforce development statutes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, except the provision on CHESLA’s financing authority (§ 5) takes effect on October 1, 2022.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 22 Nay 0 (03/17/2022)