



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 610

February Session, 2024

Substitute House Bill No. 5338

House of Representatives, April 24, 2024

The Committee on Appropriations reported through REP. WALKER of the 93rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADMISSION OF STATE RESIDENTS TO VETERINARY SCHOOLS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 10a-19h of the general statutes is amended by
2 adding subsection (c) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

3 (NEW) (c) As part of the Kirklyn M. Kerr program, the president of
4 The University of Connecticut shall enter into an agreement with a
5 school of veterinary medicine that is accredited by the American
6 Veterinary Medical Association for the reservation of a certain number
7 of spaces, as determined by the president, each academic year to allow
8 for the continuation of education of not more than five qualified
9 students who are state residents.

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

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10a-19h(c)
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APP Joint Favorable Subst.

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 has no fiscal impact. It requires the University of Connecticut to enter into an agreement with an out-of-state school of veterinary medicine to allow for continuing education for up to five Connecticut residents. The bill does not provide any funding for this purpose.

The Out Years**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5338*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADMISSION OF STATE RESIDENTS TO VETERINARY SCHOOLS.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the UConn president, as part of the Kirklyn M. Kerr program, to enter into an agreement with a veterinary school accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association to reserve, each academic year, a certain number of spaces as she determines to allow up to five qualified state residents to continue their education.

The Kirklyn M. Kerr program provides grants to Connecticut residents enrolled in an accredited veterinary graduate school. UConn administers the program and awards up to five four-year grants per student class (CGS §§ 10a-19g & -19h). In practice, the program has been dormant in recent years. While the program was active, Connecticut residents could attend Iowa State University's College of Veterinary Medicine and pay reduced tuition. (There are no veterinary schools in Connecticut.)

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2024

BACKGROUND***Legislative History***

The House referred the bill (File 191) to the Appropriations Committee, which reported a substitute that eliminates the prior bill's \$100,000 appropriation to UConn for the program for FY 25.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 22 Nay 0 (03/14/2024)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 53 Nay 0 (04/15/2024)