

Special Act No. 15-18

Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force to study best practices with regard to open educational resources. The task force shall consider the development of a program to incentivize the creation or adaptation of open educational resources that will significantly reduce the cost to students of course materials, including, but not limited to, offering financial or academic or professional credit to faculty to create open educational resources.

(b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

- (1) One faculty member and one administrator of The University of Connecticut, who shall be appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;
- (2) One faculty member and one administrator of the regional community-technical college system, who shall be appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;
- (3) One administrator of Charter Oak State College and one student of a public institution of higher education representing a formally recognized student organization, who shall be appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives;
- (4) One faculty member of Charter Oak State College and one student of an independent institution of higher education in the state who represents a formally recognized student organization, who shall be appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;
- (5) One faculty member and one administrator of the Connecticut State University System, who shall be appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives;
- (6) One faculty member and one administrator of an independent institution of higher education, who shall be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;
- (7) The president of the Board of Regents for Higher Education, or the president's designee;
- (8) The president of The University of Connecticut, or the president's designee;
- (9) The executive director of the Office of Higher Education, or the executive director's designee;
- (10) The chief academic officer of The University of Connecticut, or the chief academic officer's designee; and
- (11) The chief academic officer of the Board of Regents for Higher Education, or the chief academic officer's designee.

(c) All appointments to the task force shall be made not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.

(d) The executive director of the Office of Higher Education, or the executive director's designee, shall schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty days

after the effective date of this section. The members of the task force shall select the chairpersons of the task force from among the members of the task force. One such chairperson shall be from an institution of higher education under the jurisdiction of the Board of Regents for Higher Education, and the other such chairperson shall be from The University of Connecticut.

(e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

(f) Not later than October 1, 2016, the task force shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or October 1, 2016, whichever is earlier.

Approved July 2, 2015