



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Raised Bill No. 473

LCO No. 2541



Referred to Committee on **HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT**

Introduced by:
(HED)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSITION FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO
HIGHER EDUCATION.**

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

- 1 Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2006*) The Commissioners of Higher
2 Education and Education shall develop a plan to help high school
3 students effectively transition to higher education. The plan shall
4 include ways to ensure that (1) a student's final year in high school is
5 productive, challenging and advances the student toward success in
6 higher education or other pursuits chosen by the student, (2) fewer
7 students need remedial courses upon entry into the state's institutions
8 of higher education, (3) more students who score in the top ten per
9 cent of the tenth grade Connecticut mastery test continue to achieve
10 academic success in institutions of higher education, (4) there is
11 increased student awareness of opportunities (A) available to students
12 who achieve higher education, and (B) for financial aid for costs
13 associated with higher education, (5) fewer students leave Connecticut
14 in pursuit of higher education, and (6) minority students achieve
15 greater academic success at the high school and higher education
16 levels. Not later than January 1, 2007, said commissioners shall report

17 the plan and recommendations for legislation, if any, to the joint
 18 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
 19 matters relating to higher education and education, in accordance with
 20 the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

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

Section 1	July 1, 2006	New section
-----------	--------------	-------------

Statement of Purpose:

To require the Commissioners of Higher Education and Education to develop a plan to help high school students successfully transition to higher education.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 101

February Session, 2006

Senate Bill No. 473

Senate, March 23, 2006

The Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement reported through SEN. HARTLEY of the 15th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSITION FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO HIGHER EDUCATION.

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

- 1 Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2006*) The Commissioners of Higher
2 Education and Education shall develop a plan to help high school
3 students effectively transition to higher education. The plan shall
4 include ways to ensure that (1) a student's final year in high school is
5 productive, challenging and advances the student toward success in
6 higher education or other pursuits chosen by the student, (2) fewer
7 students need remedial courses upon entry into the state's institutions
8 of higher education, (3) more students who score in the top ten per
9 cent of the tenth grade Connecticut mastery test continue to achieve
10 academic success in institutions of higher education, (4) there is
11 increased student awareness of opportunities (A) available to students
12 who achieve higher education, and (B) for financial aid for costs
13 associated with higher education, (5) fewer students leave Connecticut
14 in pursuit of higher education, and (6) minority students achieve

15 greater academic success at the high school and higher education
16 levels. Not later than January 1, 2007, said commissioners shall report
17 the plan and recommendations for legislation, if any, to the joint
18 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
19 matters relating to higher education and education, in accordance with
20 the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

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

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
-----------	---------------------	-------------

HED *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 07 \$	FY 08 \$
Education, Dept.	GF - None	None	None
Higher Ed., Dept.	GF - None	None	None

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The Department of Higher Education and the State Department of Education can jointly develop and report on a plan to help high school students effectively transition to higher education within existing resources.

The Out Years

There is no out-year impact associated with this bill as the reporting date is January 1, 2007.

OLR Bill Analysis
SB 473

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSITION FROM HIGH SCHOOL
TO HIGHER EDUCATION.***

SUMMARY:

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 20 Nay 0 (03/14/2006)

REPORT ON BILLS FAVORABLY REPORTED BY COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE: Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

File No.:

Bill No.: SB-473

PH Date: 3/7/2006

Action/Date: JF Change of Reference

3/14/06

Reference Change: Floor

TITLE OF BILL:

AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSITION FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO HIGHER EDUCATION.

SPONSORS OF BILL:

Higher Education and Employment
Advancement Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill was introduced in order to "require the Commissioners of Higher Education and Education to develop a plan to help high school students to successfully transition to higher education."

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

State of Connecticut Department of Education submitted testimony: "The Department of Education supports efforts to examine the transition from high school to higher education, and we already have several initiatives underway to look at the issue. [...] We recently applied for and have received a grant from the National Governor's Association to look at curriculum alignment between kindergarten to grade 12 curriculum and higher education. [...] We would hope that any legislation on this issue would be consistent with what we are doing under this new grant."

State of Connecticut Department of Higher Education submitted testimony: "The Department of Higher Education strongly supports Bill 473's goals of ensuring that high school students transition fully and well into our colleges and universities and that they do so at an appropriate level of preparation. Adequate pre-collegiate preparation is the greatest key to college success, across all fields of study, especially as it reduces the need for remediation and developmental education throughout the system of higher education."

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Connecticut State University System submitted testimony: "The Connecticut State University

[SB473, '06]

System heartily endorses House Bill 473, An Act Concerning the Transition from High School to Higher Education, because it would require the Commissioners of Higher Education and Education to develop a plan to help high school students to successfully transition to higher education. CSU believes this legislation will greatly improve the chances of success for its students, more than 90 percent of whom are Connecticut residents. National studies have shown that as many as half of all college students do not have adequate academic preparation and are required to take remedial courses, and that more than one-quarter of the freshmen at four-year colleges and nearly half of those at two-year colleges do not even make it to their sophomore year. Given these findings, CSU believes that Connecticut would be wise to implement a transition program as required by this proposed legislation."

Kyra P. Nesteriak, Government Affairs Manager, Connecticut Business and Industry Association submitted testimony: "We are supportive of the goals outlined in this measure. Especially, the focus on making a student's last year of high school more challenging and lessening the need for students to have to spend their first year of college, or a portion thereof, taking remedial courses."

Dr. Alice Pritchard, Executive Director, Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund testified: "The plan called for in this bill would help the state in fostering higher achievement for all students before they leave high school as well as promoting greater access to higher education for minority students."

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None Expressed

Art Mongillo

3/15/2006

Jon Fernandez

Reported by

Date

CONNECTICUT
STATE LIBRARY
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE
SECTION