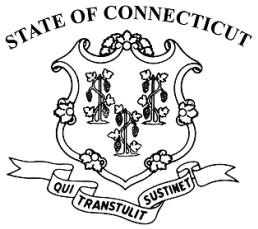

Substitute House Bill No. 7131

Public Act No. 25-158

AN ACT CONCERNING FINANCIAL AID FOR STUDENTS IN PARAMEDIC CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS.

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

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) Not later than October 1, 2025, and annually thereafter, the Office of Workforce Strategy shall (1) identify several public or private sources of financial aid that are available to students in each paramedic certificate program approved by the Commissioner of Public Health, (2) post a list of such financial aid sources on its Internet web site, and (3) distribute such list to each such paramedic certificate program for distribution to its students.

(b) Not later than September 1, 2025, the Chief Workforce Officer shall evaluate paramedic certificate programs approved by the Commissioner of Public Health to qualify such programs as high-value certificate programs, as defined in section 10a-223 of the general statutes. If the Chief Workforce Officer determines that such paramedic certificate programs are high-value certificate programs, students enrolled in such paramedic certificate programs who are eligible to receive education loans, as defined in section 10a-223 of the general statutes, may receive authority loans, as defined in section 10a-223 of the general statutes.

Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) The Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority shall establish, subject to available funding, a student loan program to be known as the "High-Value Certificate Loan Program" for the purpose of funding authority loans, as defined in section 10a-223 of the general statutes, for students enrolled in a high-value certificate program, as defined in section 10a-223 of the general statutes. The High-Value Certificate Loan Program shall include, but need not be limited to, paramedic certificate programs approved by the Commissioner of Public Health, provided such programs are qualified as high-value certificate programs by the Chief Workforce Officer pursuant to section 1 of this act.

Governor's Action:
Approved June 30, 2025