



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 4

February Session, 2026

Substitute Senate Bill No. 150

Senate, March 9, 2026

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 LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONERS' RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TECHNICAL REVISIONS TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION STATUTES.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (h) of section 10a-157a of the 2026 supplement
2 to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

4 (h) For the fall semester of 2025 and spring semester of 2026, the
5 Board of Regents for Higher Education shall continue to offer each
6 transitional college readiness program, embedded remedial support
7 program and intensive remedial support program that said board
8 offered at each public institution of higher education during the fall
9 semester of 2024 and spring semester of 2025, respectively.

10 Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 10a-80 of the 2026 supplement to the
11 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
12 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

13 (b) As used in this section, "community service programs" means
14 educational, cultural, recreational and community directed services that
15 the Connecticut State Community College may provide in addition to
16 its regular academic program. Such community service programs may
17 include, but shall not be limited to, (1) activities designed to enrich the
18 intellectual, cultural and social life of the community, (2) educational
19 services designed to promote the development of skills for the effective
20 use of leisure time, (3) activities and programs designed to assist in the
21 identification and solution of community problems, and (4) utilization
22 of college facilities and services by community groups to the extent such
23 usage does not conflict with the regular schedule of the college.

24 Sec. 3. Subsection (b) of section 10a-72 of the 2026 supplement to the
25 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
26 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

27 (b) The Board of Regents for Higher Education shall:

28 (1) Make rules for the governance of the Connecticut State
29 Community College, determine the general policies of said college,
30 including such policies concerning the admission of students, and direct
31 the expenditure of said college's funds within the amounts available;

32 (2) Develop mission statements for the Connecticut State Community
33 College: The mission statement for the Connecticut State Community
34 College shall include, but need not be limited to, the following elements:
35 (A) The educational needs of and constituencies served by said college,
36 [;] (B) the degrees offered by said college, and (C) the role and scope of
37 each campus of said college, which shall include each campus's
38 particular strengths and specialties;

39 (3) Establish policies for the Connecticut State Community College;

40 (4) Establish policies that protect academic freedom and the content
41 of courses and degree programs;

42 (5) Establish new academic programs;

- 43 (6) Make institutional mergers or closures;
- 44 (7) Coordinate the programs and services of the campuses of the
45 Connecticut State Community College;
- 46 (8) Promote fund-raising by the campuses of the Connecticut State
47 Community College to assist such campuses, provided the board shall
48 not directly engage in fund-raising except for purposes of providing
49 funding for (A) scholarships or other direct student financial aid, and
50 (B) programs, services or activities at one or more of such campuses and
51 report to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
52 cognizance of matters relating to higher education not later than January
53 first, biennially, on all such fund-raising; and
- 54 (9) Charge the direct costs for a building project under its jurisdiction
55 to the bond fund account for such project; provided, (A) such costs are
56 charged in accordance with a procedure approved by the Treasurer, and
57 (B) nothing in this subdivision shall permit the charging of working
58 capital costs, as defined in the applicable provisions of the Internal
59 Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal
60 revenue code of the United States, as from time to time amended, or
61 costs originally paid from sources other than the bond fund account.
- 62 Sec. 4. Section 10-155 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
63 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
64 *1, 2026*):
- 65 The Board of Regents for Higher Education, on behalf of the
66 Connecticut State University System, may maintain an emergency
67 training program to prepare graduates of approved four-year colleges
68 and universities to teach in the elementary schools of the state. In
69 carrying out such program, the board may (1) establish regulations
70 governing the admission of students to the program, [;] (2) fix tuition
71 rates to be paid by such students, and (3) enter into such contracts and
72 agreements as it finds necessary to secure the necessary facilities.
- 73 Sec. 5. Subsection (b) of section 10a-173 of the 2026 supplement to the

74 general statutes, as amended by section 263 of public act 25-168, is
75 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
76 *2026*):

77 (b) The Office of Higher Education shall establish the Roberta B.
78 Willis Scholarship program to annually make need-based financial aid
79 available for eligible educational costs to eligible students enrolled at
80 Connecticut's public and independent institutions of higher education.
81 Within available funds, the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program shall
82 include a need and merit-based grant and a need-based grant. The need
83 and merit-based grant shall be funded at not less than twenty per cent
84 but not more than thirty per cent of available funds or ten million
85 dollars, whichever is greater. The need-based grant shall be funded at
86 up to eighty per cent of available funds. [The Charter Oak grant shall be
87 not less than one hundred thousand dollars of available funds.] There
88 shall be an administrative allowance based on one-quarter of one per
89 cent of the available funds, but not less than one hundred thousand
90 dollars annually.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10a-157a(h)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10a-80(b)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10a-72(b)
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-155
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10a-173(b)

HED *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 makes a variety of technical changes to higher education statutes.

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

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 150

AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONERS' RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TECHNICAL REVISIONS TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION STATUTES.

SUMMARY

This bill eliminates a requirement that at least \$100,000 of available funding for the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship Program be for a Charter Oak grant, which conforms to the elimination of the Charter Oak grant as of July 1, 2026 (see CGS § 10a-173, as amended by PA 25-168, § 263).

The bill also makes technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 18 Nay 0 (02/24/2026)