



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

Committee Bill No. 749

LCO No. 4044



Referred to Committee on HIGHER EDUCATION AND
EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT

Introduced by:
(HED)

***AN ACT REQUIRING LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL FOR THE MERGER
OR CLOSING OF INSTITUTIONS WITHIN THE CONNECTICUT STATE
COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 10a-6 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2019*):

4 (a) The Board of Regents for Higher Education shall: (1) Establish
5 policies and guidelines for the Connecticut State University System,
6 the regional community-technical college system and Charter Oak
7 State College; (2) develop a master plan for higher education and
8 postsecondary education at the Connecticut State University System,
9 the regional community-technical college system and Charter Oak
10 State College consistent with the goals identified in section 10a-11c; (3)
11 establish tuition and student fee policies for the Connecticut State
12 University System, the regional community-technical college system
13 and Charter Oak State College; (4) monitor and evaluate the
14 effectiveness and viability of the state universities, the regional

15 community-technical colleges and Charter Oak State College in
16 accordance with criteria established by the board; (5) merge or close
17 institutions within the Connecticut State University System, the
18 regional community-technical college system and Charter Oak State
19 College in accordance with criteria established by the board, provided
20 (A) such recommended merger or closing shall require a two-thirds
21 vote of the board, [and] (B) notice of such recommended merger or
22 closing shall be sent to the joint standing committee of the General
23 Assembly having cognizance [over] of matters relating to higher
24 education, [and to the General Assembly] and (C) such recommended
25 merger or closing shall be accepted by a majority vote of both houses
26 of the General Assembly or rejected by a majority vote of either house
27 of the General Assembly not later than one year after receiving notice
28 by the board pursuant to this subsection or the adjournment of the
29 next regular session of the General Assembly, whichever is later,
30 provided if the General Assembly fails to act, such recommended
31 merger or closing shall be deemed accepted; (6) review and approve
32 mission statements for the Connecticut State University System, the
33 regional community-technical college system and Charter Oak State
34 College and role and scope statements for the individual institutions
35 and campuses of such constituent units; (7) review and approve any
36 recommendations for the establishment of new academic programs
37 submitted to the board by the state universities within the Connecticut
38 State University System, the regional community-technical colleges
39 and Charter Oak State College, and, in consultation with the affected
40 constituent units, provide for the initiation, consolidation or
41 termination of academic programs; (8) develop criteria to ensure
42 acceptable quality in (A) programs at the Connecticut State University
43 System, the regional community-technical college system and Charter
44 Oak State College, and (B) institutions within the Connecticut State
45 University System and the regional community-technical college
46 system and enforce standards through licensing and accreditation; (9)
47 prepare and present to the Governor and General Assembly, in
48 accordance with section 10a-8, consolidated operating and capital
49 expenditure budgets for the Connecticut State University System, the

50 regional community-technical college system and Charter Oak State
51 College developed in accordance with the provisions of said section
52 10a-8; (10) review and make recommendations on plans received from
53 the Connecticut State University System, the regional community-
54 technical college system and Charter Oak State College to implement
55 the goals identified in section 10a-11c; (11) appoint advisory
56 committees with representatives from public and independent
57 institutions of higher education to study methods and proposals for
58 coordinating efforts of the public institutions of higher education
59 under its jurisdiction with The University of Connecticut and the
60 independent institutions of higher education to implement the goals
61 identified in section 10a-11c; (12) evaluate (A) means of implementing
62 the goals identified in section 10a-11c, and (B) any recommendations
63 made by the Planning Commission for Higher Education in
64 implementing the strategic master plan pursuant to section 10a-11b
65 through alternative and nontraditional approaches such as external
66 degrees and credit by examination; (13) coordinate programs and
67 services among the Connecticut State University System, the regional
68 community-technical college system and Charter Oak State College;
69 (14) assess opportunities for collaboration with The University of
70 Connecticut and the independent institutions of higher education to
71 implement the goals identified in section 10a-11c; (15) make or enter
72 into contracts, leases or other agreements in connection with its
73 responsibilities under this part, provided all acquisitions of real estate
74 by lease or otherwise shall be subject to the provisions of section 4b-23;
75 (16) be responsible for the care and maintenance of permanent records
76 of institutions of higher education dissolved after September 1, 1969;
77 (17) prepare and present to the Governor and General Assembly
78 legislative proposals affecting the Connecticut State University System,
79 the regional community-technical college system and Charter Oak
80 State College; (18) develop and maintain a central higher education
81 information system and establish definitions and data requirements for
82 the Connecticut State University System, the regional community-
83 technical college system and Charter Oak State College; (19) report all
84 new programs and program changes at the Connecticut State

85 University System, the regional community-technical college system
86 and Charter Oak State College to the Office of Higher Education; and
87 (20) undertake such studies and other activities as will best serve the
88 higher educational interests of the Connecticut State University
89 System, the regional community-technical college system and Charter
90 Oak State College.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10a-6(a)

HED *Joint Favorable*