



2022 Legislative Update

This update summarizes legislation adopted during the 2022 regular legislative session, which ended on May 4, 2022, that impacts CCIC member institutions.

MID-TERM BUDGET ADJUSTMENT OVERVIEW

The legislature approved a \$24 billion mid-term budget adjustments bill, [House Bill 5506](#), on Tuesday, May 3rd.

The budget, which includes more than \$600 million in tax cuts, increases spending by 6.5% over current levels starting July 1. The budget invests \$5 billion in additional contributions to the teachers' and state employees' retirement system to reduce the annual payments over the next 25 years by more than \$430 million per year. It invests more than \$100 million into the state's early childhood system and another \$300 million in mental health services. \$30 million in "hero pay" was included in the budget for private-sector workers that kept vital services running during the worst of the COVID-19 outbreak in 2020. To read more about the budget deal, see [here](#).

As to budget matters directly impacting the independent colleges, the budget includes an additional \$20 million from the state's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) stabilization fund to the [Roberta Willis Scholarship Program \(RWSP\)](#) for FY 23, in addition to the program's annual appropriation of \$33 million and the \$20 million of ARPA funding already allocated to the program for this fiscal year. When combined with the Program's annual appropriation, total funding for RWSP will be \$73 million for FY 23, a 37% increase from FY 22. The ARPA money is earmarked for need-based grants within the Scholarship Program, which flows directly to higher education institutions to allocate, based on the percentage of eligible students in the state enrolled at the institution, as reported to the CT Office of Higher Education (OHE).

In addition, the budget bill includes funding for the following items:

- **Higher Education Mental Health Services:** \$3 million was included for OHE to establish a grant program by January 2023 to support institutions of higher education provide mental health services.
- **Health Care Workforce Funding:** \$35 million was included for scholarships and faculty at public and CCIC institutions for the healthcare and behavioral health workforce over FY 23 and FY 24.
- **Healthcare Provider Loan Reimbursement Program:** OHE is tasked with creating a program to provide loan reimbursements for certain healthcare workers in high demand areas. Approximately \$11 million is allocated to CT DPH for this program, over three years.
- **Minority Teacher Scholarship:** \$1 million was allocated to the State Department of Education (SDE) to create a minority teacher scholarship program for Connecticut high students to receive up to \$20,000 a year to enroll in a four-year teacher preparation program, beginning in FY 24.
- **Dual Enrollment:** \$3.5 million in APRA funding was allocated for a dual enrollment pilot program.

- **PILOT:** As you may recall, PILOT funding increased substantially in last year’s budget, for FY 22 and FY 23. This funding was sustained with an additional \$3 million allocated for FY 23 for the new Tiered PILOT program.
- **PACT:** Eligibility for debt-free Community College program was expanded to *part-time* students, who otherwise meet the established criteria. No additional funding was allocated to implement this expansion of the program.

Budget Line Item	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23 Budgeted
Reimbursement for Private Tax-Exempt Property (PILOT for Colleges and Hospitals) (OPM)	\$109,889,443	\$108,998,308	\$108,998,308
Tiered PILOT (OPM)		\$66,400,000	\$83,092,573
Roberta Willis Scholarship Program (OHE)	\$40,483,732**	\$53,388,637*	\$73,388,637*
Higher Education Mental Health Services (OHE)			\$3,000,000*
Minority Advancement Program (OHE)	\$1,619,090	\$1,619,251	\$1,625,187
Minority Teacher Incentive Program (OHE)	\$570,134	\$570,134	\$570,134
Minority Teacher Scholarship Program (SDE)			\$1,000,000
Increase College Opportunities through Dual Enrollment (SDE)			\$3,500,000*
Funding for FAFSA Completion Support (SDE)			\$500,000*
Healthcare Workforce Needs – both public and private colleges (CSCU)			\$20,000,000*
Debt-Free Community College (CSCU)		\$14,000,000	\$15,000,000
Healthcare Provider Loan Reimbursement (DPH)			\$5,100,000*

*Includes allocation from American Rescue Plan Act stabilization fund

**Includes allocation from Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER)

	FY 21	FY 22 (estimate)	FY 23 (estimate)	% Increase FY 22 to FY 23
Roberta Willis Scholarship Program -- Total	\$40,483,732**	\$53,388,637*	\$73,388,637*	37%
Roberta Willis Scholarship Program – Need Based Aid	\$30,458,658**	\$43,576,977*	\$63,576,977*	45%
Roberta Willis Scholarship Program -- Need Based Aid to Students Attending CCIC Members	\$5,089,298**	\$7,486,524*	\$11,467,821*	53%

*Includes allocation from American Rescue Plan Act stabilization fund

**Includes allocation from Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER)

Total Estimated Need-Based Aid by Sector (FY 23)		
CT State Universities	\$18,430,655	28%
CT Community Colleges	\$20,554,801	32%
UCONN	\$13,720,314	21%
CCIC	\$11,467,821	18%

KEY LEGISLATION THAT PASSED

Impacting Independent Colleges and Universities

HB 5506: AN ACT ADJUSTING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2023, CONCERNING PROVISIONS RELATED TO REVENUE, SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION AND OTHER ITEMS TO IMPLEMENT THE STATE BUDGET AND AUTHORIZING AND ADJUSTING BONDS OF THE STATE,

is the budget bill but this bill also includes language to implement the state budget (the “implementer”) and various provisions from other bills. Of note to the independent colleges, this bill:

- Requires OHE to create a program to provide **loan reimbursements for certain healthcare workers** in high demand areas in partnership with the Department of Public Health (DPH); and **(§ 79)**
- Requires that any municipality that establishes a **Stormwater Authority** also establish a process for awarding partial credit, in the form of a fee reduction, for investments made by the property owner to limit or eliminate runoff. The language also removes grand list value as a factor a municipality can consider when establishing the fee structure for the Stormwater Authority. **(§ 137)**
- Establishes the **Connecticut Premium Pay program** with funding of \$30 million to be administered by the Office of the Comptroller (OTC) or a third-party administrator under contract with OTC. From October 1, 2022, until June 30, 2024, the program must provide \$200 to \$1,000 to eligible applicants, depending on their individual income and whether the account the bill creates to support the program is sufficiently funded. “Eligible applicants” is defined as: anyone who meets all of the following criteria:
 1. worked during the entire public health and civil preparedness emergency the governor declared on March 10, 2020, or any declaration extension, until the bill passes;
 2. was in a category for which the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommended, as of February 20, 2021, to receive a COVID-19 vaccination in phase 1a or 1b of the COVID-19 vaccination program (e.g., health care personnel, firefighters, police officers, corrections officers, food and agricultural workers, manufacturing workers, grocery store workers, public transit workers, education sector workers, and child care workers);
 3. is not a federal, state, or municipal employee;
 4. was not employed in a capacity where he or she worked or could have worked from home; and
 5. has an individual income less than \$150,000. **(§§ 143-144)**

SB 105: AN ACT CONCERNING RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION. This bill:

- Makes the OHE executive director a “department head” appointed by the governor and subject to legislative approval;

- Requires OHE to disseminate information on postsecondary education opportunities throughout the state;
- Defines “authorization” as the approval by OHE to operate a higher learning program or higher education institution for subsequent periods and confer specified degrees, replacing references to “licensure,” “approval,” and “accreditation” of higher education institutions with “authorization;”
- **Repeals the Academic Review Commission** and instead requires OHE to conduct a hearing on any appeal in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act;
- Requires OHE to enter into a memorandum of understanding with one or more accrediting agencies to **conduct an annual financial screening** of each independent higher education institution, effective July 1, 2023. If the institution does not annually complete a financial screening with an accrediting agency, the screening must be conducted by OHE, in a form and manner OHE’s executive director prescribes; and
- Delays for one year – from March 1, 2023 to March 1, 2024 -- the deadline for each higher education institution to administer a **sexual misconduct climate assessment**, as required by **PA 21-8** (codified at CGS §§**10a-55r** and **10a-55s**).

Impacting Higher Education Generally

HB 5301: AN ACT CONCERNING IN-STATE STUDENT STATUS OF VETERANS, A POSTSECONDARY PRISON EDUCATION PROGRAM OFFICE, THE ROBERTA B. WILLIS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM, FOOD INSECURE STUDENTS AND CHILD CARE CENTERS ON OR NEAR COLLEGE CAMPUSES, among other things, this bill:

- Establishes a 10-member task force to recommend proposed changes to the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program;
- The task force must propose changes in the program that, at a minimum, do the following:
 - provide need-based financial aid to Connecticut residents enrolled at public and independent higher education institutions that (a) promotes access and choice to postsecondary education and (b) focuses on the student;
 - ensure prospective and current students are notified of their initial eligibility for a grant based on their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) without additionally applying to the Office of Higher Education (OHE);
 - annually ensure participating public and independent higher education institutions are aware of the initial student eligibility criteria and corresponding grant award amount for the following academic year on or before December first prior to the grant year, and
 - consider the feasibility of including private occupational schools' participation in the grant program and estimate the cost of providing need and merit-based grants or need-based grants for the eligible costs of state residents attending those schools.
- Task force members are appointed by House and Senate leadership and the group must report its findings and recommendations to the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee by January 1, 2023.

PA 22-11: AN ACT CONCERNING THE NAME, IMAGE AND LIKENESS OF STUDENT ATHLETES, eliminates the ban on student athletes using, or consenting to the use of, a higher education institution’s

institutional marks (i.e., name, logo, trademarks, mascot, unique colors, copyrights, and other defining insignia) when performing an endorsement contract or employment activity. The bill does not require higher education institutions in the state to allow student athletes to use, or consent to the use of, these marks. But it does require them to adopt at least one policy on their use, as they must already do for endorsement contracts and employment activities.

PA 22-46: AN ACT CONCERNING ENGINEERING, MAINTAINER AND OPEN POSITIONS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, requires the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) commissioner and the Department of Transportation (DOT) commissioner to **recruit interns for the summer worker professional engineer job classification for the Department of Transportation** and recruit such interns at public and independent institutions of higher education.

SA 22-9: AN ACT EXPANDING TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR CAREERS IN HEALTH CARE, requires the Office of Workforce Strategy (OWS) to work with various state agencies and associations – including CCIC -- to **develop an initiative to address the state's health care workforce including, but not limited to, behavioral and mental health**. Such initiative shall seek to increase the number of health care workers in the state through the offering of expanded and enhanced educational programs at institutions of higher education. The program shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Expansion of existing health care related academic programs to promote increased enrollment and retention of students in such programs;
2. development of alternative academic programs that are designed to assimilate displaced workers and other individuals who seek to make a career change into the health care workforce;
3. recruitment and retention of underserved populations in the health care workforce;
4. development of distance learning initiatives for individuals who seek to enter the health care workforce; and
5. development of on-the-job training initiatives that are designed to provide valuable work experience to those receiving the training and assist in alleviating health care workforce shortages, particularly in areas of the state with underserved populations.

PA 22-41: AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY AND THE CONNECTICUT HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPLEMENTAL LOAN AUTHORITY, authorizes the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority (CHESLA) to provide financial assistance to students enrolled in postsecondary education programs. A “postsecondary education program” means a high-value certificate program that is approved by the authority’ Currently CHESLA assistance is only available to students enrolled in a program at an institution of higher education. This change allows these students and parents to take out CHESLA loans and students to receive grants, scholarships, fellowships, or other non-repayable assistance from CHESLA.

HB 5466: AN ACT CONCERNING ASSORTED REVISIONS AND ADDITIONS TO THE EDUCATION STATUTES, makes numerous changes to the education statutes including:

- Requires a local or regional board of education that receives a grant for the hiring of a school counselor from SDE under PA 22-47 (HB 5001) that such school counselors shall provide one-on-one consultations with each student in grades eleven and twelve on the completion of the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid**.

- If such board can provide evidence to the Commissioner of Education that the student completion rate of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid for the school district has increased by at least five per cent, such board shall receive an additional grant in the amount of ten per cent of the grant received under this section for the fiscal year in which such board provided such evidence.

PA 22-58: AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTES

- Expands the duties of the State Board of Examiners for Nursing, by codifying current practice, to explicitly include (1) approving nursing schools in the state that prepare individuals for state licensure and (2) where possible, consulting with nationally recognized accrediting agencies when doing so; **(§ 15)**
- Requires DPH, instead of the Board, to post a list of all approved nursing education programs for registered nurses and licensed practical nurses; and eliminates a requirement that DPH adopt regulations on adult education practical nursing training programs offered in high schools; and
- Allows clinical medical assistants meeting specified certification, education, and training requirements to administer vaccines in any setting other than a hospital if acting under the supervision, control, and responsibility of a physician, PA, or APRN. **(§§ 47 & 78)**

PA 22-47: AN ACT CONCERNING CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH is a comprehensive bill to address children's mental health. Among other things it:

- Requires OHE to administer a grant program for **FYs 23-25 to provide funding to public and private colleges and universities for delivery of student mental health services**. Beginning January 1, 2023, institutions may file grant applications. The grant is renewable for the same amount in FY 24 and then renewable up to 70% of the amount awarded in FY 24 in FY 25. **(§ 15)**

In addition, this bill:

- Makes various revisions to the DPH licensure requirements. See complete bill summary [here](#).
- Requires the DPH commissioner to notify clinical and master social worker license applicants that they may be eligible for certain testing accommodations; **(§ 3)**
- Extends, until June 30, 2024, the duration of temporary master social worker permits from 120 days to one year after attaining a master's degree and specifies that they are not void solely because the applicant fails the examination; **(§ 4)**
- Requires DPH, within available appropriations, to establish a need-based program that waives application and licensure fees for certain applicants who will provide children's mental or behavioral health services; **(§ 6)**
- Requires SDE to annually survey boards of education about their employment of student mental health specialists and calculate student-to-specialist ratios for districts and schools. **"Student mental health specialists"** are defined as: school social workers, school psychologists, trauma specialists, behavior technicians, board-certified behavior analysts, school counselors, licensed professional counselors, and licensed marriage and family therapists; **(§ 12)**
- Requires SDE to administer a grant program for FYs 23-25 to provide funding to boards of education to hire "student mental health specialists;" **(§ 13)**
- Requires each of the state's six regional educational service centers (RESCs) to hire a regional trauma coordinator to, among other things, develop and implement a trauma informed care

training program; requires coordinators to train specialists at the local level to train teachers, administrators, and other staff; requires a progress report and a final report to be submitted to the Children’s and Education committees. In developing the training program, the regional trauma coordinators may collaborate with nonprofit organizations in the state that focus on child health and development and trauma-informed care for children; (§§ 17 & 18)

- Requires all *public* colleges and universities to include the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline number on student ID cards, once the lifeline has been operational in Connecticut for 366 days; (§§ 29 & 30)
- Requires DPH to establish a child and adolescent psychiatrist grant program, providing incentive grants to employers for recruiting, hiring, and retaining these psychiatrists; (§ 38)
- Requires DPH to establish an incentive program to allow two-year license renewal, rather than annual, for the first four years of licensure for psychology doctoral students completing a clerkship at certain DCF-licensed or -operated facilities; (§ 45)
- Establishes a Youth Service Corps grant program administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) to provide grants to municipalities with priority school districts for paid community-based service learning and academic and workforce development programs for eligible youth and young adults; (§§ 60 & 61)
- Creates a working group to develop a plan to increase the number of psychiatry residency and child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship placements in the state; and (§ 68)
- Establishes a **Behavioral and Mental Health Policy and Oversight Committee** charged to evaluate and report on various matters related to the mental health system for children and develop a related strategic plan. Subcommittees may focus on workforce-related issues. (§ 70)

SB 2: AN ACT EXPANDING PRESCHOOL AND MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN, seeks to address the pandemic’s impact on childhood depression, anxiety and developmental delays through the expansion of support services. See the complete bill summary [here](#). Of note to higher education institutions, among other things, this bill:

- Requires SDE, collaborating with the CT Department of Labor (DOL), to administer the **Pipeline for Connecticut’s Future Program**, with local business to create onsite student training opportunities for pathways program for credit in early child-care, education, or mental health services and any additional fields that may lead to a diploma, credential, certificate, or license upon graduation, such as manufacturing, computer programming, or the culinary arts. The details for the Pipeline for Connecticut’s Future Program are in SB 228, see [here](#); (§ 5)
- Requires DPH, in consultation with the Department of Social Services (DSS), to establish a pilot program to expand behavioral health care to children by pediatric care providers in private practices, including establishing a grant program to provide the pediatric care providers a 50% match for the cost associated with paying the salaries of licensed social workers providing counseling and other services to children receiving primary health care from the providers; (§ 17)
- Requires DPH, in consultation with the Office of Early Childhood (OEC), to develop and implement a plan to establish licensure by reciprocity or endorsement for speech and language pathologists or occupational therapists licensed elsewhere and who intend to provide services under the Birth-to-Three program; (§ 26)
- Makes certain mental health professionals eligible for the state loan repayment program by expanding the definition of “primary care clinicians” to include psychiatrists, psychologists, licensed clinical social workers, licensed marriage and family therapists, and licensed professional

counselors. For FY 23, requires DPH to use at least \$1.6 million of the funds appropriated for the state loan repayment program for repayments for physicians; (§ 28)

- Requires the DPH commissioner to convene a working group to advise her on ways to enhance physician recruitment in the state, including assistance for graduate medical education training. The task force must include one representative each from at least three different medical schools; (§ 29)
- Extends PA 21-9’s provisions allowing certain out-of-state telehealth providers to provide telehealth services in Connecticut to June 30, 2024; starting July 1, 2024, permanently authorizes certain out-of-state mental and behavioral health service providers to practice telehealth in Connecticut under certain conditions (§§ 30, 32 & 33)

SB 5: AN ACT CONCERNING ONLINE DATING OPERATORS, THE CREATION OF A GRANT PROGRAM TO REDUCE OCCURRENCES OF ONLINE ABUSE AND THE PROVISION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TRAINING AND PROTECTIONS FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, addresses several different subjects, including online dating, domestic violence training, employment discrimination and workplace sexual harassment, and anti-discrimination protections for domestic violence victims. Among other things, the bill:

- Amends the definition of “sexual harassment” in [10a-55c](#) (c) by deleting the word “substantially” in that subsection such that, in the context of an individual enrolled at an institution of higher education, any unwelcome sexual advances or requests for sexual favors or any conduct of a sexual nature by an agent or employee of an institution of higher education no longer must “substantially” interfere with an individual's academic performance or creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment to meet the definition of “sexual harassment.”

Impacting Teacher Preparation Programs (Public and Private)

SB 1: AN ACT CONCERNING CHILDHOOD MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH SERVICES IN SCHOOLS, seeks to compliment SB 2 and HB 5001 and is focused on expanding health services in schools, among other things. Of interest to teacher preparation programs, this bill:

- Requires SDE to develop and distribute a survey that school districts must annually complete on the number of school social workers, psychologists, counselors, and nurses they employ; requires the education commissioner to calculate the student-to-worker ratio for each of the four types of professionals and report the survey results and the ratios to the Education and Children’s committees; (§ 3)
- Requires SDE to administer grants for FYs 23 to 25, for school districts to hire and retain more school social workers, psychologists, counselors, and nurses; requires SDE to make recommendations on the program’s renewal beyond FY 25; requires SDE to hire a program administrator; (§§ 4 & 5)
- Requires SDE to study the feasibility of creating a temporary “**human services permit**” to allow individuals who have specialized training, experience, or expertise in social work, human services, psychology, or sociology to provide services to students in school; (§ 6)
- Requires SDE to administer a new minority teacher candidate scholarship program that may award grants of up to \$20,000 a year for high school graduates of priority school districts who are enrolled

in a teacher preparation program at any four-year institution of higher education. SDE must create a policy to distribute such awards by January 1, 2023 for distribution beginning in FY 24; (§ 15)

- **Renames the minority teacher recruitment task force** and requires it to conduct a study of existing recruitment and retention programs; (§ 16-22)
- Requires SDE to review the state’s teacher certification statutes and regulations for obsolete provisions and barriers to entry into the profession, and report to the Education Committee by January 1, 2023; and (§ 23)
- Creates a teacher shortage and retention task force responsible for reporting on recommendations that address (1) teacher attrition and retention, (2) teacher shortages across subject matter disciplines, and (3) issues relating to equity and diversity. (§ 29)

PA 22-38: AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

extends the term of validity for each of the three levels of public-school teaching certification:

- *Initial*: an initial certificate is valid for three years, with some exceptions allowing for extensions. The bill adds a new exception: it allows the education commissioner to reissue the initial certificate to anyone who holds the certificate but has not taught under it.
- *Provisional*: A provisional certificate is valid for eight years and carries no renewal option under current law. The bill allows the education commissioner to reissue the provisional certificate if the holder can show that he or she meets the preparation and eligibility requirements that were in place when it was originally issued; and
- *Professional*: Under current law, a professional certificate is valid for five years and renewable for five-year periods after that. The bill increases its validity of and renewability to 10-year periods

Impacting Labor & Employment

PA 22-24: AN ACT PROTECTING EMPLOYEE FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND CONSCIENCE, also known as the “Captive Audience” bill, this bill:

- Generally prohibits employers, including the state and its political subdivisions, from disciplining or discharging (i.e., penalizing) an employee or threatening to do so because the employee refused to attend employer-sponsored meetings, listen to speech, or view communications primarily intended to convey the employer’s opinion about religious or political matters (i.e., “captive audience meetings;”). The prohibition covers meetings with the employer or its agent, representative, or a designee;
- Defines “Political matters” as relating to (1) elections for political office, (2) political parties, (3) proposals to change legislation or regulation, and (4) decisions to join or support a political party or political, civic, community, fraternal, or labor organization. “Religious matters” relate to (1) religious affiliation and practice and (2) decisions to join or support a religious organization or association; and
- The bill allows a number of exceptions to both its prohibition on penalizing employees for refusing to attend captive audience meetings and current law’s prohibition on penalizing employees for exercising certain constitutional rights. In particular, among other things, it explicitly permits a higher education institution, or its agent, representative, or designee to meet or participate in

communications with employees that are part of coursework, a symposia, or an academic program at the institution.

See the complete bill summary [here](#).

Other Bills of Interest

[HB 5168: AN ACT CONCERNING PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR PROPERTY USED FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES](#), makes some clarifications around the tax-exempt status for charitable homes. It also now requires assessors to record their rationale for denying a property tax exemption for property owned by certain nonprofit organizations, including educational institutions.

[PA 22-15: AN ACT CONCERNING PERSONAL DATA PRIVACY AND ONLINE MONITORING](#), requires companies to disclose when they collect data on consumers and allows consumers to opt out of the sale or sharing of such data. Institutions of higher education are exempt from this bill's requirements.

[HB 5248: AN ACT CONCERNING COLLATERAL CONSEQUENCES OF CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS ON OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING](#), removes barriers to professional licensure for individuals with felonies that were unrelated to various professions. Licenses include those necessary to be a barber or cosmetician, funeral director, dietician, esthetician, social worker, art therapist, nail technician, architect, various trades, sanitarian, gas technician, pesticide, accountant, and security officer.

[HB 5506](#), the budget bill, included provisions from **[SB 240: AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF SODIUM CHLORIDE TO MITIGATE SNOW AND ICE ACCUMULATIONS](#)**. These provisions:

- Allow the DEEP commissioner to establish a salt commercial applicator certificate program. Under the bill, commercial applicators may annually register with DEEP and certify that they received the roadside applicator training conducted by DEEP, DOT, and UConn, and any other training DEEP requires and complies with the regulation's policies and goals about applying salt.
- A "commercial applicator" is anyone who applies, or supervises others applying, salt or salt alternatives on roadways, parking lots, or sidewalks for winter maintenance. It excludes municipal, state, and state political subdivision employees.
- A business that employs multiple commercial applicators may make an organization certification for its owner or chief supervisor and applicators employed by the business. A business with an organizational certification must ensure that all applicators operating under it receive the required training and keep records on behalf of all of its applicators. (**[§§ 139 & 140](#)**)

Key Legislation that Died

[HB 5034: AN ACT PROHIBITING AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION FROM CONSIDERING LEGACY PREFERENCES IN THE ADMISSIONS PROCESS](#).

[SB 17: AN ACT PROHIBITING AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION FROM WITHHOLDING TRANSCRIPTS](#).

SB 315 & HB 5030: AN ACT CONCERNING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS FOR ADJUNCT HIGHER EDUCATION FACULTY.

HB 5129: AN ACT PROHIBITING THE CONSIDERATION OF CRIMINAL HISTORY DURING THE ADMISSIONS PROCESS AT AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION OR PRIVATE OCCUPATIONAL SCHOOL OR BY AN EDUCATIONAL OR VOCATIONAL PROGRAM. (“Ban the Box”)

HB 5465: AN ACT INCREASING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR SALARIES AND EXPANDING CHILD CARE OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILIES