



## 2019 Legislative Update

This update summarizes legislation adopted during the 2019 regular legislative session, which ended on June 5, 2019, that impacts CCIC member institutions.

### BUDGET OVERVIEW

The legislature approved a two-year, \$43 billion biennium budget on Tuesday, June 4th. The budget bill that passed, **HB 7424**, closes a projected deficit of \$3.7 billion over two years and includes spending increases of 1.7 and 3.4 percent in years one and two respectively.

As to budget matters directly impacting the independent colleges, no changes were made in funding levels for the Roberta Willis Scholarship Program. There was a slight increase proposed in the PILOT for Colleges and Hospital Program. The \$500 personal income tax credit for recent STEM graduates was repealed.

A summary of funding levels for relevant programs is below. Additional items included in the budget are highlighted through-out the legislative summary.

Budget Line Item	FY 19	FY 20 Budgeted	FY 21 Budgeted
Reimbursement for Private Tax-Exempt Property (PILOT for Colleges and Hospitals)	\$105,889,432	\$109,889,443	\$109,889,443
Roberta Willis Scholarship Program (OHE)	\$33,388,637	\$33,388,637	\$33,388,637
Minority Advancement Program (OHE)	\$1,610,721	\$1,614,726	\$1,619,090
Minority Teacher Incentive Program (OHE)	\$320,134	\$570,134	\$570,134

### KEY LEGISLATION THAT PASSED

#### Impacting Independent Colleges and Universities

**PA 19-26: AN ACT MAKING PERMANENT THE MORATORIUM ON APPROVAL OF PROGRAMS AT INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION**, makes permanent the exemption from academic program approval, for up to 12 new programs per academic year, by the Office of Higher Education for non-profit institutions of higher education meeting specific standards laid out in statute.

**PA 19-140: AN ACT CONCERNING THE ISSUANCE OF PARKING CITATIONS BY INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS**, makes an exception for

private, non-profit colleges and secondary schools from the prohibition of private property owners from issuing tickets for monetary sanctions for parking violations.

## Impacting Higher Education Generally

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**PA 19-117: AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE THIRTIETH, 2021, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND IMPLEMENTING PROVISIONS OF THE BUDGET**, beyond making appropriations for the biennium, this bill includes the following provisions impacting higher education:

- Requires that the Board of Regents report back to the legislature about its efforts to implement the merger of the community college system, known as “**Students First**.” As part of this requirement, the Board of Regents is required to share with the Higher Education & Employment Advancement Committee all written correspondence with NECHE (§36);
- Creates a 17-member **OER Coordinating Council** to establish an Open Education Resources program to lower the cost of textbooks and course materials for certain courses at higher education institutions in the state, administered by OHE (§147);
- Requires the Board of Regents (BOR) to create a program for “**Debt-Free College**” at the state’s community colleges for all full-time, first-time students (no income limits on eligibility) beginning in the Fall of 2020. The funding source for this program is expected to be a new online Lottery program administered by the CT Lottery, which CT Lottery must still study the feasibility of and make recommendations by January 2020 as to whether it is possible. If revenue from this program is not feasible to sustain Debt Free College, the Governor will have to make budget adjustments accordingly in February 2020 (§362);
- Requires BOR to implement an annual “**FAFSA month**” program to assist high school seniors and their families with completing their federal student financial aid applications (§363);
- Establishes a non-profit organization called “**The Partnership for Connecticut, Inc.**” and requires the state, under specified conditions, to provide \$20 million to the organization in FY 20 and \$20 million a year for up to four additional fiscal years. The purpose of this nonprofit is to support public education, social entrepreneurship and upward mobility for students in the state by connecting at-risk high school-aged youth and young adults to educational and career opportunities. This provision is tied to the donation from the Dalio Foundation, announced earlier this year. (§§183-189)

**PA 19-128: AN ACT CONCERNING COMPUTER SCIENCE INSTRUCTION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**, this bill:

- Adds computer science to the list of subjects that must be taught in public schools;
- Requires teacher preparation programs to include instruction in computer science as a part of the curriculum;
- Requires the Office of Higher Education (OHE), in collaboration and consultation with the State Department of Education (SDE), to develop an alternate route to certification (ARC) program for computer science teachers, which must include mentored apprenticeships and program admission criteria;
- Requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to adopt regulations by July 1, 2020, that provide computer science teaching certification standards, which must (a) create a computer science endorsement and (b) allow applicants to fulfill certification requirements by completing prescribed courses of study or other experience that SBE deems appropriate (§ 4);

- Requires SBE to approve and adopt, by January 1, 2020, a computer science subject area assessment for teacher certification;
- Requires SBE, beginning July 1, 2020, to allow computer science certificate applicants or currently certified teachers in other subject areas seeking to teach computer science to substitute a satisfactory score on the assessment for the subject area certification requirements in law;
- Establishes the “computer science education account” in the General Fund;
- Allows the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) to (a) develop by July 1, 2020, and within available appropriations, a model internship program to help Connecticut businesses provide college internships in the fields of technology and advanced manufacturing and (b) make the model available on its website;
- Adds computer science to the list of training and job placement areas in the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission’s (CETC) statewide plan for implementing, expanding, or improving upon career certificate, middle college, early college high school, and Early College Opportunity programs;
- Allows DECD, in consultation with the Labor Department and OHE, to:
  - Conduct an analysis to identify the following:
    - anticipated areas of statewide and regional job growth in Connecticut over the next five and 10 years;
    - existing or projected needs for certificate programs, degree programs, and short- and long-term noncredit training programs to support job growth areas; the certificate programs, degree programs, and noncredit training programs in the state that are most in demand by employers and students;
    - the percentage of graduates from these programs employed in Connecticut two years after graduation and the fields and industries in which they are employed; and
    - growth capacity in high-demand academic programs offered by in-state higher education institutions.
  - Coordinate with state and quasi-public agencies to prioritize and align state resources to meet the existing and future talent needs of the state; and
  - Coordinate with municipal leaders to (a) share the results of the above analysis with employers, public and private Connecticut colleges and universities, and other stakeholders and (b) develop a program to award grants to support evidence-based solutions to cultivate, attract, hire, and retain workers in high-demand fields and industries. This grant program may include internship programs, education programs, incentives to attract mid-career workers, and fellowship programs to attract and retain recent graduates.
- Requires that student success plans for public school students in grades 6 – 12 consider career and academic choices in computer science, science, technology, engineering, and math.

**SA 19-23: AN ACT REQUIRING A STUDY OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S PROPOSED REGULATIONS REGARDING SEXUAL MISCONDUCT UNDER TITLE IX OF THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT OF 1972**, creates a task force to study the potential impact of the proposed **Title IX regulations** on institutions of higher education in CT, upon issuance of the final rule by the U.S. Department of Education. The task force includes a Title IX coordinator from an

independent institution of higher education, appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives.

**SA 19-14: AN ACT CONCERNING THE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF MENTAL ILLNESS AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION**, creates a task force to study the policies and procedures adopted by each institution of higher education in the state regarding the prevention and treatment of mental illness in students and to recommend a state-wide policy regarding **mental health services** available to students at institutions of higher education.

**PA 19-103: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM FOR THE EXPANSION OF ADVANCED MANUFACTURING CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS**, requires the Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR) to create a program by January 1, 2020, that establishes an advanced manufacturing certificate program in no more than one Connecticut public high school per year. The bill allows BOR to collaborate with an independent institution of higher education to operate the above described advanced manufacturing certificate program in a high school whose board of education applies to participate. For more info, click [here](#).

**PA 19-189: AN ACT CONCERNING PARITY BETWEEN SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE CASE OF A SPOUSAL OR COHABITATING RELATIONSHIP AND OTHER CRIMES OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AND CONCERNING THE INVESTIGATION OF A FAMILY VIOLENCE CRIME**, among other things, Sec. 43 of this bill expands a provision passed in 2018 (**Public Act 18-05**) to remove college roommates living in on-campus housing from being subject to prosecution under the state's family violence laws if there was no familial or dating relationship between the roommates. Sec. 43 of this bill ensures the 2018 change applies to students living in institutionally owned and operated off-campus housing, as well as on-campus housing.

**PA 19-86: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TAX CREDIT FOR EMPLOYERS THAT MAKE PAYMENTS ON LOANS ISSUED TO CERTAIN EMPLOYEES BY THE CONNECTICUT HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPLEMENTAL LOAN AUTHORITY**, establishes a state business tax credit of up to \$2,625 per employee for an employer that makes eligible education loan payments on a qualified employee's behalf.

- The credit, which starts with the January 1, 2022 income year, equals 50% of the portion of payments an employer makes that is applied to a qualified employee's outstanding principal balance (i.e., the portion of an employer payment applied to interest is not included when calculating the credit).
- Eligible loans are those issued by the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority (CHESLA) to refinance student loans.
- Qualified employees are Connecticut residents who (1) earned their first bachelor's degree within the last five years and (2) are working full time (at least 35 hours per week) at a corporation, insurer, or health care center that is licensed in Connecticut and subject to the applicable tax. However, a qualified employee cannot be an owner, member, partner, or family member of such an employer.
- To read a complete summary of the bill, click [here](#).

**PA 19-198: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY WORKFORCE TRAINING NEEDS IN THE STATE**, reconstitutes the make-up of the Workforce Training Authority board and moves it into the

Department of Labor to administer the Workforce Training Fund. The Authority includes a representative from an independent college, appointed by the Governor. The Fund shall be used to support workforce training programs, offered by a public or private entity, either to grow an existing business or, in the case of a public entity, as part of a partnership with business entities that have made a commitment to hire successful trainees from the program. Training assistance shall target job growth in the areas of construction, healthcare, early childhood education, insurance, financial services, bioscience, advance manufacturing, digital media, green technology and tourism. The state budget includes \$500,000 annually for this program. The bill also requires the Department of Labor, in collaboration with workforce development boards within the state, to conduct a study of programs offered to individuals seeking employment within the state.

**PA 19-174: AN ACT CONCERNING DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAMS OPERATED BY INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION OUTSIDE OF THE STATE**, requires out-of-state higher education institutions that do not participate in SARA to apply for authorization from the Office of Higher Education to operate distance learning programs in Connecticut.

**PA 19-58: AN ACT PROMOTING CAREERS IN MANUFACTURING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS AND ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE DEMAND FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION TEACHERS**, requires:

- Local and regional school boards, as part of the annual student success plans they must create for each student starting in grade six, to provide evidence of career exploration in each grade, including manufacturing careers;
- The State Department of Education (SDE) to revise and issue guidance to school boards regarding these changes to student success plans;
- Local and regional boards of education to develop career placement goals for students choosing not to pursue an advanced degree and include those goals in their statements of educational goals;
- The SDE commissioner to (1) study the demand for career and technical education teachers in the state's technical high schools, traditional public high schools, and community college advanced manufacturing technology centers and (2) recommend ways to expand opportunities for experienced manufacturing professionals to become teachers. The commissioner must (1) consult with the Office of Higher Education executive director and Technical Education and Career System board chairperson in conducting the study and (2) by February 1, 2020, report her findings and recommendations to the Commerce Committee; and
- Authorizes guidance and school counselors to provide students with materials about manufacturing, military, and law enforcement careers when discussing career options.

**PA 19-154: AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS INITIATIVES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT**, makes various changes related to entrepreneurship and economic development at UConn including:

- requires UConn's president, on and after October 1, 2019, to spearhead efforts to promote UConn's entrepreneurship and innovation to prospective students and faculty in ways the president deems appropriate;

- requires the UConn Board of Trustees (BoT) to freely license, and release for open, public use, all patents it holds that have not been used for commercialization or licensed for at least 10 years, as long as the inventor is first offered the right to license the patent;
- requires UConn’s president and BoT to build and foster a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship at UConn and build relationships with other higher education institutions;
- requires the UConn president to oversee the development of a
- plan regarding technology transfer policies and entrepreneurship and innovation at UConn; and
- modifies how CTNext’s Higher Education Entrepreneurship Advisory Committee must prioritize grant applications.

To read a complete summary of the bill, click [here](#).

## Impacting Teacher Preparation Programs (Public and Private)

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**PA 19-117: AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE THIRTIETH, 2021, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND IMPLEMENTING PROVISIONS OF THE BUDGET**, beyond making appropriations for the biennium, the budget bill includes provisions impacting teacher preparation programs:

- Establishes a minority educator loan reimbursement grant program as part of the existing minority teacher incentive program OHE administers; (§262) and
- Expands the existing Connecticut minority teacher incentive program to provide grants to minority students enrolled in the state’s alternate route to certification program. (§263)

**PA 19-139: AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATION ISSUES**, among other things, establishes a working group to study issues relating to the implementation of the **pre-service performance assessment, edTPA** (Section 3). The working group includes an appointment by the President Pro Tem of the Senate of a representative from a teacher preparation program.

**PA 19-91: AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REVISIONS AND ADDITIONS TO THE EDUCATION STATUTES**, among other things, makes changes to the governing criminal history checks for school personnel. Section 3 of this bill proposes to waive the state fee for **background checks and fingerprinting for student teachers**. In addition, the bill moves out the requirement that the background check take place within 30 days of the student teacher placement to 60-days, so schools and teachers are not violating state law due to any delay from the results being received.

**PA 19-74: AN ACT CONCERNING MINORITY TEACHER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION**, this bill:

- Requires the State Department of Education’s Minority Teacher Recruitment Policy Oversight Council to develop and implement strategies to ensure local and regional boards of education annually hire and employ at least 250 new minority teachers each year;
- Mandates reciprocity agreements in northeast states;
- Requires SBE, beginning July 1, 2020, to allow applicants for teacher certification in a subject shortage area who receive a “satisfactory” rather than “excellent” score on the subject area assessment to substitute the score for the subject area certification requirements in law;
- Expands eligibility for mortgage assistance for certain teachers;

- Expands the ability of a school district or state college or university to re-employ a retired teacher for up to a year without penalty to include any teacher who graduated from 1) an education reform district or 2) an HBCU;
- Allows for certification if degree is from non-regionally accredited institution; and
- Eases restrictions for re-certification if certification has expired.

**PA 19-100: AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF INSTRUCTION IN CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE PEDAGOGY AND PRACTICE IN THE PRESERVICE TRAINING, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND IN-SERVICE TRAINING PROVIDED TO TEACHERS**, requires teacher preparation programs to include instruction on “culturally responsive pedagogy and practice.” Current law requires instruction on “cultural competencies.”

**SA 19-8: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO ANALYZE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF LAWS GOVERNING DYSLEXIA INSTRUCTION AND TRAINING**, establishes a task force to study whether institutions of higher education in the state are complying with the requirements set forth in 10-145a of the general statutes, as it relates to the twelve clock hours of instruction in the detection and recognition of and evidence-based structured literacy interventions for, students with dyslexia. The proposed task force includes two representatives from public college teacher preparation programs but no representatives from an independent college teacher preparation program.

**PA 19-34: AN ACT CONCERNING THE STAFF QUALIFICATIONS REQUIREMENT FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS**, makes revisions to and extends the dates for the staff qualifications requirement for early childhood educators.

## Impacting Economic Development

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**HB 7209: AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CONNECTICUT MUNICIPAL REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**, creates the Connecticut Municipal Redevelopment Authority (MRDA) as a quasi-public agency to, among other things, stimulate economic and transit-oriented development. Larger municipalities, and smaller municipalities jointly, may opt to become members of the authority; certain fiscally distressed municipalities are automatically members. MRDA is authorized to issue bonds. The legislative body of each community that chooses to join MRDA must appoint a local development board to serve as its liaison to MRDA. To read more, click [here](#).

**HB 7008: AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING GROUP ON A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP TO RECRUIT BUSINESSES TO CONNECTICUT**, requires the DECD Commissioner to develop and implement a state marketing strategy that includes several components, including **highlighting the institutions of higher education in the state**.

**PA 19-54: AN ACT CONCERNING OPPORTUNITY ZONES**, makes various changes concerning the promotion and development of the state’s federally designated opportunity zones. To read the complete summary of the bill, click [here](#). To learn about how colleges and universities can benefit from Opportunity Zones, click [here](#).

**PA 19-21: AN ACT ESTABLISHING CERTAIN INCENTIVES TO GROW THE BIOSCIENCE INDUSTRY IN THE STATE**, requires Connecticut Innovations (CI), by February 1, 2020, in consultation with a bioscience trade group, to contract with an advertising agency to create a marketing plan, social media campaign, and dedicated website to promote Connecticut as a bioscience hub. CI must report to the Commerce Committee by January 1, 2021, on the results of the marketing plan, campaign, and website.

**SA 19-6: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKFORCE PIPELINE AND JOB CREATION TASK FORCE**, seeks to establish a workforce pipeline and job creation task force to prepare the state's future workforce for well-paying manufacturing and technical jobs located in Connecticut.

**PA 19-129: AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MILITARY TO MACHINISTS AND VETERANS PLATFORM TO EMPLOYMENT PILOT PROGRAMS AND PROVIDING OTHER EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE TO VETERANS**, requires the workforce development board for the state's southwest region to develop and operate two pilot programs: the (a) Military to Machinists pilot program for veterans and (b) Veterans Platform to Employment pilot program. The Military to Machinists pilot program must help veterans in the region served by the program to: 1) earn an advanced manufacturing certificate from a qualifying certificate program, as defined in the bill, and 2) secure employment, for certificate holders, with any eligible business in the advanced manufacturing field. To read more, click [here](#).

## Impacting Labor & Employment

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**PA 19-4: AN ACT INCREASING THE MINIMUM FAIR WAGE**, increases the state's minimum hourly wage from its current \$10.10 to (1) \$11.00 on October 1, 2019; (2) \$12.00 on September 1, 2020; (3) \$13.00 on August 1, 2021; (4) \$14.00 on July 1, 2022; and (5) \$15.00 on June 1, 2023. Beginning January 1, 2024, it indexes future annual minimum wage changes to the federal employment cost index (ECI). To read a complete summary of the bill, click [here](#).

**PA 19-16: AN ACT COMBATting SEXUAL ASSAULT AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT**, makes various changes concerning sexual harassment, sexual assault and discrimination complaints filed with the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO), and related matters. To see a summary of the impact of this bill on private employers, see [this article](#) authored by CCIC Corporate Affiliate Shipman & Goodwin.

**PA 19-25: AN ACT CONCERNING PAID FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE**, creates the Family and Medical Leave Insurance (FMLI) program to provide wage replacement benefits to certain employees taking leave for reasons allowed under the state's Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) or the family violence leave law. It provides:

- Up to 12 weeks of FMLI benefits over a 12-month period. The program also provides two additional weeks of benefits for a serious health condition that results in incapacitation during pregnancy.
- Individuals eligible for benefits are those who earned at least \$2,325 during their highest earning quarter within their base period (the first four of the five most recently completed quarters) and (1) are private-sector employees or certain "covered public employees," (2) were employed in the previous 12 weeks, or (3) are sole proprietors or self-employed people who voluntarily enroll in the program.



- The program is funded by employee contributions, collected via a payroll tax, with collections beginning in January 2021. The Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Authority (i.e., “authority”), which the bill creates, must annually determine the employee contribution rate, which cannot exceed 0.5%.
- The bill also caps the amount of an employee’s earnings subject to contributions at the same amount of earnings subject to Social Security taxes (currently \$132,900).
- A covered employee’s weekly benefits under the program are generally calculated as 95% of his or her average weekly wage, up to 40 times the state minimum wage, plus 60% of his or her average weekly wage that exceeds 40 times the minimum wage, with total benefits capped at 60 times the minimum wage.
- If employee contributions are at the maximum rate allowed and the authority determines that they are not sufficient to ensure the program’s solvency, the bill requires it to reduce the benefit by the minimum amount needed to ensure the program’s solvency.
- The bill allows employers to alternatively provide benefits through a private plan, which must provide their employees with at least the same level of benefits, under the same conditions and employee costs, as the FMLI program. Private plans must meet certain requirements for approval, and employees covered by an employer’s private plan do not have to contribute to the FMLI program
- Shipman and Goodwin provided a brief summary of the bill from the employer perspective [here](#).

## Other Bills of Interest

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**PA 19-78: AN ACT CONCERNING A TWO-GENERATIONAL INITIATIVE**, makes several changes to the two-generational initiative to advance family economic self-sufficiency. Most notably, it replaces the initiative’s current advisory council with a board of similar composition. It also makes minor changes to the members’ duties and the initiative’s objectives and purpose. To learn more, click [here](#).

**PA 19-163: AN ACT ACCELERATING THE DEPLOYMENT OF 5G WIRELESS FACILITIES**, establishes a Council on 5G Technology and tasks it with reviewing wireless carriers’ requests to place personal wireless service facilities and small wireless facilities, as defined in federal law, on state-owned real property and determining which state-owned properties may be made available to the wireless carriers for these facilities. To learn more, click [here](#).

**PA 19-117: AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE THIRTIETH, 2021, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO REVENUE AND OTHER ITEMS TO IMPLEMENT THE STATE BUDGET**, beyond making appropriations for the biennium, the bill also makes additional changes as follows:

- Establishes a 32-member task force to study ways to encourage greater and improved **collaboration among the state and municipal governments** and regional bodies (§365);
- Beginning July 1, 2020, the bill requires the OPM secretary to begin offering **regional functions**, activities, or services as recommended by the task force created above. The OPM secretary must establish requirements for the (1) procedures and guidelines for performing regional

functions, activities, or services; (2) grant amounts; and (3) deadlines for submitting applications and selecting grant recipients (§366);

- Establishes a **regionalization subaccount** in the General Fund’s regional planning incentive account. Subaccount funds must only be spent on recommendations from the regionalization task force (§365); and
- Makes a number of changes to state licensure requirements including:
  - Creates a new associate licensure category for **licensed professional counselors (LPCs)** and **marital and family therapists (MFTs)** that allows them to practice under professional supervision while pursuing full licensure (see details [here](#), §§162-175);
  - Creates a DPH licensure program for **art therapists** and generally prohibits unlicensed individuals from using the “art therapist” title. To receive a license, an applicant must (1) hold a graduate degree and be credentialed or certified by the Art Therapy Credentials Board or (2) qualify for licensure by endorsement (see details [here](#), §176-182).

**PA 19-164: AN ACT CONCERNING SOCIAL WORKERS**, generally prohibits anyone from using the title “**social worker**,” or any associated initials, or advertising services as a social worker unless he or she (1) has a bachelor’s or master’s degree in social work from a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE); (2) a doctorate in social work; or (3) if educated outside of the U.S. or its territories, completed an education program CSWE deems equivalent. To read more details, see [here](#).

## Key Legislation that Died

**SB 17: An Act Authorizing Sports Wagering, Internet Gaming and Internet Keno**

**SB 20: An Act Prohibiting the Import, Sale and Possession of African Elephants, Lions, Leopards, Black Rhinoceros, White Rhinoceros and Giraffes**

**SB 266: An Act Concerning Polling Places at Institutions of Higher Education**

**SB 746: An Act Establishing the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship Account and Creating a Tax Credit**

**SB 928: An Act Concerning the Tax Exemption for Real Property Used for Certain Purposes**

**SB 1137: An Act Concerning Deposits in-Lieu-of Taxes**

**SB 1138: An Act Concerning Community Restoration Funds**

**HB 5892: An Act Allowing Municipalities to Assess a Fee on Independent Institutions of Higher Education for Municipal Police & Fire Services**

**HB 7088: An Act Concerning Program Approval at Independent Institutions of Higher Education**

**HB 7242: An Act Concerning Police Officers at Independent Institutions of Higher Education**

**HB 7331: An Act Concerning Sports Wagering in the State**

**HB 7408: An Act Concerning Municipal Revenue and Stormwater Authority, Studies of the PILOT Grants Program and a Property Tax Exemption for Machinery and Equipment, and Enterprise Zones**