



General Assembly

January Session, 2021

Raised Bill No. 997

LCO No. 4340



Referred to Committee on HIGHER EDUCATION AND
EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT

Introduced by:
(HED)

***AN ACT CONCERNING AN EXPANSION OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT
AND THE VOTING RIGHTS OF THE FACULTY MEMBERS OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 10a-103 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

3 (a) There shall continue to be a Board of Trustees [for] of The
4 University of Connecticut to consist of [twenty-one] twenty-three
5 persons, twelve to be appointed by the Governor, who shall reflect the
6 state's geographic, racial and ethnic diversity; two to be elected by the
7 university alumni; two to be elected by the students enrolled at the
8 institutions under the jurisdiction of said board; two to be elected by the
9 University Senate of said university; and five members ex officio.

10 (b) On or before July 1, 1983, the Governor shall appoint [members]
11 trustees to the board as follows: Four [members] trustees for a term of
12 two years from said date; four [members] trustees for a term of four

13 years from said date; and four [members] trustees for a term of six years
14 from said date. Thereafter, the Governor shall appoint trustees of said
15 university to succeed those appointees whose terms expire, and each
16 trustee so appointed shall hold office for a period of six years from the
17 first day of July in the year of his or her appointment, provided two of
18 the trustees appointed for terms commencing July 1, 1995, and their
19 successors shall be alumni of the university, one of the trustees
20 appointed for a term commencing July 1, 1997, and his or her successors
21 shall be such alumni and one of the members appointed for a term
22 commencing July 1, 1999, and his or her successors shall be such alumni.

23 (c) The Commissioner of Agriculture, the Commissioner of
24 Education, the Commissioner of Economic and Community
25 Development and the chairperson of The University of Connecticut
26 Health Center Board of Directors shall be, ex officio, members of the
27 board of trustees. The Governor shall be, ex officio, president of said
28 board.

29 (d) The graduates of all of the schools and colleges of said university
30 shall, prior to September first in the odd-numbered years, elect one
31 trustee, who shall be a graduate of the institution and who shall hold
32 office for four years from the first day of September succeeding his or
33 her election. Not less than two or more than four nominations for each
34 such election shall be made by the alumni association of said university,
35 provided no person who has served as an alumni trustee for the two full
36 consecutive terms immediately prior to the term for which such election
37 is to be held shall be nominated for any such election. Such election shall
38 be conducted by mail prior to September first under the supervision of
39 a canvassing board consisting of three members, one appointed by the
40 board of trustees, one by the board of directors of the alumni association
41 of the university and one by the president of the university. No ballot in
42 such election shall be opened until the date by which ballots must be
43 returned to the canvassing board. In such election, all graduates shall be
44 entitled to vote by signed ballots which have been circulated to them by
45 mail and which shall be returned by mail. Vacancies occurring by death
46 or resignation of either of such alumni trustees shall be filled for the

47 unexpired portion of the term by special election, if such unexpired term
48 is for more than eighteen months. When the unexpired term is eighteen
49 months or less, such vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the board
50 of directors of said alumni association.

51 (e) On or before November 1, 1975, the students of The University of
52 Connecticut shall, in such manner as the board of trustees of said
53 university shall determine, elect two trustees, each of whom shall be
54 enrolled as a full-time student of said university at the time of his or her
55 election. One such [member] trustee shall be elected for a term of one
56 year from November 1, 1975, and one for a term of two years from said
57 date. Prior to July first, annually, such students shall, in accordance with
58 this section and in such manner as the board shall determine, elect one
59 [member] trustee of [said] the board, who shall be so enrolled at said
60 university at the time of his or her election and who shall serve for a
61 term of two years from July first in the year of his or her election. The
62 student [member] trustee elected to fill the term expiring on June 30,
63 2003, and such elected [member's] trustee's successors, shall be enrolled
64 as a full-time undergraduate student at a school or college of the
65 university and shall be elected by the undergraduate students of the
66 schools and colleges of the university. The student [member] trustee
67 elected to fill the term expiring on June 30, 2004, and such elected
68 [member's] trustee's successors, shall be enrolled as a full-time student
69 in the School of Law, the School of Medicine, the School of Dentistry,
70 the School of Social Work, or as a graduate student of a school or college
71 of the university, and shall be elected by the students of the School of
72 Law, the School of Medicine, the School of Dentistry, the School of Social
73 Work and the graduate students of the schools and colleges of the
74 university. Any student [member] trustee elected after July 1, 2013, shall
75 be enrolled as a full-time student at the time of his or her election and
76 for the duration of his or her term of service. Any vacancies in the
77 elected membership of said board shall, except as otherwise provided
78 in this section, be filled by special election for the balance of the
79 unexpired term.

80 (f) On or before November 1, 2021, the members of the University

81 Senate of The University of Connecticut shall, in such manner as the
82 Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut shall determine, elect
83 two trustees from among the elected and voting members of the
84 University Senate, one of whom shall be employed as a full-time faculty
85 member of said university for the duration of such trustee's term on the
86 board. One such member shall be elected for a term expiring on June 30,
87 2022, and one for a term expiring on June 30, 2023. On or before July 1,
88 2022, and annually thereafter, in accordance with this subsection and in
89 such manner as the board shall determine, the University Senate shall
90 elect, from among its elected and voting members, one trustee of the
91 board who is employed by said university for the duration of such
92 trustee's term on the board and who shall serve for a term of two years
93 from July first in the year of such trustee's election. The trustee elected
94 to fill the term expiring on June 30, 2022, and such elected trustee's
95 successors, shall be employed as a full-time faculty member of said
96 university for the duration of such trustee's term on the board. Any
97 vacancies in the trustee positions elected pursuant to this subsection,
98 shall be filled by a special election for the balance of the unexpired term.
99 No trustee elected to the board pursuant to this subsection may (1)
100 attend or participate in a meeting of the board held in executive session
101 concerning personnel matters, or (2) vote on matters relating to
102 collective bargaining negotiations or agreements.

103 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 10a-1a of the general statutes is
104 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
105 *2021*):

106 (a) There shall be a Board of Regents for Higher Education who shall
107 serve as the governing body for the regional community-technical
108 college system, the Connecticut State University System and Charter
109 Oak State College. The board shall consist of twenty-one members who
110 shall be distinguished leaders of the community in Connecticut. The
111 board shall reflect the state's geographic, racial and ethnic diversity. The
112 voting members shall not be employed by or be a member of a board of
113 trustees for any independent institution of higher education in this state
114 or the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut nor shall they

115 be public officials or state employees, as such terms are defined in
116 section 1-79, during their term of membership on the Board of Regents
117 for Higher Education. The Governor shall appoint nine members to the
118 board as follows: Three members for a term of two years; three members
119 for a term of four years; and three members for a term of six years.
120 Thereafter, the Governor shall appoint members of the board to succeed
121 such appointees whose terms expire and each member so appointed
122 shall hold office for a period of six years from the first day of July in the
123 year of his or her appointment. Four members of the board shall be
124 appointed as follows: One appointment by the president pro tempore of
125 the Senate, who shall be an alumnus of the regional community-
126 technical college system, for a term of four years; one appointment by
127 the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be a specialist in the
128 education of children in grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, for a
129 term of three years; one appointment by the speaker of the House of
130 Representatives, who shall be an alumnus of the Connecticut State
131 University System, for a term of four years; and one appointment by the
132 minority leader of the House of Representatives, who shall be an
133 alumnus of Charter Oak State College, for a term of three years.
134 Thereafter, such members of the General Assembly shall appoint
135 members of the board to succeed such appointees whose terms expire
136 and each member so appointed shall hold office for a period of four
137 years from the first day of July in the year of his or her appointment. The
138 chairperson and vice-chairperson of the student advisory committee
139 created under section 10a-3 shall serve as members of the board. The
140 chairperson and vice-chairperson of the faculty advisory committee
141 created under section 10a-3a shall serve as ex-officio [, nonvoting]
142 members of the board, [for a term of two years and, in their respective
143 roles as chairperson and vice-chairperson, may be invited to any
144 executive session, as defined in section 1-200, of the board by the
145 chairperson of the board] provided no such member of the board may
146 (1) attend or participate in a meeting of the board held in executive
147 session concerning personnel matters, or (2) vote on matters relating to
148 collective bargaining negotiations or agreements. The Commissioners of
149 Education, Economic and Community Development and Public Health

150 and the Labor Commissioner shall serve as ex-officio, nonvoting
151 members of the board.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	10a-103
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	10a-1a(a)

Statement of Purpose:

To (1) add two members of The University of Connecticut's University Senate to the Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut, and (2) allow faculty members of the Board of Regents for Higher Education to be voting members.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]