

General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 6439

January Session, 2025

LCO No. **3598**

Referred to Committee on VETERANS' AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Introduced by: (VA)

AN ACT CONCERNING A FEE WAIVER AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR CERTAIN VETERANS AND MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD.

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

Section 1. Section 10a-26 of the general statutes is repealed and the
 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

3 (a) For the purposes of this section, sections 10a-77, as amended by 4 this act, 10a-99, as amended by this act, and 10a-105, as amended by this 5 act, and this part: (1) A "full-time student" means a student who has been 6 registered and who has been accepted for matriculation at a constituent 7 unit of the state system of higher education in a course of study leading 8 to an associate, bachelor or advanced degree or whose course of 9 instruction or credit hour load indicates pursuit toward a degree; (2) 10 "tuition" means a direct charge for institutional programs, which is 11 clearly delineated from any other fees.

(b) In order to defray part of the cost of the higher education
institutional programs at the constituent units of the state system of
higher education, tuition shall be charged as provided in said sections
10a-77, as amended by this act, 10a-99, as amended by this act, and 10a-

16 105<u>, as amended by this act</u>, for each full-time student or shall be 17 prorated in the case of a student carrying less than seventy-five per cent 18 of the credit hours defined as a full-time load by the institution. Any 19 person enrolled in and paying extension fees for a course in an 20 educational extension program or a summer session shall not be 21 charged tuition for such course.

(c) (1) [Fees] Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection,
 fees charged for educational extension programs and for summer school
 sessions under sections 10a-77, as amended by this act, 10a-99, as
 amended by this act, and 10a-105, as amended by this act, shall not be
 deemed to be tuition within the meaning of this section.

(2) (A) For any veteran described in subdivision (2) of subsection (d)
of section 10a-77, subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of section 10a-99 or
subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of section 10a-105, fees charged for
educational extension programs and for summer school sessions under
sections 10a-77, as amended by this act, 10a-99, as amended by this act,
and 10a-105, as amended by this act, shall be deemed to be tuition within
the meaning of this section.

34 (B) For any active member of the Connecticut Army or Air National 35 Guard described in subdivision (5) of subsection (d) of section 10a-77, 36 subdivision (5) of subsection (d) of section 10a-99 or subdivision (4) of 37 subsection (e) of section 10a-105, fees charged for educational extension 38 programs and for summer school sessions under sections 10a-77, as amended by this act, 10a-99, as amended by this act, and 10a-105, as 39 40 amended by this act, shall be deemed to be tuition within the meaning 41 of this section.

42 Sec. 2. Subsection (e) of section 10a-77 of the general statutes is 43 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1*, 44 2025):

(e) (1) If any veteran described in subsection (d) of this section hasapplied for federal educational assistance under the Post-9/11 Veterans

Educational Assistance Act of 2008, the board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition at any of the regional community-technical colleges for such veteran in accordance with subdivision (2) of this subsection. If any such veteran certifies to said board that such veteran's application for such federal educational assistance has been denied or withdrawn, said board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition in accordance with subsection (d) of this section.

54 (2) (A) For purposes of this subdivision, "veteran tuition benefit" 55 means the portion of federal educational assistance under the Post-9/11 56 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008 to be paid to a regional 57 community-technical college on behalf of a veteran that represents 58 payment for tuition. Such portion shall be calculated by multiplying (i) 59 the total amount of such federal educational assistance to be paid to a 60 regional community-technical college on behalf of such veteran by (ii) 61 an amount obtained by dividing (I) the actual tuition charged by such 62 college to such veteran by (II) the sum of the actual tuition and fees 63 charged by such college to such veteran. For purposes of this 64 subparagraph, "actual tuition" is inclusive of any extension fees, in 65 accordance with the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of 66 section 10a-26, as amended by this act.

(B) Said board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition in excessof the veteran tuition benefit at any of the regional community-technicalcolleges for such veteran.

Sec. 3. Subsection (e) of section 10a-99 of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1*,
2025):

(e) (1) If any veteran described in subsection (d) of this section has
applied for federal educational assistance under the Post-9/11 Veterans
Educational Assistance Act of 2008, the board of trustees shall waive the
payment of tuition at the Connecticut State University System for such
veteran in accordance with subdivision (2) of this subsection. If any such

veteran certifies to said board that such veteran's application for such
federal educational assistance has been denied or withdrawn, said
board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition in accordance with
subsection (d) of this section.

82 (2) (A) For purposes of this subdivision, "veteran tuition benefit" 83 means the portion of federal educational assistance under the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008 to be paid to the 84 85 Connecticut State University System on behalf of a veteran that 86 represents payment for tuition. Such portion shall be calculated by 87 multiplying (i) the total amount of such federal educational assistance 88 to be paid to the Connecticut State University System on behalf of such 89 veteran by (ii) an amount obtained by dividing (I) the actual tuition 90 charged by the Connecticut State University System to such veteran by 91 (II) the sum of the actual tuition and fees charged by the Connecticut 92 State University System to such veteran. For purposes of this 93 subparagraph, "actual tuition" is inclusive of any extension fees, in 94 accordance with the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of 95 section 10a-26, as amended by this act.

96 (B) Said board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition in excess
97 of the veteran tuition benefit at the Connecticut State University System
98 for such veteran.

Sec. 4. Subsection (f) of section 10a-105 of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1*,
2025):

(f) (1) If any veteran described in subsection (e) of this section has
applied for federal educational assistance under the Post-9/11 Veterans
Educational Assistance Act of 2008, the board of trustees shall waive the
payment of tuition at The University of Connecticut for such veteran in
accordance with subdivision (2) of this subsection. If any such veteran
certifies to said board that such veteran's application for such federal
educational assistance has been denied or withdrawn, said board of

trustees shall waive the payment of tuition in accordance withsubsection (d) of this section.

111 (2) (A) For purposes of this subdivision, "veteran tuition benefit" 112 means the portion of federal educational assistance under the Post-9/11 113 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008 to be paid to The 114 University of Connecticut on behalf of a veteran that represents 115 payment for tuition. Such portion shall be calculated by multiplying (i) 116 the total amount of such federal educational assistance to be paid to The 117 University of Connecticut on behalf of such veteran by (ii) an amount 118 obtained by dividing (I) the actual tuition charged by The University of 119 Connecticut to such veteran by (II) the sum of the actual tuition and fees 120 charged by The University of Connecticut to such veteran. For purposes 121 of this subparagraph, "actual tuition" is inclusive of any extension fees, 122 in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of section 10a-26, as amended by this act. 123

124 (B) Said board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition in excess

125 of the veteran tuition benefit at The University of Connecticut for such

126 veteran.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following		
sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2025	10a-26
Sec. 2	July 1, 2025	10a-77(e)
Sec. 3	July 1, 2025	10a-99(e)
Sec. 4	July 1, 2025	10a-105(f)

Statement of Purpose:

To waive the payment of extension fees for certain veterans and members of the National Guard at public institutions of higher education in this state.

[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.]