

General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 7100

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 5502



Referred to Committee on HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT

Introduced by: (HED)

AN ACT REQUIRING INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE TO DISCLOSE CERTAIN INFORMATION TO VICTIMS IN TITLE IX PROCEEDINGS.

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

- 1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 10a-55m of the general statutes is
- 2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1,
- 3 2025):
- 4 (b) Each institution of higher education shall adopt and disclose in
- 5 such institution's annual uniform campus crime report one or more
- 6 policies regarding sexual assault, stalking and intimate partner violence.
- 7 Such policy or policies shall include provisions for:
- 8 (1) Informing students and employees that, in the context of an
- 9 alleged violation of the policy or policies regarding sexual assault and
- 10 intimate partner violence, (A) affirmative consent is the standard used
- in determining whether consent to engage in sexual activity was given
- 12 by all persons who engaged in the sexual activity, (B) affirmative
- 13 consent may be revoked at any time during the sexual activity by any

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person engaged in the sexual activity, (C) it is the responsibility of each person to ensure that he or she has the affirmative consent of all persons engaged in the sexual activity to engage in the sexual activity and that the affirmative consent is sustained throughout the sexual activity, (D) it shall not be a valid excuse to an alleged lack of affirmative consent that the student or employee responding to the alleged violation believed that the student or employee reporting or disclosing the alleged violation consented to the sexual activity (i) because the responding student or employee was intoxicated or reckless or failed to take reasonable steps to ascertain whether the student or employee reporting or disclosing the alleged violation affirmatively consented, or (ii) if the responding student or employee knew or should have known that the student or employee reporting or disclosing the alleged violation was unable to consent because such student or employee was unconscious, asleep, unable to communicate due to a mental or physical condition, or incapacitated due to the influence of drugs, alcohol or medication, and (E) the existence of a past or current dating or sexual relationship between the student or employee reporting or disclosing the alleged violation and the responding student or employee, in and of itself, shall not be determinative of a finding of affirmative consent;

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- (2) Detailing the procedures that students and employees of the institution who report or disclose being the victim of sexual assault, stalking or intimate partner violence may follow after the commission of such assault, stalking or violence, regardless of where such incidences occurred, including persons or agencies to contact and information regarding the importance of preserving physical evidence of such assault, stalking or violence;
- (3) Providing students and employees of the institution who report or disclose being the victim of sexual assault, stalking or intimate partner violence both concise, written contact information for and, if requested, professional assistance in accessing and utilizing campus, local advocacy, counseling, health and mental health services, and concise information, written in plain language, concerning the rights of such students and employees to (A) notify law enforcement of such

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assault, stalking or violence and receive assistance from campus authorities in making any such notification, and (B) obtain a protective order, apply for a temporary restraining order or seek enforcement of an existing protective or restraining order, including, but not limited to, orders issued pursuant to section 46b-15, 46b-38c, 53a-40e, 54-1k, 54-82q or 54-82r, against the perpetrator of such assault, stalking or violence;

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- (4) Notifying such students and employees of any reasonably available options for and available assistance from such institution in changing academic, living, campus transportation or working situations in response to sexual assault, stalking or intimate partner violence;
- (5) Honoring any lawful protective or temporary restraining orders, including, but not limited to, orders issued pursuant to section 46b-15, 46b-38c, 53a-40e, 54-1k, 54-82q or 54-82r;
- (6) Disclosing a summary of such institution's student investigation and disciplinary procedures, including clear statements advising that (A) a student or employee who reports or discloses being a victim of sexual assault, stalking or intimate partner violence shall have the opportunity to request that an investigation begin promptly, (B) the investigation and any disciplinary proceedings shall be conducted by an official trained annually in issues relating to sexual assault, stalking and intimate partner violence and shall use the preponderance of the evidence standard in making a determination concerning the alleged assault, stalking or violence, (C) both the student or employee who reports or discloses the alleged assault, stalking or violence and the student responding to such report or disclosure (i) are entitled to be accompanied to any meeting or proceeding relating to the allegation of such assault, stalking or violence by an advisor or support person of their choice, provided the involvement of such advisor or support person does not result in the postponement or delay of such meeting as scheduled, and (ii) shall have the opportunity to present evidence and witnesses on their behalf during any disciplinary proceeding, (D) both the student or employee reporting or disclosing the alleged assault, stalking or violence or a victim reporting or disclosing the alleged

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assault, stalking or violence pursuant to subdivision (9) of this 81 82 subsection and such responding student are entitled to be informed in 83 writing of the results of any disciplinary proceeding not later than one business day after the conclusion of such proceeding in a manner that 84 85 complies with the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 USC 1232g, as amended from time to time, (E) the 86 87 institution of higher education shall not disclose the identity of any 88 party to an investigation or disciplinary proceeding, except as necessary 89 to carry out the investigation or disciplinary proceeding or as permitted 90 under state or federal law, (F) a standard of affirmative consent is used 91 in determining whether consent to engage in sexual activity was given 92 by all persons who engaged in the sexual activity, and (G) a student or 93 employee who reports or discloses the alleged assault, stalking or 94 violence shall not be subject to disciplinary action by the institution of 95 higher education for violation of a policy of such institution concerning 96 the use of drugs or alcohol if (i) the report or disclosure was made in 97 good faith, and (ii) the violation of such policy did not place the health 98 or safety of another person at risk;

(7) Disclosing a summary of such institution's employee investigation and disciplinary procedures, including clear statements advising that a standard of affirmative consent is used in determining whether consent to engage in sexual activity was given by all persons who engaged in the sexual activity; [and]

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- (8) Disclosing the range of sanctions that may be imposed following the implementation of such institution's student and employee disciplinary procedures in response to such assault, stalking or violence; and
- (9) Establishing a process by which a victim who (A) is not a student or employee of such institution, and (B) alleges sexual assault, stalking or intimate partner violence by a student or employee of such institution, may report such sexual assault, stalking or intimate partner violence to such institution and detailing the procedures such victim may follow to initiate or participate in such institution's investigation

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114 and disciplinary proceeding.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	July 1, 2025	10a-55m(b)	

HED Joint Favorable

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