



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 5426**

February Session, 2026



**AN ACT REQUIRING THE AVAILABILITY OF AN ADVISOR DURING DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**

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

1       Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) Not later than August 1, 2026,  
2 each institution of higher education in the state shall adopt a policy  
3 allowing each student to designate an advisor or support person of such  
4 student's choice to assist and support such student during a disciplinary  
5 proceeding that may result in such student being suspended from such  
6 institution, placed on probation, expelled from such institution or  
7 prohibited from participating in an intercollegiate athletic program at  
8 such institution. Such advisor or support person shall receive copies of  
9 any communication relating to such disciplinary proceeding and  
10 accompany such student to any meeting relating to such disciplinary  
11 proceeding, provided (1) the involvement of such advisor or support  
12 person does not result in the postponement or delay of such meeting as  
13 scheduled, and (2) for disciplinary proceedings concerning sexual  
14 assault, stalking and intimate partner violence, the policies adopted  
15 pursuant to the provisions of section 10a-55m of the general statutes  
16 concerning a student's entitlement to be accompanied by an advisor or  
17 support person shall take precedence over the implementation of the  
18 policy adopted under this section to the extent such policies differ. Each

19 institution shall notify every student at the commencement of each  
20 academic year and prior to the commencement of such disciplinary  
21 proceeding of such policy and the manner in which such student may  
22 designate or redesignate such student's choice of advisor or support  
23 person. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require an  
24 institution to provide an advisor or support person to a student.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	New section

**HED**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*