



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

DANNEL P. MALLOY
GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

June 26, 2015

BILL NOTIFICATION
RELEASE No. 13

For Immediate Release

Governor Dannel P. Malloy vetoed the following legislation of the 2015 Regular Session on June 24th.

HB 6118 AN ACT CONCERNING STUDENT MEMBERSHIP ON THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR
PA 15-78 THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT.

This bill would have become effective upon receiving the Governor's signature.
The Governor vetoed the bill. Scroll down to read the veto message.

SB 859 AN ACT CONCERNING PROGRAM APPROVAL FOR INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS OF
PA 15-111 HIGHER EDUCATION.

This bill would have become effective on July 1, 2015. The Governor vetoed the
bill. Scroll down to read the veto message.

SB 926 AN ACT CONCERNING UNSUBSTANTIATED ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE OR NEGLECT
PA 15-112 BY SCHOOL EMPLOYEES.

This bill would have become effective on July 1, 2015. The Governor vetoed the
bill. Scroll down to read the veto message.

As of this date, the Governor has signed one hundred forty seven (147) bills and vetoed four (4) bills of the 2015 Legislative Session.



Dannel P. Malloy

GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

June 24, 2015

I hereby return, without my signature, House Bill 6118, *An Act Concerning Student Membership on the Board of Trustees for the University of Connecticut*. This bill expands the number of student members elected to the University of Connecticut's Board of Trustees (the "Board of Trustees") increasing the total membership to twenty-three members.

While I encourage and support student involvement in the issues confronting students and public higher education, currently there is the opportunity for direct student input on the Board of Trustees. The Trustees bring varied experiences, professional expertise, and diverse viewpoints to their work – including those of students. The Board of Trustees was constituted to reflect the breadth of its charge in carrying out the University of Connecticut's educational mission with that balance of viewpoints in carrying out its mission. Currently, that balance is met with the inclusion of two trustees elected from the alumni of the University, in addition to two students elected by the student body – all of whom are voting members.

By balancing these perspectives, the Trustees have a record of guiding Connecticut's flagship university to successfully fulfill its educational mission. House Bill 6118 would alter the balance currently reflected in the makeup of the Board of Trustees. The membership of the Board of Trustees would grow to twenty-three members. With two elected and voting student members the Board of Trustees the University of Connecticut already exceeds the average for student inclusion at public universities. Further, there are many avenues for student input in the decisions affecting the student community at the University.

For these reasons, I disapprove of House Bill 6118, *An Act Concerning Student Membership on the Board of Trustees for the University of Connecticut*. Pursuant to Section 15 of Article Fourth of the Constitution of the State of Connecticut, I am returning House Bill 6118 without my signature.



Dannel P. Malloy

GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

June 24, 2015

I hereby return, without my signature, Senate Bill 859, *An Act Concerning Program Approval for Independent Institutions of Higher Education*. This bill, as amended, removes the Office of Higher Education from any role in approving new and revised academic programs for certain non-profit higher education institutions and was approved without an opportunity for input from the public or the affected agency.

In 2013 I directed the Office of Higher Education to work with the State's independent colleges and universities to develop a more streamlined process for program approval which resulted in Public Act 13-118 which reduced the time frame for such approvals. While I recognize that more work needs to be done to continue the process begun in 2013, if oversight is to be removed or altered it should be done with the appropriate input and information as to the entirety of the higher education programs subject to regulation. Parents and students should be assured that the programs offered meet Connecticut's rigorous standards for academic quality.

For these reasons, I disapprove of Senate Bill 859, *An Act Concerning Program Approval for Independent Institutions of Higher Education*. Pursuant to Section 15 of Article Fourth of the Constitution of the State of Connecticut, I am returning Senate Bill 859 without my signature.



Dannel P. Malloy

GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

June 24, 2015

I hereby return, without my signature, Senate Bill 926, *An Act Concerning Unsubstantiated Allegations of Abuse and Neglect by School Employers*. This bill, as amended, is overly broad in its requirement that any records related to a complaint of abuse and neglect that is unsubstantiated be removed.

I understand and share the concerns regarding the impact of complaints against a teacher that are found to be unsubstantiated. However, this legislation is overly broad in its requirement of not only the removal of the record of an unsubstantiated complaint from the State Department of Education, the local school district and the teachers file, but in its requirement that it remove "any other records relating to such school employee." Protecting teachers from unsubstantiated allegations is a valid and important issue, but any protections must be balanced against the protection of the children in our care.

I stand ready to work with all parties to craft a solution that is appropriate and provides the necessary protections for all concerned.

For these reasons, I disapprove of Senate Bill 926, *An Act Concerning Unsubstantiated Allegations of Abuse and Neglect by School Employers*. Pursuant to Section 15 of Article Fourth of the Constitution of the State of Connecticut, I am returning Senate Bill 926 without my signature.