



A Voice For Faculty

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# Capitol Monitor

A Report on Activity at the State Capitol

Vol. 6, Issue 3 | April 7, 2016

## Budget falls short of filling \$900m deficit:

The Appropriations Committee passed a 2017 budget plan April 6, 2016, that cut \$570 million from the 2017 state budget, falling short of cutting the \$900 million to meet the projected shortfall for the coming year.

Under the committee's plan, the Board of Regents faces a \$64 million cut in operating expenses. Of that, the CSUs face a \$5.4 million cut. Governor Malloy's budget reductions would have seen a cut of \$9.2 million to the CSUs.

Soon after the committee released their budget, the governor announced he plans to draft a new budget next week that will seek further budget cuts.

Outcomes-based financing was funded in both the governor's and committee's budgets for more than \$2 million. [Click here to download an excerpt of the budget released by the legislature.](#)

## SEBAC Leaders Meet With Malloy Administration

SEBAC leaders met on April 6, 2016, with members of Governor Malloy's administration. The following statement was released by SEBAC about the meeting:

"Leaders of our state employees' union coalition met with officials from the administration today and plan to meet again in the near future. We intend to continue discussing ways in which savings can be realized and provide suggestions to help protect our state's quality of life.

"That is the extent of our discussions. Page #1 of our 2011 agreement already provides the framework for significant cost-savings that could prevent deep cuts to public services or layoffs of the state employees who deliver them."

[Click here to see the 2011 SEBAC Agreement.](#)

## Higher Education Committee Bills Passed:

The following list of bills were passed, moving out of the Higher Education Committee recently and are now files. Once a bill becomes a file, it can be heard in a matter of days on the House or Senate floor and put to a vote.

[SB 379—An Act Concerning The Recommendations Of The Minority Teacher Recruitment Task Force.](#)

[HB 5332 - An Act Concerning The Governor's Scholarship Program](#)

[SB 175 - An Act Concerning Recommendations Of The Department Of Education](#)

[SB 333—An Act Concerning The Foundation Of Constituent Units and Public Institutions Of Higher Education](#) (this deals with transparency and accountability of the UConn Foundation)

[SB 343—An Act Concerning Student Membership On The Board Of Trustees For The University Of Connecticut](#)

For the current list of bills passed out of the Higher Education Committee this session, [click here.](#)

## Take Action To Protect Public Higher Ed:

If you wish to write your legislator to relay your concerns about funding for public higher education or any other matter, please [click here.](#)

Or visit the [CT-HigherEdMatters.org](#) website and click on the "action" page for a list of legislative and policy leaders to contact for support of public higher education.

Check out and share [CSU Connects](#), our blog that shares the current research, community involvement, dedication and success of our CSU faculty.

## What are the hot topics at the Capitol?

From the [Office of Legislative Research](#):

1. Connecticut's Hospital Tax
2. Outcomes-based financing for higher education
3. Youthful Offenders
4. Analysis of HB 5054, an act protecting victims of domestic violence