



For Release: Friday, April 5, 2024

Contact: Matt O'Connor, AFT CT - 860/221-5696, moconnor@aftct.org

Comments on Legislative Budget Package's Public College and University Investments

AFT Connecticut Vice President for Higher Education Dennis Bogusky made the following public remarks on the fiscal adjustment bill passed yesterday by the General Assembly's Appropriations Committee:

"The legislature's budget-writing committee may not have released the fully detailed alternative state budget proposal that our unions' members or our students had anticipated. However, what the panel didn't release demonstrates that our voices have been heard over the past two months.

"The appropriations committee did not release a package mirroring the cuts to public higher education that were in the governor's initial fiscal blueprint. That leaves the door open to lawmakers funding our students' futures before the close of the General Assembly's 2024 session.

"Resources are needed to avoid further gutting courses, slashing support services or hiking tuition costs. Our members will not back off our demand that legislators reject a deliberately inadequate budget that snuffs out the dreams of thousands of Connecticut students."

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AFT Connecticut represents more than 30,000 hard-working women and men in PreK-12 education, healthcare, public service and higher education from more than 90 local unions throughout the state. Visit aftct.org for more information and follow the labor federation on Twitter at @AFTCT, Facebook at AFT Connecticut and Instagram at @aftconnecticut.

AFT Connecticut
AFT, AFL-CIO

Healthcare
Higher Education
Public Employees
PSRP
Teachers

35 Marshall Road
Rocky Hill, CT 06067
860/257-9782
Fax: 860/257-8214
Toll Free: 888/398-3373
www.aftct.org

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