



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 534

February Session, 2000

Substitute House Bill No. 5322

House of Representatives, April 11, 2000

The Committee on Appropriations reported through REP. DYSON of the 94th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

An Act Concerning Access To Post-Secondary Education And Job Training.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) The Connecticut Employment and Training
2 Commission shall provide, within available appropriations, (1) new
3 state funded work-study slots at training programs meeting the
4 requirements of the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998, P.L.
5 105-220, as from time to time amended, and training and education
6 programs at public institutions of higher education for persons
7 receiving temporary family assistance and for other needy persons not
8 receiving such assistance, provided a specified number of such slots
9 shall be reserved for training and educational programs that serve job
10 seekers who wish to enter a nontraditional occupation as defined by
11 the United States Department of Labor, and (2) stipends for supportive
12 services, including, but not limited to, childcare and transportation, for
13 persons in such programs who do not receive temporary family
14 assistance, in accordance with the plan developed pursuant to section

15 9 of public act 99-195.

16 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

ED Committee Vote: Yea 31 Nay 0 JF C/R APP

APP Committee Vote: Yea 50 Nay 0 JFS

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Affected Agencies: Department of Labor

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

State Impact:

The bill requires funds to be provided for additional job training and educational slots for needy persons and for stipends for transportation and for child care for needy parents in such programs who do not receive temporary family assistance. Job training slots at public institutions must also be provided for individuals on temporary assistance. This will be done within the available resources of the Department of Labor.

An amount of \$23,667,536 is available in the Senate version of the FY01 budget and the House version of the FY01 budget for the Workforce Investment Act of 1998. In the House version of the budget, an amount of \$16,377,547 is appropriated for the Jobs First Employment Services program that provides job training for individuals on temporary assistance. In the Senate version of the budget, an amount of \$8,277,547 is appropriated for the Jobs First program. In addition, \$8.1 million is appropriated from the FY 00 surplus for the Jobs First program in the Senate version.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5322

AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION AND JOB TRAINING.

SUMMARY:

This bill requires the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission (CETC), within available appropriations, to provide:

1. new state-funded work-study slots at training programs that meet federal requirements under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA);
2. training and education programs at public colleges and universities for needy people, whether or not they are receiving welfare benefits under the Temporary Family Assistance (TFA) program; and
3. stipends for support services, including child care and transportation, for training program participants who are not receiving TFA.

CETC must reserve an unspecified number of the training slots for training and educational programs serving job seekers who wish to enter "nontraditional occupations" as defined by the U.S. Labor Department.

Under the bill, the stipends for support services must be provided in accordance with the state's WIA plan. That plan, developed pursuant to PA 99-195, already requires the education, labor, and social services commissioners to develop a coordinated program that refers WIA participants to support services, including transportation and child care. Each year, starting January 31, 2000, each regional workforce development board must submit a report to CETC detailing how it coordinates support services.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2000

BACKGROUND***Nontraditional Occupations***

The U.S. Department of Labor defines a “nontraditional occupation” as a job or field where individuals from one gender make up less than 25% of the workers (P.L. 105-220, § 101(26)).

Connecticut Employment and Training Commission

State law created CETC in 1989. It plans, coordinates, and evaluates job training programs. The governor appoints its 24 members. A majority of members represent business and the remainder represent state and local governments, organized labor, education, and community-based organizations.

Workforce Investment Act

Congress enacted WIA in August 1998. The act replaces Job Training Partnership Act as of July 1, 2000. It requires states to coordinate roughly 60 federally funded job training programs and funds them through three grants to states that target employment and training services for dislocated workers, adults, and disadvantaged youth.

WIA requires states to establish a state workforce development board and local workforce development boards, which must each include a youth council. By April 1, 2000, the governor must submit to the U.S. Labor Secretary a five-year plan detailing how the state plans to provide services to the targeted populations. A state must begin negotiating state performance standards with the federal Labor Department before it submits its state plan. WIA expressly allows state legislation that provides for implementation of job training activities and requires state legislatures to appropriate funds.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference
Yea 31 Nay 0

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 50 Nay 0