



General Assembly

February Session, 2000

***Raised Bill No. 566***

LCO No. 2277

Referred to Committee on Commerce

Introduced by:

(CE)

***An Act Enhancing Cultural Heritage.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (a) There is established a Heritage Advisory  
2 Committee. The committee shall be comprised of a representative of  
3 the Connecticut Historical Commission, the Connecticut Humanities  
4 Council, the Connecticut Museum Association, the Connecticut  
5 Tourism Association, the Connecticut Tourism Council, the  
6 Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, the League of Connecticut  
7 History Organizations and the State Historian. The committee shall  
8 coordinate heritage initiatives across the state, assist the joint standing  
9 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
10 relating to commerce in reviewing heritage bonding proposals and  
11 offer policy recommendations to the appropriate committees of the  
12 General Assembly to strengthen the capacities of the industry.

13 (b) The Heritage Advisory Committee, established pursuant to  
14 subsection (a) of this section, and the chairpersons and ranking  
15 members, or their designees, of the joint standing committee of the  
16 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce,  
17 shall serve as a review committee to advise said standing committee

18 on the merits of bonding requests based on criteria established  
19 pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

20 (c) The joint standing committee of the General Assembly having  
21 cognizance of matters relating to commerce shall establish review  
22 criteria for heritage bonding proposals. The criteria of a bonding  
23 request shall include, but not be limited to, specific project standards  
24 and sponsor standards.

25 Sec. 2. (NEW) There is established a Heritage Working Group to be  
26 comprised of the chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the  
27 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce  
28 and the chairpersons of the subcommittee of the joint standing  
29 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
30 relating to funding for the heritage industry. Such working group shall  
31 have oversight responsibilities for the heritage industry to coordinate  
32 legislative oversight of the industry.

33 Sec. 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 32-305 of the  
34 general statutes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, and annually  
35 thereafter, the Commissioner of Revenue Services shall segregate from  
36 gross receipts from sales within the meaning of subdivision (h) of  
37 subsection (2) of section 12-407 of the general statutes, the following  
38 amounts, which are allocated as provided in this section:

39 (1) Five hundred thousand dollars to the State Library for the  
40 purpose of creating a matching grant program for collection  
41 preservation, including, but not limited to, microfilming and  
42 digitalization projects across the state;

43 (2) One hundred thousand dollars to the State Library for the  
44 purpose of creating a matching grant program for improving  
45 environmental conditions for state and local records;

46 (3) Three hundred thousand dollars to the Connecticut Humanities  
47 Council Cultural Heritage Development Fund for the purpose of

48 establishing a matching grant program for the care and preservation of  
49 museum and historical society-based heritage collections;

50 (4) Nine hundred fifty thousand dollars to the Connecticut  
51 Historical Commission for the purpose of creating a matching grant  
52 program for the restoration of the state's historical structures and  
53 landmarks owned by the state's nonprofit organizations and  
54 municipalities;

55 (5) One million dollars to the Connecticut Humanities Council and  
56 the Connecticut Historical Commission for the purpose of establishing  
57 a matching grant program providing support to mid-level heritage and  
58 preservation organizations across the state;

59 (6) One million dollars to the Historic Asset Fund for the purpose of  
60 reestablishing a support mechanism for heritage institutions to be  
61 jointly administered by the Department of Economic and Community  
62 Development, the Connecticut Historical Commission and the  
63 Connecticut Humanities Council;

64 (7) One million dollars to the Department of Economic and  
65 Community Development for the purpose of expanding state-wide  
66 tourism efforts;

67 (8) Two hundred fifty thousand dollars to the State Library for the  
68 purpose of enhancing its conservation and preservation services,  
69 including, but not limited to, conserving and enhancing access to the  
70 State Library's collections and the State Archives and to provide  
71 technical services to local municipalities and other repositories;

72 (9) Two hundred fifty thousand dollars to the Connecticut Trust for  
73 Historic Preservation for the purpose of funding the program of  
74 technical and planning assistance to determine the feasibility, costs and  
75 administrative mechanisms necessary to preserve historic structures  
76 and landmarks;

77 (10) One hundred thousand dollars to the Cultural Heritage

78 Development Fund for the purpose of supporting professional  
79 development;

80 (11) One hundred thousand dollars to the State Library for the  
81 purpose of institutionalizing the Office of the State Historian and  
82 supporting its research, technical assistance and publication efforts;

83 (12) Seven hundred fifty thousand dollars to the Connecticut  
84 Humanities Council for the purpose of expanding the Cultural  
85 Heritage Development Fund, administered by said council;

86 (13) Two hundred thousand dollars to the tourism districts for the  
87 purpose of strengthening regional tourism promotion;

88 (14) One hundred thousand dollars to Central Connecticut State  
89 University for the purpose of establishing a tourism training institute  
90 for tourism professionals and for other functions enhancing tourism;  
91 and

92 (15) One hundred thousand dollars to the Connecticut Historical  
93 Society for the purpose of providing funding for the expenses of  
94 Connecticut History Day, a day of history attended by high school  
95 students around the state.

***Statement of Purpose:***

To increase spending for and oversight of tourism and cultural heritage.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*