



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

Raised Bill No. 1375

LCO No. 4519

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Workforce
Development

Introduced by:
(WFD)

***AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE CONNECTICUT EMPLOYMENT AND
TRAINING COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING
CONNECTICUT'S INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT NEEDS.***

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

1 Not later than January 1, 2002, the Connecticut Employment and
2 Training Commission within the Office of Workforce Competitiveness
3 shall submit a report to the select committee of the General Assembly
4 having cognizance of matters relating to workforce development, in
5 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,
6 making specific recommendations for:

7 (1) Forming a state-wide digital compact encompassing industry,
8 education, labor and government to integrate industry-driven
9 information technology skills development in a practical manner
10 across the full educational and workforce system;

11 (2) Creating a Digital Strategic Fund for the purpose of providing
12 discretionary funding to strengthen program efforts to further
13 connections between industry groups and specific educational and

14 training institutions;

15 (3) Addressing the digital divide in this state when determining the
16 focus of the Digital Strategic Fund by placing special emphasis on
17 specific groups and communities that are left behind in the
18 information technology fueled economy;

19 (4) Pursuing information technology zones to foster more
20 innovative information technology company formation using tools
21 such as incubators, flexible plug-and-play buildings and tax incentives;

22 (5) Actively pursuing an image campaign to raise the visibility of
23 Connecticut's leading electronic business strengths and emerging
24 information technology start-up companies;

25 (6) Promoting careers in information technology through active
26 outreach to middle and high school students and reformation of the
27 guidance counseling effort;

28 (7) Developing certification for college students who demonstrate
29 proficiency in information technology;

30 (8) Working with industry to create an information technology
31 transition program for noninformation technology workers who
32 demonstrate an aptitude to gain information technology skills and
33 professional development recognized by employers;

34 (9) Improving internship and cooperative education opportunities
35 in an information technology industry consortium and deepening
36 connections with colleges and universities to address industry needs;

37 (10) Advancing industry-accepted skill standards for information
38 technology outcome measures for all education and workforce
39 programs; and

40 (11) Increasing high school magnet programs in information
41 technology related areas state-wide.

Statement of Purpose:

To implement the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission's recommendations concerning Connecticut's information and technology workforce development needs.

[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.]