



General Assembly

February Session, 2002

Raised Bill No. 332

LCO No. 1495

Referred to Committee on Commerce

Introduced by:
(CE)

AN ACT CONCERNING INTERNATIONAL TRADE.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2002*) The Commissioner of
2 Economic and Community Development shall annually hold a
3 conference for the purpose of recognizing the contributions of
4 international trade to economic growth and development in the state.
5 Special recognition may be given to foreign-owned businesses from a
6 particular country or to a group of businesses from different countries
7 but in the same economic cluster. The commissioner shall invite to
8 each conference representatives of foreign-owned businesses operating
9 in the state, business leaders from each economic cluster, government
10 officials and higher education faculty who work in, support or study
11 international trade.

12 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of
13 Economic and Community Development shall serve as liaison to
14 foreign-owned businesses located in the state or that may locate in the
15 state.

16 Sec. 3. Section 32-9tt of the general statutes is repealed and the

17 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2002*):

18 (a) As used in this section: (1) "Eligible applicant" means (A) a group
19 of businesses or the organization representing such group, (B) an
20 individual business, or (C) a group of municipalities working together
21 to develop or increase foreign markets for local products or services;
22 and (2) "cost sharing or matching grant moneys" means all
23 contributions, including cash and third party in-kind donations that
24 are approved by the commissioner.

25 [(a)] (b) The Commissioner of Economic and Community
26 Development may provide cost sharing or matching grant moneys,
27 with funds available through bond authorization pursuant to section
28 32-235, as amended, to assist and promote economic clusters
29 representing businesses that are new to exporting or organizations
30 representing such businesses or to assist municipalities working
31 together to develop or increase foreign markets for local products or
32 services. [For purposes of this section, "cost sharing or matching grant
33 moneys" means all contributions, including cash and third party in-
34 kind donations that are approved by the commissioner.]

35 [(b)] (c) Such cost sharing or matching grant moneys shall be
36 available to [a group of businesses or the organization representing
37 such group] eligible applicants, for the following purposes: (1)
38 Recruiting and organizing of member businesses for the purpose of
39 collaborating on ways in which the member business may export their
40 products and services to other countries; (2) researching and
41 identifying the foreign markets where there is a demand for their
42 products and services; (3) designating agents for the purpose of
43 accessing the services of federal, state, local, private and nonprivate
44 export service providers; and (4) identifying and contracting with
45 foreign representatives in the identified markets to promote and sell
46 the products and services of the member businesses. No grant shall
47 exceed five thousand dollars in any fiscal year.

48 [(c) A group receiving grants]

49 (d) Grant recipients shall provide the commissioner with
50 information concerning goals, methodology, budget and program
51 results. Such information shall be provided in a form and manner
52 prescribed by the commissioner.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2002</i>
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2002</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To establish a framework to promote international trade in the state.

[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.]