



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

Committee Bill No. 5729

LCO No. 4084

Referred to Committee on Commerce

Introduced by:
(CE)

AN ACT CREATING AN ACCOUNT FOR TOURISM RELATED PROJECTS.

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 32-305 of the
2 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2003*):

4 (b) (1) [Such] One and one-half per cent of the funds segregated
5 under subsection (a) of this section shall be deposited into the tourism
6 product development account established under section 2 of this act.
7 Any additional segregated funds shall be allocated to tourism districts
8 established under section 32-302 as follows: The portion of the funds
9 attributable to such tax receipts in a municipality shall be allocated to
10 the tourism district in which the municipality is located, provided (A)
11 ninety per cent of the amount attributable to such gross receipts from
12 sales in Hartford shall be allocated to the Capital City Economic
13 Development Authority and ten per cent of the amount attributable to
14 such gross receipts from sales in Hartford shall be allocated to the
15 Greater Hartford Arts Council, (B) seventy-five per cent of the amount
16 attributable to such gross receipts from sales in New Haven shall be
17 allocated to the New Haven Coliseum Authority, (C) seventy-five per

18 cent of the amount attributable to such gross receipts from sales in
19 Stamford shall be allocated to the Stamford Center for the Arts, (D)
20 seventy-five per cent of the amount attributable to such gross receipts
21 from sales in Norwalk shall be allocated to the Maritime Center
22 Authority, and (E) seventy-five per cent of the amount attributable to
23 such gross receipts from sales in Bridgeport shall be allocated to the
24 Greater Fairfield district established in section 32-302, for the sole
25 purpose of marketing tourist attractions located in Bridgeport.

26 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2003*) There is established an
27 account to be known as the "tourism product development account"
28 which shall be a separate nonlapsing account within the General Fund.
29 The account may contain any moneys required by law to be deposited
30 in the account. The moneys in said account shall be allocated for the
31 purposes of funding tourism related projects approved in accordance
32 with subsection (b) of section 32-305 of the general statutes, as
33 amended by this act.

34 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2003*) (a) There is established a
35 Connecticut Tourism Product Development Council. The council shall
36 consist of (1) the chairpersons and ranking members of the joint
37 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
38 matters relating to commerce, (2) the executive directors of the
39 Connecticut Historical Society and the Connecticut Development
40 Authority, (3) the director of the Connecticut Tourism Council, (4) the
41 chief executive officer of the Connecticut Humanities Council, (5) the
42 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, and (6) the
43 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, or their
44 designees.

45 (b) The Connecticut Tourism Product Development Council shall
46 develop a program of grants and loans to municipalities to fund
47 tourism related projects. The council shall establish: (1) Application
48 procedures for such grants and loans, including, but not limited to,
49 deadlines for submitting applications and a requirement that a

50 municipality applying for such funds set forth in the application the
51 tourism related purposes for which the funds are requested, (2) loan
52 repayment terms, interest and security requirements, default and
53 remedy provisions, and such other terms and conditions as the council
54 deems appropriate, and (3) criteria for assessing the positive effect of a
55 proposed project on tourism on the municipality in which it is to be
56 located and on the state. The council shall meet semiannually to review
57 projects submitted by municipalities.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2003</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To encourage tourism in the state by providing financial assistance for new tourism related projects.

[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.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. MALONE, 47th Dist.; REP. OLSON, 46th Dist.

H.B. 5729