



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Raised Bill No. 530

LCO No. 2615

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Referred to Committee on Commerce

Introduced by:

(CE)

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING GROW CONNECTICUT, INCORPORATED
AND THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY IN THE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) As used in sections 2 to 5,
2 inclusive, of this act, "corporation" means Grow Connecticut,
3 Incorporated, as created in section 2 of this act.

4 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) (a) There is hereby created a
5 body politic and corporate to be known as the "Grow Connecticut,
6 Incorporated". Such corporation is constituted a public instrumentality
7 and political subdivision of the state and the exercise by the
8 corporation of the powers conferred in sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this
9 act shall be deemed and held to be the performance of an essential
10 public and governmental function. Grow Connecticut, Incorporated
11 shall not be construed to be a department, institution or agency of the
12 state.

13 (b) The corporation shall be governed by a board of directors. The
14 board of directors shall consist of the following members: The

15 Governor, the Director of Development of the Office of Economic
16 Development Policy, established pursuant to section 6 of this act, and
17 the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or their
18 designees; one member appointed by the Governor who shall be a
19 professional economic developer at a local or regional level, and shall
20 be selected from a list submitted by the Connecticut Economic
21 Development Association; six members from the private sector, two of
22 whom shall be appointed by the Governor, one by the president pro
23 tempore of the Senate, one by the speaker of the House of
24 Representatives, one by the minority leader of the Senate and one by
25 the minority leader of the House of Representatives. The
26 cochairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General
27 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce shall be
28 nonvoting members of the board. In making appointments to the
29 board, the appointing authority shall, to the extent feasible, assure
30 broad geographical representation as well as representation from the
31 major sectors of economic base industries in the state and shall appoint
32 executives with a knowledge of the problems of large and small
33 businesses, local economic development and the transfer of research
34 and development from the laboratory to the market place.

35 (c) The Governor shall serve as chairperson of the board of
36 directors. The board of directors shall biennially elect one of its
37 members from the private sector as vice-chairperson. The board of
38 directors shall meet at least four times annually, upon the call of the
39 chairperson or at the request of the vice-chairperson or a majority of
40 the membership. The board of directors may take official action by a
41 majority vote of the members present at any meeting at which a
42 quorum is present. A majority of the total number of current voting
43 directors shall constitute a quorum. Members of the board of directors
44 shall serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for all
45 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, as
46 determined by the board of directors of the corporations.

47 (d) Each director of the corporation before entering upon his duties

48 shall take and subscribe the oath or affirmation required by article
49 eleventh, section 1, of the State Constitution. A record of each such
50 oath or affirmation shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of the
51 State. The board of directors of the corporation shall adopt written
52 procedures, in accordance with the provisions of section 1-121 of the
53 general statutes, for: (1) Adopting an annual budget and plan of
54 operations, including a requirement of board approval before the
55 budget or plan may take effect; (2) hiring, dismissing, promoting and
56 compensating employees of the corporation including an affirmative
57 action policy and a requirement of board approval before a position
58 may be created or a vacancy filled; (3) purchasing, leasing or acquiring
59 real and personal property and personal services, including a
60 requirement of board approval for any nonbudgeted expenditure in
61 excess of five thousand dollars; (4) contracting for financial, legal and
62 other professional services, including a requirement that the
63 corporation solicit proposals at least once every three years for each
64 such service which it uses; (5) awarding loans, grants and other
65 financial assistance, including eligibility criteria, the application
66 process and the role played by the corporation's staff and board of
67 directors, including deadlines for the approval or disapproval of
68 applications for such assistance by the corporation on and after July 1,
69 2006; and (6) the use of surplus funds to the extent authorized under
70 sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act, or any other provisions of the
71 general statutes.

72 (e) The president of the corporation shall be appointed by and serve
73 at the pleasure of its board of directors. The board of directors shall
74 establish and adjust the compensation of the president. The president
75 shall be the chief administrative and operational officer of the board of
76 directors and of the corporation and shall direct and supervise the
77 administrative affairs of the board of directors. The president shall
78 keep a record of the proceedings of the board of directors and be
79 custodian of all books, documents and papers filed with the board of
80 directors, the minutes of the board of directors and the official seal of
81 the corporation. Notwithstanding the provisions of the general

82 statutes, the president shall serve as a member of the board of directors
83 of Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated and the Connecticut
84 Development Authority. The board of directors may delegate to its
85 president those powers and responsibilities it deems appropriate,
86 except the power of appointment of a president.

87 (g) A vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term
88 in the same manner as the initial appointment except that they shall
89 not be required to be selected from a list submitted by the Connecticut
90 Economic Development Association as provided in subsection (b) of
91 this section. Members appointed by the Governor, the president pro
92 tempore of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives
93 shall be appointed for terms of four years. Any member may be
94 appointed for another term. Members may be removed by the
95 Governor, the president pro tempore of the Senate or the speaker of
96 the House of Representatives, respectively, for cause. Any member
97 absent from three consecutive meetings shall be removed from
98 membership.

99 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) (a) (1) Grow Connecticut,
100 Incorporated shall be the principal economic development
101 organization for the state and the lead agency in (A) the establishment
102 of a unified approach for international trade and foreign direct
103 investment, (B) the marketing of the state as a pro-business location for
104 potential new investment, and (C) the retention and expansion of
105 existing businesses and the creation of new businesses.

106 (2) The corporation shall develop and implement specific programs
107 or strategies that address the creation, expansion and retention of
108 Connecticut business, the development of import and export trade and
109 the recruitment of world wide business. The corporation shall
110 establish, implement and manage policies, strategies and programs
111 that promote business formation, expansion, recruitment and retention
112 through aggressive marketing and international development and
113 export assistance, collectively leading to an increase in jobs and jobs

114 with higher wages for all geographic regions, communities and
115 residents of the state. In developing the policies, strategies and
116 programs under this section, the corporation shall identify gaps in the
117 development and delivery of policies, strategies and programs and
118 shall seek to avoid duplication by coordinating and collaborating with
119 local governments, community and regional economic development
120 organizations and other economic and workforce development
121 entities, both public and private.

122 (3) The board of directors shall facilitate strategic planning of
123 economic development and financing and coordination of service
124 delivery by establishing linkages with appropriate local and regional
125 economic development agencies.

126 (b) The corporation shall have the following powers:

127 (1) To develop and implement specific programs or strategies that
128 address the (A) creation, expansion and retention of Connecticut
129 businesses, and (B) development of import and export trade and the
130 recruitment of world wide business as provided in subsection (a) of
131 this section;

132 (2) To have perpetual succession as a body corporate and to adopt
133 bylaws, policies and procedures for the regulation of its affairs and
134 conduct of its businesses as provided in section 2 of this act;

135 (3) To solicit, receive and accept aid, grants or contributions from
136 any source of money, property or labor or other things of value, to be
137 held, used and applied to carry out the purposes of sections 2 to 5,
138 inclusive, of this act, subject to the conditions upon which such grants
139 and contributions may be made, including, but not limited to, gifts or
140 grants from any department or agency of the United States or the state;

141 (4) To invest in, acquire, lease, purchase, own, manage, hold and
142 dispose of real property and lease, convey or deal in or enter into
143 agreements with respect to such property on any terms necessary or

144 incidental to the carrying out of these purposes; provided, all such
145 acquisitions of real property for the corporation's own use with
146 amounts appropriated by the state to the corporation or with the
147 proceeds of bonds supported by the full faith and credit of the state
148 shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy
149 and Management and the provisions of section 4b-23 of the 2006
150 supplement to the general statutes;

151 (5) To employ such assistants, agents and other employees as may
152 be necessary or desirable; establish all necessary or appropriate
153 personnel practices and policies, including those relating to hiring,
154 promotion, compensation, retirement and collective bargaining, which
155 need not be in accordance with chapter 68 of the general statutes, and
156 the corporation shall not be an employer, as defined in subsection (a)
157 of section 5-270 of the 2006 supplement to the general statutes; and
158 engage consultants, attorneys and appraisers as may be necessary or
159 desirable to carry out its purposes in accordance with sections 2 to 5,
160 inclusive, of this act;

161 (6) To make and enter into all contracts and agreements necessary or
162 incidental to the performance of its duties and the execution of its
163 powers under sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act;

164 (7) To sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, adopt a seal and
165 alter the same at pleasure;

166 (8) With the approval of the State Treasurer, to invest any funds not
167 needed for immediate use or disbursement, including any funds held
168 in reserve, in obligations issued or guaranteed by the United States of
169 America or the state of Connecticut and in other obligations which are
170 legal investments for retirement funds in this state;

171 (9) To procure insurance against any loss in connection with its
172 property and other assets in such amounts and from such insurers as it
173 deems desirable;

174 (10) To the extent permitted under its contract with other persons, to
175 consent to any termination, modification, forgiveness or other change
176 of any term of any contractual right, payment, royalty, contract or
177 agreement of any kind to which the corporation is a party;

178 (11) To acquire, lease, purchase, own, manage, hold and dispose of
179 personal property and lease, convey or deal in or enter into agreements
180 with respect to such property on any terms necessary or incidental to
181 the carrying out of these purposes;

182 (12) In connection with any application for assistance under sections
183 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act, or commitments therefor, to make and
184 collect such fees as the corporation shall determine to be reasonable;

185 (13) To account for and audit funds of the corporation and funds of
186 any recipients of financial aid from the corporation;

187 (14) To maintain an inventory of data and information concerning
188 state and federal programs which are related to the purposes of
189 sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act and to serve as a clearinghouse and
190 referral service for such data and information;

191 (15) To promote and encourage the coordination of public and
192 private resources and activities within the state in order to implement
193 the provisions of sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act; and

194 (16) To do all acts and things necessary and convenient to carry out
195 the purposes of sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act.

196 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) (a) The corporation continually
197 shall assess the economic development competitiveness of the state
198 against the economic development competitiveness of other business
199 locations. Such assessment shall include an evaluation of economic
200 development strengths and weaknesses of the state. Information from
201 the assessment shall be incorporated into a long-term economic
202 development strategic plan adopted in accordance with the provisions
203 of this section.

204 (b) (1) On or before June 30, 2007, and at least once every three years
205 thereafter, the board of directors of the corporation shall establish a
206 select committee to prepare and amend and adopt a long-term
207 strategic plan for economic development for the state. The
208 membership of the committee shall be representative of the main
209 economic interests of the state and shall include public officials,
210 community leaders, private individuals, business leaders, labor
211 groups, minorities and others who can contribute to and benefit from
212 improved economic development in the state. Meetings of the
213 committee shall be open to the public.

214 (2) In developing the plan the committee shall: (A) Consider local
215 and economic development district plans and ensure, to the maximum
216 extent practicable, that the state plan is consistent with the local and
217 economic development district plans, (B) identify any inconsistencies
218 between the state plan and local and economic development district
219 plans and provide a justification for such inconsistencies, and (C)
220 evaluate the economic diversity of the state and its regions and their
221 associated industrial clusters and develop policies and programs to
222 further their development and retention. The strategic plan shall
223 identify business sectors in the state that are of current or future
224 importance to the growth of the state's economy and to its global
225 competitive position and shall focus on strategies that promote the use
226 of technology-based business development that results in business
227 formation, expansion, recruitment and retention.

228 (3) The strategic plan required under this section shall contain the
229 following:

230 (A) An analysis of economic and community development problems
231 and opportunities and shall include relevant material or suggestions
232 from other government-sponsored or supported plans;

233 (B) Background and history of the economic development in the
234 state, including the background and history of the economy,
235 geography, population, labor force, resources and the environment;

236 (C) An analysis of community participation in the planning efforts
237 for the strategy;

238 (D) Goals and objectives for (i) taking advantage of the
239 opportunities in the state, and (ii) solving the economic development
240 problems of the state;

241 (E) A plan of action, including suggested projects to implement the
242 goals and objectives set forth in subparagraph (D) of this subdivision;
243 and

244 (F) Outcome-based performance measures to determine if such
245 goals and objectives have been met.

246 (c) The strategic plan shall not be effective until approved by the
247 board of directors. Upon such approval, the corporation shall submit
248 the strategic plan to the Governor and the joint standing committee of
249 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
250 commerce. The corporation shall annually submit to the Governor and
251 said joint standing committee, after approval of the board of directors,
252 a progress report on the plan, including any updates to the strategic
253 plan. The strategic plan and each progress report shall not be
254 submitted until approved by the board of directors.

255 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) Notwithstanding the provisions
256 of the general statutes, on and after adoption of the long-term
257 economic development strategic plan prepared pursuant to section 4 of
258 this act, Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated and the Connecticut
259 Development Authority shall be subsidiaries of Grow Connecticut,
260 Incorporated and shall implement their authority under the general
261 statutes and any special act consistent with such long-term economic
262 development strategic plan strategy. On or before July 1, 2007, and
263 annually thereafter, Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated and the
264 Connecticut Development Authority shall prepare a financial
265 investment plan and submit such plan to the board of directors of
266 Grow Connecticut, Incorporated for review and approval.

267 Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) There shall be an Office of
268 Economic Development Policy which shall be in the office of the
269 Governor. The head of the Office of Economic Development Policy
270 shall be the Director of Development. The director shall, in conjunction
271 with heads of other state agencies, ensure that policies and programs,
272 identified in the long-term economic development strategic plan
273 adopted under section 4 of this act, and other policies and programs
274 otherwise impacting economic growth in the state are consistently
275 implemented by all state agencies, support economic growth and
276 further the goals established in such plan.

277 Sec. 7. (*Effective July 1, 2006*) Grow Connecticut, Incorporated,
278 established pursuant to section 2 of this act, in consultation with the
279 Connecticut Development Authority, the Connecticut Housing Finance
280 Authority, Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated and the Department
281 of Economic and Community Development shall conduct a study of
282 revisions to the general statutes and special acts necessary to
283 implement the provisions of sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act. Such
284 study shall be submitted to the joint standing committee of the General
285 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce, in
286 accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, on or before
287 January 7, 2007.

288 Sec. 8. Section 16a-27 of the 2006 supplement to the general statutes
289 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
290 *1, 2006*):

291 (a) The secretary, after consultation with all appropriate state,
292 regional and local agencies and other appropriate persons, shall prior
293 to March 1, 2009, complete a revision of the existing plan and enlarge it
294 to include, but not be limited to, policies relating to transportation,
295 energy and air. Any revision made after May 15, 1991, shall identify
296 the major transportation proposals, including proposals for mass
297 transit, contained in the master transportation plan prepared pursuant
298 to section 13b-15. Any revision made after July 1, 1995, shall take into

299 consideration the conservation and development of greenways that
300 have been designated by municipalities and shall recommend that
301 state agencies coordinate their efforts to support the development of a
302 state-wide greenways system. The Commissioner of Environmental
303 Protection shall identify state-owned land for inclusion in the plan as
304 potential components of a state greenways system.

305 (b) Any revision made after August 20, 2003, shall take into account
306 (1) economic and community development needs and patterns of
307 commerce, and (2) linkages of affordable housing objectives and land
308 use objectives with transportation systems.

309 (c) Any revision made after March 1, 2006, shall (1) take into
310 consideration risks associated with natural hazards, including, but not
311 limited to, flooding, high winds and wildfires; (2) identify the potential
312 impacts of natural hazards on infrastructure and property; and (3)
313 make recommendations for the siting of future infrastructure and
314 property development to minimize the use of areas prone to natural
315 hazards, including, but not limited to, flooding, high winds and
316 wildfires.

317 (d) Any revision after July 1, 2005, shall describe the progress
318 towards achievement of the goals and objectives established in the
319 previously adopted state plan of conservation and development and
320 shall identify (1) areas where it is prudent and feasible (A) to have
321 compact, transit accessible, pedestrian-oriented mixed-use
322 development patterns and land reuse, and (B) to promote such
323 development patterns and land reuse, (2) priority funding areas
324 designated under section 16a-35c, and (3) corridor management areas
325 on either side of a limited access highway or a rail line. In designating
326 corridor management areas, the secretary shall make
327 recommendations that (A) promote land use and transportation
328 options to reduce the growth of traffic congestion; (B) connect
329 infrastructure and other development decisions; (C) promote
330 development that minimizes the cost of new infrastructure facilities

331 and maximizes the use of existing infrastructure facilities; and (D)
332 increase intermunicipal and regional cooperation.

333 (e) Any revision after July 1, 2006, shall be consistent with the long-
334 term economic development strategic plan prepared pursuant to
335 section 4 of this act.

336 ~~[(e)]~~ (f) Thereafter on or before March first in each revision year the
337 secretary shall complete a revision of the plan of conservation and
338 development.

339 Sec. 9. Section 1-120 of the general statutes is repealed and the
340 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):

341 As used in sections 1-120 to 1-123, inclusive:

342 (1) "Quasi-public agency" means the Connecticut Development
343 Authority, Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, Connecticut Health
344 and Educational Facilities Authority, Connecticut Higher Education
345 Supplemental Loan Authority, Connecticut Housing Finance
346 Authority, Connecticut Housing Authority, Connecticut Resources
347 Recovery Authority, Connecticut Hazardous Waste Management
348 Service, Capital City Economic Development Authority, [and]
349 Connecticut Lottery Corporation and Grow Connecticut, Incorporated.

350 (2) "Procedure" means each statement, by a quasi-public agency, of
351 general applicability, without regard to its designation, that
352 implements, interprets or prescribes law or policy, or describes the
353 organization or procedure of any such agency. The term includes the
354 amendment or repeal of a prior regulation, but does not include,
355 unless otherwise provided by any provision of the general statutes, (A)
356 statements concerning only the internal management of any agency
357 and not affecting procedures available to the public, and (B) intra-
358 agency memoranda.

359 (3) "Proposed procedure" means a proposal by a quasi-public
360 agency under the provisions of section 1-121 for a new procedure or

361 for a change in, addition to or repeal of an existing procedure.

362 Sec. 10. Section 1-125 of the general statutes is repealed and the
363 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):

364 The directors, officers and employees of the Connecticut
365 Development Authority, Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated,
366 Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority,
367 Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, Connecticut Housing
368 Authority, Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority, including ad
369 hoc members of the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority,
370 Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority, Capital City
371 Economic Development Authority, [and] Connecticut Lottery
372 Corporation and Grow Connecticut, Incorporated and any person
373 executing the bonds or notes of the agency shall not be liable
374 personally on such bonds or notes or be subject to any personal
375 liability or accountability by reason of the issuance thereof, nor shall
376 any director or employee of the agency, including ad hoc members of
377 the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority, be personally liable for
378 damage or injury, not wanton, reckless, wilful or malicious, caused in
379 the performance of his or her duties and within the scope of his or her
380 employment or appointment as such director, officer or employee,
381 including ad hoc members of the Connecticut Resources Recovery
382 Authority. The agency shall protect, save harmless and indemnify its
383 directors, officers or employees, including ad hoc members of the
384 Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority, from financial loss and
385 expense, including legal fees and costs, if any, arising out of any claim,
386 demand, suit or judgment by reason of alleged negligence or alleged
387 deprivation of any person's civil rights or any other act or omission
388 resulting in damage or injury, if the director, officer or employee,
389 including ad hoc members of the Connecticut Resources Recovery
390 Authority, is found to have been acting in the discharge of his or her
391 duties or within the scope of his or her employment and such act or
392 omission is found not to have been wanton, reckless, wilful or
393 malicious.

394 Sec. 11. Section 1-79 of the 2006 supplement to the general statutes is
395 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
396 *October 1, 2006*):

397 The following terms, when used in this part, shall have the
398 following meanings unless the context otherwise requires:

399 (a) "Blind trust" means a trust established by a public official or state
400 employee or member of his immediate family for the purpose of
401 divestiture of all control and knowledge of assets.

402 (b) "Business with which he is associated" means any sole
403 proprietorship, partnership, firm, corporation, trust or other entity
404 through which business for profit or not for profit is conducted in
405 which the public official or state employee or member of his
406 immediate family is a director, officer, owner, limited or general
407 partner, beneficiary of a trust or holder of stock constituting five per
408 cent or more of the total outstanding stock of any class, provided, a
409 public official or state employee, or member of his immediate family,
410 shall not be deemed to be associated with a not for profit entity solely
411 by virtue of the fact that the public official or state employee or
412 member of his immediate family is an unpaid director or officer of the
413 not for profit entity. "Officer" refers only to the president, executive or
414 senior vice president or treasurer of such business.

415 (c) "Candidate for public office" means any individual who has filed
416 a declaration of candidacy or a petition to appear on the ballot for
417 election as a public official, or who has raised or expended money in
418 furtherance of such candidacy, or who has been nominated for
419 appointment to serve as a public official, but shall not include a
420 candidate for the office of senator or representative in Congress.

421 (d) "Board" means the Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board established
422 in section 1-80, as amended.

423 (e) "Gift" means anything of value, which is directly and personally

424 received, unless consideration of equal or greater value is given in
425 return. "Gift" shall not include:

426 (1) A political contribution otherwise reported as required by law or
427 a donation or payment as described in subdivision (9) or (10) of
428 subsection (b) of section 9-333b, as amended;

429 (2) Services provided by persons volunteering their time, if
430 provided to aid or promote the success or defeat of any political party,
431 any candidate or candidates for public office or the position of
432 convention delegate or town committee member or any referendum
433 question;

434 (3) A commercially reasonable loan made on terms not more
435 favorable than loans made in the ordinary course of business;

436 (4) A gift received from (A) an individual's spouse, fiance or fiancée,
437 (B) the parent, brother or sister of such spouse or such individual, or
438 (C) the child of such individual or the spouse of such child;

439 (5) Goods or services (A) which are provided to the state (i) for use
440 on state property, or (ii) to support an event or the participation by a
441 public official or state employee at an event, and (B) which facilitate
442 state action or functions. As used in this subdivision, "state property"
443 means (i) property owned by the state, or (ii) property leased to an
444 agency in the Executive or Judicial Department of the state;

445 (6) A certificate, plaque or other ceremonial award costing less than
446 one hundred dollars;

447 (7) A rebate, discount or promotional item available to the general
448 public;

449 (8) Printed or recorded informational material germane to state
450 action or functions;

451 (9) Food or beverage or both, costing less than fifty dollars in the

452 aggregate per recipient in a calendar year, and consumed on an
453 occasion or occasions at which the person paying, directly or
454 indirectly, for the food or beverage, or his representative, is in
455 attendance;

456 (10) Food or beverage or both, costing less than fifty dollars per
457 person and consumed at a publicly noticed legislative reception to
458 which all members of the General Assembly are invited and which is
459 hosted not more than once in any calendar year by a lobbyist or
460 business organization. For the purposes of such limit, (A) a reception
461 hosted by a lobbyist who is an individual shall be deemed to have also
462 been hosted by the business organization which he owns or is
463 employed by, and (B) a reception hosted by a business organization
464 shall be deemed to have also been hosted by all owners and employees
465 of the business organization who are lobbyists. In making the
466 calculation for the purposes of such fifty-dollar limit, the donor shall
467 divide the amount spent on food and beverage by the number of
468 persons whom the donor reasonably expects to attend the reception;

469 (11) Food or beverage or both, costing less than fifty dollars per
470 person and consumed at a publicly noticed reception to which all
471 members of the General Assembly from a region of the state are
472 invited and which is hosted not more than once in any calendar year
473 by a lobbyist or business organization. For the purposes of such limit,
474 (A) a reception hosted by a lobbyist who is an individual shall be
475 deemed to have also been hosted by the business organization which
476 he owns or is employed by, and (B) a reception hosted by a business
477 organization shall be deemed to have also been hosted by all owners
478 and employees of the business organization who are lobbyists. In
479 making the calculation for the purposes of such fifty-dollar limit, the
480 donor shall divide the amount spent on food and beverage by the
481 number of persons whom the donor reasonably expects to attend the
482 reception. As used in this subdivision, "region of the state" means the
483 established geographic service area of the organization hosting the
484 reception;

485 (12) A gift, including but not limited to, food or beverage or both,
486 provided by an individual for the celebration of a major life event;

487 (13) Gifts costing less than one hundred dollars in the aggregate or
488 food or beverage provided at a hospitality suite at a meeting or
489 conference of an interstate legislative association, by a person who is
490 not a registrant or is not doing business with the state of Connecticut;

491 (14) Admission to a charitable or civic event, including food and
492 beverage provided at such event, but excluding lodging or travel
493 expenses, at which a public official or state employee participates in
494 his official capacity, provided such admission is provided by the
495 primary sponsoring entity;

496 (15) Anything of value provided by an employer of (A) a public
497 official, (B) a state employee, or (C) a spouse of a public official or state
498 employee, to such official, employee or spouse, provided such benefits
499 are customarily and ordinarily provided to others in similar
500 circumstances; or

501 (16) Anything having a value of not more than ten dollars, provided
502 the aggregate value of all things provided by a donor to a recipient
503 under this subdivision in any calendar year shall not exceed fifty
504 dollars.

505 (f) "Immediate family" means any spouse, children or dependent
506 relatives who reside in the individual's household.

507 (g) "Individual" means a natural person.

508 (h) "Member of an advisory board" means any individual (1)
509 appointed by a public official as an advisor or consultant or member of
510 a committee, commission or council established to advise, recommend
511 or consult with a public official or branch of government or committee
512 thereof, (2) who receives no public funds other than per diem
513 payments or reimbursement for his actual and necessary expenses
514 incurred in the performance of his official duties, and (3) who has no

515 authority to expend any public funds or to exercise the power of the
516 state.

517 (i) "Person" means an individual, sole proprietorship, trust,
518 corporation, limited liability company, union, association, firm,
519 partnership, committee, club or other organization or group of
520 persons.

521 (j) "Political contribution" has the same meaning as in section 9-333b,
522 as amended, except that for purposes of this part, the provisions of
523 subsection (b) of that section shall not apply.

524 (k) "Public official" means any state-wide elected officer, any
525 member or member-elect of the General Assembly, any person
526 appointed to any office of the legislative, judicial or executive branch
527 of state government by the Governor or an appointee of the Governor,
528 with or without the advice and consent of the General Assembly, any
529 public member or representative of the teachers' unions or state
530 employees' unions appointed to the Investment Advisory Council
531 pursuant to subsection (a) of section 3-13b, any person appointed or
532 elected by the General Assembly or by any member of either house
533 thereof, and any member or director of a quasi-public agency, but shall
534 not include a member of an advisory board, a judge of any court either
535 elected or appointed or a senator or representative in Congress.

536 (l) "Quasi-public agency" means the Connecticut Development
537 Authority, Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, Connecticut Health
538 and Education Facilities Authority, Connecticut Higher Education
539 Supplemental Loan Authority, Connecticut Housing Finance
540 Authority, Connecticut Housing Authority, Connecticut Resources
541 Recovery Authority, Connecticut Hazardous Waste Management
542 Service, Lower Fairfield County Convention Center Authority, Capital
543 City Economic Development Authority, [and] Connecticut Lottery
544 Corporation and Grow Connecticut, Incorporated.

545 (m) "State employee" means any employee in the executive,

546 legislative or judicial branch of state government, whether in the
547 classified or unclassified service and whether full or part-time, and any
548 employee of a quasi-public agency, but shall not include a judge of any
549 court, either elected or appointed.

550 (n) "Trust" means a trust in which any public official or state
551 employee or member of his immediate family has a present or future
552 interest which exceeds ten per cent of the value of the trust or exceeds
553 fifty thousand dollars, whichever is less, but shall not include blind
554 trusts.

555 (o) "Business organization" means a sole proprietorship,
556 corporation, limited liability company, association, firm or partnership,
557 other than a client lobbyist, which is owned by, or employs, one or
558 more individual lobbyists.

559 (p) "Client lobbyist" means a person on behalf of whom lobbying
560 takes place and who makes expenditures for lobbying and in
561 furtherance of lobbying.

562 (q) "Necessary expenses" means a public official's or state
563 employee's expenses for an article, appearance or speech or for
564 participation at an event, in his official capacity, which shall be limited
565 to necessary travel expenses, lodging for the nights before, of and after
566 the appearance, speech or event, meals and any related conference or
567 seminar registration fees.

568 (r) "Lobbyist" and "registrant" shall be construed as defined in
569 section 1-91, as amended.

570 (s) "Legal defense fund" means a fund established for the payment
571 of legal expenses of a public official or state employee incurred as a
572 result of defending himself or herself in an administrative, civil,
573 criminal or constitutional proceeding concerning matters related to the
574 official's or employee's service or employment with the state or a
575 quasi-public agency.

576 Sec. 12. (*Effective July 1, 2006*) The sum of five hundred thirty-five
 577 thousand dollars is appropriated to the Office of Policy and
 578 Management, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June
 579 30, 2007, for the Office of Economic Development Policy established
 580 pursuant to section 6 of this act, provided two hundred fifty thousand
 581 dollars of such amount shall be used for a grant to Grow Connecticut,
 582 Incorporated established pursuant to section 2 of this act for
 583 preparation of the plan required under section 4 of this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	16a-27
Sec. 9	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	1-120
Sec. 10	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	1-125
Sec. 11	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	1-79
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To establish Grow Connecticut, Incorporated as the principal economic development organization of 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.]