



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

**Raised Bill No. 1365**

LCO No. 4929

\* SB01365CE\_GAE031907 \*

Referred to Committee on Commerce

Introduced by:  
(CE)

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE BRADLEY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR AIRPORT-DRIVEN  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.***

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

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2007*) (a) There is created a  
2 body politic and corporate to be known as the "Bradley International  
3 Airport Economic Development Corporation". Said corporation shall  
4 be a public instrumentality and political subdivision of this state and  
5 the exercise by the corporation of the powers conferred by this section  
6 shall be deemed and held to be the performance of an essential public  
7 and governmental function. The Bradley International Airport  
8 Economic Development Corporation shall not be construed to be a  
9 department, institution or agency of the state.
- 10 (b) (1) The corporation shall be governed by a board of directors  
11 consisting of eleven members as follows:
- 12 (A) The Commissioners of Economic and Community Development  
13 and Transportation, or said commissioners' designees;
- 14 (B) One member of the Bradley Board of Directors, appointed by the

15 Governor;

16 (C) One member representing a regional planning organization  
17 serving the Hartford region, and one member representing a regional  
18 or multitown economic development organization, appointed by the  
19 president pro tempore of the Senate;

20 (D) One member who serves as a member of the subcommittee of  
21 the Bradley International Community Advisory Board, established  
22 pursuant to subdivision (c) of section 15-101pp of the general statutes,  
23 and one member representing a regional or state-wide business  
24 association, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

25 (E) One member from the town of Windsor who serves as a member  
26 of said subcommittee, appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
27 Representatives;

28 (F) One member from the town of Windsor Locks who serves as a  
29 member of said subcommittee, appointed by the minority leader of the  
30 House of Representatives;

31 (G) One member from the town of Suffield who serves as a member  
32 of said subcommittee, appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;  
33 and

34 (H) One member from the town of East Granby who serves as a  
35 member of said subcommittee, appointed by the minority leader of the  
36 Senate.

37 (3) All appointments shall be made not later than thirty days after  
38 September 1, 2007. The terms of the initial board members appointed  
39 shall be established in the corporation's bylaws, provided six of the  
40 members shall serve four-year terms from said appointment date and  
41 five members shall serve two-year terms from said appointment date.  
42 Thereafter, all members shall be appointed for four-year terms. A  
43 member of the board shall be eligible for reappointment. Any member  
44 who fails to attend three consecutive meetings or who fails to attend

45 fifty per cent of all meetings held during any calendar year shall be  
46 deemed to have resigned from the board.

47 (4) Any member of the board may be removed by the appointing  
48 authority for misfeasance, malfeasance or wilful neglect of duty. Each  
49 member of the board, before commencing such member's duties, shall  
50 take and subscribe the oath or affirmation required by article XI,  
51 section 1, of the State Constitution. A record of each such oath shall be  
52 filed in the office of the Secretary of the State.

53 (5) The board of directors shall maintain a record of its proceedings  
54 in such form as it determines, provided such record indicates  
55 attendance and all votes cast by each member. A majority of the  
56 members of the board present shall constitute a quorum and the  
57 affirmative vote of a majority of the members present at a meeting of  
58 the board shall be sufficient for any action taken by the board. No  
59 vacancy in the membership of the board shall impair the right of a  
60 quorum to exercise all the rights and perform all the duties of the  
61 board. Any action taken by the board may be authorized by resolution  
62 at any regular or special meeting and shall take effect immediately  
63 unless otherwise provided in the resolution. The board may delegate  
64 to five or more of its members, or its officers, agents and employees,  
65 such board powers and duties as it may deem proper.

66 (c) (1) The chairperson of the board shall be designated by the  
67 Governor. The board of directors shall annually elect one of its  
68 members as vice-chairperson and shall elect other of its members as  
69 officers, adopt a budget and bylaws, designate an executive committee,  
70 report semiannually to the appointing authorities with respect to  
71 operations, finances and achievement of its economic development  
72 objectives, be accountable to and cooperate with the state whenever,  
73 pursuant to the provisions of this section, the state may audit the  
74 corporation or any project of the corporation, or at any other time as  
75 the state may inquire as to either, including allowing the state  
76 reasonable access to any such project and to the records of the  
77 corporation.

78 (2) The board of directors may appoint an executive director who  
79 shall not be a member of the board, and who shall be exempt from  
80 classified service.

81 (3) Members of the board of directors shall receive no compensation  
82 for the performance of their duties, but shall be reimbursed for all  
83 expenses reasonably incurred in the performance thereof.

84 (d) Each member of the board of directors of the corporation and the  
85 executive director shall execute a surety bond in the penal sum of at  
86 least one hundred thousand dollars, or, in lieu thereof, the chairperson  
87 of the board shall execute a blanket position bond covering each  
88 member, the executive director and the employees of the corporation,  
89 each surety bond to be conditioned upon the faithful performance of  
90 the duties of the office or offices covered, to be executed by a surety  
91 company authorized to transact business in this state as a surety and to  
92 be approved by the Attorney General and filed in the office of the  
93 Secretary of the State. The cost of each bond shall be paid by the  
94 corporation.

95 (e) No board member shall have or acquire any financial interest in  
96 any project related to economic development at Bradley International  
97 Airport, or in any property included or planned to be included in any  
98 such project or in any contract or proposed contract for materials or  
99 services to be used in such project.

100 (f) The corporation shall have perpetual succession and shall adopt  
101 procedures for the conduct of its affairs in accordance with section 3 of  
102 this act. Such succession shall continue as long as the corporation shall  
103 have bonds, notes or other obligations outstanding and until the  
104 existence of the corporation is terminated by law, at which time the  
105 rights and properties of the corporation shall pass to and be vested in  
106 the state.

107 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2007*) (a) The purpose of the  
108 Bradley International Airport Economic Development Corporation

109 shall be to stimulate new investment in Connecticut, to coordinate  
110 available economic development resources to attract and retain airport  
111 dependent businesses, to facilitate coordination with the Bradley  
112 Board of Directors to diversify the state economy, to coordinate local  
113 economic development resource efforts, including available enterprise  
114 zone corridor benefits, to strengthen the region's ability to attract,  
115 retain, and grow business and industry employment, to broaden the  
116 base of the tourism effort and stimulate substantial surrounding  
117 economic development and corresponding increased tax revenues to  
118 the state.

119 (b) For these purposes, the corporation shall have the following  
120 powers: (1) To have perpetual succession as a body corporate and to  
121 adopt procedures for the regulation of its affairs and the conduct of its  
122 business as provided in subsection (f) of section 1 of this act, to adopt a  
123 corporate seal and alter the same at its pleasure, and to maintain an  
124 office at such place or places within the county of Hartford as it may  
125 designate; (2) to sue and be sued, to contract and be contracted with;  
126 (3) to employ such assistants, agents and other employees as may be  
127 necessary or desirable to carry out its purposes, which employees shall  
128 be exempt from the classified service and shall not be employees, as  
129 defined in subsection (b) of section 5-270 of the general statutes, to fix  
130 their compensation, to establish and modify personnel procedures as  
131 may be necessary from time to time and to negotiate and enter into  
132 collective bargaining agreements with labor unions; (4) to acquire,  
133 lease, hold and dispose of personal property for the purposes set forth  
134 in this section; (5) to procure insurance against any liability or loss in  
135 connection with its property and other assets, in such amounts and  
136 from such insurers as it deems desirable and to procure insurance for  
137 employees; and (6) to invest any funds not needed for immediate use  
138 or disbursement in obligations issued or guaranteed by the United  
139 States of America or the state of Connecticut, including the Short Term  
140 Investment Fund, and the Tax-Exempt Proceeds Fund, and in other  
141 obligations which are legal investments for savings banks in this state  
142 and in time deposits or certificates of deposit or other similar banking

143 arrangements secured in such manner as the corporation determines.

144 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2007*) The board of directors of the  
145 Bradley International Airport Economic Development Corporation  
146 shall adopt written procedures, in accordance with the provisions of  
147 section 1-121 of the general statutes, for: (1) Adopting an annual  
148 budget and plan of operations, which shall include a requirement of  
149 board approval before the budget or plan may take effect; (2) hiring,  
150 dismissing, promoting and compensating employees of the  
151 corporation, which shall include an affirmative action policy and a  
152 requirement of board approval before a position may be created or a  
153 vacancy filled; (3) acquiring real and personal property and personal  
154 services, which shall include a requirement of board approval for any  
155 nonbudgeted expenditure in excess of five thousand dollars; (4)  
156 contracting for financial, legal, bond underwriting and other  
157 professional services, which shall include a requirement that the  
158 corporation solicit proposals at least once every three years for each  
159 such service that it uses; (5) issuing and retiring bonds, notes and other  
160 obligations of the corporation; and (6) providing financial assistance,  
161 which shall include criteria for eligibility, the application process and  
162 the role played by the corporation's staff and board of directors.

163 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2007*) (a) The Bradley International  
164 Airport Economic Development Corporation shall conduct a study of  
165 comparable airport-driven economic development strategies applied  
166 internationally in similarly-sized markets to: (1) Assess potential  
167 economic development and job creation strategies where proximity to,  
168 or dependence on, Bradley International Airport would be a significant  
169 advantage; (2) assess the potential advantages and disadvantages to  
170 more fully utilizing Bradley International Airport as an economic  
171 driver, including, but not limited to, comparable transportation  
172 conditions, local taxing policies, intertown cooperation, state agency  
173 cooperation and possible statutory changes; (3) recommend potential  
174 strategies for more fully utilizing Bradley International Airport as an  
175 economic driver for the region and the state. On or before December

176 15, 2008, the corporation shall deliver such study, in accordance with  
177 the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the Governor  
178 and to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having  
179 cognizance of matters relating to commerce and transportation.

180 (b) On or before December 15, 2008, and biennially thereafter, the  
181 corporation shall report to the Governor and the General Assembly, in  
182 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,  
183 with respect to the operations, finances and achievement of its  
184 economic development objectives.

185 (c) The corporation shall review, evaluate and include in the  
186 biennial report required pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the  
187 progress of any Bradley International Airport Economic Development  
188 Corporation project for which financing is provided, and shall devise  
189 and employ techniques for forecasting and measuring relevant indices  
190 of accomplishment of its goals of economic development, including,  
191 but not limited to, (1) the number of jobs created, or to be created, by  
192 or as a result of each project, (2) the cost or estimated cost to the  
193 corporation for the creation of such jobs, (3) the amount of private  
194 capital investment in, or stimulated by, a project, represented in  
195 proportion to the public funds invested in such project, (4) the number  
196 of additional businesses created and associated jobs, and (5) the impact  
197 on tourism.

198 Sec. 5. Subdivision (1) of section 1-120 of the general statutes is  
199 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
200 *October 1, 2007*):

201 (1) "Quasi-public agency" means the Connecticut Development  
202 Authority, Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, Connecticut Health  
203 and Educational Facilities Authority, Connecticut Higher Education  
204 Supplemental Loan Authority, Connecticut Housing Finance  
205 Authority, Connecticut Housing Authority, Connecticut Resources  
206 Recovery Authority, Capital City Economic Development Authority,  
207 Bradley International Airport Economic Development Corporation,

208 and Connecticut Lottery Corporation.

209 Sec. 6. Section 32-80 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
210 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

211 (a) As used in this section:

212 (1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Economic and  
213 Community Development.

214 (2) "Public investment communities" shall have the same meaning  
215 as "public investment communities", as defined in section 7-545.

216 (3) "Distressed municipality" shall have the same meaning as  
217 "distressed municipality", as defined in section 32-9p.

218 (4) "Eligible municipality" means a municipality that is a distressed  
219 municipality and a public investment community, has a population of  
220 not more than forty thousand, has an unemployment rate that is more  
221 than the unemployment rate of the state, and for which the per capita  
222 income is less than the per capita income of the state.

223 (5) "Unemployment rate" means the average unemployment rate of  
224 a municipality or the state, as the case may be, as reported by the  
225 Labor Commissioner on the preceding July first for the latest available  
226 twelve-month period.

227 (6) "Per capita income" means the average per capita income of a  
228 municipality or the state, as the case may be, that is enumerated in the  
229 most recent (A) federal decennial census of population, or (B) current  
230 population report series issued by the United States Department of  
231 Commerce, Bureau of the Census available on the preceding January  
232 first, whichever is most recent.

233 (b) (1) Before July 1, 2005, the legislative bodies of three or more  
234 contiguous municipalities, each of which is a public investment  
235 community and has a population of not more than sixty thousand, and

236 at least fifty per cent of which municipalities are located along the  
237 same interstate highway, limited access state highway or intersecting  
238 interstate or limited access state highways, may, with the approval of  
239 the commissioner, designate industrial districts in such municipalities  
240 as an enterprise corridor zone.

241 (2) On or after July 1, 2005, the legislative bodies of two or more  
242 contiguous eligible municipalities, at least one of which is located  
243 along an interstate highway, limited access state highway or  
244 intersecting interstate or limited access state highways and is  
245 designated as a regional center in the locational guide map included in  
246 the state plan of conservation and development adopted pursuant to  
247 chapter 297, may, with the approval of the commissioner, designate  
248 such municipalities as an enterprise corridor zone.

249 (3) On and after October 1, 2007, the legislative bodies of two or  
250 more municipalities contiguous to Bradley International Airport may,  
251 with the approval of the commissioner, designate such municipalities  
252 as an enterprise corridor zone, provided only businesses located not  
253 farther than three-quarters of a mile from the census block containing  
254 Bradley International Airport shall be eligible for benefits pursuant to  
255 this section.

256 (c) Municipalities seeking the approval of the commissioner for such  
257 designation shall execute an intermunicipal agreement specifying how  
258 they would cooperatively share in the marketing, promotion and  
259 development of the industrial districts that would comprise the  
260 enterprise corridor zones, and shall file with the commissioner a  
261 preliminary application which includes such executed agreement. Not  
262 later than sixty days after receipt of such preliminary application, the  
263 commissioner shall indicate to the municipalities, in writing, any  
264 recommendations for improving the municipalities' application. Not  
265 later than sixty days after receipt of the commissioner's written  
266 response, the municipalities shall file a final application with the  
267 commissioner.

268 (d) The commissioner shall approve the designation of at least [two]  
 269 three areas as enterprise corridor zones. The commissioner may  
 270 remove the designation of any area he has approved as an enterprise  
 271 corridor zone if such area no longer meets the criteria for such  
 272 designation, provided no such designation shall be removed less than  
 273 ten years after the date that such area no longer meets such criteria.

274 (e) Businesses located within an enterprise corridor zone shall be  
 275 entitled to the same benefits, subject to the same conditions, under the  
 276 general statutes for which businesses located in an enterprise zone  
 277 qualify.

278 (f) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with the  
 279 provisions of chapter 54, to carry out the purposes of this section.

280 Sec. 7. Section 15-101oo of the general statutes is repealed and the  
 281 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

282 For administrative purposes only, the Bradley Board of Directors  
 283 shall perform its functions within the Department of [Transportation]  
 284 Economic and Community Development. The administrative functions  
 285 of the board of directors shall be performed by the Department of  
 286 [Transportation] Economic and Community Development, and the  
 287 costs thereof, including the cost of consultants recommended to advise  
 288 the Bradley Board of Directors, may be reimbursed by the Enterprise  
 289 Fund. Consultants recommended by the Bradley Board of Directors  
 290 shall be engaged by the Department of [Transportation] Economic and  
 291 Community Development, but shall report to the Bradley Board of  
 292 Directors. The selection and engagement of consultants for the Bradley  
 293 Board of Directors shall be exempt from sections 13b-20b to 13b-20m,  
 294 inclusive, and sections 4-212 to 4-219, inclusive.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	New section

Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	1-120(1)
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	32-80
Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	15-101oo

**CE**

*Joint Favorable C/R*

GAE