



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 673

February Session, 2008

Substitute House Bill No. 5686

House of Representatives, April 17, 2008

The Committee on Appropriations reported through REP. MERRILL of the 54th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING A PILOT PROGRAM FOR TRAINING FOR GREEN INDUSTRIES.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) Not later than July 1,
2 2009, the Board of Trustees for the Community-Technical Colleges
3 shall establish a pilot green jobs training program at a regional
4 community-technical college designated by the board. For purposes of
5 the program, the board shall design and implement comprehensive
6 education and training programs focusing on providing skills in green
7 construction, clean technology, urban agriculture and energy, as well
8 as jobs related to biofuel development, energy efficient buildings,
9 renewable power, solar panel installation, geothermal technology and
10 energy efficient cars. In carrying out the program, the board may (1)
11 establish criteria for student participation in the program; (2) fix fees
12 for such program pursuant to section 10a-77 of the general statutes;
13 and (3) enter into such contracts and agreements as it finds necessary
14 to secure the necessary facilities for the program.

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

| Agency Affected | Fund-Effect | FY 09 \$ | FY 10 \$ |
|--|-------------|----------|----------|
| Colleges, Regional Comm.-Tech. | GF - Cost | 520,116 | 315,000 |
| Comptroller Misc. Accounts (Fringe Benefits) ¹ | GF - Cost | 79,884 | 185,000 |

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires the Community-Technical College Board of Trustees to establish, by July 1, 2009, a pilot program that will offer green jobs training.

It is anticipated that it would cost approximately \$600,000² in the first year, to establish the green jobs training program at one community-technical college, and approximately \$500,000³ for each subsequent year.

sHB 5021, the budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, includes \$500,000 for the development of the green jobs training program.

¹ The fringe benefit costs for state employees are budgeted centrally in the Miscellaneous Accounts administered by the Comptroller. The first year fringe benefit costs for new positions do not include pension costs. The estimated first year fringe benefit rate as a percentage of payroll is 25.36%. The state's pension contribution is based upon the prior year's certification by the actuary for the State Employees Retirement System (SERS). The SERS fringe benefit rate is 33.27%, which when combined with the rate for non-pension fringe benefits totals 58.63%.

² Costs include: \$394,884 for faculty, support staff, a program administrator, and fringe benefits; and \$200,000 for equipment.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

³ Costs include: \$500,000 for faculty, support staff, a program administrator, and fringe benefits.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5686

AN ACT CONCERNING A PILOT PROGRAM FOR TRAINING FOR GREEN INDUSTRIES.

SUMMARY:

This bill requires the Community-Technical College Board of Trustees to establish, by July 1, 2009, a pilot green jobs training program at a community college the board designates. The board must design and implement comprehensive education and training programs to provide job skills in (1) green construction, (2) clean technology, (3) urban agriculture and energy, (4) biofuel development, (5) energy efficient buildings, (6) renewable power, (7) solar panel installation, (8) geothermal technology, and (9) energy efficient cars. The board must consult with the Renewable Energy Investment Board, businesses, and nonprofits to identify jobs and skills necessary to develop and enhance the renewable energy and efficiency industries. It must do this to ensure students participating in the program are placed in and retain a job.

In implementing the program, the board may (1) establish participation criteria, (2) assess student fees, and (3) enter into contracts and agreements for necessary program facilities. The board must apply for any federal funds related to green jobs training, including any funding under the Energy Independence Security Act of 2007, and comply with any requirements necessary to secure the full benefit of the funds.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2008

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference
Yea 18 Nay 0 (03/06/2008)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 51 Nay 0 (04/01/2008)