



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 466

February Session, 2008

* _____SB00466HEDFIN031108_____*

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE LEARN HERE, LIVE HERE PROGRAM.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) The Commissioner of
2 Economic and Community Development, in consultation with the
3 Commissioner of Revenue Services, shall establish the Learn Here,
4 Live Here program, for persons who graduate, on or after January 1,
5 2008, from a public or independent institution of higher education in
6 this state, or from a regional vocational-technical school. Under the
7 program, such graduates may elect, for the ten tax years following the
8 year of their graduation, to an amount determined in accordance with
9 this section of the sum paid by them for the income tax under chapter
10 229 of the general statutes in each such calendar year segregated by the
11 Commissioner of Revenue Services and deposited into the fund
12 established by section 2 of this act and used for the purchase of a first
13 home. An individual taxpayer may contribute the lesser of his income
14 tax liability, under chapter 229 of the general statutes, or up to four
15 thousand dollars per year. Taxpayers filing a joint return may
16 contribute the lesser of their income liability or up to eight thousand
17 dollars per year. If the taxpayer purchases a home in a municipality
18 that is a distressed municipality, as defined in section 32-9p of the
19 general statutes, at the time of the purchase, an individual taxpayer or
20 taxpayers filing a joint return may use the total amount contributed to
21 such fund. If the purchase of a home is not in a distressed

22 municipality, an individual taxpayer or taxpayers filing a joint return
23 may use three-quarters of the total amount contributed to such fund,
24 and the remaining balance shall be transferred to the General Fund.
25 Notwithstanding any provision of title 12 of the general statutes, if a
26 graduate elects to have such amount so segregated, the Commissioner
27 of Revenue Services shall deposit such amount in such fund. Taxes
28 may be segregated pursuant to this section for tax years commencing
29 on or after January 1, 2009. The Commissioner of Economic and
30 Community Development shall make payments in accordance with
31 this section from the fund to graduates, for the purchase of a first home
32 from the amount of the state income taxes segregated for up to ten
33 years in accordance with this section. Enrollment in the program shall
34 begin on January 1, 2009.

35 (b) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development,
36 in consultation with the Commissioner of Revenue Services, shall
37 adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54 of the general
38 statutes, to carry out the provisions of this section.

39 (c) On or before December 1, 2008, the Commissioner of Economic
40 and Community Development shall develop, within available
41 appropriations, a comprehensive public education program to educate
42 recent graduates of a public or independent institution of higher
43 education in the state, or of a regional vocational-technical high school,
44 about the program established under this section for first-time home
45 buyers. The public education program shall include, but not be limited
46 to, information concerning life-time savings plans and information on
47 the purchase of a house. The department shall begin to implement the
48 outreach program not later than January 1, 2009.

49 (d) On or before January 1, 2010, and annually thereafter, the
50 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall
51 report, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the
52 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance
53 of matters relating to commerce, and to the select committee of the
54 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to housing,

55 on the program established pursuant to this section. The report may
56 include recommendations for statutory changes.

57 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) There is established a
58 Connecticut First-Time Homebuyers Fund which shall be a separate,
59 nonlapsing account within the General Fund. Funds segregated by the
60 Commissioner of Revenue Services, pursuant to section 1 of this act,
61 shall be deposited in the account. Amounts deposited in the account
62 shall be available to the Commissioner of Economic and Community
63 Development for payments to participants in the program established
64 pursuant to section 1 of this act. The State Treasurer shall invest the
65 proceeds of the account, and investment earnings shall be credited to
66 and become part of the account. On or before September 1, 2008, and
67 annually thereafter, the State Treasurer shall notify the Commissioner
68 of Economic and Community Development of the total amount in the
69 account. Any funds segregated for a participant in the program
70 established pursuant to section 1 of this act that are not used for the
71 purchase of a first home shall be transferred to the General Fund. Any
72 costs incurred by the State Treasurer in administering the fund shall be
73 paid from investment interest accrued by the principal contributions to
74 the fund.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section

HED

Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

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