



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 144

January Session, 2009

Substitute Senate Bill No. 865

Senate, March 24, 2009

The Committee on Housing reported through SEN. GOMES of the 23rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE LONG-RANGE STATE HOUSING PLAN.

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

1 Section 1. Section 8-37t of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

3 (a) Not later than January 1, 2000, and every five years thereafter,
4 the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development
5 together with the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, shall
6 prepare a long-range state housing plan, which shall conform and be
7 subject to the plan of conservation and development for the state
8 adopted by the General Assembly. The plan shall: (1) Contain an
9 assessment of the housing needs of households with incomes less than
10 one hundred per cent of the average area median income, adjusted for
11 family size, analyzed separately for households with incomes (A) less
12 than twenty-five per cent of the area median income, (B) more than
13 twenty-five per cent but not more than fifty per cent of the area
14 median income, (C) more than fifty per cent but not more than eighty
15 per cent of the area median income, and (D) more than eighty per cent

16 but not more than one hundred per cent of the area median income; (2)
17 analyze the households served by the housing construction, substantial
18 rehabilitation, purchase and rental assistance programs, including the
19 number of households served by each program, the total amount of
20 financial assistance provided to such households and the race of
21 households served under such programs; and (3) provide information
22 on affirmative fair housing marketing activities and programs and an
23 analysis of occupancy results of affirmative fair housing marketing
24 plans and shall include data on the racial composition of the occupants
25 and persons on the waiting list of each housing project which is
26 assisted under any housing program established by the general
27 statutes or special act or which is supervised by the commissioner or
28 the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority. [; (4) set specific
29 measurable goals for meeting identified housing needs; (5) outline
30 strategies for meeting those goals; and (6) identify state, federal and
31 private sector resources for affordable housing programs] Each plan
32 shall include the provisions of the housing agency plan submitted by
33 the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development to the
34 Department of Housing and Urban Development pursuant to 42 USC
35 1437c-1. The provisions of this section shall not be construed to require
36 an occupant or applicant to disclose the race of such occupant or
37 applicant on an application or survey form. The long-range plan shall
38 be updated annually by an action plan that assesses the state's
39 progress toward meeting housing needs contained in the long-range
40 plan and recommends revised strategies, if deemed necessary. In
41 preparing the long-range plan and subsequent action plans, the
42 commissioner shall consult with representatives of those who use or
43 benefit from state housing programs.

44 (b) The Department of Economic and Community Development
45 shall submit the long-range housing plan to the General Assembly not
46 later than January 1, 2000, and each action plan not later than January
47 first of each subsequent year, after receiving public review and
48 comment on the long-range plan and each action plan through written
49 remarks and public hearings. The commencement date of each plan
50 shall be the July first following the submission of the plan.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	8-37t
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HSG *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None***Explanation***

The bill eliminates certain reporting criteria from the state's long-range housing plan, and instead includes provisions of the federal housing agency plan, which the Department of Economic and Community Development currently submits to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and has no fiscal impact.

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 865*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE LONG-RANGE STATE HOUSING PLAN.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill modifies the state's long-range housing plan, which by law the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) must prepare with the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority (CHFA) every five years and submit to the General Assembly. It does so by eliminating certain reporting criteria and instead requiring the plan to include the provisions of the federal housing agency plan (i.e., the "Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development"). This federal plan, which DECD must submit to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) at least once every five years, contains the same reporting requirements as those the bill eliminates from the state plan.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2009

LONG-RANGE HOUSING PLAN

Under current law, the plan, among other things, must:

1. set specific measurable goals for meeting identified housing needs;
2. outline strategies for meeting those goals; and
3. identify state, federal, and private sector resources for affordable housing programs.

The bill eliminates these requirements and instead requires DECD to include provisions of the report it prepares for HUD, (i.e., the Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development).

By law, unchanged by the bill, the long-range housing plan report must:

1. assess the housing needs of households with incomes less than 100% of the average area median income (AMI), adjusted for family size, analyzed separately for households with incomes (a) less than 25% of AMI; (b) more than 25%, but not more than 50% of AMI; (c) more than 50%, but not more than 80% of AMI; and (d) more than 80%, but not more than 100% of AMI;
2. analyze the households served by the housing construction, substantial rehabilitation, purchase and rental assistance programs, including the number of households served by each program, the total amount of financial assistance provided to such households, and the race of households served under such programs; and
3. provide information on affirmative fair housing marketing activities and programs and an analysis of occupancy results of affirmative fair housing marketing plans, including data on the racial composition of the occupants and people on the waiting list of each housing project assisted under any housing program established by state law or supervised by the CHFA commissioner.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Housing Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 10 Nay 0 (03/10/2009)