After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
internal references accordingly:

"Sec. 501. Subsection (a) of section 32-70 of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from
passage):

(a) Any municipality that was a distressed municipality under the
provisions of subsection (b) of section 32-9p on February 1, 1986, may,
with the approval of the Commissioner of Economic and Community
Development, designate an area of such municipality as an enterprise
zone. Any such area shall consist of one or two contiguous United
States census tracts, contiguous portions of such census tracts or a
portion of an individual census tract, as determined in accordance with
the most recent United States census and, if such area is covered by
zoning, a portion of it shall be zoned to allow commercial or industrial
activity. The census tracts within which such designated area is located
shall also meet at least one of the following criteria: (1) Twenty-five per cent or more of the persons within the individual census tracts shall have income below the poverty level, as determined by the most recent United States census, as officially updated by the appropriate state agency or institution; (2) twenty-five per cent or more of the families within the individual census tracts shall receive public assistance or welfare income, as determined by the most recent United States census, as officially updated by the appropriate state agency or institution; or (3) the unemployment rate of the individual census tracts shall be at least two hundred per cent of the state's average, as determined by the most recent United States census, as officially updated by the appropriate state agency or institution. In calculating any such percentage for one or two contiguous census tracts, contiguous portions of census tracts or a portion of an individual census tract, the commissioner shall round up to the nearest whole percentage number. If a census tract qualifies under the eligibility criteria for designation as an enterprise zone and if the commissioner determines that a census tract which is contiguous to such tract has significant job creation potential, the commissioner may include such contiguous census tract, or a portion thereof, in the enterprise zone in lieu of a second qualified census tract if such contiguous census tract meets at least one of the following reduced criteria: (A) Fifteen per cent or more of the persons within the census tract shall have income below the poverty level, as determined by the most recent United States census, as officially updated by the appropriate state agency or institution; (B) fifteen per cent or more of the families within the census tract shall receive public assistance or welfare income, as determined by the most recent United States census, as officially updated by the appropriate state agency or institution; or (C) the unemployment rate of the census tract shall be at least one hundred fifty per cent of the state's average, as determined by the most recent United States census, as officially updated by the appropriate state agency or institution. If a census tract boundary line is the center line of a street, the commissioner may include within the enterprise zone that portion of the property fronting on such street which is outside of but adjacent to
the census tract. The depth of such property so included in the enterprise zone shall be determined by the commissioner at the time of the designation of the zone. If a census tract boundary line is located along a railroad right-of-way, railroad property or natural stream of water, the commissioner may include within the enterprise zone any private properties under common ownership which are traversed by the railroad right-of-way, railroad property or natural stream of water. Any private properties so affected shall be included in the enterprise zone at the time of the designation of the zone except, in the case of an enterprise zone designated prior to October 1, 1983, the commissioner may include within the zone any such property if the municipality in which the zone is located requests the commissioner to include such property not later than sixty days after October 1, 1983. If more than twenty-five per cent of the project area of a development project under chapter 132 is located in an area eligible for designation as an enterprise zone and the project plan for such development project is approved by the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development in accordance with section 8-191, the commissioner may include the entire project area of such development project area in an enterprise zone. If more than twenty-five per cent of the project area of a municipal development project under chapter 588 is located in an area eligible for designation as an enterprise zone and the development plan for such project is approved by the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development in accordance with section 32-224, the commissioner may include the entire project area of such project in an enterprise zone. If more than fifty per cent of an approved redevelopment area under chapter 130 is located in an area eligible for designation as an enterprise zone, the commissioner may include the entire redevelopment area in an enterprise zone. The commissioner may also include in the area designated as an enterprise zone (i) any facility, as defined in section 32-9p, which is located outside of but contiguous to a census tract included in the zone, (ii) any private properties which are (I) under common ownership, (II) located outside of a census tract included in the zone and (III) contiguous to a railroad right-of-way which is the boundary of such a census tract, or (iii) any
private properties which are located outside of a census tract included in the zone, but between the zone and a railroad right-of-way, where other segments of such railroad right-of-way serve as boundaries for the zone. The commissioner may, at any time after the designation of an area as an enterprise zone, include in such zone any area contiguous to such zone which, at the time of the designation of such zone, was eligible to be included in such zone but was not so included. The commissioner may, at any time after the designation of an area as an enterprise zone, include in such zone any property which is located within one hundred fifty feet of a stream, the center line of which is the boundary of a census tract included in such zone, and which property contains an existing building or facility, having an area equal to or greater than one hundred thousand square feet, that is or was formerly used for manufacturing purposes but is underutilized or vacant at the time the property is included in such zone. If the commissioner determines that the necessary data is not available from the most recent United States census, the commissioner may use such data as the commissioner deems appropriate. The commissioner shall include in the designation of the enterprise zone in the city of Meriden the entire parcel of land bordered by Cook Avenue, Hanover Street, Perkins Street Square, and South Colony Street. The commissioner shall designate a portion of South Stratford, from Birdseye Road to the beginning of the Lordship section of town, as an additional enterprise zone."