



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 455

February Session, 2010

Substitute House Bill No. 5465

House of Representatives, April 12, 2010

The Committee on Energy and Technology reported through REP. NARDELLO of the 89th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF GREEN JOBS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2010*) Not later than October 1,
2 2010, the Labor Department, in consultation with the Green Jobs
3 Advisory Board convened pursuant to section 3 of this act, shall
4 develop a green jobs web site to disseminate information on green jobs
5 technology and industry in the state. The department shall develop a
6 list of green jobs, reevaluate and update such list at least biennially and
7 provide such list to educational institutions and the Connecticut
8 Employment and Training Commission. For purposes of this section
9 and sections 3, 8, 9 and 11 of this act, "green jobs" means jobs that (1)
10 promote clean energy, renewable energy, energy efficiency or energy
11 conservation; or (2) reduce greenhouse gases or carbon emissions.

12 Sec. 2. Section 31-2 of the general statutes is repealed and the
13 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2010*):

14 (a) The Labor Commissioner shall collect information upon the
15 subject of labor, its relation to capital, the hours of labor, the earnings
16 of laboring men and women and the means of promoting their
17 material, social, intellectual and moral prosperity, and shall have
18 power to summon and examine under oath such witnesses, and may
19 direct the production of, and examine or cause to be produced and
20 examined, such books, records, vouchers, memoranda, documents,
21 letters, contracts or other papers in relation thereto as he deems
22 necessary, and shall have the same powers in relation thereto as are
23 vested in magistrates in taking depositions, but for this purpose
24 persons shall not be required to leave the vicinity of their residences or
25 places of business. Said commissioner shall collect and collate
26 population and employment data to project who is working, who is
27 not working and who will be entering the job market and shall provide
28 an analysis of data concerning present job requirements and potential
29 needs of new industry. The commissioner shall include in his annual
30 report to the Governor, as provided in section 4-60, all the aforesaid
31 statistical details.

32 (b) The commissioner shall administer the coordination of all
33 employment and training programs in the state and shall implement
34 the plan of the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission as
35 approved by the Governor. The commissioner shall develop and
36 maintain a comprehensive inventory of all employment and training
37 programs in the state, including a listing of all funding sources for each
38 program, the characteristics of the persons served, a description of
39 each program and its results and the identification of areas of program
40 overlap and duplication.

41 (c) The commissioner shall provide staff to the Connecticut
42 Employment and Training Commission and such other resources as
43 the commissioner can make available.

44 (d) The commissioner shall, within available appropriations,
45 establish a single point of responsibility to work with the Green Jobs
46 Advisory Board convened pursuant to section 3 of this act regarding

47 green jobs.

48 [(d)] (e) The commissioner may request the Attorney General to
49 bring an action in Superior Court for injunctive relief requiring
50 compliance with any statute, regulation, order or permit administered,
51 adopted or issued by the commissioner.

52 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2010*) (a) The Labor Department shall
53 appoint and convene a Green Jobs Advisory Board, which shall
54 include, but not be limited to, the Commissioners of Economic and
55 Community Development, Higher Education and Environment and
56 representatives of the electric distribution companies, a workforce
57 development agency, an environmental group, a consumer advocacy
58 group, a low-income advocacy group, clean energy businesses, the
59 Energy Conservation Management Board and the Renewable Energy
60 Investments Board. Such representatives shall serve for a term of five
61 years. The department shall provide administrative support to the
62 board. The board shall meet on or before December 31, 2010, and at
63 least annually thereafter.

64 (b) The Green Jobs Advisory Board shall (1) provide guidance to the
65 department with regard to establishing and creating the demand for
66 green jobs and provide guidance to the Department of Higher
67 Education regarding training needs for green jobs, and (2) create
68 targets and rating criteria to set measurable goals.

69 (c) On or before January 15, 2011, and annually thereafter, the board
70 shall report to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly
71 having cognizance of matters relating to labor and energy regarding its
72 activities and the state of the industry.

73 Sec. 4. Subsection (c) of section 16-245n of the general statutes is
74 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
75 *1, 2010*):

76 (c) There is hereby created a Renewable Energy Investment Fund
77 which shall be within Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated for

78 administrative purposes only. The fund may receive any amount
79 required by law to be deposited into the fund and may receive any
80 federal funds as may become available to the state for renewable
81 energy investments. Upon authorization of the Renewable Energy
82 Investments Board established pursuant to subsection (d) of this
83 section, Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, may use any amount
84 in said fund for expenditures that promote investment in renewable
85 energy sources in accordance with a comprehensive plan developed by
86 it to foster the growth, development and commercialization of
87 renewable energy sources, related enterprises and stimulate demand
88 for renewable energy and deployment of renewable energy sources
89 that serve end use customers in this state and for the further [purpose]
90 purposes of supporting operational demonstration projects for
91 advanced technologies that reduce energy use from traditional sources
92 and for transportation projects, such as those supporting plug-in
93 hybrid vehicles. Such expenditures may include, but not be limited to,
94 reimbursement for services provided by the administrator of the fund
95 including a management fee, disbursements from the fund to develop
96 and carry out the plan developed pursuant to subsection (d) of this
97 section, grants, direct or equity investments, contracts or other actions
98 which support research, development, manufacture,
99 commercialization, workforce development, deployment and
100 installation of renewable energy technologies, and actions which
101 expand the expertise of individuals, businesses and lending
102 institutions with regard to renewable energy technologies. On and
103 after January 1, 2011, the board shall develop a system that provides
104 incentives that decline over time and will foster the sustained, orderly
105 development of a state-based industry.

106 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2010*) The Treasurer shall study the
107 potential use of state pension funds for in-state investments in green
108 manufacturing. On or before January 1, 2011, the Treasurer shall report
109 the findings of such study to the joint standing committee of the
110 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy and
111 technology and finance and revenue, in accordance with the provisions
112 of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

113 Sec. 6. Subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 16-32f of the
114 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
115 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2010*):

116 (c) (1) The Energy Conservation Management Board shall advise
117 and assist each such gas company in the development and
118 implementation of the plan submitted under subsection (b) of this
119 section. Each program contained in the plan shall be reviewed by each
120 such gas company and shall be either accepted, modified or rejected by
121 the Energy Conservation Management Board before submission of the
122 plan to the department for approval. The Energy Conservation
123 Management Board shall, as part of its review, (A) examine
124 opportunities to offer joint programs providing similar efficiency
125 measures that save more than one fuel resource or to otherwise
126 coordinate programs targeted at saving more than one fuel resource.
127 Any costs for joint programs shall be allocated equitably among the
128 conservation programs, and (B) conduct, when applicable, willingness
129 to pay focus groups to determine the lowest possible incentive to
130 induce participation in the programs described in this subsection.

131 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2010*) The Board of Trustees of the
132 Community-Technical Colleges shall require that green jobs certificate
133 and degree programs offered by each of the community-technical
134 colleges be uniformly named and contain uniform syllabi.

135 Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2010*) The Connecticut
136 Employment and Training Commission, in collaboration with the
137 Connecticut Energy Sector Partnership, shall annually solicit and
138 publicize information concerning efforts made by the institutions of
139 higher education in this state to promote the green industry, including
140 the development of new academic degree and certificate programs,
141 courses of instruction and initiatives made by such institutions to align
142 green jobs programs with employer needs.

143 Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2010*) Each regional vocational-
144 technical school and public institution of higher education shall
145 develop, in such manner as the Commissioners of Education and

146 Higher Education prescribe, agreements to share equipment required
147 for students participating in green jobs certificate or degree programs
148 or enrolled in a course of study concerning green jobs, including, but
149 not limited to, solar photovoltaic and solar thermal installation.

150 Sec. 10. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2010*) Public institutions of higher
151 education, in consultation with the regional work force development
152 boards, shall support any efforts to develop career ladders and lattices
153 in the green collar fields, particularly for those workers who gain entry
154 into such fields as a result of funds made available pursuant to the
155 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

156 Sec. 11. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2010*) The Department of Higher
157 Education, in consultation with the Department of Education, shall
158 annually prepare a list of every green jobs course and green jobs
159 certificate and degree program offered by regional vocational-technical
160 schools and public institutions of higher education and an inventory of
161 green jobs related equipment used by such schools and institutions of
162 higher education. The Department of Higher Education shall provide
163 the list prepared pursuant to this section to the state's public high
164 school guidance counselors and to the Department of Public Utility
165 Control to post on its web site developed pursuant to section 1 of this
166 act.

167 Sec. 12. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2010*) Staff of the Center for Clean
168 Energy Engineering at The University of Connecticut and the Institute
169 of Sustainable Energy at Eastern Connecticut State University shall
170 meet at least quarterly with staff of other public institutions of higher
171 education and centers affiliated with such institutions of higher
172 education that focus on clean or sustainable energy and that are
173 located within the same geographic regions to discuss possible ways to
174 collaborate on green initiatives. Such staff shall develop
175 recommendations for modifying programs related to green initiatives
176 and establishing plans for matriculation.

177 Sec. 13. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2010*) On or before October 1, 2010,
178 and biennially thereafter, the Department of Public Utility Control

179 shall review the current renewable energy portfolio standards to
180 determine what percentage of power is being purchased from
181 renewable sources. Such review shall include an examination of
182 current Class I, II and III renewable energy sources, as defined in
183 section 16-1 of the general statutes, and how, if at all, such classes
184 should be altered or subsidized. The department shall report the
185 results of such review, including any recommendations for changes, to
186 the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
187 cognizance of matters relating to energy.

188 Sec. 14. Section 32-9n of the general statutes is repealed and the
189 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2010*):

190 (a) There is established within the Department of Economic and
191 Community Development an Office of Small Business Affairs. Such
192 office shall aid and encourage small business enterprises, particularly
193 those owned and operated by minorities and other socially or
194 economically disadvantaged individuals in Connecticut. As used in
195 this section, minority means: (1) Black Americans, including all
196 persons having origins in any of the Black African racial groups not of
197 Hispanic origin; (2) Hispanic Americans, including all persons of
198 Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other
199 Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race; (3) all persons having
200 origins in the Iberian Peninsula, including Portugal, regardless of race;
201 (4) women; (5) Asian Pacific Americans and Pacific islanders; or (6)
202 American Indians and persons having origins in any of the original
203 peoples of North America and maintaining identifiable tribal
204 affiliations through membership and participation or community
205 identification.

206 (b) Said Office of Small Business Affairs shall: (1) Administer the
207 small business development center program run by the Department of
208 Economic and Community Development; (2) coordinate the flow of
209 information within the technical and management assistance program
210 run by the Department of Economic and Community Development; (3)
211 encourage the Connecticut Development Authority to grant loans to

212 small businesses, particularly those owned and operated by minorities
213 and other socially or economically disadvantaged individuals; (4)
214 coordinate and serve as a liaison between all federal, state, regional
215 and municipal agencies and programs affecting small business affairs;
216 (5) in consultation with The University of Connecticut School of Law,
217 provide technical assistance to individuals and small businesses to
218 protect intellectual property through patents and other mechanisms;
219 and [(5)] (6) administer any business management training program
220 established under section 32-352 or section 32-355 as the Commissioner
221 of Economic and Community Development may determine.

222 Sec. 15. Section 14-1 of the 2010 supplement to the general statutes is
223 amended by adding subdivision (103) as follows (*Effective October 1,*
224 *2010*):

225 (NEW) (103) "Neighborhood electric vehicle" means a four-wheel,
226 self-propelled, electrically-powered motor vehicle designed for
227 conveyance of passengers, that has an attainable speed of not less than
228 twenty miles per hour and not more than twenty-five miles per hour
229 on a paved, level surface and that conforms with standards adopted
230 for low speed vehicles by the National Highway Traffic Safety
231 Administration, in accordance with 49 CFR 571.500, as amended from
232 time to time.

233 Sec. 16. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2010*) (a) The Commissioner of
234 Motor Vehicles may, on application in accordance with the provisions
235 of section 14-12 of the general statutes and subject to the financial
236 responsibility provisions of section 14-112 of the general statutes, issue
237 a certificate of registration and marker plates to the owner or lessee of
238 a neighborhood electric vehicle, as defined in section 14-1 of the
239 general statutes, as amended by this act. The applicant shall pay the fee
240 required under subsection (f) of section 14-49 of the general statutes.
241 Such owner or lessee shall carry such registration and proof of
242 financial responsibility in the vehicle and display marker plates as
243 required by section 14-18 of the general statutes, provided such vehicle
244 is operated on a public road. The commissioner shall issue a certificate

245 of title, pursuant to the provisions of chapter 247 of the general
246 statutes, for each vehicle that has been issued a manufacturer's or
247 importer's certificate of origin and vehicle identification number.

248 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, no individual
249 may operate a neighborhood electric vehicle unless (1) the individual
250 carries a valid motor vehicle operator's license or learner's permit, (2) a
251 certificate of registration and automobile insurance identification card
252 for the vehicle are carried in the motor vehicle and marker plates are
253 displayed in accordance with the provisions of section 14-18 of the
254 general statutes, issued pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, and
255 (3) such vehicle is equipped in accordance with the requirements of
256 sections 14-80 to 14-106c, inclusive, of the general statutes, except
257 insofar as any requirement of said sections is inapplicable to or
258 inconsistent with the design and equipment standards for low speed
259 vehicles, as adopted by the National Highway Traffic Safety
260 Administration in accordance with 49 CFR 571.500, as amended from
261 time to time.

262 (c) No individual may operate a neighborhood electric vehicle
263 unless (1) such individual owns, leases or has a contractual right to use
264 such vehicle and such individual operates such vehicle on premises
265 over which such individual or such individual's employer has control
266 or a possessory interest, or on which such individual or such
267 individual's employer has a contractual right to operate such vehicle,
268 or (2) such vehicle is operated by such individual across, by the
269 shortest practicable route, a highway with an established speed limit of
270 no more than thirty miles per hour that is on, or contiguous to, the
271 premises of such employer identified in subdivision (1) of this
272 subsection, provided such employer is a college or university, except
273 that the traffic authority of any municipality may limit or prohibit the
274 operation of neighborhood electric vehicles on any highway under the
275 jurisdiction of such traffic authority.

276 Sec. 17. Subsection (a) of section 8-2 of the general statutes is
277 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*

278 1, 2010):

279 (a) The zoning commission of each city, town or borough is
280 authorized to regulate, within the limits of such municipality, the
281 height, number of stories and size of buildings and other structures;
282 the percentage of the area of the lot that may be occupied; the size of
283 yards, courts and other open spaces; the density of population and the
284 location and use of buildings, structures and land for trade, industry,
285 residence or other purposes, including water-dependent uses as
286 defined in section 22a-93, and the height, size and location of
287 advertising signs and billboards. Such bulk regulations may allow for
288 cluster development as defined in section 8-18. Such zoning
289 commission may divide the municipality into districts of such number,
290 shape and area as may be best suited to carry out the purposes of this
291 chapter; and, within such districts, it may regulate the erection,
292 construction, reconstruction, alteration or use of buildings or
293 structures and the use of land. All such regulations shall be uniform
294 for each class or kind of buildings, structures or use of land throughout
295 each district, but the regulations in one district may differ from those
296 in another district, and may provide that certain classes or kinds of
297 buildings, structures or uses of land are permitted only after obtaining
298 a special permit or special exception from a zoning commission,
299 planning commission, combined planning and zoning commission or
300 zoning board of appeals, whichever commission or board the
301 regulations may, notwithstanding any special act to the contrary,
302 designate, subject to standards set forth in the regulations and to
303 conditions necessary to protect the public health, safety, convenience
304 and property values. Such regulations shall be made in accordance
305 with a comprehensive plan and in adopting such regulations the
306 commission shall consider the plan of conservation and development
307 prepared under section 8-23. Such regulations shall be designed to
308 lessen congestion in the streets; to secure safety from fire, panic, flood
309 and other dangers; to promote health and the general welfare; to
310 provide adequate light and air; to prevent the overcrowding of land; to
311 avoid undue concentration of population and to facilitate the adequate
312 provision for transportation, water, sewerage, schools, parks and other

313 public requirements. Such regulations shall be made with reasonable
314 consideration as to the character of the district and its peculiar
315 suitability for particular uses and with a view to conserving the value
316 of buildings and encouraging the most appropriate use of land
317 throughout such municipality. Such regulations may, to the extent
318 consistent with soil types, terrain, infrastructure capacity and the plan
319 of conservation and development for the community, provide for
320 cluster development, as defined in section 8-18, in residential zones.
321 Such regulations shall also encourage the development of housing
322 opportunities, including opportunities for multifamily dwellings,
323 consistent with soil types, terrain and infrastructure capacity, for all
324 residents of the municipality and the planning region in which the
325 municipality is located, as designated by the Secretary of the Office of
326 Policy and Management under section 16a-4a. Such regulations shall
327 also promote housing choice and economic diversity in housing,
328 including housing for both low and moderate income households, and
329 shall encourage the development of housing which will meet the
330 housing needs identified in the housing plan prepared pursuant to
331 section 8-37t and in the housing component and the other components
332 of the state plan of conservation and development prepared pursuant
333 to section 16a-26. Zoning regulations shall be made with reasonable
334 consideration for their impact on agriculture. Zoning regulations may
335 be made with reasonable consideration for the protection of historic
336 factors and shall be made with reasonable consideration for the
337 protection of existing and potential public surface and ground
338 drinking water supplies. On and after July 1, 1985, the regulations shall
339 provide that proper provision be made for soil erosion and sediment
340 control pursuant to section 22a-329. Such regulations may also
341 encourage energy-efficient patterns of development, the use of solar
342 and other renewable forms of energy, and energy conservation. The
343 regulations may also provide for incentives for developers who use
344 passive solar energy techniques, as defined in subsection (b) of section
345 8-25, in planning a residential subdivision development. The
346 incentives may include, but not be limited to, cluster development,
347 higher density development and performance standards for roads,

348 sidewalks and underground facilities in the subdivision. Such
349 regulations may provide for a municipal system for the creation of
350 development rights and the permanent transfer of such development
351 rights, which may include a system for the variance of density limits in
352 connection with any such transfer. Such regulations may also provide
353 for notice requirements in addition to those required by this chapter.
354 Such regulations may provide for conditions on operations to collect
355 spring water or well water, as defined in section 21a-150, including the
356 time, place and manner of such operations. No such regulations shall
357 prohibit the operation of any family day care home or group day care
358 home in a residential zone. Such regulations shall not impose
359 conditions and requirements on manufactured homes having as their
360 narrowest dimension twenty-two feet or more and built in accordance
361 with federal manufactured home construction and safety standards or
362 on lots containing such manufactured homes which are substantially
363 different from conditions and requirements imposed on single-family
364 dwellings and lots containing single-family dwellings. Such
365 regulations shall not impose conditions and requirements on
366 developments to be occupied by manufactured homes having as their
367 narrowest dimension twenty-two feet or more and built in accordance
368 with federal manufactured home construction and safety standards
369 which are substantially different from conditions and requirements
370 imposed on multifamily dwellings, lots containing multifamily
371 dwellings, cluster developments or planned unit developments. Such
372 regulations shall not prohibit the continuance of any nonconforming
373 use, building or structure existing at the time of the adoption of such
374 regulations. Such regulations shall not provide for the termination of
375 any nonconforming use solely as a result of nonuse for a specified
376 period of time without regard to the intent of the property owner to
377 maintain that use. Such regulations shall give consideration to any
378 barriers to green manufacturing. Any city, town or borough which
379 adopts the provisions of this chapter may, by vote of its legislative
380 body, exempt municipal property from the regulations prescribed by
381 the zoning commission of such city, town or borough; but unless it is
382 so voted municipal property shall be subject to such regulations.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	31-2
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	16-245n(c)
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	16-32f(c)(1)
Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 9	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 10	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 11	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 12	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 13	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 14	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	32-9n
Sec. 15	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	14-1
Sec. 16	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 17	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	8-2(a)

ET *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:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 11 \$	FY 12 \$
Labor Dept.	GF - Cost	32,263	43,017
Treasurer	GF - Cost	150,000	None
Department of Economic & Community Development	GF - Cost	Minimal	Minimal
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below
Comptroller Misc. Accounts (Fringe Benefits) ¹	GF - Cost	6,988	28,610

Note: GF=General Fund; TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 11 \$	FY 12 \$
All Municipalities	Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below

Explanation

The bill establishes various initiatives to promote green jobs, resulting in the following fiscal impacts:

Sections 1-3 require the Department of Labor (DOL) to create a green jobs website, establish a Green Jobs Advisory Board, and appoint an individual to provide administrative and support functions for the Board. This results in a cost of approximately \$19,907 (\$16,363 for salary and \$3,544 for fringe) in FY 11 and \$36,327 (\$21,817 for salary and \$14,510 for fringe) in FY 12 associated with a part-time Associate

¹ The estimated non-pension fringe benefit rate as a percentage of payroll is 26.66% which includes health insurance, social security, Medicare, life insurance, and unemployment compensation. Fringe benefit costs for new positions do not include pension costs as new positions will not impact the state's pension contribution until FY 12 after the next scheduled actuarial valuation.

Research Analyst and a cost of \$19,344 (\$15,900 for salary and \$3,444 for fringe) in FY 11 and \$35,300 (\$21,200 for salary and \$14,100 for fringe) in FY 12 associated with an IT Analyst to carry out the various tasks required of DOL in the bill.

Section 5 results in a one-time cost of \$150,000 to the Office of the State Treasurer to hire a consultant to study the potential use of state pension funds for in-state investments in green manufacturing.

Section 13 requires the Department of Public Utility Control to biennially review the current renewable portfolio standard. There is no anticipated impact associated with this provision.

The bill also expands projects that can be funded by the Clean Energy Fund (CEF).² The fund currently provides grants for various clean energy incentives. The bill does not change the current funding level for CEF.

Section 14 requires the Office of Small Business Affairs, within the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), to provide technical assistance to individuals and small businesses to protect intellectual property through patents and other mechanisms. DECD will incur minimal costs for a consultant to compile resources and develop a guide which provides technical assistance as required by the bill.

Sections 15 and 16 result in a revenue gain to the Transportation Fund from the various Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) fees applicable to registering neighborhood electric vehicles. The magnitude cannot be determined at this time since it is unknown how such vehicles will be operated on public roads.

The DMV will not experience any fiscal impact to implement and

² The CEF is funded through a surcharge on rate payer electric company bills and from federal American Recovery Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds. The balance totaled \$66.11 million as of December 31, 2009, yet commitments of \$77.29 million exceed the current CEF balance, and will be paid from future deposits to the CEF.

process the registration of neighborhood electric vehicles.

There is a grand list expansion and revenue gain to municipalities from neighborhood electric vehicles but the amount cannot be determined as it is unknown how many neighborhood electric vehicles would be registered in order to be operated on public roads. Neighborhood electric vehicles would be subject to personal property taxation just as passenger cars currently are.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation, with the exception of the cost to the Office of the State Treasurer, which is a one-time cost.

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5465*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF GREEN JOBS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill contains initiatives to promote “green jobs.” It defines these as jobs that (1) promote clean or renewable energy, energy efficiency, or energy conservation or (2) reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The bill requires the Department of Labor (DOL) to establish a (1) Green Jobs Advisory Board and (2) single point of responsibility to work with the board on green jobs. DOL must do the latter within available funds. The bill assigns various other responsibilities to DOL with regard to green jobs. It has a variety of provisions on training and education for green jobs.

The bill requires the Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC), by October 1, 2010 and every two years thereafter, to review the current renewable portfolio standard to determine what percentage of power is being purchased from renewable sources. The standard requires electric companies and competitive suppliers to get part of their power from three classes of renewable resources. The bill requires the review to examine the three classes, and how, if at all, the classes should be altered or subsidized. DPUC must report the review’s results, including any recommendations for changes, to the Energy and Technology Committee.

The bill allows the Clean Energy Fund to fund (1) transportation projects, such as supporting plug-in hybrid vehicles and (2) workforce development. Starting January 1, 2011, it requires the fund’s board to develop incentives that decline over time and promote sustained development of the renewables industry.

The bill also requires:

1. the state treasurer to study the potential use of state pension funds for in-state investments in green manufacturing and report her findings to the Finance, Revenue and Bonding and Energy and Technology committees by January 1, 2011;
2. the Energy Conservation Management Board to conduct focus groups to determine the lowest incentives needed to get people to participate in efficiency programs;
3. that zoning regulations consider barriers to green manufacturing; and
4. the Office of Small Business Affairs in the Department of Economic and Community Development, in consultation with UConn Law School, to provide technical assistance to individuals and small businesses on patents and other tools for protecting intellectual property.

The bill authorizes the operation of a “neighborhood electric vehicle” under specified circumstances. A municipality’s legal traffic authority may, however, limit or prohibit their operation on any highway under its jurisdiction. Neighborhood electric vehicles must meet standards established for low-speed vehicles by federal regulation as well as various state requirements for mandatory equipment.

In addition, the bill (1) authorizes the motor vehicle commissioner to issue registrations and plates for these vehicles, (2) requires him to issue certificates of title for them, (3) subjects owners and lessees to mandatory financial responsibility (insurance) requirements, and (4) requires the driver to have a valid driver’s license or learner’s permit.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2010 for the definition of green jobs and the provisions on the advisory board, the Clean Energy Fund, the treasurer’s study, the Energy Conservation Management Board, the protection of intellectual property, the DPUC review, and zoning regulations; October 1, 2010 for the remaining provisions.

DOL RESPONSIBILITIES REGARDING GREEN JOBS

The bill requires DOL to appoint and convene a Green Jobs Advisory Board. The board must at least include (1) the Economic and Community Development, Higher Education (DHE), and Environmental Protection commissioners and (2) representatives of the electric companies, a workforce development agency, an environmental group, a consumer advocacy group, a low-income advocacy group, clean energy businesses, the Energy Conservation Management Board, and the Renewable Energy Investments Board. The representatives must serve a five-year term. DOL must provide administrative support to the board. The board must meet by December 31, 2010 and at least annually thereafter.

The board must provide guidance to (1) DOL on establishing and creating the demand for green jobs and (2) DHE on training needs for green jobs. The board must create targets and rating criteria to set measurable goals.

By January 15 annually, the board must report to the Labor and Energy and Technology committees on activities and the state of the industry.

The bill also requires DOL to (1) establish, in consultation with the Green Jobs Advisory Board, a green jobs website by October 1, 2010 and (2) develop a list of green jobs, which must be updated at least every two years and provided to educational institutions and the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION FOR GREEN JOBS

The bill requires the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission, in consultation with Connecticut Energy Sector Partnership, annually to solicit and publicize efforts by college and universities in the state to promote the green industry. These efforts include the development of new degree and certificate programs, instructional courses, and initiatives to align green jobs programs with employer needs.

The bill requires vocational-technical high schools and public colleges and universities to agree to share equipment for students participating in green job certificate and degree programs, such as those dealing with solar photovoltaic and thermal installation. The equipment sharing agreements must be made as the Education and DHE commissioners prescribe.

The bill requires DHE, in consultation with the Department of Education, to annually prepare (1) a list of green jobs courses and degree and certificate programs offered by public sector educational institutions and vocational-technical schools and (2) an inventory of related equipment they use. DHE must provide the list to high school counselors and DPUC, which must post it on its website.

The bill also requires:

1. the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges system to develop uniform names and syllabi for green jobs degree and certificate programs;
2. public colleges and universities, in consultation with the regional workforce development boards, to support efforts to develop mechanisms for people to move up and around within green industries (i.e., career ladders and lattices); and
3. staff at the UConn Center for Clean Energy Engineering and the Eastern Connecticut State University Institute of Sustainable Energy to meet at least quarterly with other educational staff to identify ways to collaborate on green initiatives.

NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Definition

The bill defines a “neighborhood electric vehicle” as a four-wheeled, self-propelled, electrically powered motor vehicle designed for carrying passengers that can go 20 to 25 miles per hour on a paved level surface. The vehicles must meet federal standards established for low-speed vehicles under the National Highway Traffic Safety

Administration regulations (see BACKGROUND).

Registration

The bill authorizes the motor vehicle commissioner to issue a certificate of registration and license plates to the owner or lessee of a neighborhood electric vehicle who applies for registration and meets the financial responsibility (insurance) requirements of state law. Registration is required only if the vehicle will be used on public roads. The bill requires a registration applicant to pay a fee of \$18.

Operation

To operate a neighborhood electric vehicle, the bill requires the driver to own, lease, or have a contractual right to use it. The driver must operate it (1) on premises over which the driver or his or her employer has control or possessory interest, or on which either has a contractual right to operate it or (2) to cross, by the shortest practicable route, a highway with an established speed limit of up to 30 miles per hour that is on, or contiguous to, such premises. This latter authority may be exercised only by a person employed by a college or university.

Requirements to Operate

The bill prohibits someone from operating a neighborhood electric vehicle unless (1) he or she has a valid driver's license or learner's permit, (2) a registration certificate and automobile insurance card are carried on the vehicle and license plates are properly displayed, and (3) the vehicle is equipped according to various state requirements except insofar as the requirements do not apply to or are inconsistent with the federal design and equipment standards for low-speed vehicles.

Applicable State Laws

The bill requires neighborhood electric vehicles to comply with the equipment requirements of CGS § 14-80 through 14-106c, to the extent they are consistent with federal low-speed vehicle standards. These laws cover, among other things, exhaust systems; ball joints and tie rod

ends; brakes; hydraulic brake fluid; head and tail lamps; reflectors; stop lamps; light colors; sufficiency of head and rear lights; auxiliary lights; turn signals; fender, backup, and identification lamps; light intensity; tires; mirrors; windshields; tinted windows; use of safety glass; seat belts; fenders; video displays; air conditioning equipment; and tamper-resistant odometers.

Certificate of Title and Related Requirements

The commissioner must issue certificates of title for neighborhood electric vehicles that have been issued a manufacturer's or importer's certificate of origin and a vehicle identification number. The bill also subjects these vehicles to the other statutory requirements for titled motor vehicles, including various fees such as the \$25 title application fee and the fees for noting and filing a security interest and searching title records.

BACKGROUND

Federal Standards for Low Speed Vehicles

Federal regulations require low speed vehicles to have:

1. headlamps,
2. front and rear turn signal lamps,
3. tail lamps,
4. stop lamps,
5. one red reflector on each side as far to the rear as practicable and one on the rear,
6. an exterior mirror on the driver's side and either an exterior mirror on the passenger's side or an internal mirror,
7. a parking brake,
8. a windshield meeting federal glazing standards,
9. a vehicle identification number meeting federal requirements,

and

10. seat belt assemblies meeting federal standards at each designated seating position. Also, the maximum speed the vehicle may attain in one mile following specific test procedures and conditions cannot be more than 25 miles per hour.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Energy and Technology Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 21 Nay 0 (03/24/2010)