



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 1171

January Session, 2011

* _____SB01171GAE___051711_____*

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A HIGHER EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY
TRANSFER POLICY BOARD.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established the
2 Higher Education Technology Transfer Policy Board within
3 Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated.

4 (b) (1) (A) There shall be thirteen voting members of the board,
5 which shall be appointed as follows:

6 (i) Six members shall be appointed by the Commissioner of Higher
7 Education, three of whom shall be faculty or staff members of the
8 office of Technology Commercialization at The University of
9 Connecticut and three of whom shall be faculty or staff members from
10 a private university or college in the state with a major research facility
11 and who are involved in such university's or college's technology
12 transfer office;

13 (ii) One member shall be appointed by the Governor;

14 (iii) One member shall be appointed by the president pro tempore of
15 the Senate;

16 (iv) One member shall be appointed by the majority leader of the
17 House of Representatives;

18 (v) One member shall be appointed by the majority leader of the
19 Senate;

20 (vi) One member shall be appointed by the minority leader of the
21 House of Representatives; and

22 (vii) One member shall be appointed by the minority leader of the
23 Senate.

24 (B) Each gubernatorial or legislative appointment to the board shall
25 be a representative of a technology firm that is part of an economic
26 cluster within the state.

27 (2) The ex-officio nonvoting members shall consist of the following
28 members, or their designees: The Commissioners of Higher Education
29 and Economic and Community Development and the chairperson of
30 the board of directors of Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated.

31 (3) The appointed members shall serve for a term of four years. The
32 members of the board shall serve without compensation but shall,
33 within the limits of available funds, be reimbursed for expenses
34 necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties.

35 (4) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development
36 shall be the chairperson of the board. The board may create other
37 positions it deems necessary and may fill such positions from among
38 its members. Five members of the board shall constitute a quorum for
39 the transaction of any business or exercise of any power of the board.
40 For the transaction of any business or exercise of any power of the
41 board, the board may act by a majority of the voting members present
42 at any meeting at which a quorum is in attendance. The board may
43 solicit and receive funds from any public or private sources to carry
44 out its activities.

45 (c) The Higher Education Technology Transfer Policy Board shall:

46 (1) Develop and implement a plan to review the status of the state
47 economy and determine (A) which business or technology sectors

48 would be the most beneficial for the promotion of long-term job
49 creation and economic growth, and (B) whether The University of
50 Connecticut or any private college or university with a major research
51 facility having representation on the board has adequate faculty and
52 research programs to support industry needs for research, technology
53 and graduates for the business or technology sectors;

54 (2) Develop a method to periodically review the impact and
55 programmatic needs of The University of Connecticut and any private
56 college or university with a major research facility having
57 representation on the board, and utilize such method to make
58 recommendations to said universities or colleges for ways to improve
59 such programs that support technology transfer and economic
60 development;

61 (3) Develop and implement a plan for such universities or colleges
62 to negotiate research collaborations with businesses and industries in
63 the state for development of technology by such universities or
64 colleges in conjunction with such businesses and industries; and

65 (4) Develop and implement a plan to provide The University of
66 Connecticut and any private college or university with a major
67 research facility with support for any negotiation pursuant to
68 subdivision (3) of this subsection.

69 (d) The board may request other state agencies, including, but not
70 limited to, the Departments of Higher Education and Economic and
71 Community Development and Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated,
72 to provide information, reports and other assistance in carrying out its
73 duties.

74 (e) On or before January 1, 2012, and every five years thereafter, the
75 chairperson of the board shall submit a report, in accordance with the
76 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the Governor and
77 the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
78 cognizance of matters relating to commerce. Such report shall indicate:
79 (1) Which business or technology sectors would be the most beneficial

80 for the promotion of long-term job creation and economic growth and
81 whether there is adequate faculty at universities or colleges in this state
82 to prepare students for jobs in such sectors, (2) the success of
83 technology transfer programs at The University of Connecticut or any
84 private university or college with a major research facility with
85 representation on the board, (3) the success of such universities or
86 colleges in negotiating and implementing research collaborations, and
87 (4) any support the board has provided such universities or colleges in
88 negotiations for research collaboration. The board shall also make
89 recommendations for legislative action needed to assist the board in
90 achieving its directive.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

CE *Joint Favorable Subst.*

HED *Joint Favorable*

GAE *Joint Favorable*