



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

**Raised Bill No. 1174**

LCO No. 3431

\*03431\_\_\_\_\_CE\_\*

Referred to Committee on Commerce

Introduced by:

(CE)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE  
CONNECTICUT INNOVATIONS FACTORY 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 Connecticut Innovations Factory Board, within the Department of  
3 Economic and Community Development. The board shall consist of  
4 thirteen members, of which ten are voting members and three are ex-  
5 officio nonvoting members.

6 (b) (1) The voting members of the board shall be appointed as  
7 follows: (A) Four appointed by the Governor, (i) one of whom shall be  
8 a faculty or staff member of The University of Connecticut, (ii) two of  
9 whom shall be faculty or staff members of the Connecticut State  
10 University System, and (iii) one of whom represents a business in the  
11 state that develops new technologies; (B) one appointed by the speaker  
12 of the House of Representatives who shall be a member of a law  
13 faculty of an accredited law school in the state; (C) one appointed by  
14 the president pro tempore of the Senate who represents a business in  
15 the state that develops new technologies; (D) one appointed by the  
16 majority leader of the House of Representatives who shall be a faculty

17 or staff member of the school of business administration at The  
18 University of Connecticut; (E) one appointed by the majority leader of  
19 the Senate who represents a business in the state that develops new  
20 technologies; (F) one appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
21 Representatives who shall represent venture capital firms; and (G) one  
22 appointed by the minority leader of the Senate who represents a  
23 business in the state that develops new technologies.

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

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

32 (4) The Governor shall appoint the chairperson of the board from  
33 among its voting members. The board may create other positions it  
34 deems necessary and may fill such positions from among its members.  
35 The powers of the board shall be vested in and exercised by not less  
36 than five members of the board. Five members of the board shall  
37 constitute a quorum. The board may solicit and receive funds from any  
38 public or private sources to carry out its activities.

39 (c) The Connecticut Innovations Factory Board shall:

40 (1) Develop and implement a plan to use student teams from The  
41 University of Connecticut, the Connecticut State University System  
42 and any accredited law school in the state to review technology patents  
43 held by corporations and develop new methods to commercialize such  
44 patents;

45 (2) Develop and implement a mentoring system for such student  
46 teams consisting of a mentor or mentors from faculty or staff members

47 from The University of Connecticut, the Connecticut State University  
48 System and any accredited law school in the state, individuals  
49 employed by a business in the state that develops new technologies,  
50 and individuals employed by venture capital firms;

51 (3) Work with businesses in the state that develop new technologies  
52 to identify the highest commercial opportunities in the patents held  
53 but not commercialized by such businesses; and

54 (4) Work with student teams to develop new technology-based  
55 businesses in the state.

56 (d) The board may request other state agencies, including, but not  
57 limited to, the Departments of Higher Education, Economic and  
58 Community Development and Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated  
59 to provide information, reports and other assistance in carrying out its  
60 duties.

61 (e) On or before January 1, 2012, and annually thereafter, the  
62 chairperson of the board shall submit a report, in accordance with the  
63 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the Governor and  
64 the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having  
65 cognizance of matters relating to commerce. Such report shall indicate  
66 any progress made by the board in identifying and developing new  
67 technologies with high commercial opportunities, any progress or  
68 changes made to the mentoring system of such student teams, any  
69 progress in the development by the student teams of new technology-  
70 based businesses in the state, and recommendations for legislative  
71 action needed to assist the board in achieving its directive.

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

**Statement of Purpose:**

To establish the Connecticut Innovations Factory Board to develop and implement plans to use mentored student teams to develop and commercialize technologies patented but unused by state businesses.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*