



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 301**

January Session, 2013

House Bill No. 6529

*House of Representatives, April 2, 2013*

The Committee on Commerce reported through REP. PERONE of the 137th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT INTEGRATING MUNICIPALITIES INTO THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ELECTRONIC BUSINESS PORTAL.***

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

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2013*) Any electronic business  
2 portal established by the Department of Economic and Community  
3 Development shall include, but not be limited to, (1) specific branding  
4 to reflect a state-wide branding program developed at the direction of  
5 the office of the Governor, (2) alignment with the Connecticut  
6 Economic Resource Center's online business assistance technology  
7 platform, and (3) functionality that allows municipalities to promote  
8 local resources on such portal, provided each municipality shall be  
9 responsible for providing and maintaining its content on such portal.

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

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2013</i>	New section
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**CE**      *Joint Favorable*

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.

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### **OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

### **Explanation**

The bill is anticipated to have no fiscal impact by specifying that an electronic business portal established by the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) shall include certain features.

PA 11-1 of the October Special Session authorized \$1 million in General Obligation bonds to:

1. establish an electronic business portal,
2. brand the portal to reflect a statewide branding program developed at the governor's office's direction,
3. help enhance state and quasi-public agency websites linked to the portal, and
4. align the Connecticut Economic Resource Center's online business assistance technology platform to its portal.

The Act requires similar features as the underlying bill. In addition, the bill requires that the portal allow municipalities to promote local businesses. It is anticipated that DECD can accommodate all requirements of the bill within the \$1 million authorization.

The Department is currently negotiating a contract with a third party vendor to build and operate an e-portal and estimates that the portal will be available six to eight months after the contract is

finalized.

***The Out Years***

***State Impact:*** None

***Municipal Impact:*** None

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**OLR Bill Analysis****HB 6529*****AN ACT INTEGRATING MUNICIPALITIES INTO THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ELECTRONIC BUSINESS PORTAL.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill specifies the features the Department of Economic and Community Development must include in any electronic business portal it establishes. At a minimum, the portal must:

1. include specific branding that mirrors a statewide branding program directed by the governor's office,
2. be aligned with the nonprofit Connecticut Economic Resource Center's online business assistance information programs, and
3. allow municipalities to promote local resources.

Each municipality must provide and maintain its content for the portal.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2013

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Commerce Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 19 Nay 0 (03/14/2013)