



General Assembly

January Session, 2013

**Committee Bill No. 619**

LCO No. 4455



Referred to Committee on COMMERCE

Introduced by:  
(CE)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE COMMISSION ON CONNECTICUT'S  
FUTURE.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 32-245 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

3 (a) There is created a [Connecticut Commission on Business  
4 Opportunity, Defense Diversification and Industrial Policy which]  
5 Commission on Connecticut's Future that shall be within the  
6 Department of Economic and Community Development for  
7 administrative purposes only.

8 (b) The commission shall consist of the following members: The  
9 Commissioners of Economic and Community Development, Education  
10 and Higher Education and the Labor Commissioner or their designees;  
11 the chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing committee  
12 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
13 commerce, [and exportation,] or their designees; the president of the  
14 Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering, or his designee; the  
15 president of the Connecticut Business and Industries Association or his

16 designee; the president of the Connecticut AFL-CIO or his designee;  
17 one member representing a large manufacturing concern and one  
18 member representing a financial institution, appointed by the  
19 president pro tempore of the Senate; one member representing a large  
20 business that is heavily dependent on prime defense contracts or  
21 subcontracts and one member representing a small business that is  
22 heavily dependent on prime defense contracts or subcontracts  
23 appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives; one  
24 member representing a small manufacturing concern appointed by the  
25 majority leader of the Senate; one member representing a large service-  
26 related business appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
27 Representatives; one member representing a small service-related  
28 business appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; and one  
29 member representing an educational institution appointed by the  
30 minority leader of the House of Representatives. The members who  
31 are not serving ex-officio shall serve for a term of two years,  
32 commencing July 1, 1990, and biennially thereafter, and until their  
33 successors have been duly qualified. The Governor shall appoint a  
34 chairperson for the commission from its membership. The chairperson  
35 shall call a meeting of the commission not later than October 1, 2013,  
36 and at such other times as the chairperson deems necessary.

37 (c) The commission shall [develop a plan for] prepare a report  
38 concerning the economic renewal of Connecticut [. The plan] that shall  
39 include strategies for (1) the restoration and growth of manufacturing  
40 in the state, with the objective of ending the loss of manufacturing jobs  
41 and causing an increase in such jobs within five years following  
42 [development of the plan] preparation of the report; (2) the retention  
43 and expansion of the state's economic base industries; (3) the  
44 coordination of economic development policy with capital investment  
45 in both public and private sectors; [and (4) the need for regional  
46 approaches to economic development in the state] (4) the alignment of  
47 the state's educational institutions with its manufacturing base; and (5)  
48 the diversification or conversion of defense-related industries. On or  
49 before December 1, 2014, the commission shall submit such report to

50 the Governor and, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a,  
51 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having  
52 cognizance of matters relating to commerce.

53 (d) In addition to the [development of a plan] preparation of a  
54 report for economic renewal as required under subsection (c) of this  
55 section, the commission shall: (1) Advise the General Assembly and  
56 the Department of Economic and Community Development on issues  
57 relating to (A) the diversification or conversion of defense-related  
58 industries, (B) planning for and development of the state's  
59 manufacturing base; (C) creation and implementation of an industrial  
60 policy for the state; and (D) the creation of a business climate in the  
61 state conducive to long-term planning and capital investment; (2)  
62 evaluate legislation which concerns the state's economy and the overall  
63 competitiveness thereof, the manufacturing and industrial sectors of  
64 the state's economy and businesses that are heavily dependent on  
65 prime defense contracts or subcontracts; (3) prepare and review the  
66 implementation of short-term and long-term strategies to assist  
67 businesses that are heavily dependent on prime defense contracts or  
68 subcontracts in modifying defense industry technology production  
69 capacity into nondefense related applications; (4) provide a forum to  
70 address and communicate business issues, including small business  
71 issues, to the public and private sectors; (5) foster opportunities for the  
72 development of partnerships between government and private  
73 enterprise in areas that significantly affect the state's economy; and (6)  
74 stimulate and review public and private assistance and initiatives to  
75 improve the competitiveness of Connecticut's economy.

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|---|--------------|--------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: |              |        |
| Section 1   | July 1, 2013 | 32-245 |

**Statement of Purpose:**

To update the Commission on Connecticut's Future and require the commission to meet by October 1, 2013, and produce a report by December 1, 2014.

*[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.]*

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