



General Assembly

January Session, 2013

Raised Bill No. 1077

LCO No. 3903



Referred to Committee on COMMERCE

Introduced by:
(CE)

AN ACT CONCERNING AN ENTREPRENEUR IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2013*) As used in sections 1 to 3,
2 inclusive, of this act:

3 (1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Economic and
4 Community Development, or the commissioner's designee;

5 (2) "Department" means the Department of Economic and
6 Community Development;

7 (3) "Entrepreneur in residence" means any individual appointed by
8 the commissioner pursuant to section 2 of this act; and

9 (4) "State agency" means any state department, office or other
10 executive branch agency of the state.

11 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2013*) (a) The Commissioner of
12 Economic and Community Development shall develop and administer

13 an entrepreneur in residence pilot program, under which the
14 commissioner shall appoint individuals as entrepreneurs in residence
15 to serve as full-time employees of state agencies in order to (1) provide
16 for outreach by the state to the private sector, (2) strengthen
17 coordination between the state and the private sector on issues
18 relevant to entrepreneurs and small businesses, and (3) make state
19 programs simpler, easier to access, more efficient and more responsive
20 to the needs of entrepreneurs and small businesses. The pilot program
21 shall commence on January 1, 2014, and terminate on December 31,
22 2016.

23 (b) The commissioner shall appoint not more than ten entrepreneurs
24 in residence during any year. Each entrepreneur in residence shall (1)
25 have a favorable reputation for skill, knowledge and experience in his
26 or her field, (2) have demonstrated success in working with
27 entrepreneurs and small businesses, or (3) have successfully
28 developed, invented or created a product and brought such product to
29 the marketplace. The commissioner shall make a good faith effort to
30 ensure that, to the extent possible, the individuals appointed as
31 entrepreneurs in residence closely reflect the gender and racial
32 diversity of the state. An individual may serve as an entrepreneur in
33 residence for not more than two years.

34 (c) In appointing entrepreneurs in residence, the commissioner shall
35 (1) give priority to placing entrepreneurs in residence at separate state
36 agencies, and (2) appoint not more than two entrepreneurs in
37 residence to a single state agency in the same year.

38 (d) The commissioner may convene a working group comprising
39 the appointed entrepreneurs in residence to (1) discuss best practices,
40 experiences, obstacles and opportunities encountered at the
41 Department of Economic and Community Development and
42 respective state agencies employing the entrepreneurs in residence,
43 and (2) make recommendations concerning the development,
44 implementation and delivery of state agency services to entrepreneurs

45 and small businesses.

46 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2013*) (a) The duties of an
47 entrepreneur in residence shall include the following:

48 (1) Assist the Department of Economic and Community
49 Development and other state agencies in improving outreach to small
50 businesses and entrepreneurs;

51 (2) Provide recommendations to the department and the head of the
52 state agency employing the entrepreneur in residence regarding
53 inefficient or duplicative programs, if any, at such agency;

54 (3) Provide recommendations to the department and the head of the
55 state agency employing the entrepreneur in residence regarding
56 methods to improve program efficiency at such agency or new
57 initiatives, if any, that may be instituted at such agency;

58 (4) Facilitate meetings and forums to educate entrepreneurs and
59 small businesses regarding programs or initiatives of the department
60 and the state agency employing the entrepreneur in residence;

61 (5) Facilitate in-service sessions with employees of the department
62 and the state agency employing the entrepreneur in residence
63 regarding issues of concern to entrepreneurs and small businesses; and

64 (6) Provide technical assistance or mentorship to entrepreneurs and
65 small businesses in accessing programs at the department and the state
66 agency employing the entrepreneur in residence.

67 (b) An entrepreneur in residence shall report directly to the head of
68 the state agency employing the entrepreneur in residence.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2013</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2013</i>	New section

Sec. 3	October 1, 2013	New section
--------	-----------------	-------------

Statement of Purpose:

To establish a pilot entrepreneur in residence program under which the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development would place successful entrepreneurs in state agencies to make agency services and operations simpler, more efficient, and more responsive to the needs of entrepreneurs and 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.]