
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6469

AN ACT CONCERNING CHANGES TO THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

SUMMARY:

This bill makes many changes to the kinds of analyses, summaries, and data the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) must include in its annual report to the governor and legislature. It mostly eliminates many reporting requirements and makes conforming technical changes to other laws that refer to them. It also eliminates the requirement that the annual report incorporate any other statutorily required report.

The bill adds the requirement that the report include an overview of DECD's tourism-, arts-, and historic preservation-related activities.

The bill eliminates a separate report Connecticut Innovations, Inc. must prepare on the financial assistance it provided to businesses within the state's economic clusters, which are groups of businesses linked together through customers, suppliers, or other relationships. It also makes related technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

ANNUAL REPORT CHANGES

Current law requires DECD to address 22 general topics in its annual report and specifies the kind of analyses, summaries, and data DECD must provide with respect to each topic. The bill eliminates some topics, including their specific reporting requirements. It retains other topics, but eliminates some of their specific reporting requirements. Table 1 summarizes the changes the bill makes to reporting requirements.

Table 1: Summary of Bill's Changes to DECD's Annual Reporting Requirements

Topic	Bill's Changes
Description and Assessment of State's Economy	Deletes topic and specified reporting requirements
Statement of DECD's Economic and Community Development Objectives, Performance Measures, and Standards for Granting Financial and Non-Financial Assistance	Deleted topic (current law specifies no additional reporting requirements)
Analysis of DECD's Economic Development Portfolio	Retains topic but deletes the following reporting requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • extent to which the employees of recipient companies participate in company-health plans • extent to which recipient companies offer unique economic, social, cultural, or aesthetic attributes to the host municipality • analysis of the portfolio's wage data by municipality • share of financial assistance provided to high performance work organizations • productivity resulting from such financial assistance • impact of assistance of property values
Analysis of DECD's Community Development Portfolio	Retains topic, but deletes the following reporting requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • total portfolio by municipality • total investment for the prior year by municipality • leverage ratio for prior year's investments • prior year's investment activity • direct and indirect jobs the portfolio created during prior year • productivity resulting from the investments
Summaries of DECD's Prior Year's Marketing Efforts and Business Recruitment Strategies and Small and Minority-Business Assistance Efforts	Delete topic (current law specifies no additional reporting requirements)
Summary of DECD's International Trade Efforts	No change
Identification of Existing Economic Clusters, Prior Year's Measures to Assist them, and Bonds Spent on Clusters	Deletes topic (current law specifies no additional reporting requirements)
Summary of DECD's Brownfields-Related Efforts and Activities of Office of Brownfield Remediation and Development	Deleted
Enterprise Zone Program Information	Deleted
Biodiesel Producer Incentive Account Program Assessment	Deleted
Fuel Diversification Grant Program Assessment	Deleted
Summary of Permit Ombudsman's Prior Year's Brownfields-Related Efforts and	Retains topic, but deletes the following reporting requirements:

Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • applicants receiving expedited review • request dates for expedited review • each applicant's claims for expedited review • state agencies that participated in expedited review process • application approval or denial dates • reasons for denying expedited review
DECD's Housing Development-Related Functions	Retains topic, but deletes the following reporting requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • description and assessment of state's housing market • list of municipalities where developers can access the affordable housing land use appeals procedure • statement of DECD's housing development objectives, program measures, and standards for funding housing projects
DECD's State Funded Housing Development Portfolio	Retains topic, but deletes the following reporting requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for each recipient, the number of new units to be created and the number of units to be preserved when the recipient applied for funding • leverage ratio for prior year's investments • for each municipality: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ total number of units created ○ total units preserved • analysis of the income groups served by DECD's housing programs • specified data related to DECD's efforts to promote fair housing choice and racial and economic integration
Housing Development Portfolio's Economic Impact	Retains topic, but deletes the requirement that DECD report on the direct and indirect jobs created by the portfolio's investments
Housing Trust Fund and Housing Trust Fund Program Activities	Deleted
Social and Economic Impact of DECD's Economic, Community, and Housing Development Efforts and Activities and Assessment of DECD's Performance in Meeting Stated Goals and Objectives	No change
Connecticut Credit Consortium Activities	Deletes topic (current law specifies no additional reporting requirements)
Small Business Express Program Data	No change
Summary of Airport Development Zones' Costs and Benefits	No change
Overview of DECD's Tourism, Arts, and Historic Preservation Efforts	Adds new topic, but does not specify additional reporting requirements.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Commerce Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 19 Nay 0 (03/19/2013)