



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5495

February Session, 2014



AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ACCELERATED CERTIFICATES PROGRAM.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2014*) (a) For purposes of this
2 section, "eligible adult" means an adult who (1) is eligible to enroll in a
3 program of adult classes established pursuant to section 10-69 of the
4 general statutes, (2) is not proficient in English or mathematics, as
5 determined by the Board of Regents for Higher Education, and (3)
6 seeks to enter or reenter the workforce or obtain better employment.

7 (b) The Board of Regents for Higher Education, in collaboration
8 with the Office of Higher Education, the Department of Education and
9 the regional work force development boards established pursuant to
10 section 31-3k of the general statutes, shall develop an accelerated
11 certificates program pursuant to which an eligible adult may obtain a
12 postsecondary certificate on an accelerated schedule, as determined by
13 said board, but not to exceed a period of eighteen months.

14 (c) The accelerated certificate program established pursuant to
15 subsection (b) of this section shall consist of courses that include adult
16 literacy, English for adults with limited English proficiency,
17 mathematics and career or technical training. The Board of Regents for
18 Higher Education shall work with the Department of Education and

19 the regional work force development boards to ensure that the
20 accelerated certificate program is offered locally to eligible adults in
21 several locations throughout the state, including one or more regional
22 community-technical colleges, technical high schools or programs of
23 adult education.

24 (d) Not later than July 1, 2015, and annually thereafter, the president
25 of the Board of Regents for Higher Education shall report, in
26 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,
27 the following to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
28 having cognizance of matters relating to higher education:

29 (1) The types of certificates offered by the board pursuant to the
30 accelerated certificates program;

31 (2) The number of eligible adults who are enrolled in such program;

32 (3) The number of eligible adults who have successfully completed
33 such program; and

34 (4) The number of eligible adults who obtained employment in the
35 subject area in which they obtained a certificate pursuant to such
36 program, obtained employment as a result of earning a certificate
37 pursuant to such program, or enrolled for additional education in the
38 subject matter area in which they obtained a certificate pursuant to
39 such program.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2014	New section

HED *Joint Favorable Subst.*