



General Assembly

February Session, 2014

Raised Bill No. 422

LCO No. 2298



Referred to Committee on COMMERCE

Introduced by:
(CE)

AN ACT CONCERNING KNOWLEDGE CENTER ENTERPRISE ZONES.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) (a) Notwithstanding the
2 provisions of section 32-70 of the general statutes, the Commissioner of
3 Economic and Community Development may establish not more than
4 ten knowledge center enterprise zones surrounding any college,
5 university or other institution of higher learning in the state upon
6 receipt from such college, university or institution of a proposal
7 recommending the establishment of such a zone, provided: (1) The
8 commissioner determines that the economic development benefits of
9 establishing such a knowledge center enterprise zone outweigh the
10 anticipated costs to the state and the affected municipalities; and (2)
11 such proposal complies with the state plan of conservation and
12 development adopted pursuant to chapter 297 of the general statutes.

13 (b) Any proposal submitted by a college, university or other
14 institution of higher learning pursuant to subsection (a) of this section
15 shall include, but not be limited to: (1) The geographic scope of the
16 proposed knowledge center enterprise zone, including designation of

17 all census blocks that such institution proposes incorporating into such
18 zone, provided no zone shall extend beyond a two-mile radius of such
19 college, university or institution, (2) the nature of business and
20 industry that will be developed and how such business and industry
21 align with such college, university or institution's mission, (3) how
22 such business and industry will collaborate with such college,
23 university or institution to create jobs and the anticipated number of
24 jobs created, (4) such college, university or institution's experience with
25 business collaboration or plan for such collaboration, (5) any other
26 economic and community developments anticipated from the
27 establishment of such zone, and (6) the anticipated lost revenue to the
28 state and municipalities as a result of establishing such zone.

29 (c) The commissioner may modify the geographic scope of any
30 proposed knowledge center enterprise zone to improve the balance
31 between the anticipated economic benefit and the cost to the state and
32 affected municipalities.

33 (d) Businesses located within a knowledge center enterprise zone
34 shall be entitled to the same benefits, subject to the same conditions,
35 under the general statutes for which businesses located in an
36 enterprise zone qualify.

37 (e) The commissioner shall adopt regulations in accordance with the
38 provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes to implement the
39 provisions of this section. Such regulations shall include, but not be
40 limited to: (1) A review and approval process for proposals submitted
41 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, (2) goals and performance
42 standards for knowledge center enterprise zones, and (3) procedures to
43 assess the performance of knowledge center enterprise zones.

44 (f) Not less than ten years from the original date of approval of a
45 knowledge center enterprise zone, the commissioner shall assess the
46 performance of such zone. The commissioner may remove the
47 designation of such knowledge center enterprise zone if such zone fails

48 to meet the goals and performance standards set forth in the
49 regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (e) of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To establish a knowledge center enterprise zone program to encourage development around the state's institutions of higher learning.

[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.]