



General Assembly

Amendment

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LCO No. 5477

HB0537705477HDO

Offered by:

REP. MUSHINSKY, 85th Dist.

REP. CARPINO, 32nd Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5377

File No. 659

Cal. No. 138

"AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE ON THE REEMPLOYMENT OF OLDER WORKERS AS THEY RELATE TO THE LABOR DEPARTMENT."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 31-3h of the general statutes is
4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
5 *October 1, 2014*):

6 (b) The duties and responsibilities of the commission shall include:

7 (1) Carrying out the duties and responsibilities of a state job training
8 coordinating council pursuant to the federal Job Training Partnership
9 Act, 29 USC 1532, as amended from time to time, a state human
10 resource investment council pursuant to 29 USC 1501 et seq., as
11 amended from time to time, and such other related entities as the
12 Governor may direct;

13 (2) Reviewing all employment and training programs in the state to
14 determine their success in leading to and obtaining the goal of
15 economic self-sufficiency and to determine if such programs are
16 serving the needs of Connecticut's workers, employers and economy;

17 (3) Developing a plan for the coordination of all employment and
18 training programs in the state to avoid duplication and to promote the
19 delivery of comprehensive, individualized employment and training
20 services and the reemployment of workers fifty years of age or older.
21 The plan shall contain the commission's recommendations for policies
22 and procedures to enhance the coordination and collaboration of all
23 such programs and shall be submitted on June 1, 2000, and annually
24 thereafter, to the Governor for the Governor's approval;

25 (4) Reviewing and commenting on all employment and training
26 programs enacted by the General Assembly;

27 (5) Implementing the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998, P.L.
28 105-220, as [from time to time amended] amended from time to time.
29 Such implementation shall include (A) developing, in consultation
30 with the regional workforce development boards, a single Connecticut
31 workforce development plan that (i) complies with the provisions of
32 said act and section 31-11p, and (ii) includes comprehensive state
33 performance measures for workforce development activities specified
34 in Title I of the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998, P.L. 105-220,
35 as [from time to time amended] amended from time to time, which
36 performance measures comply with the requirements of 20 CFR Part
37 666.100, (B) preparing and submitting a report on the state's progress
38 in achieving such performance measures to the Governor and the
39 General Assembly annually on January thirty-first, (C) making
40 recommendations to the General Assembly concerning the allocation
41 of funds received by the state under said act and making
42 recommendations to the regional workforce development boards
43 concerning the use of formulas in allocating such funds to adult
44 employment and job training activities and youth activities, as
45 specified in said act, (D) providing oversight and coordination of the

46 state-wide employment statistics system required by said act, (E) as
47 appropriate, recommending to the Governor that the Governor apply
48 for workforce flexibility plans and waiver authority under said act,
49 after consultation with the regional workforce development boards, (F)
50 developing performance criteria for regional workforce development
51 boards to utilize in creating a list of eligible providers, and (G) on or
52 before December 31, 1999, developing a uniform individual training
53 accounts voucher system that shall be used by the regional workforce
54 development boards to pay for training of eligible workers by eligible
55 providers, as required under said act;

56 (6) Developing and overseeing a plan for the continuous
57 improvement of the regional workforce development boards
58 established pursuant to section 31-3k;

59 (7) Developing incumbent worker, and vocational and manpower
60 training programs, including customized job training programs to
61 enhance the productivity of Connecticut businesses and to increase the
62 skills and earnings of underemployed and at-risk workers, and other
63 programs administered by the regional workforce development
64 boards. The Labor Department, in collaboration with the regional
65 workforce development boards, shall implement any incumbent
66 worker and customized job training programs developed by the
67 commission pursuant to this subdivision; [and]

68 (8) Developing a strategy for providing comprehensive services to
69 eligible youths, which strategy shall include developing youth
70 preapprentice and apprentice programs through, but not limited to,
71 technical high schools, and improving linkages between academic and
72 occupational learning and other youth development activities; and

73 (9) Coordinating an electronic state hiring campaign to encourage
74 the reemployment of workers fifty years of age or older to be
75 administered through the Labor Department's Internet web site, which
76 shall include testimony from various employers that demonstrates the
77 value of hiring and retaining workers fifty years of age or older. Not

78 later than January 1, 2015, the commission shall submit a report, in
79 accordance with section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the
80 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor on
81 the status of such campaign.

82 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) (a) Not later than January 1,
83 2015, the Labor Department shall develop or approve a one-page
84 quick-reference guide summarizing (1) the public and private
85 resources available for unemployed workers fifty years of age or older
86 within the state, and (2) the steps by which such workers may access
87 such resources.

88 (b) The Labor Department shall, within available appropriations,
89 ensure that the resources summarized pursuant to subsection (a) of
90 this section are accessible through the 2-1-1 Infoline Internet web site.

91 Sec. 3. Section 31-22q of the general statutes is repealed and the
92 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):

93 (a) To assist in the administration of sections 31-22m to 31-22q,
94 inclusive, as amended by this act, there shall continue to be maintained
95 in the Labor Department a program of apprentice training. The Labor
96 Commissioner is authorized to appoint, in accordance with the
97 provisions of chapter 67, such personnel as may be necessary for
98 effective administration of said sections.

99 (b) Not later than January 1, 2015, and annually thereafter, the Labor
100 Department shall develop or approve an informational campaign to
101 distribute to Workforce Investment Boards, CTWorks One-Stop Career
102 Centers and similar job centers within the state. The informational
103 campaign shall include a description of the program of apprentice
104 training maintained in the department and shall address common
105 misperceptions regarding such program and the various opportunities
106 and benefits that apprenticeship training may provide for unemployed
107 individuals within the state.

108 Sec. 4. (*Effective October 1, 2014*) Not later than January 1, 2015, the

109 Labor Commissioner shall convene a working group that shall include,
110 but not be limited to, representatives of Workforce Investment Boards,
111 CTWorks One-Stop Career Centers and similar job centers in the state
112 to determine whether individuals providing resume writing assistance
113 at CTWorks One-Stop Career Centers should be required to attain a
114 certified professional resume writer credential prior to providing such
115 resume writing assistance. The working group shall make such
116 determination not later than July 1, 2015.

117 Sec. 5. (*Effective July 1, 2014*) The Board of Regents for Higher
118 Education shall (1) as part of an academic and facilities master plan,
119 examine the potential for expanding the manufacturing technology
120 center model to create centers of excellence, as defined in section 10a-
121 25h of the general statutes, for other high-demand career areas, and (2)
122 within available resources, implement the Plus 50 Initiative model
123 throughout the regional community-technical college system. The
124 Board of Regents for Higher Education shall report, in accordance with
125 the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint
126 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
127 matters relating to higher education and labor on the results of the
128 master plan and the implementation status not later than July 1, 2015.

129 Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2014*) Not later than January 1, 2015,
130 the Board of Regents for Higher Education shall establish consistent
131 parameters for noncredit vocational courses and programs to be
132 recognized by each of the constituent units of the state system of public
133 higher education, as described in section 10a-1 of the general statutes.

134 Sec. 7. Section 10a-6b of the general statutes is repealed and the
135 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

136 (a) The accountability measures developed by the Higher Education
137 Coordinating Council pursuant to subsection (b) of section 10a-6a shall
138 be used by the Board of Regents for Higher Education and each
139 constituent unit of the state system of higher education in assessing
140 each public institution of higher education's progress toward meeting

141 the following goals to: (1) Enhance student learning and promote
142 academic excellence; (2) join with elementary and secondary schools to
143 improve teaching and learning at all levels; (3) ensure access to and
144 affordability of higher education; (4) promote the economic
145 development of the state to help business and industry sustain strong
146 economic growth; (5) respond to the needs and problems of society;
147 and (6) ensure the efficient use of resources. The council shall develop
148 an implementation plan for use of the accountability measures.

149 (b) In developing the measures pursuant to subsection (a) of this
150 section, the council shall consider: [graduation] (1) Graduation rates,
151 (2) student retention rates, (3) completions, (4) tuition and fees, (5)
152 allocation of resources across expenditure functions, as defined by the
153 National Association of College and University Business Officers, (6)
154 revenues and expenditures broken out by programs, (7) student
155 financial need and available aid, (8) transfer patterns of students
156 transferring in and out of the constituent units, (9) trends in enrollment
157 and the percentage of incoming students who are state residents, (10)
158 strategic plans pursuant to section 10a-11, (11) data on graduates,
159 including age, by academic [program,] and noncredit vocational
160 course and program, (12) faculty productivity, [and] (13) the goals
161 adopted by the Planning Commission for Higher Education, and (14)
162 any other factor that it deems relevant. All measures shall be made
163 available for inspection and separated out by constituent unit,
164 institution of higher education, campus and program.

165 (c) The council shall work with the Labor Department to (1) produce
166 periodic reports, capable of being sorted by student age, on the
167 employment status, job retention and earnings of students enrolled in
168 academic and noncredit vocational courses and programs, both prior
169 to enrollment and after completion of such courses and programs, who
170 leave the constituent units upon graduation or otherwise, and (2)
171 develop an annual affordability index for public higher education that
172 is based on state-wide median family income.

173 (d) The council shall submit the accountability measures to the

174 Board of Regents for Higher Education for the board's review and
175 approval. Once the measures are approved, each constituent unit shall
176 provide the data to the board that is necessary for purposes of
177 applying the measures.

178 (e) Each public institution of higher education of the state system of
179 higher education shall submit an accountability report to the president
180 of the Board of Regents for Higher Education annually, by November
181 first. The president shall compile the reports and shall submit, in
182 accordance with section 11-4a, a consolidated accountability report for
183 the state system of higher education to the joint standing committee of
184 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher
185 education annually, by December first. The report shall contain
186 accountability measures for each constituent unit and public
187 institution of higher education pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of
188 this section. The report shall include updated baseline and peer
189 comparison data, performance improvement targets for each measure,
190 and other information as determined by the president.

191 Sec. 8. Section 10a-161a of the general statutes is repealed and the
192 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):

193 The president of the Board of Regents for Higher Education and the
194 Office of Higher Education shall report, biennially, in accordance with
195 the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the
196 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher
197 education on state, northeast regional and national trends in (1) the
198 cost of attendance at public and independent institutions of higher
199 education and private occupational schools, and (2) the availability
200 and utilization of all forms of student financial aid for academic and
201 noncredit vocational courses and programs relative to economic
202 conditions and personal income."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

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|-----------|------------------------|-------------|
| Section 1 | <i>October 1, 2014</i> | 31-3h(b) |
| Sec. 2 | <i>October 1, 2014</i> | New section |
| Sec. 3 | <i>October 1, 2014</i> | 31-22q |
| Sec. 4 | <i>October 1, 2014</i> | New section |
| Sec. 5 | <i>July 1, 2014</i> | New section |
| Sec. 6 | <i>July 1, 2014</i> | New section |
| Sec. 7 | <i>July 1, 2014</i> | 10a-6b |
| Sec. 8 | <i>October 1, 2014</i> | 10a-161a |