



General Assembly

**Amendment**

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LCO No. 5401

**\*HB0537705401HDO\***

Offered by:

REP. MUSHINSKY, 85<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. CARPINO, 32<sup>nd</sup> 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4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  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 within and without  
77 the state that demonstrates the value of hiring and retaining workers

78 fifty years of age or older. Not later than January 1, 2015, the  
79 commission shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-4a, to  
80 the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having  
81 cognizance of matters relating to labor on 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 feasibility study and the implementation status not later than July 1,  
129 2015.

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

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 Section 10a-6b of the general statutes is repealed and the  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

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

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

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