



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

Raised Bill No. 5424

LCO No. 1248



Referred to Committee on COMMERCE

Introduced by:
(CE)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LEARN
HERE, LIVE HERE PROGRAM.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 32-4i of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016, and*
3 *applicable to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2016*):

4 (a) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development,
5 in consultation with the Commissioner of Revenue Services and the
6 president of the Board of Regents for Higher Education, [may] shall
7 establish the Learn Here, Live Here program. Such program [may]
8 shall provide an incentive for graduates of a public institution of
9 higher education, private university or college, or health care training
10 school in this state, or graduates from a technical high school, to buy a
11 first home in the state. Persons who graduate on or after January 1,
12 [2014] 2016, from such institutions, universities, colleges or schools
13 may elect to become participants in said program and have their
14 income tax liability, up to a maximum of two thousand five hundred
15 dollars annually, segregated into the Connecticut first-time

16 homebuyers account established pursuant to section 32-4j, provided
17 not more than one million dollars from all [program] participants may
18 be so segregated in any calendar year. After a period not exceeding ten
19 years after graduation, any [amounts so] amount segregated on behalf
20 of a participant may be [withdrawn by a] used by such participant for
21 the purchase of a first home in the state. The Commissioner of
22 Economic and Community Development [may] shall make payments
23 from said account, in accordance with this section, [from said fund to
24 the] on behalf of participants. For the purposes of this section, "health
25 care training school" means a medical or dental school, chiropractic
26 college, school or college of optometry, school or college of chiropody
27 or podiatry, school of occupational therapy, hospital-based
28 occupational school, school or college of naturopathy, school of dental
29 hygiene, school of physical therapy or any other school or institution
30 giving instruction in the healing arts.

31 (b) (1) After a period not exceeding ten years after the date of
32 graduation, a participant in the program established pursuant to
33 subsection (a) of this section may apply to the Commissioner of
34 Economic and Community Development for a payment to be issued,
35 on behalf of such participant, and used as the down payment on a
36 house, which [must] shall be the first house such participant [has
37 bought] buys, either singly or jointly. Such payment may be in an
38 amount equal to the amount of segregated funds deposited on behalf
39 of such participant. If the payment is less than such amount, any excess
40 amount shall be deposited in the General Fund.

41 (2) If a participant ceases to live in the state at any time up to one
42 year after [such date] the date of issuance of such payment, such
43 participant shall repay one hundred per cent of the amount paid out. If
44 a participant ceases to live in the state at any time up to two years after
45 such date, such participant shall repay eighty per cent of the amount
46 paid out. If a participant ceases to live in the state at any time up to
47 three years after such date, such participant shall repay sixty per cent
48 of the amount paid out. If a participant ceases to live in the state at any

49 time up to four years after such date, such participant shall repay forty
50 per cent of the amount paid out. If a participant ceases to live in the
51 state at any time up to five years after such date, such participant shall
52 repay twenty per cent of the amount paid out. After five years, there
53 [is] shall be no repayment obligation. Any amounts repaid under this
54 subdivision shall be deposited in the General Fund.

55 (c) On or before December 1, [2012] 2016, the Commissioner of
56 Economic and Community Development [may] shall develop, within
57 available appropriations, a comprehensive public education program
58 to educate recent graduates of a public institution of higher education,
59 private university or college, or health care training school in the state,
60 or of a technical high school, about the program established under this
61 section for first-time home buyers. The public education program shall
62 include, but not be limited to, information concerning life-time savings
63 plans and information on the purchase of a home. [If the commissioner
64 develops such public education program, the] The department shall
65 [begin to] implement such program not later than January 1, [2014]
66 2017.

67 Sec. 2. Section 32-4k of the general statutes is repealed and the
68 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016, and*
69 *applicable to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2016*):

70 As part of the Learn Here, Live Here program established pursuant
71 to section 32-4i, as amended by this act, for taxable years commencing
72 on or after January 1, [2014] 2016, the Commissioner of Revenue
73 Services shall segregate the income taxes paid by a participant in said
74 program during a period not exceeding ten taxable years following the
75 year of graduation. Upon the request of such participant, the
76 commissioner shall segregate an annual amount of such tax liability,
77 up to a maximum of two thousand five hundred dollars per year. The
78 total amount segregated for all program participants shall not exceed
79 one million dollars in any calendar year. The commissioner shall
80 deposit such segregated amounts into the Connecticut first-time

81 homebuyers account established pursuant to section 32-4j.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2016, and applicable to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2016</i>	32-4i
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2016, and applicable to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2016</i>	32-4k

Statement of Purpose:

To require the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development to establish the Learn Here, Live Here program, which helps students save toward a down payment on their first home in Connecticut by segregating a portion of their state income tax payments for up to ten years after they graduate.

[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.]