



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

***Raised Bill No. 5438***

LCO No. 1495



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:  
(HS)

***AN ACT DELETING OBSOLETE STATUTORY PROVISIONS  
CONCERNING WORKSHOPS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 17b-656 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

3 Whenever any products made or manufactured by or services  
4 provided by persons with disabilities through community  
5 rehabilitation programs [described in subsection (b) of section 17b-655]  
6 or in any workshop established, operated or funded by nonprofit and  
7 nonsectarian organizations for the purpose of providing persons with  
8 disabilities training and employment suited to their abilities meet the  
9 requirements of any department, institution or agency supported in  
10 whole or in part by the state as to quantity, quality and price such  
11 products shall have preference over products or services from other  
12 providers, except (1) articles produced or manufactured by  
13 Department of Correction industries as provided in section 18-88, (2)  
14 emergency purchases made under section 4-98, and (3) janitorial or  
15 contractual services provided by a qualified partnership, pursuant to

16 the provisions of subsections (b) to (d), inclusive, of section 4a-82. [All  
17 departments, institutions and agencies supported in whole or in part  
18 by the state shall purchase such articles made or manufactured and  
19 services provided by persons with disabilities from the Department of  
20 Rehabilitation Services. Any political subdivision of the state may  
21 purchase such articles and services through the Department of  
22 Rehabilitation Services.] A list describing styles, designs, sizes and  
23 varieties of all such articles made by persons with disabilities and  
24 describing all available services provided by such persons shall be  
25 prepared by the Connecticut Community Providers Association.

26 Sec. 2. Subsection (d) of section 10-295 of the 2016 supplement to the  
27 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
28 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

29 (d) The Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services may expend up to  
30 ten thousand dollars per fiscal year per person twenty-one years of age  
31 or over who is both blind or visually impaired and deaf, in addition to  
32 any other expenditures for such person, for the purpose of providing  
33 community inclusion services through specialized public and private  
34 entities from which such person can benefit. The commissioner may  
35 determine the criteria by which a person is eligible to receive  
36 specialized services and may adopt regulations necessary to carry out  
37 the provisions of this subsection. For purposes of this subsection,  
38 "community inclusion services" means the assistance provided to  
39 persons with disabilities to enable them to connect with their peers  
40 without disabilities and with the community at large.

41 Sec. 3. Section 46a-33b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
42 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

43 Upon the request of any person or any public or private entity, the  
44 Department of Rehabilitation Services shall provide interpreting  
45 services to assist such person or entity to the extent such persons who  
46 provide interpreting services are available. Any person or entity

47 receiving interpreting services through the department shall reimburse  
48 the department for such services at a rate set by the Commissioner of  
49 Rehabilitation Services. The commissioner [shall] may adopt  
50 regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 to establish  
51 the manner of rate setting.

52 Sec. 4. Section 17b-650 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
53 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

54 As used in this section and sections [17b-650] 17b-650a to 17b-663,  
55 inclusive; [, and sections 10-298b and 10-298c:]

56 (1) "Person with a disability" means any individual with a disability,  
57 excluding blindness, as such term is applied to Title I of the  
58 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 USC 701 et seq., as amended from time  
59 to time;

60 (2) "Vocational rehabilitation service" means any goods and services  
61 necessary to render a person with a disability employable, in  
62 accordance with Title I of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 USC 701 et  
63 seq., as amended from time to time;

64 (3) "Community rehabilitation program" means a program that  
65 provides directly for or facilitates the provision of vocational  
66 rehabilitation services to persons with disabilities, as defined in the  
67 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 USC 701 et seq., as amended from time  
68 to time;

69 (4) "Products are made or manufactured by or services are provided  
70 by persons with disabilities" if not less than seventy-five per cent of the  
71 hours of direct labor required for such products or services are  
72 performed by persons with disabilities.

73 Sec. 5. Section 10-309 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
74 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

75 The Department of Rehabilitation Services may place in

76 remunerative occupations persons whose capacity to earn a living has  
77 been lost or impaired by lessened visual acuity and who, in the  
78 opinion of the Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services, are susceptible  
79 of placement, and may make such regulations as are necessary for the  
80 administration of the provisions of this section and sections 10-306 to  
81 [10-310] 10-308a, inclusive.

82 Sec. 6. Sections 10-298a, 10-298b, 10-298c, 10-298d, 10-300, 10-300a,  
83 10-304 and 10-310 of the general statutes are repealed. (*Effective October*  
84 *1, 2016*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	17b-656
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	10-295(d)
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	46a-33b
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	17b-650
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	10-309
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	Repealer section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To repeal obsolete statutory provisions concerning workshops for persons with disabilities formerly administered by the Department of Rehabilitation Services.

*[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.]*