



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

***Raised Bill No. 445***

LCO No. 2981



Referred to Committee on COMMERCE

Introduced by:  
(CE)

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A BIOSCIENCE AND HEALTH DATA NETWORK COLLABORATIVE TASK FORCE.***

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a bioscience  
2 and health data network collaborative task force to develop a strategic  
3 plan for the private development of an ultra-high-speed broadband  
4 network to support the digital infrastructure needs of the bioscience,  
5 health care and insurance industries. Such strategic plan shall include,  
6 but not be limited to: (1) The current and anticipated needs of the  
7 bioscience, health care and insurance industries for digital  
8 infrastructure, including, but not limited to, competitively priced  
9 access to ultra-high-speed broadband networks; (2) the identification  
10 of community anchor institutions, including schools, libraries,  
11 hospitals and other health care providers, public safety entities,  
12 institutions of higher education, and community support organizations  
13 that could use and benefit from such digital infrastructure; (3) the  
14 potential economic and employment benefits that could result from the  
15 development of an ultra-high-speed broadband network; and (4) ways  
16 the state can encourage the development of an ultra-high-speed

17 broadband network, including, but not limited to, statutory and  
18 regulatory changes, the formation of public-private partnerships and  
19 other methods to support private development of such a network.

20 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

21 (1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives  
22 who shall be a representative of the insurance industry;

23 (2) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate who  
24 shall be a representative of the health care industry;

25 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
26 Representatives who shall represent the Connecticut Education  
27 Network;

28 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate who shall be  
29 a representative of the telecommunications industry;

30 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
31 Representatives who shall represent the Connecticut Technology  
32 Council;

33 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate who shall be  
34 a representative of the bioscience industry;

35 (7) One appointed by the Governor who shall represent the financial  
36 services industry;

37 (8) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development,  
38 or the commissioner's designee; and

39 (9) The Consumer Counsel, or the Consumer Counsel's designee.

40 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),  
41 (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member  
42 of the General Assembly.

43 (d) All appointments to the task force shall be made not later than  
 44 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be  
 45 filled by the appointing authority.

46 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president  
 47 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force  
 48 from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall  
 49 schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not  
 50 later than sixty days after the effective date of this section. The task  
 51 force shall meet at least monthly thereafter.

52 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the  
 53 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce  
 54 shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

55 (g) Not later than January 1, 2017, the task force shall submit the  
 56 strategic plan developed under this section to the joint standing  
 57 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
 58 relating to commerce and technology, in accordance with the  
 59 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force shall  
 60 terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 1, 2017,  
 61 whichever is later.

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|---|---------------------|-------------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: |                     |             |
| Section 1   | <i>from passage</i> | New section |

**Statement of Purpose:**

To establish a bioscience and health data network collaborative task force to develop a strategic plan for the development of an ultra-high-speed broadband network to support the digital infrastructure needs of the bioscience, health care and insurance industries.

*[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.]*