



# House of Representatives

**File No. 650**

General Assembly

February Session, 2016

**(Reprint of File No. 353)**

Substitute House Bill No. 5423  
As Amended by House Amendment  
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner  
April 15, 2016

***AN ACT ENCOURAGING MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO CONSIDER CAREERS IN MANUFACTURING AND CONCERNING INFORMATION POSTED ON THE LABOR DEPARTMENT'S APPRENTICESHIP WEB SITE.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of  
2 Education, in collaboration with the Board of Regents for Higher  
3 Education, shall establish a committee to coordinate the education of  
4 middle school and high school students about careers in  
5 manufacturing. Such committee shall include, but not be limited to, (1)  
6 representatives from the Department of Economic and Community  
7 Development, the Labor Department, the Connecticut Center for  
8 Advanced Technology, the technical high school system, the advanced  
9 manufacturing centers at the regional community-technical colleges,  
10 independent institutions of higher education in the state that offer  
11 training in the field of manufacturing, the Connecticut Employment  
12 and Training Commission, manufacturing companies and employee  
13 organizations that represent manufacturing workers, and (2) middle  
14 and high school teachers and guidance counselors.

15 (b) On or before January 1, 2017, and on or before August first  
16 annually thereafter, the committee established pursuant to subsection  
17 (a) of this section shall compile a catalog of programs at public and  
18 independent institutions of higher education in the state that offer  
19 training in the field of manufacturing. Such catalog shall include for  
20 each program: (1) The degree, certification, license or credential  
21 awarded upon completion; (2) the period of time and requirements for  
22 completion; (3) the enrollment process; and (4) the cost of attendance.  
23 The commissioner shall make such catalog available on the Internet  
24 web site of the Department of Education and distribute such catalog to  
25 each local and regional board of education.

26 (c) On or before February 1, 2017, and annually thereafter, the  
27 committee established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall  
28 report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general  
29 statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly  
30 having cognizance of matters relating to commerce and higher  
31 education and workforce development an analysis of whether current  
32 programs available to Connecticut students are meeting workforce  
33 needs. The committee shall consult with members of the  
34 manufacturing industry when producing such report.

35 (d) The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the  
36 committee established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, shall  
37 develop and administer a program to introduce middle school and  
38 high school students, their parents or guardians and guidance  
39 counselors to careers in manufacturing. Such program may include,  
40 but is not limited to, hands-on learning opportunities, posters, videos,  
41 pamphlets and social media and other technology to describe and  
42 promote modern manufacturing and the programs included in the  
43 catalog described in subsection (b) of this section. The commissioner  
44 may enter into partnerships with one or more private sector entities to  
45 further the goals of such program. Such partnerships may include, but  
46 are not limited to, student visits to manufacturers and manufacturer  
47 visits to schools in order to give students first hand exposure to  
48 modern manufacturing and the products and materials created by

49 manufacturers in the state.

50 (e) The Department of Education, in consultation with  
51 representatives from the manufacturing industry and the Connecticut  
52 Center for Advanced Technology, shall develop a best practices guide  
53 to help local and regional boards of education to incorporate  
54 relationships with manufacturing in their middle school and high  
55 school curricula.

56 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than March 1,  
57 2017, the Labor Department shall update the department's Internet  
58 web site with regard to the office of apprenticeship training. Such  
59 update shall include, but need not be limited to:

60 (1) Simplification of the process by which current and prospective  
61 apprentices and employers may access comprehensive information  
62 relating to apprenticeship training on the department's Internet web  
63 site;

64 (2) An accurate list of occupations in which apprentices are  
65 employed in the state and the number of apprentices participating in  
66 each occupation within the previous calendar year; and

67 (3) Comprehensive information regarding apprenticeship  
68 coursework, including, but not limited to, a list of apprenticeship  
69 coursework providers, the Internet web site addresses for such  
70 apprenticeship coursework providers, the locations of such  
71 apprenticeship coursework providers, the occupations in which such  
72 apprenticeship coursework providers offer apprenticeship coursework  
73 and the costs associated with such apprenticeship coursework, which  
74 shall be accompanied by a disclaimer that cost information is only one  
75 factor to be considered in selecting coursework. The department may  
76 provide electronic links to such information.

77 (b) The department shall update the information described in  
78 subdivisions (2) and (3) of subsection (a) of this section as often as  
79 practicable, but not less than annually, to improve the efficiency by

80 which current and prospective apprentices and employers may engage  
81 in apprenticeships in the state.

82 (c) Not later than March 31, 2017, the department shall submit a  
83 report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general  
84 statutes, to the Legislative Program Review and Investigations  
85 Committee and the joint standing committee of the General Assembly  
86 having cognizance of matters relating to labor on the update to the  
87 department's Internet web site.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 17 \$	FY 18 \$
Education, Dept.	GF - Cost	Less than 5,000	Less than 5,000

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

Section 1 of the bill (1) requires the education commissioner, in collaboration with the Board of Regents (BOR), to establish a committee to coordinate efforts to educate middle and high school students about manufacturing careers; and (2) the education department, in consultation with the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology (CCAT), must develop a best practices guide to help local and regional boards of education incorporate relationships with manufacturing in their middle school and high school curricula. These requirements are not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact as both the State Department of Education (SDE) and BOR have the staff and expertise necessary to perform these duties.

Additionally, the bill requires the education commissioner to develop, in consultation with the committee, a program to introduce middle and high school students to manufacturing careers. This is anticipated to result in a minimal cost to SDE, as posters, videos, and pamphlets to promote modern manufacturing are readily available. It is anticipated that it would cost SDE less than \$5,000 to develop and administer the program.

Section 2 requires the Department of Labor (DOL) to update its

Apprenticeship Training Program website to include information enumerated in the bill by January 1, 2017 and at least annually thereafter, and to report to the legislature on those updates by January 31, 2017. As DOL is currently in the process of improving its Apprenticeship Training Program website, it is anticipated that the updates required under the bill will not result in the need for additional resources.

House "A" strikes the underlying bill and its associated fiscal impact and replaces it with the fiscal impact identified above.

***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

**OLR Bill Analysis****sHB 5423 (as amended by House "A")\******AN ACT ENCOURAGING MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO CONSIDER CAREERS IN MANUFACTURING.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the education commissioner, in collaboration with the Board of Regents, to establish a committee to coordinate efforts to educate middle and high school students about manufacturing careers.

Under the bill, the committee must annually (1) compile a catalog of manufacturing training programs at public and private educational institutions in the state and (2) analyze, in consultation with the manufacturing industry, whether current programs available to Connecticut students are meeting workforce needs. It must annually report its findings to the Commerce and Higher Education committees, with the first report due February 1, 2017.

The bill also requires the education commissioner to develop (1) a program, in consultation with the committee, to introduce middle and high school students to manufacturing careers and (2) a best practices guide, in consultation with representatives from the manufacturing industry and the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology (CCAT), to help local and regional boards of education incorporate relationships with the manufacturing industry in their middle school and high school curricula.

Finally, the bill requires the Department of Labor (DOL) to update its apprenticeship website, by March 1, 2017, with certain information, such as a list of occupations in which apprentices are employed and apprenticeship coursework and cost.

\*House Amendment "A" (1) adds the provisions on DOL's apprenticeship website, (2) adds committee members, (3) makes minor changes to the programs established under the original bill, and (4) makes technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**COMMITTEE COMPOSITION**

The committee must include, but is not limited to, middle and high school teachers and guidance counselors and representatives of the following:

1. Department of Economic and Community Development,
2. Department of Labor,
3. CCAT,
4. technical high school system,
5. advanced manufacturing centers at the regional community-technical colleges,
6. independent higher education institutions that offer manufacturing training,
7. Connecticut Employment and Training Commission,
8. manufacturing companies, and
9. employee organizations representing manufacturing workers.

**MANUFACTURING PROGRAM CATALOG**

The bill requires the committee to annually compile a catalog of manufacturing training programs at public and independent higher educational institutions. The first catalog must be completed by January 1, 2017, and each subsequent catalog must be completed by August 1, annually. The education commissioner must post the catalog on the education department's website and distribute the catalog to

each local and regional board of education.

The catalog must include the following information for each program:

1. the degree, certification, license, or credential awarded on completion of the program;
2. the time period and requirements for completion;
3. the enrollment process; and
4. the cost of attendance.

### **PROGRAM TO INTRODUCE STUDENTS TO MANUFACTURING**

The bill requires the education commissioner, in consultation with the committee, to develop and administer a program to introduce middle and high school students, their parents or guardians, and guidance counselors to manufacturing careers. Under the bill, the program may include posters, videos, pamphlets, social media, and other technology to describe and promote (1) modern manufacturing and (2) the manufacturing training programs included in the catalog created by the committee.

Under the bill, the commissioner may enter into partnerships with one or more private sector entities to further the goals of the program. The partnerships can include student visits to manufacturers and manufacturer visits to schools to give students first-hand exposure to modern manufacturing and the products and materials created by in-state manufacturers.

### **DOL'S APPRENTICESHIP WEBSITE**

This bill requires DOL to update its Internet website for the Office of Apprenticeship Training by March 1, 2017. The update must at least:

1. simplify the process by which current and prospective apprentices and employers can access comprehensive information about apprenticeship training;

2. provide an accurate list of occupations in which apprentices are employed in the state and the number of apprentices who participated in each occupation during the previous calendar year; and
3. include comprehensive information about apprenticeship coursework, with a list of coursework providers, their websites and locations, the occupations in which they offer coursework, and associated costs.

Any information on apprenticeship programs' associated costs must be accompanied by a disclaimer that cost is only one factor to consider when selecting coursework. DOL may provide electronic links to such information.

Under the bill, DOL must update the lists of occupations with apprentices and coursework providers as often as practicable, but at least annually, to improve the efficiency by which current and prospective apprentices and employers may engage in apprenticeships in the state.

Lastly, DOL must report on the website update to the Program Review and Investigations and Labor and Public Employees committees by March 31, 2017.

## **BACKGROUND**

### ***Related Bill***

SB 169, favorably reported by the Program Review and Investigations Committee, contains substantially similar provisions on DOL's apprenticeship website.

## **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Commerce Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 20 Nay 0 (03/15/2016)