

Appropriations Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-369

AN ACT CONCERNING JOB DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

Title: OPPORTUNITIES.

Vote Date: 4/5/2018

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 3/28/2018

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Appropriations Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

The committee created this bill to serve as a placeholder for potential job training and job development legislation.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None expressed

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

[Eric Brown, Connecticut Business and Industry Association](#), spoke in favor of the bill and the goal of “scaling up” the training of the manufacturing workforce.

[Jeremy Teitelbaum, Provost at UCONN](#), told the committee about UCONN’s commitment to graduating more students in the STEM fields. He outlined the growth of the programs and the need for more funds to expand further.

[Clifford E. Thermer and Gary E. Minor, Goodwin College](#), related the manufacturing training programs that Goodwin offers and spotlighted their success in providing education to satisfy a number of different certificate programs. They gave an overview of the resources they have to deliver positive training outcomes. They expressed concern that the bill appears to be aimed at public institutions and as a private, non-profit, they hoped they would also be considered.

[Steve Finton, Three Rivers Community College](#), spoke in favor of the bill. He explained that the national increase in defense spending and the commitments for new submarines would create a real need for trained manufacturing workers at all levels and in a broad range of manufacturers, large and small. He told the committee how, working through the Eastern Connecticut Manufacturing Pipeline with DOL funds, Three Rivers had trained and placed almost 300 workers with about 225 student set to graduate.

[Mary Ellen Jukoski, President of Three Rivers Community College](#), outlined for the committee not only how many students had been trained, but also how closely they had worked with Electric Boat to supply their specific needs. She gave a roster of available spaces for instruction and collaborations with surrounding schools and active suppliers.

[Marjorie Valentin, Associate Dean for Workforce and Community Education at Three Rivers Community College](#), told the committee that the federal funds for training would end in September. She explained how over the term of the grant, Three Rivers and other stakeholders in Eastern Connecticut had built a collaborative network that has produced nationally recognized results and they look forward to being able to continue to train the workforce that Connecticut's future demands.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None expressed

Reported by: Elizabeth Gillette

Date: 4/10/18