



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 443**

February Session, 2018



**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CONNECTICUT BLOCKCHAIN WORKING GROUP.**

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of Economic  
2 and Community Development shall convene a Connecticut Blockchain  
3 Working Group to develop a master plan for fostering the expansion  
4 and growth of the blockchain industry in the state and recommend  
5 policies and state investments to make Connecticut the world leader in  
6 blockchain technology. Such master plan shall: (1) Identify the pros  
7 and cons of developing the blockchain industry resulting from existing  
8 and emergent conditions; (2) assess the scope and scale of the existing  
9 blockchain industry in the state and recommend initiatives that would  
10 strengthen such industry; (3) review workforce needs and academic  
11 programs required to build blockchain expertise across all relevant  
12 industries; and (4) study and make recommendations regarding tax  
13 code changes, appropriations, bond authorizations, administrative and  
14 organizational actions and related activities that would encourage the  
15 expansion and growth of the state's blockchain industry.

16 (b) The working group shall consist of (1) not fewer than five  
17 individuals appointed by the commissioner, each of whom shall have  
18 expertise in blockchain technology or represent an industry that could  
19 benefit from blockchain technology; and (2) two members appointed

20 by the president of The University of Connecticut.

21 (c) All appointments to the working group shall be made not later  
22 than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy  
23 shall be filled by the appointing authority.

24 (d) The commissioner shall appoint the chairperson of the working  
25 group from among the members of the working group. Such  
26 chairperson shall schedule the first meeting of the working group,  
27 which shall be held not later than July 1, 2018. The working group  
28 shall meet at such other times as the chairperson deems necessary.

29 (e) Not later than January 1, 2019, the working group shall submit a  
30 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing  
31 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
32 relating to commerce, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-  
33 4a of the general statutes. The working group shall terminate on the  
34 date that it submits such report or January 1, 2019, whichever is later.

35 Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2018*) The sum of two hundred thousand  
36 dollars is appropriated to the Department of Economic and  
37 Community Development, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year  
38 ending June 30, 2019, for purposes of developing a master plan for  
39 fostering the expansion and growth of the blockchain industry  
40 pursuant to section 1 of this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2018</i>	New section

**CE**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*