



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 535

February Session, 2018



AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE APPRENTICESHIP CONNECTICUT INITIATIVE AND CONCERNING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MANUFACTURING BONDS FOR SUBMARINE FACILITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2018*) (a) There is established the
2 Apprenticeship Connecticut initiative to develop work force pipeline
3 programs to train qualified entry-level workers for job placement with
4 manufacturers and employers in other industry sectors in the state that
5 are experiencing sustained work force shortages. The initiative shall
6 include, where practicable, outreach to underserved populations,
7 including youths, to achieve success in the program and support the
8 state's economic development progress.

9 (b) (1) Not later than January 1, 2019, the Labor Commissioner shall
10 issue a request for qualifications to solicit proposals from regional
11 industry partnerships for a work force pipeline program to serve the
12 work force needs of manufacturers and other employers in the region.
13 To be eligible to submit a proposal, a regional industry partnership
14 shall include as members of such partnership (A) entities and
15 organizations with expertise in regional economic and work force
16 development, including, but not limited to, entities offering
17 apprenticeship or other work force training programs, (B) the regional

18 work force development board, established pursuant to section 31-3k
19 of the general statutes, for the applicable work force region, and (C) at
20 least one educational institution such as a vocational-technical school
21 or an institution of higher education or at least one employer located in
22 the work force region. A regional industry partnership may include
23 other entities, organizations or institutions that support the goals of the
24 partnership and initiative.

25 (2) Prior to the date established by the commissioner for the
26 submission of responses to such request for qualifications, each
27 regional work force development board shall submit a report to the
28 General Assembly, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4 of
29 the general statutes, that sets forth the most pressing work force needs
30 within such board's region and identifies the industry sector or sectors
31 in which such needs are the greatest.

32 (c) Each proposal shall be submitted by the partnership through the
33 regional work force development board and shall demonstrate the
34 targeted goal of preparing qualified entry-level workers for careers
35 that provide a living wage. Each proposal shall include plans for the
36 following core program components:

37 (1) Identification of the region's most pressing work force needs and
38 the industry sector or sectors in which such needs are the greatest, as
39 reported to the General Assembly pursuant to subdivision (2) of
40 subsection (b) of this section;

41 (2) Recruitment in the program of, and outreach efforts to, potential
42 job seekers;

43 (3) (A) Screening and assessment of individuals interested in
44 manufacturing work or employment in other sectors proposed to be
45 targeted by the partnership, by which individuals will be assessed for
46 work readiness, aptitude for the relevant work skills and on other
47 metrics as specified by the partnership or as recommended by the
48 Labor Department;

49 (B) Redirecting or connecting individuals determined through the
50 screening and assessment process not to be suited for participation in
51 the program to or with alternative career resources or services
52 available to residents of the state that may be better suited to such
53 individuals;

54 (C) Placement of individuals screened and assessed who are
55 selected to participate in a training program, with an employer
56 identified by the partnership, upon such individual's successful
57 completion of the training program. Such identified employer shall
58 commit to hire one or more individuals who successfully complete the
59 training program and may further offer related on-the-job training or
60 other in-house training opportunities to such individual or
61 individuals. The partnership shall seek to leverage any such training or
62 opportunities, apprenticeship programs, the Labor Department's
63 subsidized training and employment program and other wage-subsidy
64 programs with employers who commit to hiring individuals, and may
65 seek program funding for retention services;

66 (4) (A) Separate training programs for participants (i) in the eleventh
67 or twelfth grade, and (ii) eighteen years of age or older who are not
68 currently enrolled in eleventh or twelfth grade. Such training
69 programs shall be provided by partnership members or with the
70 assistance of other parties as identified in the proposal;

71 (B) Training programs shall be not less than five consecutive weeks
72 and not more than twenty-six consecutive weeks in duration. At least
73 one training program offered for each age group shall be provided
74 through a certified preapprenticeship program offered by the Labor
75 Department. Any other training program may include a
76 preapprenticeship component or award industry-recognized
77 certificates, as proposed by the partnership;

78 (C) Training programs shall be developed and revised periodically
79 through ongoing consultation with employers targeted for job
80 placement of program participants;

81 (5) The duration of a work force pipeline program shall be not less
82 than four years from the date of its establishment;

83 (6) For each core program component, identification of specific
84 existing resources available to such partnership through the regional
85 work force development board, the United States Department of
86 Labor's American Job Center system, the state Labor Department,
87 employers, apprenticeship or other work force training programs,
88 educational institutions in the state or other public or private funds. If
89 the partnership proposes using program funds for the purposes of core
90 program components, it shall demonstrate for each such component
91 that there will be leveraged funding support from existing resources
92 and that the use of program funds for such purposes will not affect the
93 availability of such existing resources; and

94 (7) The following limits shall apply to the use of any program funds
95 awarded to a partnership: (A) Not more than seventy per cent of such
96 funds shall be used for the training programs set forth in subdivision
97 (4) of this subsection; (B) not more than twenty per cent of such funds
98 shall be used for supporting services for the program, including
99 recruitment and outreach efforts, screening and assessment,
100 transportation, stipends, workplace tools or equipment and
101 preemployment supports; and (C) not more than ten per cent of such
102 funds shall be used for any other purpose, including administrative
103 costs.

104 (d) (1) The commissioner shall review all qualifying responses to the
105 request for qualifications and select as many proposals as the
106 commissioner deems to be well-planned and the partnership to be
107 capable of implementing its proposal. The commissioner shall select
108 proposals so as to achieve a goal of not fewer than ten thousand
109 individuals placed into new jobs over the first four years of a program,
110 with one-third of such individuals from the group under
111 subparagraph (A)(i) of subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section
112 and two-thirds of such individuals from the group under
113 subparagraph (A)(ii) of subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section.

114 (2) (A) The commissioner shall award funds to the partnerships
115 selected under subdivision (1) of this subsection in proportion to the
116 magnitude of the work force needs within the work force region
117 proposed to be served, relative to the comparable work force needs
118 within other work force regions of the state, provided no partnership
119 shall receive more than twenty million dollars in total funding. The
120 commissioner may further weight such distribution according to any
121 total cost per program participant proposed by a partnership that the
122 commissioner deems reasonable, and may give preference to a
123 partnership with a lower total cost per program participant.

124 (B) The commissioner shall reserve from any funds awarded under
125 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision sufficient funds to support the
126 use of the certified preapprenticeship program offered by the Labor
127 Department and shall transfer such reserved funds to the appropriate
128 departmental account to be used for such purpose.

129 (e) Any regional industry partnership may seek (1) to leverage
130 tuition or financial assistance programs for purposes of the program
131 and for the benefit of individuals participating in the program, and (2)
132 philanthropic and employer investments to meet the goal set forth in
133 subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of this section and to support
134 retention of individuals participating in the program.

135 Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2018*) (a) For the purposes described in
136 subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission shall have
137 the power from time to time to authorize the issuance of bonds of the
138 state in one or more series and in principal amounts not exceeding in
139 the aggregate fifty million dollars.

140 (b) The proceeds of the sale of such bonds, to the extent of the
141 amount stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be used by the
142 Labor Department for the purposes of funding work force pipeline
143 programs selected pursuant to section 1 of this act.

144 (c) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the

145 exercise of any right or power granted thereby, that are not
146 inconsistent with the provisions of this section are hereby adopted and
147 shall apply to all bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission
148 pursuant to this section. Temporary notes in anticipation of the money
149 to be derived from the sale of any such bonds so authorized may be
150 issued in accordance with section 3-20 of the general statutes and from
151 time to time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times
152 not exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be
153 provided in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State
154 Bond Commission authorizing such bonds. None of such bonds shall
155 be authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission
156 that there has been filed with it a request for such authorization that is
157 signed by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
158 Management and states such terms and conditions as said commission,
159 in its discretion, may require. Such bonds issued pursuant to this
160 section shall be general obligations of the state and the full faith and
161 credit of the state of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the
162 principal of and interest on such bonds as the same become due, and
163 accordingly and as part of the contract of the state with the holders of
164 such bonds, appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual
165 payment of such principal and interest is hereby made, and the State
166 Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the same become
167 due.

168 Sec. 3. Section 32-235 of the 2018 supplement to the general statutes
169 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
170 *1, 2018*):

171 (a) For the purposes described in subsection (b) of this section, the
172 State Bond Commission shall have the power, from time to time to
173 authorize the issuance of bonds of the state in one or more series and
174 in principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate one billion seven
175 hundred fifty-five million three hundred thousand dollars, provided
176 (1) one hundred forty million dollars of said authorization shall be
177 effective July 1, 2011, and twenty million dollars of said authorization

178 shall be made available for small business development; (2) two
179 hundred eighty million dollars of said authorization shall be effective
180 July 1, 2012, and forty million dollars of said authorization shall be
181 made available for the Small Business Express program established
182 pursuant to section 32-7g and not more than twenty million dollars of
183 said authorization may be made available for businesses that commit
184 to relocating one hundred or more jobs that are outside of the United
185 States to the state; and (3) one hundred seventy-five million dollars of
186 said authorization shall be effective July 1, 2018. Any amount of said
187 authorizations that are made available for small business development
188 or businesses that commit to relocating one hundred or more jobs that
189 are outside of the United States to the state, but are not exhausted for
190 such purpose by the first day of the fiscal year subsequent to the fiscal
191 year in which such amount was made available, shall be used for the
192 purposes described in subsection (b) of this section. For purposes of
193 this subsection, a "small business" is one employing not more than one
194 hundred employees.

195 (b) The proceeds of the sale of said bonds, to the extent of the
196 amount stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be used by the
197 Department of Economic and Community Development;

198 (1) [for] For the purposes of sections 32-220 to 32-234, inclusive,
199 including economic cluster-related programs and activities, and for the
200 Connecticut job training finance demonstration program pursuant to
201 sections 32-23uu and 32-23vv, provided;

202 (A) [three] Three million dollars shall be used by said department
203 solely for the purposes of section 32-23uu and not more than five
204 million two hundred fifty thousand dollars of the amount stated in
205 said subsection (a) may be used by said department for the purposes of
206 section 31-3u; [.]

207 (B) [not] Not less than one million dollars shall be used for an
208 educational technology grant to the deployment center program and
209 the nonprofit business consortium deployment center approved

210 pursuant to section 32-41l; [,]

211 (C) [not] Not less than two million dollars shall be used by said
212 department for the establishment of a pilot program to make grants to
213 businesses in designated areas of the state for construction, renovation
214 or improvement of small manufacturing facilities, provided such
215 grants are matched by the business, a municipality or another
216 financing entity. The Commissioner of Economic and Community
217 Development shall designate areas of the state where manufacturing is
218 a substantial part of the local economy and shall make grants under
219 such pilot program which are likely to produce a significant economic
220 development benefit for the designated area; [,]

221 (D) [five] Five million dollars may be used by said department for
222 the manufacturing competitiveness grants program; [,]

223 (E) [one] One million dollars shall be used by said department for
224 the purpose of a grant to the Connecticut Center for Advanced
225 Technology, for the purposes of subdivision (5) of subsection (a) of
226 section 32-7f; [,]

227 (F) [fifty] Fifty million dollars shall be used by said department for
228 the purpose of grants to the United States Department of the Navy, the
229 United States Department of Defense or eligible applicants for projects
230 related to the enhancement of infrastructure for long-term, on-going
231 naval operations at the United States Naval Submarine Base-New
232 London, located in Groton, which will increase the military value of
233 said base. Such projects shall not be subject to the provisions of
234 sections 4a-60 and 4a-60a; [,]

235 (G) [two] Two million dollars shall be used by said department for
236 the purpose of a grant to the Connecticut Center for Advanced
237 Technology, Inc., for manufacturing initiatives, including aerospace
238 and defense; [, and]

239 (H) [four] Four million dollars shall be used by said department for
240 the purpose of a grant to companies adversely impacted by the

241 construction at the Quinnipiac Bridge, where such grant may be used
242 to offset the increase in costs of commercial overland transportation of
243 goods or materials brought to the port of New Haven by ship or vessel;
244 [] and

245 (I) One hundred million dollars shall be used by said department
246 for the purpose of grants to a company that (i) is engaged in the
247 design, construction and lifecycle support of submarines for the United
248 States Navy, (ii) has a production facility and an engineering office in
249 the state prior to July 1, 2018, (iii) plans to expand production of
250 submarines in response to increased demand from the United States
251 Navy, and (iv) has a parent company that is engaged in the aerospace
252 and defense industry. Such grants may be used for (I) acquisition of
253 lands, buildings, machinery, equipment or any combination thereof,
254 (II) site and infrastructure improvements, and (III) planning costs;

255 (2) [for] For the purposes of the small business assistance program
256 established pursuant to section 32-9yy, provided fifteen million dollars
257 shall be deposited in the small business assistance account established
258 pursuant to said section 32-9yy; []

259 (3) [to] To deposit twenty million dollars in the small business
260 express assistance account established pursuant to section 32-7h; []

261 (4) [to] To deposit four million nine hundred thousand dollars per
262 year in each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, to June 30, 2019,
263 inclusive, and June 30, 2021, and nine million nine hundred thousand
264 dollars in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, in the CTNext Fund
265 established pursuant to section 32-39i, which shall be used by CTNext
266 to provide grants-in-aid to designated innovation places, as defined in
267 section 32-39j, planning grants-in-aid pursuant to section 32-39l, and
268 grants-in-aid for projects that network innovation places pursuant to
269 subsection (b) of section 32-39m, provided not more than three million
270 dollars be used for grants-in-aid for such projects; []

271 (5) [to] To deposit two million dollars per year in each of the fiscal

272 years ending June 30, 2019, to June 30, 2021, inclusive, in the CTNext
273 Fund established pursuant to section 32-39i, which shall be used by
274 CTNext for the purpose of providing higher education
275 entrepreneurship grants-in-aid pursuant to section 32-39g; []

276 (6) [for] For the purpose of funding the costs of the Technology
277 Talent Advisory Committee established pursuant to section 32-7p,
278 provided two million dollars per year in each of the fiscal years ending
279 June 30, 2017, to June 30, 2021, inclusive, shall be used for such
280 purpose; []

281 (7) [to] To provide (A) a grant-in-aid to the Connecticut Supplier
282 Connection in an amount equal to two hundred fifty thousand dollars
283 in each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, to June 30, 2021,
284 inclusive, and (B) a grant-in-aid to the Connecticut Procurement
285 Technical Assistance Program in an amount equal to three hundred
286 thousand dollars in each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, to
287 June 30, 2021, inclusive; [] and

288 (8) [to] To deposit four hundred fifty thousand dollars per year, in
289 each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, to June 30, 2021, inclusive,
290 in the CTNext Fund established pursuant to section 32-39i, which shall
291 be used by CTNext to provide four hundred fifty thousand dollars in
292 each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, to June 30, 2021, inclusive,
293 for the purposes of growth grants-in-aid pursuant to section 32-39g.

294 (c) All provisions of section 3-20, or the exercise of any right or
295 power granted thereby which are not inconsistent with the provisions
296 of this section are hereby adopted and shall apply to all bonds
297 authorized by the State Bond Commission pursuant to this section, and
298 temporary notes in anticipation of the money to be derived from the
299 sale of any such bonds so authorized may be issued in accordance with
300 said section 3-20 and from time to time renewed. Such bonds shall
301 mature at such time or times not exceeding twenty years from their
302 respective dates as may be provided in or pursuant to the resolution or
303 resolutions of the State Bond Commission authorizing such bonds.

304 None of said bonds shall be authorized except upon a finding by the
305 State Bond Commission that there has been filed with it a request for
306 such authorization, which is signed by or on behalf of the Secretary of
307 the Office of Policy and Management and states such terms and
308 conditions as said commission, in its discretion, may require. Said
309 bonds issued pursuant to this section shall be general obligations of the
310 state and the full faith and credit of the state of Connecticut are
311 pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds
312 as the same become due, and accordingly and as part of the contract of
313 the state with the holders of said bonds, appropriation of all amounts
314 necessary for punctual payment of such principal and interest is
315 hereby made, and the Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest
316 as the same become due.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2018</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2018</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2018</i>	32-235

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1(b)(2) and throughout Section 1(c), provisions were rewritten for consistency with other provisions in the Section, and the title was changed.

FIN *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*