



Connecticut General Assembly
SENATE DEMOCRATS

Legislative Office Building, Room 3300
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1591

SB 5 An Act Establishing a Workforce Pipeline and Job Creation Task Force

In 2018 with the passage of a Workforce Pipeline & Apprenticeship initiative to provide rapid work skills training for people seeking employment, then place up to 10,000 participants directly into good paying jobs with a bright future.

After many decades of decline, Connecticut's manufacturing sector is now experiencing strong employment growth and Senate Bill 5 is looking to continue these efforts.

Manufacturing jobs in Connecticut have grown year-over-year in every single month since October of 2016, and have grown 4.5 percent overall since that time.¹ Yet employment opportunities in Connecticut are not limited to the manufacturing sector alone. Health care remains a strong area of employment growth, with a need for many more skilled workers, as do the skilled trades (electricians, plumbers, etc.), where an aging workforce is creating many opportunities for young people.

In order to begin addressing the state's many workforce needs, a collaborative workforce training effort known as the Eastern CT Manufacturing Pipeline Initiative was established two years ago by Electric Boat, the Eastern Advanced Manufacturing Alliance (EAMA), the Eastern Workforce Investment Board (EWIB), and other partners. Through this effort 1,000 entry-level workers were rapidly trained and placed into jobs over a two year period. With a track record of success, this is a proven model piloted by this effort, and Senate Bill 5 is now looking to continue expansion into other sectors and areas of the state.

We urge you to pass this legislation so that we can continue to look at ways to create a pipeline to help guide our new generation of workers into bright careers.

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¹ <https://www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/sectors/Manufacturing.asp>



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