

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 19-142—sHB 6921

Labor and Public Employees Committee
Appropriations Committee

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COUNCIL ON THE COLLATERAL
CONSEQUENCES OF A CRIMINAL RECORD**

SUMMARY: This act establishes a 20-member legislative Council on the Collateral Consequences of a Criminal Record (“the council”) which must (1) study discrimination faced by people in the state living with a criminal record and (2) develop legislative recommendations to reduce or eliminate discrimination based on a person’s criminal history.

The act names the Labor and Public Employees Committee (“Labor Committee”) chairpersons as the council’s chairpersons and requires them to schedule and hold the first meeting by August 30, 2019. After that, the council must meet upon the call of either the chairpersons or a majority of the council members. It must hold at least three public forums in Connecticut communities to allow the public to provide input on the council’s focus. The Labor Committee’s administrative staff must serve as the council’s administrative staff.

The council must submit a report on its legislative recommendations to the Labor Committee by February 1, 2020.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2019

COUNCIL MEMBERS

The act establishes the council with 10 ex-officio members and 10 appointed members. The ex-officio members are the (1) chairpersons and ranking members of the Labor Committee; (2) undersecretary of the Office of Policy and Management’s Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division; (3) correction, labor, and consumer protection commissioners; (4) Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities’ executive director; and (5) Commission on Equity and Opportunity’s executive director. (PA 19-117, §§ 105-143 & 388, merges the Commission on Equity and Opportunity with the Commission on Women, Children and Seniors to create a single entity: the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity.)

All of the ex-officio members may appoint designees to the council; however, the designees of the Labor Committee’s chairpersons and ranking members must be members of the General Assembly.

Under the act, the remaining 10 members of the council must be appointed by either the House or Senate chairperson of the Labor Committee and have certain qualifications, as shown in the table below.

Appointed Members

O L R P U B L I C A C T S U M M A R Y

<i>Appointed by House Chair of the Labor Committee</i>	<i>Appointed by Senate Chair of the Labor Committee</i>
A justice-impacted person	Representative from the American Civil Liberties Union of Connecticut
Representative from the Connecticut Coalition for Achievement Now	Representative from the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness
Representative from the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy	Representative from the Katal Center for Health, Equity, and Justice
Representative from the National Council for Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Women and Girls	Representative from the New Haven Legal Assistance Association Reentry Clinic
Representative from the Service Employees' International Union, Local 32BJ	Representative from Voices of Women of Color