AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM FOR THE EXPANSION OF ADVANCED MANUFACTURING CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS.

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

Section 1. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2019) (a) On or before January 1, 2020, the Board of Regents for Higher Education shall establish a pilot program for the expansion of the advanced manufacturing certificate programs offered by the regional community-technical colleges to public high schools in the state, which public high schools shall function as satellite locations of the advanced manufacturing centers located at such colleges. The board shall (1) prescribe the form and manner in which local or regional boards of education may apply to the board to participate in the pilot program, (2) establish the criteria to be used by the board in selecting up to eight public high schools to participate in the pilot program, which shall include, but need not be limited to, prioritizing the placement of such advanced manufacturing certificate programs in areas of the state where (A) there is a need for a workforce trained in advanced manufacturing, (B) there are economically distressed municipalities, (C) residents do not have access to advanced manufacturing certificate programs within close proximity to their homes, and (D) there is sufficient space in a public high school to operate an advanced manufacturing certificate program, and (3) explore the means of funding the pilot program through public-private partnerships, grant programs, federal funds or state
funds through the Workforce Investment Boards, any relevant program of the Department of Economic and Community Development, the Connecticut Manufacturing Innovation Fund and the Labor Department's office of apprenticeship training.

(b) Any local or regional board of education, separately or jointly with other local or regional boards of education in the surrounding area, may apply to participate in the pilot program in the form and manner prescribed by the Board of Regents for Higher Education. Each local or regional board of education selected to participate in the pilot program, whether separately or jointly, shall enter into a memorandum of understanding for the operation of the advanced manufacturing center satellite location with the regional community-technical college that serves the area in which the board is located, as such areas are described in section 10a-78 of the general statutes. Such memorandum of understanding shall include, but need not be limited to, (1) the number of high school and college credits the students enrolled in the advanced manufacturing certificate program may earn after successful completion of such program, (2) operating hours and staffing levels for the advanced manufacturing center satellite location, and (3) the standards for student admission and the process for application to the advanced manufacturing certificate program.

(c) Beginning in the fall semester in 2020, and for each academic semester thereafter, each advanced manufacturing center satellite location approved by the Board of Regents for Higher Education shall enroll (1) public high school students in grade eleven or twelve from the school districts of the local or regional board or boards of education that have entered into the memorandum of understanding pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, to simultaneously earn high school credits from the public high school in which the student is enrolled and college credits and an advanced manufacturing certificate from the regional community-technical college that operates the advanced manufacturing center satellite location, and (2) adults for classes during the evening and weekend hours to earn an advanced
manufacturing certificate from the regional community-technical college that operates the advanced manufacturing center satellite location.

(d) Not later than January 1, 2021, and annually thereafter, the Board of Regents for Higher Education shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education and employment advancement and education on the operation and effectiveness of the pilot program and any recommendations to expand the pilot program.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

| Section 1 | July 1, 2019 | New section |

HED Joint Favorable Subst.