



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 401

January Session, 2021

Substitute Senate Bill No. 904

Senate, April 12, 2021

The Committee on Labor and Public Employees reported through SEN. KUSHNER of the 24th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE LABOR DEPARTMENT'S EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION.

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

1 Section 1. Section 31-237 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) There shall continue to be in the Labor Department a division, to
4 be known as the Employment Security Division, which shall be
5 administered by a full-time, salaried, executive director, who shall be
6 subject to the supervision and the direction of the administrator.
7 Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (4) of section 5-198, such
8 executive director shall be in the classified service and shall devote full-
9 time to the duties of his or her office. The administrator is authorized to
10 appoint, fix the compensation of and prescribe the duties of such
11 executive director, provided such appointment shall be subject to the
12 approval of the Governor and the rate of such compensation shall be
13 subject to the approval of the Governor and the Secretary of the Office

14 of Policy and Management. The Employment Security Division shall be
 15 responsible for matters relating to unemployment compensation and
 16 the Connecticut State Employment Service, and shall establish and
 17 maintain free public employment bureaus in such number and in such
 18 places as may be necessary for the proper administration of this chapter
 19 and for the purpose of performing such duties as are within the purview
 20 of the Act of Congress entitled "An Act to Provide for the Establishment
 21 of a National Employment System and for Cooperation with the States
 22 in the Promotion of Such System and for Other Purposes", approved
 23 June 6, 1933, as amended. The administrator may cooperate with or
 24 enter into agreements with the Federal Railroad Retirement Board with
 25 respect to the establishment, maintenance and use of free employment
 26 service facilities. Moneys received from the Federal Railroad Retirement
 27 Board as compensation for services or facilities supplied to said board
 28 shall be paid into the Employment Security Administration Fund.

29 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 50, the Employment
 30 Security Division is authorized to purchase supply items and equipment
 31 obtainable directly from the General Services Administration of the
 32 United States government or any other federal agency, out of funds
 33 established under the provisions of subsection (a) or (d) of section 31-
 34 259 or out of funds established by or granted pursuant to federal
 35 authority to the Employment Security Division, if the administrator
 36 deems such purchases to be in the best interests of the state and said
 37 Employment Security Division.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	31-237

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

The title was changed for accuracy.

LAB *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which makes the executive director of the Department of Labor's Employment Security Division a member of the state employee classified service, does not result in any fiscal impact to the state or municipalities. The existing position (which is currently vacant)¹ is funded through federal dollars and would remain so if it became classified.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

¹ The current salary for this position ranges from \$101,769 to \$184,902; it is uncertain how a transition to classified service would affect this range.

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 904

AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE LABOR DEPARTMENT'S EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION.

SUMMARY

This bill makes the executive director of the Department of Labor's Employment Security Division a member of the state employee classified service (i.e., subject to various civil service procedures and requirements) and requires the executive director to devote full-time to the offices' duties. By law, the Employment Security Division is responsible for various matters related to the state's unemployment compensation system.

By law, unchanged by the bill, the labor commissioner may (1) appoint the executive director, subject to the governor's approval; (2) set the position's pay, subject to approval from the governor and the Office of Policy and Management secretary; and (3) prescribe the position's duties. (To the extent these powers may conflict with the civil service law's procedures and requirements for employees in the classified service, it is unclear which law would prevail.)

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Labor and Public Employees Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 12 Nay 1 (03/23/2021)