



General Assembly

January Session, 2021

Committee Bill No. 6235

LCO No. 5075



Referred to Committee on HIGHER EDUCATION AND
EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT

Introduced by:
(HED)

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE "LEARN HERE, HEAL HERE"
PROGRAM.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 32-4i of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

3 (a) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development,
4 in consultation with the Commissioner of Revenue Services and the
5 president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, [may] shall
6 establish the Learn Here, [Live] Heal Here program. Such program
7 [may] shall provide an incentive for [graduates of a public institution
8 of higher education, private university or college, or health care training
9 school in this state, or graduates from a technical education and career
10 school,] persons licensed to practice psychiatry pursuant to the
11 provisions of chapter 370 to buy a first home in the state. Persons who
12 (1) graduate on or after January 1, [2014] 2022, from [such institutions,
13 universities, colleges or schools may] a medical school located in the
14 United States or Canada accredited by the Liaison Committee on
15 Medical Education, (2) are licensed to practice psychiatry pursuant to

16 the provisions of chapter 370, and (3) accept patients who receive health
17 care coverage through any medical insurance plan, including, but not
18 limited to, the HUSKY Health program may apply to the Commissioner
19 of Economic and Community Development, in the form and manner
20 prescribed by the commissioner, to have their income tax liability, up to
21 a maximum of two thousand five hundred dollars annually, segregated
22 into the Connecticut first-time homebuyers account established
23 pursuant to section 32-4j, as amended by this act, provided, in any
24 calendar year, not more than (A) one million dollars from all program
25 participants may be so segregated, [in any calendar year] and (B) forty
26 persons may be accepted as new program participants. After a period
27 not exceeding ten years after graduation, any amounts so segregated
28 may be withdrawn by a participant for the purchase of a first home in
29 the state. The Commissioner of Economic and Community
30 Development [may] shall make payments in accordance with this
31 section from said fund to the participants. [For the purposes of this
32 section, "health care training school" means a medical or dental school,
33 chiropractic college, school or college of optometry, school or college of
34 chiropody or podiatry, school of occupational therapy, hospital-based
35 occupational school, school or college of naturopathy, school of dental
36 hygiene, school of physical therapy or any other school or institution
37 giving instruction in the healing arts.]

38 (b) (1) After a period not exceeding ten years after the date of
39 graduation, a participant in the program established pursuant to
40 subsection (a) of this section may apply to the Commissioner of
41 Economic and Community Development for a payment to be issued, on
42 behalf of such participant, and used as the down payment on a house,
43 which [must] shall be the first house such participant has bought, either
44 singly or jointly. Such payment may be in an amount equal to the
45 amount of segregated funds deposited on behalf of such participant. If
46 the payment is less than such amount, any excess amount shall be
47 deposited in the General Fund.

48 (2) If a participant ceases to live in the state at any time up to one year
49 after [such date] the date on which the Commissioner of Economic and

50 Community Development issued the payment to the participant, such
51 participant shall repay one hundred per cent of the amount paid out. If
52 a participant ceases to live in the state at any time up to two years after
53 such [date] payment, such participant shall repay eighty per cent of the
54 amount paid out. If a participant ceases to live in the state at any time
55 up to three years after such [date] payment, such participant shall repay
56 sixty per cent of the amount paid out. If a participant ceases to live in
57 the state at any time up to four years after such [date] payment, such
58 participant shall repay forty per cent of the amount paid out. If a
59 participant ceases to live in the state at any time up to five years after
60 such [date] payment, such participant shall repay twenty per cent of the
61 amount paid out. After five years, there is no repayment obligation. Any
62 amounts repaid under this subdivision shall be deposited in the General
63 Fund. The commissioner shall file a lien against the title of the property
64 purchased by the participant in the amount of the payment issued by
65 the commissioner on the date of such purchase to secure the repayment
66 of the amounts required pursuant to this subdivision. The lien filed by
67 the commissioner shall take precedence over any subsequent transfer or
68 encumbrances recorded against the title of the property, including any
69 mortgage lien filed contemporaneously with the commissioner's lien,
70 and shall expire after a period of not less than five years from the
71 participant's purchase of the property.

72 (c) On or before December 1, [2012] 2021, the Commissioner of
73 Economic and Community Development [may] shall develop, within
74 available appropriations, a comprehensive public education program to
75 educate recent graduates of a [public institution of higher education,
76 private university or college, or health care training school in the state,
77 or of a technical education and career school,] medical school located in
78 the United States or Canada accredited by the Liaison Committee on
79 Medical Education about the program established under this section for
80 first-time home buyers. The public education program shall include, but
81 not be limited to, information concerning life-time savings plans and
82 information on the purchase of a home. [If the commissioner develops
83 such public education program, the] The department shall begin to
84 implement such program not later than January 1, [2014] 2022.

85 Sec. 2. Section 32-4k of the general statutes is repealed and the
86 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

87 As part of the Learn Here, Live [Here] Heal program established
88 pursuant to section 32-4i, as amended by this act, for taxable years
89 commencing on or after January 1, [2014] 2022, the Commissioner of
90 Revenue Services shall segregate the income taxes paid by a participant
91 in said program during a period not exceeding ten taxable years
92 following the year of graduation. Upon the request of such participant,
93 the commissioner shall segregate an annual amount of such tax liability,
94 up to a maximum of two thousand five hundred dollars per year. The
95 total amount segregated for all program participants shall not exceed
96 one million dollars in any calendar year. The commissioner shall deposit
97 such segregated amounts into the Connecticut first-time homebuyers
98 account established pursuant to section 32-4j, as amended by this act.

99 Sec. 3. Section 32-4j of the general statutes is repealed and the
100 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

101 There is established a Connecticut first-time homebuyers account
102 which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund.
103 Funds segregated by the Commissioner of Revenue Services, pursuant
104 to section 32-4k, as amended by this act, shall be deposited in the
105 account. An amount equal to the amount deposited in the account shall
106 be available to the Commissioner of Economic and Community
107 Development for payments to participants in the program established
108 pursuant to section 32-4i, as amended by this act. The State Treasurer
109 shall invest the proceeds of the account, and investment earnings, after
110 paying any costs incurred by the State Treasurer in administering the
111 account, shall be credited to the General Fund. On or before September
112 1, [2014] 2022, and annually thereafter, the State Treasurer shall notify
113 the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development of the
114 total amount deposited in the account. Any funds segregated on behalf
115 of a participant that are not used for the purchase of a first home shall
116 be transferred to the General Fund.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	32-4i
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	32-4k
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	32-4j

Statement of Purpose:

To establish a "Learn Here, Heal Here" program to provide a tax rebate to psychiatrists who work in the state to purchase their first home in the state within ten years of graduation from medical school.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. LINEHAN, 103rd Dist.; REP. CONLEY, 40th Dist.
 REP. TURCO, 27th Dist.; REP. SMITH, 48th Dist.

H.B. 6235