



General Assembly

January Session, 2021

Committee Bill No. 626

LCO No. 3873



Referred to Committee on COMMERCE

Introduced by:
(CE)

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ENTERPRISE ZONE IN THE TOWN OF PLYMOUTH.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 32-70 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
3 *2021*):

4 (c) (1) On or before September 30, 1993, the Commissioner of
5 Economic and Community Development shall approve the designation
6 of ten areas as enterprise zones, not more than four of which shall be in
7 municipalities with a population greater than eighty thousand and not
8 more than six of which shall be in municipalities with a population of
9 less than eighty thousand.

10 (2) (A) On or after October 1, 1993, the commissioner shall approve
11 the designation of two areas as enterprise zones. Each such area shall be
12 in a municipality with a population of less than eighty thousand, in
13 which there are one or more base or plant closures. Such municipalities
14 shall be in different counties. If the commissioner approves the
15 designation of an area of a municipality as an enterprise zone because

16 of a plant closure in the municipality and there is a closure of another
17 plant in any other municipality in the state by the same business, the
18 commissioner shall also designate an area in such other municipality as
19 an enterprise zone. If any such designated area includes a portion of a
20 census tract in which any such base or plant is located, the census tracts
21 in such area shall not be required to meet the eligibility criteria set forth
22 under subsection (a) of this section for enterprise zone designation. If
23 any such area is located elsewhere in the municipality, the census tracts
24 in such area shall meet such eligibility criteria. As used in this
25 subparagraph, (i) "base" means any United States or state of Connecticut
26 military base or facility located in whole or in part within the state; (ii)
27 "plant" means any manufacturing business or economic base business,
28 as defined in section 32-222; and (iii) "closure" means any reduction or
29 transfer in military personnel or civilian employment at one or more
30 bases or plants in a municipality, which occurred between July 1, 1989,
31 and July 1, 1993, or is scheduled to occur between July 1, 1993, and July
32 1, 1996, and exceeds two thousand persons. Such employment figures
33 shall be certified by the Labor Department. (B) On or after October 1,
34 1993, the commissioner shall approve the designation of three other
35 areas as enterprise zones, one of which shall be in a municipality with a
36 population greater than eighty thousand and two of which shall be in
37 municipalities with a population of less than eighty thousand. The
38 census tracts in such areas shall meet the eligibility criteria set forth
39 under subsection (a) of this section for enterprise zone designation. The
40 commissioner shall approve the designation of enterprise zones under
41 this subparagraph for those municipalities which he or she determines
42 to have experienced the largest increases in poverty from October 1,
43 1989, to October 1, 1993, inclusive, based on a weighted average of the
44 unemployment rate, caseload under the temporary family assistance
45 program and per capita income of less than ninety per cent of the state
46 average between 1985 and 1989. In making his determination, the
47 commissioner may also consider the vacancy rates for commercial and
48 industrial facilities in a municipality and a municipality's program for
49 the implementation of an effective enterprise zone program. To the

50 extent appropriate, the commissioner shall use the Regional Economic
51 Models, Inc. (REMI) system in making the calculations for such
52 determination. (C) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of
53 this section, municipalities that were not distressed municipalities
54 under the provisions of subsection (b) of section 32-9p on February 1,
55 1986, shall be eligible to designate areas as enterprise zones under
56 subparagraph (A) or (B) of this subdivision.

57 (3) On or after July 1, 2014, the commissioner shall approve the
58 designation of two areas as enterprise zones as follows: (A) One area
59 shall be in a municipality with a population of not more than fifty
60 thousand, as enumerated in the 2010 federal decennial census, and in
61 which is located a United States Postal Service processing center that at
62 any point in time employed one thousand or more persons, except that
63 such area shall only be designated as an enterprise zone for a term of
64 five years from the date any portion of the area is transferred, provided
65 such transfer occurs on or after July 1, 2014, and (B) one area shall be in
66 a municipality with a population of not less than seven thousand eight
67 hundred and not more than seven thousand nine hundred, as
68 enumerated in the 2010 federal decennial census, and having a total area
69 of not more than 12.2 square miles. Each such enterprise zone area shall
70 consist of two contiguous United States census tracts, contiguous
71 portions of such census tracts or all or a portion of an individual census
72 tract, as determined in accordance with the most recent federal
73 decennial census and, if such area is covered by zoning, a portion of
74 such area shall be zoned to allow commercial or industrial activity. The
75 census tracts in each such enterprise zone area shall not be required to
76 meet the eligibility criteria set forth in subsection (a) of this section.
77 Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,
78 municipalities that were not distressed municipalities under the
79 provisions of subsection (b) of section 32-9p on February 1, 1986, shall
80 be eligible to designate areas as enterprise zones under this subdivision.

81 (4) On or after July 1, 2021, the commissioner shall approve the
82 designation of one area, which shall be in a municipality with a

83 population of not less than twelve thousand two hundred and not more
84 than twelve thousand three hundred, having a total area of not more
85 than 22.34 square miles and having an average population density of
86 not more than 559.3 persons per square mile of land, as enumerated in
87 the 2010 federal decennial census. Such enterprise zone area shall
88 consist of two contiguous United States census tracts, contiguous
89 portions of such census tracts or all or a portion of an individual census
90 tract, as determined in accordance with the most recent federal
91 decennial census and, if such area is covered by zoning, a portion of
92 such area shall be zoned to allow commercial or industrial activity. The
93 census tracts in such enterprise zone area shall not be required to meet
94 the eligibility criteria set forth in subsection (a) of this section.
95 Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,
96 municipalities that were not distressed municipalities under the
97 provisions of subsection (b) of section 32-9p on February 1, 1986, shall
98 be eligible to designate areas as enterprise zones under this subdivision.

99 [[4)] (5) The commissioner shall not approve the designation of more
100 than one enterprise zone in any municipality. The commissioner shall
101 adopt regulations in accordance with chapter 54 concerning such
102 additional qualifications for an area to become an enterprise zone as he
103 or she deems necessary. The commissioner may remove the designation
104 of any area he or she has approved as an enterprise zone if such area no
105 longer meets the criteria for designation as such an area set forth in this
106 section or in regulations adopted pursuant to this section, provided no
107 such designation shall be removed less than ten years from the original
108 date of approval of such zone. The commissioner may designate any
109 additional area as an enterprise zone if that area is designated as an
110 enterprise zone, empowerment zone or enterprise community pursuant
111 to any federal legislation.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2021	32-70(c)

Statement of Purpose:

To require the designation of an area within the town of Plymouth as an enterprise zone.

[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: SEN. MARTIN, 31st Dist.; REP. BETTS, 78th Dist.

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