AN ACT CONCERNING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.

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

Section 1. Section 4-124w of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(a) There shall be within the Labor Department an Office of Workforce Competitiveness Department of Economic and Community Development, for administrative purposes only, an Office of Workforce Strategy.

(b) The Office of Workforce Strategy shall be under the direction of the Chief Workforce Officer, who shall report directly to the Governor. The Governor, with the approval of the General Assembly, shall appoint a person with knowledge of public sector workforce training programs to the position of Chief Workforce Officer. Such person shall be qualified by training and experience to perform the duties of the office as set forth in this section. The Labor Commissioner shall, with the assistance of the Office of Workforce Competitiveness Chief Workforce Officer shall:

(1) Be the Governor's principal workforce development policy advisor] principal advisor for workforce development policy, strategy and coordination to the Governor:
(2) Be the lead state official for the development of employment and training strategies and initiatives;

(3) Be the chairperson of the Workforce Cabinet, which shall consist of agencies involved with employment and training, as identified by the Governor pursuant to section 31-3m. The Workforce Cabinet shall meet at the direction of the Governor or the Chief Workforce Officer;

[(2)] (4) Be the liaison between the Governor, the Governor's Workforce Council, established pursuant to section 31-3h, as amended by this act, and any local, regional, state or federal organizations and entities with respect to workforce development [matters] policy, strategy and coordination, including, but not limited to, implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as [from time to time] amended from time to time;

[(3)] (5) Coordinate the workforce development activities of all state agencies;]

[(4)] (6) Coordinate and align [the state's implementation of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended, and advise and assist the Governor with matters related to said act] each workforce development activity funded by the state through funds received pursuant to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as amended from time to time, or state grant programs that are administered by or in collaboration with any state agency for the purpose of furthering the goals and outcomes of the state workforce strategy approved by the Governor pursuant to subdivision (5) of this subsection and the workforce development plan developed by the Governor's Workforce Council pursuant to the provisions of section 31-11p, as amended by this act;

(7) Collaborate with the regional workforce development boards to
adapt the best practices for workforce development established by such
boards for statewide implementation, if possible;

(8) Coordinate measurement and evaluation of outcomes across
education and workforce development programs, in conjunction with
state agencies, including, but not limited to, the Labor Department, the
Department of Education and the Office of Policy and Management;

(9) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, review any
state plan for each program set forth in section 103 (b) of the Workforce
Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as amended from
time to time, before such plan is submitted to the Governor;

[(5)] (10) Establish methods and procedures to ensure the maximum
involvement of members of the public, the legislature and local officials
in workforce development [matters, including implementation of the
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as
from time to time amended] policy, strategy and coordination;

[(6)] (11) [Enter] In conjunction with one or more state agencies enter
into such contractual agreements, in accordance with established
procedures and the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
Management, as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this
section;

(12) Market and communicate the state workforce strategy to ensure
maximum engagement with students, trainees, job seekers and
businesses while effectively elevating the state's workforce profile
nationally;

(13) For the purposes of subsection (a) of section 10-21c, as amended
by this act, identify subject areas, courses, curriculum, content and
programs that may be offered to students in elementary and high school
in order to improve student outcomes and meet the workforce needs of
the state;

(14) Issue guidance to state agencies, the Governor's Workforce
Council and regional workforce development boards in furtherance of the state workforce strategy. Such guidance shall be in compliance with state and federal laws, approved by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and take effect not less than fourteen days from such approval. The Chief Workforce Officer shall consult on the implementation of any guidance with the agency, council or board impacted by such guidance;

(15) Coordinate, in consultation with the Labor Department, with regional workforce development boards and community action agencies to ensure compliance with state and federal laws for the purpose of furthering the service capabilities of programs offered pursuant to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, P.L. 113-128, as amended from time to time, and the United States Department of Labor's American Job Center system; and

(7) [16] Take any other action necessary to carry out the provisions of this section. [; and]

(8) Not later than October 1, 2012, and annually thereafter, submit a report, with the assistance of the Labor Department, to the Governor and the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, economic development, labor and higher education and employment advancement specifying a forecasted assessment by the Labor Department of workforce shortages in occupations in this state for the succeeding two and five-year periods. The report shall also include recommendations concerning (A) methods to generate a sufficient number of workers to meet identified workforce needs, including, but not limited to, scholarship, school-to-career and internship programs, and (B) methods secondary and higher education and private industry can use to address identified workforce needs.]

[c] The Labor Department shall be the lead state agency for the development of employment and training strategies and initiatives required to support the state's position in the knowledge economy.]
(c) The [Labor Commissioner, with the assistance of the Office of Workforce Competitiveness,] Chief Workforce Officer may call upon any office, department, board, commission, public institution of higher education or other agency of the state to supply such reports, information, data and assistance as may be reasonable, necessary [or] and appropriate in order to carry out [its] the Chief Workforce Officer's or the Office of Workforce Strategy's duties and requirements. Each officer or employee of such office, department, board, commission, public institution of higher education or other agency of the state [is authorized and directed to cooperate with the Labor Commissioner and to] shall furnish such reports, information, data and assistance as requested by the Chief Workforce Officer, to the extent permitted under state and federal law. Any request for data from a participating agency in CP20 WIN, established pursuant to section 10a-57g, shall be submitted through CP20 WIN in accordance with the policies and procedures established by CP20 WIN.

(d) The Office of Workforce Strategy shall provide staff to the Governor's Workforce Council and such other resources as the Chief Workforce Officer can make available, and shall coordinate all necessary support that other state agencies make available, as needed by the Governor's Workforce Council.

(e) The Chief Workforce Officer, on behalf of the Governor and the Governor's Workforce Council and in consultation with the Labor Commissioner, shall coordinate the state plan, budget and implementation of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, P.L. 113-128, as amended from time to time, and may issue guidance to this effect. The Labor Commissioner shall offer such resources as the commissioner can make available for such purpose.

(f) Not later than October 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the Chief Workforce Officer shall submit to the Governor and, 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,
education, commerce and labor and public employees, a report regarding workforce development in the state. Such report shall include but not be limited to, any programs undertaken by the Office of Workforce Strategy, information on the number of individuals served by such programs, demographic information about such individuals and outcomes of such individuals after completion of a workforce development program.

Sec. 2. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2021) (a) There is established an account to be known as the "CareerConneCT account" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account. Moneys in the account shall be expended by Department of Economic and Community Development for the purposes of funding workforce training programs recommended by the Office of Workforce Strategy. The Chief Workforce Officer, in coordination with the Labor Commissioner and the regional workforce development boards, shall ensure that, to the extent possible, participants in a workforce training program funded through the CareerConneCT account also enroll in any federally funded workforce development program.

(b) Not later than October 1, 2022, and annually thereafter until October 1, 2024, the Chief Workforce Officer shall submit to the Governor and, 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, education, commerce and labor and public employees a report regarding the workforce training programs funded through the CareerConneCT account. Such report shall include but not be limited to, information on the number of individuals served, demographic information about such individuals and outcomes of such individuals after completion of a workforce training program.

Sec. 3. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2021) (a) As used in this section and sections 4, 7, 14 and 15 of this act:
(1) "Credential" means a documented award issued by an authorized body, including, but not limited to, a (A) degree or certificate awarded by an institution of higher education, private occupational school or provider of an alternate route to certification program approved by the State Board of Education for teachers, (B) certification awarded through an examination process designed to demonstrate acquisition of designated knowledge, skill and ability to perform a specific job, (C) license issued by a governmental agency which permits an individual to practice a specific occupation upon verification that such individual meets a predetermined list of qualifications, and (D) documented completion of an apprenticeship or job training program; and

(2) "Credential status type" means the official status of a credential which is either active, deprecated, probationary or superseded.

(b) Not later than January 1, 2023, the executive director of the Office of Higher Education, in consultation with the advisory council established pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, shall create a database of credentials offered in the state for the purpose of explaining the skills and competencies earned through a credential in uniform terms and plain language. In creating the database, the executive director shall utilize the minimum data policy of the New England Board of Higher Education's High Value Credentials for New England initiative, the uniform terms and descriptions of Credentials Engine's Credential Transparency Description Language and the uniform standards for comparing and linking credentials in Credential Engine's Credential Transparency Description Language-Achievement Standards Network. At a minimum, the database shall include the following data for each credential: (1) Credential status type, (2) the entity that owns or offers the credential, (3) the type of credential being offered, (4) a short description of the credential, (5) the name of the credential, (6) the Internet web site that provides information relating to the credential, (7) the language in which the credential is offered, (8) the estimated duration for completion, (9) the industry related to the credential which may include its code under the North American
Industry Classification System, (10) the occupation related to the credential which may include its code under the standard occupational classification system of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor or under The Occupational Information Network, (11) the estimated cost for earning the credential, and (12) a listing of online or physical locations where the credential is offered.

(c) There is established an advisory council for the purpose of advising the executive director of the Office of Higher Education on the implementation of the database created pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. The advisory council shall consist of representatives from the Office of Workforce Strategy established pursuant to section 4-124w of the general statutes, as amended by this act, Office of Higher Education, Office of Policy and Management, Labor Department, Department of Education, Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, The University of Connecticut and independent institutions of higher education and shall include the Chief Data Officer. The Chief Workforce Officer, the Chief Data Officer and the executive director of the Office of Higher Education, or their designees, shall be cochairpersons of the advisory council and shall make any necessary appointments to the advisory council and schedule the meetings of the advisory council.

(d) Not later than July 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, each institution of higher education, private occupational school, provider of an alternate route to certification program approved by the State Board of Education and provider of a training program listed on the Labor Department's Eligible Training Provider List shall submit information, in the form and manner prescribed by the executive director of the Office of Higher Education, about any credential offered by such institution, school or provider for inclusion in the database created pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. Such information shall include, but need not be limited to, the data described in subdivisions (1) to (12), inclusive, of subsection (b) of this section, except an institution of higher education may omit the data required pursuant to subdivisions (9) and (10) of subsection (b) of this section if such data is
not applicable to a credential offered by such institution.

(e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require any state agency or department to submit credential information to the database created pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

(f) The Labor Department may, in consultation with the advisory council established pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, require any program sponsor of a preapprenticeship or apprenticeship program registered with the department to submit information about such program to the Office of Higher Education for inclusion in such database.

Sec. 4. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2021) (a) The Office of Workforce Strategy, established pursuant to section 4-124w of the general statutes, as amended by this act, shall establish standards for designating certain credentials as credentials of value. Such standards may include, but need not be limited to, meeting the workforce needs of employers in the state, enrollment rates, completion rates, net cost, whether the credential transfers to or stacks onto another credential of value, duration until completion, types of employment opportunities available upon completion and earnings upon completion.

(b) The office shall compile, and annually update, a list of credentials designated as credentials of value, and include such list in the database established pursuant to section 3 of this act.

Sec. 5. Subsection (l) of section 10a-34 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(l) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (b) to (j), inclusive, of this section and subject to the authority of the State Board of Education to regulate teacher education programs, up to twelve new programs of higher learning in any academic year and any program modifications proposed by an independent institution of higher education, as defined in section 10a-173, shall not be subject to approval
by the Office of Higher Education, provided (1) the institution maintains eligibility to participate in financial aid programs governed by Title IV, Part B of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended from time to time, (2) the United States Department of Education has not determined that the institution has a financial responsibility score that is less than 1.5 for the most recent fiscal year for which the data necessary for determining the score is available, and (3) the institution has been located in the state and accredited as a degree-granting institution in good standing for ten years or more by a regional accrediting association recognized by the Secretary of the United States Department of Education and maintains such accreditation status. Each institution that is exempt from program approval by the Office of Higher Education under this subsection shall file with the office (A) an application for approval of any new program of higher learning in excess of twelve new programs in any academic year, (B) a program actions form, as created by the office, prior to students enrolling in any new program of higher learning or any existing program subject to a program modification, and (C) not later than July first, and annually thereafter, (i) until June 30, 2024, a list and brief description of any new programs of higher learning introduced by the institution in the preceding academic year and any existing programs of higher learning discontinued by the institution in the preceding academic year, (ii) the institution's current program approval process and all actions of the governing board concerning approval of any new program of higher learning, and (iii) the institution's financial responsibility composite score, as determined by the United States Department of Education, for the most recent fiscal year for which the data necessary for determining the score is available.

An institution that is exempt from program approval pursuant to this subsection may apply to the Office of Workforce Strategy, established pursuant to section 4-124w, as amended by this act, in the form and manner prescribed by said office, for additional exemptions from approval of a new program of higher learning over the twelve exempted in any academic year pursuant to this subsection. Said office may waive the requirement for program approval for any new program if it determines that the new program aligns with and furthers the goals of...
the state workforce strategy approved by the Governor pursuant to
subdivision (5) of subsection (b) of section 4-124w, as amended by this
act.

Sec. 6. Section 10a-35a of the general statutes is repealed and the
following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(a) Notwithstanding sections 10a-34 to 10a-35, inclusive, as amended
by this act, the Board of Regents for Higher Education shall have the
authority, in accordance with the provisions of said sections and the
standards set forth in any regulations promulgated thereunder, to (1)
review and approve recommendations for the establishment of new
academic programs for the universities within the Connecticut State
University System, the regional community-technical colleges and
Charter Oak State College, and (2) until June 30, 2024, report all new
programs and program changes to the Office of Higher Education.

(b) Notwithstanding sections 10a-34 to 10a-35, inclusive, as amended
by this act, the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut shall
(1) have the authority, in accordance with the provisions of said sections
and the standards set forth in any regulations promulgated thereunder,
to review and approve recommendations for the establishment of new
academic programs at the university, and (2) until June 30, 2024, report
all new programs and program changes to the Office of Higher
Education.

Sec. 7. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2021) (a) Not later than January 1, 2023,
each private occupational school, as defined in section 10a-22a of the
general statutes, and each provider of an alternate route to certification
program approved by the State Board of Education shall submit, in a
form and manner prescribed by the executive director of the Office of
Higher Education, data for each student enrolled in such private
occupational school or alternate route to certification program,
including, but not limited to, course enrollment, course completion,
credential completion, fees and tuition charged, federal student loans
received, federal student loan balances, and for any student who has a
state-assigned student identifier pursuant to section 10-10a of the general statutes, such student identifier.

(b) No identifiable student information provided to the Office of Higher Education pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be released to the public by the office. The Office of Higher Education shall establish policies to protect any information provided pursuant to subsection (a) of this section as if such information were protected student data subject to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, 20 USC 1232g, as amended from time to time.

Sec. 8. Subsection (j) of section 31-225a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(j) (1) (A) Each employer subject to this chapter shall submit quarterly, on forms supplied by the administrator, a listing of wage information, including the name of each employee receiving wages in employment subject to this chapter, such employee’s Social Security account number and the amount of wages paid to such employee during such calendar quarter.

(B) Commencing with the third calendar quarter of 2024, unless waived pursuant to subdivision (5) of this subsection, any employer subject to this chapter, with one hundred or more employees, shall include in the quarterly filing submitted pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, the following data for each employee receiving wages in employment subject to this chapter: Such employee's gender identity, age, race, ethnicity, veteran status, disability status, highest education completed, home address, address of primary work site, occupational code under the standard occupational classification system of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor, hours worked, days worked, salary or hourly wage, employment start date in the current job title and, if applicable, employment end date. The information required pursuant to this subparagraph shall be included in the quarterly filings of employers
subject to this chapter with ninety-nine or fewer employees commencing with the third calendar quarter of 2025, except employers subject to this chapter with forty-nine or fewer employees without an electronic payroll system shall include such information commencing with the third calendar quarter of 2027. Nothing in this subparagraph shall be construed to require an employee to provide information about gender identity, age, race, ethnicity, veteran status or disability status if not otherwise required by law. The administrator may issue guidance defining each such data field.

(2) [Commencing with the first calendar quarter of 2014, each] Each employer subject to this chapter who reports wages for employees receiving wages in employment subject to this chapter, and each person or organization that, as an agent, reports wages for employees receiving wages in employment subject to this chapter on behalf of one or more employers subject to this chapter shall submit quarterly the information required by subdivision (1) of this subsection on magnetic tape, diskette, or other similar electronic means which the administrator may prescribe electronically, in a format and manner prescribed by the administrator, unless such employer or agent receives a waiver pursuant to subdivision (5) of this subsection.

(3) Any employer that fails to submit the information required by subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection in a timely manner, as determined by the administrator, shall be liable to the administrator for a late filing fee of twenty-five dollars. Any employer that fails to submit the information required by subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection under a proper state unemployment compensation registration number shall be liable to the administrator for a fee of twenty-five dollars. All fees collected by the administrator under this subdivision shall be deposited in the Employment Security Administration Fund.

(4) [Commencing with the first calendar quarter of 2014, each] Each employer subject to this chapter who makes contributions or payments in lieu of contributions for employees receiving wages in employment
subject to this chapter, and each person or organization that, as an agent, makes contributions or payments in lieu of contributions for employees receiving wages in employment subject to this chapter on behalf of one or more employers subject to this chapter shall make such contributions or payments in lieu of contributions electronically.

(5) Any employer or any person or organization that, as an agent, [submits] is required to submit information pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection, [or makes] make contributions or payments in lieu of contributions pursuant to subdivision (4) of this subsection or submit information pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection may request in writing, not later than thirty days prior to the date a submission of information or a contribution or payment in lieu of contribution is due, that the administrator waive [the] such requirement, [that such submission or contribution or payment in lieu of contribution be made electronically.] The administrator shall grant such request if, on the basis of information provided by such employer or person or organization and on a form prescribed by the administrator, the administrator finds that there would be undue hardship for such employer or person or organization. The administrator shall promptly inform such employer or person or organization of the granting or rejection of the requested waiver. The decision of the administrator shall be final and not subject to further review or appeal. Such waiver shall be effective for twelve months from the date such waiver is granted.

(6) No identifiable information about an employer or an employee provided to the administrator pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection may be released or disclosed to the public by the administrator or the Labor Department. The administrator or the department may share nonidentifiable information provided pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection with another state agency, another state or territory, the federal government or to support a data request submitted through CP20 WIN in accordance with the policies and procedures of CP20 WIN, established pursuant
section 10a-57g, for the purposes of program administration, audit, evaluation or research.

Sec. 9. Subsection (b) of section 12-15 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective October 1, 2021):

(b) The commissioner may disclose (1) returns or return information to (A) an authorized representative of another state agency or office, upon written request by the head of such agency or office, when required in the course of duty or when there is reasonable cause to believe that any state law is being violated, or (B) an authorized representative of an agency or office of the United States, upon written request by the head of such agency or office, when required in the course of duty or when there is reasonable cause to believe that any federal law is being violated, provided no such agency or office shall disclose such returns or return information, other than in a judicial or administrative proceeding to which such agency or office is a party pertaining to the enforcement of state or federal law, as the case may be, in a form which can be associated with, or otherwise identify, directly or indirectly, a particular taxpayer except that the names and addresses of jurors or potential jurors and the fact that the names were derived from the list of taxpayers pursuant to chapter 884 may be disclosed by the Judicial Branch; (2) returns or return information to the Auditors of Public Accounts, when required in the course of duty under chapter 23; (3) returns or return information to tax officers of another state or of a Canadian province or of a political subdivision of such other state or province or of the District of Columbia or to any officer of the United States Treasury Department or the United States Department of Health and Human Services, authorized for such purpose in accordance with an agreement between this state and such other state, province, political subdivision, the District of Columbia or department, respectively, when required in the administration of taxes imposed under the laws of such other state, province, political subdivision, the District of Columbia or the United States, respectively, and when a reciprocal arrangement
exists; (4) returns or return information in any action, case or proceeding in any court of competent jurisdiction, when the commissioner or any other state department or agency is a party, and when such information is directly involved in such action, case or proceeding; (5) returns or return information to a taxpayer or its authorized representative, upon written request for a return filed by or return information on such taxpayer; (6) returns or return information to a successor, receiver, trustee, executor, administrator, assignee, guardian or guarantor of a taxpayer, when such person establishes, to the satisfaction of the commissioner, that such person has a material interest which will be affected by information contained in such returns or return information; (7) information to the assessor or an authorized representative of the chief executive officer of a Connecticut municipality, when the information disclosed is limited to (A) a list of real or personal property that is or may be subject to property taxes in such municipality, or (B) a list containing the name of each person who is issued any license, permit or certificate which is required, under the provisions of this title, to be conspicuously displayed and whose address is in such municipality; (8) real estate conveyance tax return information or controlling interest transfer tax return information to the town clerk or an authorized representative of the chief executive officer of a Connecticut municipality to which the information relates; (9) estate tax returns and estate tax return information to the Probate Court Administrator or to the court of probate for the district within which a decedent resided at the date of the decedent's death, or within which the commissioner contends that a decedent resided at the date of the decedent's death or, if a decedent died a nonresident of this state, in the court of probate for the district within which real estate or tangible personal property of the decedent is situated, or within which the commissioner contends that real estate or tangible personal property of the decedent is situated; (10) returns or return information to the (A) Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management for purposes of subsection (b) of section 12-7a, and (B) Office of Fiscal Analysis for purposes of, and subject to the provisions of, subdivision (2) of subsection (f) of section 12-7b; (11) return information to the Jury Administrator, when the information disclosed
is limited to the names, addresses, federal Social Security numbers and
dates of birth, if available, of residents of this state, as defined in
subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 12-701; (12) returns or return
information to any person to the extent necessary in connection with the
processing, storage, transmission or reproduction of such returns or
return information, and the programming, maintenance, repair, testing
or procurement of equipment, or the providing of other services, for
purposes of tax administration; (13) without written request and unless
the commissioner determines that disclosure would identify a
confidential informant or seriously impair a civil or criminal tax
investigation, returns and return information which may constitute
evidence of a violation of any civil or criminal law of this state or the
United States to the extent necessary to apprise the head of such agency
or office charged with the responsibility of enforcing such law, in which
event the head of such agency or office may disclose such return
information to officers and employees of such agency or office to the
extent necessary to enforce such law; (14) names and addresses of
operators, as defined in section 12-407, to tourism districts, as defined in
section 10-397; (15) names of each licensed dealer, as defined in section
12-285, and the location of the premises covered by the dealer's license;
(16) to a tobacco product manufacturer that places funds into escrow
pursuant to the provisions of subsection (a) of section 4-28i, return
information of a distributor licensed under the provisions of chapter 214
or chapter 214a, provided the information disclosed is limited to
information relating to such manufacturer's sales to consumers within
this state, whether directly or through a distributor, dealer or similar
intermediary or intermediaries, of cigarettes, as defined in section 4-28h,
and further provided there is reasonable cause to believe that such
manufacturer is not in compliance with section 4-28i; (17) returns, which
shall not include a copy of the return filed with the commissioner, or
return information for purposes of section 12-217z; (18) returns or return
information to the State Elections Enforcement Commission, upon
written request by said commission, when necessary to investigate
suspected violations of state election laws; [and] (19) returns or return
information for purposes of, and subject to the conditions of, subsection
(e) of section 5-240; and (20) return information to another state agency or to support a data request submitted through CP20 WIN, established in section 10a-57g, in accordance with the policies and procedures of CP20 WIN for the purposes of evaluation or research, to the extent allowable under federal law.

Sec. 10. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2021) No officer, employee or agent of a department, board, commission, public institution of higher education or any other agency of the state, or any officer, employee or agent of a local or regional board of education, shall share, disclose or make accessible in any manner records or information obtained by such officer, employee or agent from an application for institutional financial aid for students without legal immigration status, pursuant to section 10a-161d of the general statutes, to any federal immigration authority, as defined in section 54-192h of the general statutes.

Sec. 11. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2021) (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Eligible organization" means any provider of a training program, provider of an alternate route to certification program approved by the State Board of Education, institution of higher education, private occupational school, employer, state or municipal agency and public or nonprofit social service provider in the state; and

(2) "Approved class" means a set of employees, clients, students or customers of an eligible organization.

(b) Not later than January 1, 2022, the Commissioner of Transportation shall establish CTpass program to allow individuals in an approved class for an eligible organization to use certain public transit services without cost or at a reduced cost. The commissioner shall post information regarding the CTpass program and application process for such program on the Department of Transportation's Internet web site in a manner that, in the commissioner's discretion, will maximize awareness and participation by the greatest number of eligible organizations.
(c) Upon receipt of an application from an eligible organization to participate in the CTpass program, the commissioner may negotiate the terms and conditions and enter into a contract with such eligible organization. The commissioner may treat several eligible organizations as a single eligible organization for the purposes of a contract under the CTpass program. Such terms and conditions shall include, but not be limited to, the amount of compensation or reimbursement required from the eligible organization, the definition of approved class specific to the eligible organization and any limitations on times of use or types of public transit services available to the approved class. The compensation or reimbursement negotiated in the contract shall be in an amount as the commissioner deems necessary or advisable, provided the amount is sufficient to ensure that transit service expenditures incurred by the department do not increase as a result of the CTpass program and to cover any administrative costs incurred by the department in the operation of the CTpass program. A contract under the CTpass program shall be valid upon the approval of the Office of Policy and Management for a term of not more than two years, except the first contract with an eligible organization shall not exceed twelve months. Prior to any renewal of a contract with an eligible organization under the CTpass program, the commissioner shall consider prior pass utilization information and any transit service expenditure increases incurred by the department for the purpose of re-evaluating the amount of compensation or reimbursement required from such eligible organization.

(d) Not later than January 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Transportation shall submit a report to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management on the financial data and pass utilization information for each contract under the CTpass program.

Sec. 12. Section 10a-223 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective October 1, 2022):

In this chapter, the following words and terms shall have the following meanings unless the context indicates another or different
meaning or intent:

(1) "Authority" means the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority constituted as a subsidiary of the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority as provided in section 10a-179a;

(2) "Authorized officer" means an employee of the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority or of the authority who is authorized by the board of directors of the authority to execute and deliver documents and papers and to act in the name of and on behalf of the authority;

(3) "Authority loans" means education loans by the authority, or loans by the authority from the proceeds of bonds for the purpose of funding education loans;

(4) "Board" means the board of directors of the authority;

(5) "Bonds" or "revenue bonds" means revenue bonds or notes of the authority issued under the provisions of this chapter, including revenue refunding bonds or notes;

(6) "Bond resolution" means the resolution or resolutions of the authority and the trust agreement, if any, authorizing the issuance of and providing for the terms and conditions applicable to bonds;

(7) "Borrower" means (A) an individual who has an outstanding loan from the authority, (B) an individual who attends a Connecticut institution for higher education, enrolls in a Connecticut high-value certificate program or currently resides in the state, and has received or agreed to pay an education loan, or (C) any parent who has received or agreed to pay an education loan on behalf of an individual who attends a Connecticut institution for higher education or currently resides in the state;

(8) "Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority" means
the quasi-public authority established pursuant to section 10a-179;

(9) "Connecticut institution for higher education" means an institution for higher education within the state;

(10) "Default insurance" means insurance insuring education loans, authority loans or bonds against default;

(11) "Default reserve fund" means a fund established pursuant to a bond resolution for the purpose of securing education loans, authority loans or bonds;

(12) "Education loan" means a loan which is made to a student in or from the state or a parent of such student to finance attendance at an institution for higher education or enrollment in a high-value certificate program, or to a borrower to refinance one or more eligible loans;

(13) "Loan funding deposit" means moneys or other property deposited by a Connecticut institution for higher education with the authority, a guarantor or a trustee for the purpose of (A) providing security for bonds, (B) funding a default reserve fund, (C) acquiring default insurance, or (D) defraying costs of the authority, such moneys or properties to be in such amounts as deemed necessary by the authority or guarantor as a condition for such institution's participation in the authority's programs;

(14) "Institution for higher education" means a degree-granting educational institution within the United States authorized by applicable law to provide a program of education beyond the high school level and (A) described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as from time to time amended, and exempt from taxation under Section 501(a) of said code with respect to a trade or business carried on by such institution which is not an unrelated trade or business, determined by applying Section 513(a) of said code to such organization or a foundation established for its benefit, or (B) exempt from taxation under said code as a governmental unit;
(15) "Participating institution for higher education" means a Connecticut institution for higher education which, pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, undertakes the financing directly or indirectly of education loans as provided in this chapter;

(16) "Parent" means any parent, legal guardian or sponsor of a student at an institution for higher education or enrolled in a high-value certificate program;

(17) "Education loan series portfolio" means all education loans made by the authority or by or on behalf of a specific participating institution for higher education which are funded from the proceeds of a related specific bond issue of the authority;

(18) "Education assistance program" means a program to assist in financing the costs of education through education loans or education grants, or both;

(19) "Education grant" means a grant, scholarship, fellowship or other nonrepayable assistance awarded by the authority to a student currently residing in the state to finance the attendance of the student at a Connecticut institution for higher education or enrollment in a Connecticut high-value certificate program, or a grant, scholarship, fellowship or other nonrepayable assistance awarded by or on behalf of a Connecticut institution for higher education from the proceeds of funds provided by the authority to a student from the state to finance the student's attendance at such institution; [and]

(20) "Eligible loan" means any loan that is in repayment that was (A) made by the authority, or (B) made to a borrower by any other private or governmental lender to finance attendance at an institution for higher education [.] or enrollment in a high-value certificate program;

(21) "High-value certificate program" means a noncredit sub-baccalaureate certificate program offered by an institution of higher education or a private occupational school that the Office of Workforce Strategy designates to be a credential of value pursuant to section 4 of
this act; and

(22) "Connecticut high-value certificate program" means a high-value certificate program offered by an institution of higher education or a private occupational school in the state.

Sec. 13. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2021) The Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority shall establish an account to be known as the Certificate Loan Loss Reserve and Funding account, which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account. The account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account, including, but not limited to, state appropriations or proceeds from the sale of bonds. Moneys in the account shall be expended by the authority to (1) fund authority loans issued to a borrower to finance enrollment in a Connecticut high-value certificate program, as defined in section 10a-223 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, (2) to cover any losses incurred by the authority from issuing such authority loans, (3) for reasonable and necessary expenses for the administration of such authority loans, and (4) any initial implementation expenses prior to the origination of such authority loans.

Sec. 14. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2021) Not later than September 1, 2022, and every two years thereafter until September 1, 2028, the Chief Workforce Officer shall submit to the Board of Regents for Higher Education and the Governor a report on credentials, as defined in section 3 of this act, and skills that are in demand in the labor market and that lead to quality jobs.

Sec. 15. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2021) Not later than February 1, 2023, the Chief Workforce Officer, jointly with the Commissioners of Correction and Labor and the Undersecretary for Criminal Justice at the Office of Policy and Management, shall submit to the Governor, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, and, 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 the judiciary, higher education and employment
advancement, labor, and commerce, recommendations to improve workforce training and attainment of credentials, as defined in section 3, for individuals incarcerated by the Department of Correction, including but not limited to (1) whether credential attainment shall be a factor for early release, and (2) credentials and skills that are in demand in the labor market and that lead to quality jobs, including any barriers to equitable access to such quality jobs.

Sec. 16. Subsection (b) of section 1-210 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(b) Nothing in the Freedom of Information Act shall be construed to require disclosure of:

(1) Preliminary drafts or notes provided the public agency has determined that the public interest in withholding such documents clearly outweighs the public interest in disclosure;

(2) Personnel or medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute an invasion of personal privacy;

(3) Records of law enforcement agencies not otherwise available to the public which records were compiled in connection with the detection or investigation of crime, if the disclosure of such records would not be in the public interest because it would result in the disclosure of (A) the identity of informants not otherwise known or the identity of witnesses not otherwise known whose safety would be endangered or who would be subject to threat or intimidation if their identity was made known, (B) the identity of minor witnesses, (C) signed statements of witnesses, (D) information to be used in a prospective law enforcement action if prejudicial to such action, (E) investigatory techniques not otherwise known to the general public, (F) arrest records of a juvenile, which shall also include any investigatory files, concerning the arrest of such juvenile, compiled for law enforcement purposes, (G) the name and address of the victim of a...
sexual assault under section 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b or
53a-73a, voyeurism under section 53a-189a, injury or risk of injury, or
impairing of morals under section 53-21 or family violence, as defined
in section 46b-38a, or of an attempt thereof, or (H) uncorroborated
allegations subject to destruction pursuant to section 1-216;

(4) Records pertaining to strategy and negotiations with respect to
pending claims or pending litigation to which the public agency is a
party until such litigation or claim has been finally adjudicated or
otherwise settled;

(5) (A) Trade secrets, which for purposes of the Freedom of
Information Act, are defined as information, including formulas,
patterns, compilations, programs, devices, methods, techniques,
processes, drawings, cost data, customer lists, film or television scripts
or detailed production budgets that (i) derive independent economic
value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not
being readily ascertainable by proper means by, other persons who can
obtain economic value from their disclosure or use, and (ii) are the
subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to
maintain secrecy; and

(B) Commercial or financial information given in confidence, not
required by statute;

(6) Test questions, scoring keys and other examination data used to
administer a licensing examination, examination for employment or
academic examinations;

(7) The contents of real estate appraisals, engineering or feasibility
estimates and evaluations made for or by an agency relative to the
acquisition of property or to prospective public supply and construction
contracts, until such time as all of the property has been acquired or all
proceedings or transactions have been terminated or abandoned,
provided the law of eminent domain shall not be affected by this
provision;
(8) Statements of personal worth or personal financial data required by a licensing agency and filed by an applicant with such licensing agency to establish the applicant's personal qualification for the license, certificate or permit applied for;

(9) Records, reports and statements of strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining;

(10) Records, tax returns, reports and statements exempted by federal law or the general statutes or communications privileged by the attorney-client relationship, marital relationship, clergy-penitent relationship, doctor-patient relationship, therapist-patient relationship or any other privilege established by the common law or the general statutes, including any such records, tax returns, reports or communications that were created or made prior to the establishment of the applicable privilege under the common law or the general statutes;

(11) Names or addresses of students enrolled in any public school or college without the consent of each student whose name or address is to be disclosed who is eighteen years of age or older and a parent or guardian of each such student who is younger than eighteen years of age, provided this subdivision shall not be construed as prohibiting the disclosure of the names or addresses of students enrolled in any public school in a regional school district to the board of selectmen or town board of finance, as the case may be, of the town wherein the student resides for the purpose of verifying tuition payments made to such school;

(12) Any information obtained by the use of illegal means;

(13) Records of an investigation or the name of an employee providing information under the provisions of section 4-61dd or sections 4-276 to 4-280, inclusive;

(14) Adoption records and information provided for in sections 45a-746, 45a-750 and 45a-751;
(15) Any page of a primary petition, nominating petition, referendum petition or petition for a town meeting submitted under any provision of the general statutes or of any special act, municipal charter or ordinance, until the required processing and certification of such page has been completed by the official or officials charged with such duty after which time disclosure of such page shall be required;

(16) Records of complaints, including information compiled in the investigation thereof, brought to a municipal health authority pursuant to chapter 368e or a district department of health pursuant to chapter 368f, until such time as the investigation is concluded or thirty days from the date of receipt of the complaint, whichever occurs first;

(17) Educational records which are not subject to disclosure under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 USC 1232g;

(18) Records, the disclosure of which the Commissioner of Correction, or as it applies to Whiting Forensic Hospital, the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services, has reasonable grounds to believe may result in a safety risk, including the risk of harm to any person or the risk of an escape from, or a disorder in, a correctional institution or facility under the supervision of the Department of Correction or Whiting Forensic Hospital. Such records shall include, but are not limited to:

(A) Security manuals, including emergency plans contained or referred to in such security manuals;

(B) Engineering and architectural drawings of correctional institutions or facilities or Whiting Forensic Hospital facilities;

(C) Operational specifications of security systems utilized by the Department of Correction at any correctional institution or facility or Whiting Forensic Hospital facilities, except that a general description of any such security system and the cost and quality of such system may be disclosed;
(D) Training manuals prepared for correctional institutions and facilities or Whiting Forensic Hospital facilities that describe, in any manner, security procedures, emergency plans or security equipment;

(E) Internal security audits of correctional institutions and facilities or Whiting Forensic Hospital facilities;

(F) Minutes or recordings of staff meetings of the Department of Correction or Whiting Forensic Hospital facilities, or portions of such minutes or recordings, that contain or reveal information relating to security or other records otherwise exempt from disclosure under this subdivision;

(G) Logs or other documents that contain information on the movement or assignment of inmates or staff at correctional institutions or facilities; and

(H) Records that contain information on contacts between inmates, as defined in section 18-84, and law enforcement officers;

(19) Records when there are reasonable grounds to believe disclosure may result in a safety risk, including the risk of harm to any person, any government-owned or leased institution or facility or any fixture or appurtenance and equipment attached to, or contained in, such institution or facility, except that such records shall be disclosed to a law enforcement agency upon the request of the law enforcement agency. Such reasonable grounds shall be determined (A) (i) by the Commissioner of Administrative Services, after consultation with the chief executive officer of an executive branch state agency, with respect to records concerning such agency; and (ii) by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, after consultation with the chief executive officer of a municipal, district or regional agency, with respect to records concerning such agency; (B) by the Chief Court Administrator with respect to records concerning the Judicial Department; and (C) by the executive director of the Joint Committee on Legislative Management, with respect to records concerning the
Legislative Department. As used in this section, "government-owned or leased institution or facility" includes, but is not limited to, an institution or facility owned or leased by a public service company, as defined in section 16-1, other than a water company, as defined in section 25-32a, a certified telecommunications provider, as defined in section 16-1, or a municipal utility that furnishes electric or gas service, but does not include an institution or facility owned or leased by the federal government, and "chief executive officer" includes, but is not limited to, an agency head, department head, executive director or chief executive officer. Such records include, but are not limited to:

(i) Security manuals or reports;

(ii) Engineering and architectural drawings of government-owned or leased institutions or facilities;

(iii) Operational specifications of security systems utilized at any government-owned or leased institution or facility, except that a general description of any such security system and the cost and quality of such system may be disclosed;

(iv) Training manuals prepared for government-owned or leased institutions or facilities that describe, in any manner, security procedures, emergency plans or security equipment;

(v) Internal security audits of government-owned or leased institutions or facilities;

(vi) Minutes or records of meetings, or portions of such minutes or records, that contain or reveal information relating to security or other records otherwise exempt from disclosure under this subdivision;

(vii) Logs or other documents that contain information on the movement or assignment of security personnel; and

(viii) Emergency plans and emergency preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation plans, including plans provided by a person to
a state agency or a local emergency management agency or official;

(20) Records of standards, procedures, processes, software and codes, not otherwise available to the public, the disclosure of which would compromise the security or integrity of an information technology system;

(21) The residential, work or school address of any participant in the address confidentiality program established pursuant to sections 54-240 to 54-240o, inclusive;

(22) The electronic mail address of any person that is obtained by the Department of Transportation in connection with the implementation or administration of any plan to inform individuals about significant highway or railway incidents;

(23) The name or address of any minor enrolled in any parks and recreation program administered or sponsored by any public agency;

(24) Responses to any request for proposals or bid solicitation issued by a public agency, responses by a public agency to any request for proposals or bid solicitation issued by a private entity or any record or file made by a public agency in connection with the contract award process, until such contract is executed or negotiations for the award of such contract have ended, whichever occurs earlier, provided the chief executive officer of such public agency certifies that the public interest in the disclosure of such responses, record or file is outweighed by the public interest in the confidentiality of such responses, record or file;

(25) The name, address, telephone number or electronic mail address of any person enrolled in any senior center program or any member of a senior center administered or sponsored by any public agency;

(26) All records obtained during the course of inspection, investigation, examination and audit activities of an institution, as defined in section 19a-490, that are confidential pursuant to a contract between the Department of Public Health and the United States
Department of Health and Human Services relating to the Medicare and Medicaid programs;

(27) Any record created by a law enforcement agency or other federal, state, or municipal governmental agency consisting of a photograph, film, video or digital or other visual image depicting the victim of a homicide, to the extent that such record could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of the victim or the victim's surviving family members;

(28) Any documentation provided to or obtained by an executive branch agency, including documentation provided or obtained prior to May 25, 2016, relating to claims of faulty or failing concrete foundations in residential buildings by the owners of such residential buildings, and documents prepared by an executive branch agency relating to such documentation, for seven years after the date of receipt of the documentation or seven years after May 25, 2016, whichever is later; [ ]

(29) Any information reported to an executive branch agency by an institution of higher education, private occupational school or any other provider of training or certificate programs concerning applicants for admission to or students enrolled in such institutions, schools or programs, including, but not limited to, information regarding enrollment, program completion and student loans or other financial aid;

(30) Any employee information provided to the Labor Commissioner by an employer pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of subsection (j) of section 31-225a, as amended by this act;

(31) Records of or information from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, institutional financial aid for students without legal immigration status established pursuant to section 10a-161d, and applications for admission to institutions of higher education held by any department, board, commission, public institution of higher education or any other agency of the state, or any local or regional board
Sec. 17. Subsection (a) of section 10-21j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(a) The Commissioner of Education, in collaboration with the Board of Regents for Higher Education, shall establish the Connecticut Apprenticeship and Education Committee to coordinate and identify (1) potential preapprenticeship and apprenticeship training program integration, and (2) leveraged funding identification of career technical education programs within high schools and programs within higher education institutions for careers in various industries. Such committee shall include, but not be limited to, (A) representatives from the Department of Economic and Community Development, the Labor Department, the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology, the Connecticut Manufacturers Collaborative, the Technical Education and Career System, the advanced manufacturing centers at the regional community-technical colleges, independent institutions of higher education in the state that offer training in the field of manufacturing, the [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor's Workforce Council, companies and employee organizations that represent manufacturing workers, and (B) teachers, guidance counselors, school counselors, principals and superintendents.

Sec. 18. Subsection (a) of section 10-95s of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(a) The Technical Education and Career System shall be advised by a Technical Education and Career System board. The board shall consist of eleven members and shall include at least the following, (1) two members with experience in manufacturing or a trade offered by the Technical Education and Career System, or who are alumni of the
system, (2) two members who are executives of Connecticut-based employers and who shall be nominated by the [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor’s Workforce Council, established pursuant to section 31-3h. The Commissioners of Education and Economic and Community Development and the Labor Commissioner, or their respective designees, shall serve as ex-officio members of the board. Members of the board shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the General Assembly, in accordance with the provisions of section 4-7. Any vacancy shall be filled in the manner provided in section 4-19. The Governor shall appoint the chairperson.

Sec. 19. Subsection (b) of section 17b-688h of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(b) Effective July 1, 1998, the Labor Department shall be responsible for the negotiation, establishment, modification, extension, suspension or termination of contracts for employment services. The Labor Department may provide administration and services directly or through the [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor’s Workforce Council or regional workforce development boards.

Sec. 20. Subsection (c) of section 17b-688i of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(c) Not later than January 1, 1999, and annually thereafter, the Labor Department shall submit a report to the Governor, the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations, human services and labor and public employees and the [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor’s Workforce Council. Each report shall contain an evaluation of the operation of the employment services administered by the Labor Department pursuant to this section, including the number
of persons who receive employment services, their gender and outcomes. Each such report shall also provide specific information regarding the cost-effectiveness of the employment services.

Sec. 21. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 31-2 of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(b) The commissioner shall administer the coordination of all employment and training programs in the state and shall implement the plan of the [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor's Workforce Council as approved by the Governor. The commissioner shall develop and maintain a comprehensive inventory of all employment and training programs in the state, including a listing of all funding sources for each program, the characteristics of the persons served, a description of each program and its results and the identification of areas of program overlap and duplication.

(c) The commissioner shall provide staff to the [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor's Workforce Council and such other resources as the commissioner can make available.

Sec. 22. Section 31-3h of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(a) There is created, within the Labor Department, the [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor's Workforce Council.

(b) The duties and responsibilities of the [commission] council shall include:

(1) Carrying out the duties and responsibilities of a state job training coordinating council pursuant to the federal Job Training Partnership Act, 29 USC 1532, as amended from time to time, a state human resource investment council pursuant to 29 USC 1501 et seq., as amended from time to time, and such other related entities as the Governor may direct;
(2) Reviewing all employment and training programs in the state to
determine their success in leading to and obtaining the goal of economic
self-sufficiency and to determine if such programs are serving the needs
of Connecticut's workers, employers and economy;

(3) Reviewing and commenting on all employment and training
programs enacted by the General Assembly;

(4) Implementing the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity
Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as amended from time to time. Such
implementation shall include (A) developing, in consultation with the
regional workforce development boards, a single Connecticut
workforce development plan that (i) complies with the provisions of
said act and section 31-11p, and (ii) includes comprehensive state
performance measures for workforce development activities specified
in Title I of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of
2014, P.L. 113-128, as amended from time to time, which performance
measures comply with the requirements of 20 CFR Part 666.100, (B)
making recommendations to the General Assembly concerning the
allocation of funds received by the state under said act and making
recommendations to the regional workforce development boards
concerning the use of formulas in allocating such funds to adult
employment and job training activities and youth activities, as specified
in said act, (C) providing oversight and coordination of the state-wide
employment statistics system required by said act, (D) as appropriate,
recommending to the Governor that the Governor apply for workforce
flexibility plans and waiver authority under said act, after consultation
with the regional workforce development boards, (E) developing
performance criteria for regional workforce development boards to
utilize in creating a list of eligible providers, and (F) on or before
December 31, 1999, developing a uniform individual training accounts
voucher system that shall be used by the regional workforce
development boards to pay for training of eligible workers by eligible
providers, as required under said act;

(5) Developing and overseeing a plan for the continuous
improvement of the regional workforce development boards established pursuant to section 31-3k;

(6) Developing incumbent worker, and vocational and manpower training programs, including customized job training programs to enhance the productivity of Connecticut businesses and to increase the skills and earnings of underemployed and at-risk workers, and other programs administered by the regional workforce development boards. The Labor Department, in collaboration with the regional workforce development boards, shall implement any incumbent worker and customized job training programs developed by the commission pursuant to this subdivision;

(7) Developing a strategy for providing comprehensive services to eligible youths, which strategy shall include developing youth preapprentice and apprentice programs through, but not limited to, technical education and career schools, and improving linkages between academic and occupational learning and other youth development activities; and

(8) Coordinating an electronic state hiring campaign to encourage the reemployment of workers fifty years of age or older to be administered through the Labor Department's Internet web site, which shall include testimony from various employers that demonstrates the value of hiring and retaining workers fifty years of age or older. Not later than January 1, 2015, the commission shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor on the status of such campaign.

Sec. 23. Section 31-3i of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(a) The members of the [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor's Workforce Council shall be appointed as specified in subsection (b) of this section.

(b) (1) The [commission] council shall consist of twenty-four
members, a majority of whom shall represent business and industry and
the remainder of whom shall represent state and local governments,
organized labor, education and community based organizations,
including a representative of a community action agency, as defined in
section 17b-885.

(2) Effective six months after the United States Secretary of Labor
approves the single Connecticut workforce development plan
submitted to said secretary in accordance with the provisions of
subsection (b) of section 31-11r, the Governor shall fill any vacancy on
the [commission] council from recommendations submitted by the
president pro tempore of the Senate, the speaker of the House of
Representatives, the majority leader of the Senate, the majority leader of
the House of Representatives, the minority leader of the Senate and the
minority leader of the House of Representatives.

(c) [Members appointed to the commission prior to June 23, 1999,
shall continue to serve on the commission as if they were appointed to
the commission as of June 23, 1999.] The [commission] council shall
meet no less than once every calendar quarter.

Sec. 24. Subdivision (2) of section 31-3j of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1,
2021):

(2) ["Commission"] "Council" means the [Connecticut Employment
and Training Commission] Governor's Workforce Council created
under section 31-3h;

Sec. 25. Subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 31-3w of the
general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(1) Collaborate with the [Connecticut Employment and Training
Commission] Governor's Workforce Council established pursuant to
section 31-3h and the regional workforce development boards
established pursuant to section 31-3k;
Sec. 26. Section 31-3cc of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

The [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor's Workforce Council, in cooperation with the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity and the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, shall regularly collect and analyze data on state-supported training programs that measure the presence of gender or other systematic bias and work with the relevant boards and agencies to correct any problems that are found.

Sec. 27. Section 31-3dd of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

The [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor's Workforce Council, in consultation with the Labor Department, the Department of Economic and Community Development and the regional workforce development boards, shall recommend to the Office of Policy and Management and the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations, budget targets for assisting state employers with their training needs.

Sec. 28. Section 31-3ii of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(a) Within available appropriations, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2004, to June 30, 2006, inclusive, the [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor's Workforce Council, in cooperation with a consenting regional workforce development board, shall establish a pilot program that allows such board to use funds allocated to such board to expand an existing adult education program at a local or regional board of education within such regional workforce development board's region to enable incumbent workers to participate in such adult education program. For purposes of this section, "incumbent workers" means individuals who are employed in this state,
but who are in need of additional skills, training or education in order to upgrade employment.

(b) Not later than January 1, 2007, the [commission] council shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education and employment advancement and education on the establishment and any operation of the pilot program authorized under subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. 29. Section 31-3oo of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

The [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor's Workforce Council, in collaboration with the Connecticut Energy Sector Partnership, shall annually solicit and publicize information concerning efforts made by the institutions of higher education in this state to promote the green technology industry, including the development of new academic degree and certificate programs, courses of instruction and initiatives made by such institutions to align green jobs programs with employer needs.

Sec. 30. Section 31-3yy of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

On or before October 1, 2014, and annually thereafter, the [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor's Workforce Council shall submit to the Office of Policy and Management and the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor, higher education and education a report card of each program emphasizing employment placement included in the [commission's] council's annual inventory developed and maintained by the Labor Commissioner pursuant to section 31-2. The report card shall, at a minimum, identify for each program the cost, number of individuals entering the program, number of individuals satisfactorily completing the program and the employment placement
rates of those individuals at thirteen and twenty-six-week intervals following completion of the program or a statement as to why such measure is not relevant.

Sec. 31. Subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 31-11m of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(2) Such reserved funds may be used only to carry out state-wide youth activities described in Section 129(b) of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended, or state-wide employment and training activities, for adults or for dislocated workers, described in Section 134(a)(2)(B) or Section 134(a)(3) of said act, provided such use is consistent with the Connecticut workforce development plan developed by the [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor's Workforce Council under section 31-11p, as amended by this act. The percentage of such reserved funds that are used for administrative costs shall be consistent with the provisions of Section 134(a)(3)(B) of said act. For purposes of this subdivision and subdivision (3) of this subsection, "administrative costs" has the same meaning as in 20 CFR Part 667, Subpart B.

Sec. 32. Section 31-11o of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

The [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor's Workforce Council established under section 31-3h is hereby recognized as the state-wide workforce development board for purposes of complying with the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended.

Sec. 33. Section 31-11p of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(a) The [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor's Workforce Council, in consultation with the regional
workforce development boards, shall develop a single Connecticut workforce development plan that outlines a five-year strategy for the state of Connecticut's workforce development system and meets the requirements of Sections 111 and 112 of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended. Said plan shall serve as a framework for the development of public policy, fiscal investment and operation of workforce education and job training programs and shall constitute the single state plan for purposes of Section 112 of said act. The Governor's Workforce Council, in consultation with the regional workforce development boards, shall update said plan at least once every five years.

(b) The plan shall, at a minimum, include:

1. Long-term goals for the state's workforce development system. Such goals shall include local control of service delivery, one-stop delivery of services, individual choice for individuals served by the system, accountability for provider performance, coordination of workforce development activities integrating state and federal resources and the establishment of ties between funding and actual participation in training activities;

2. Short-term goals, benchmarks and performance measures that the state will use to measure its progress towards meeting the long-term goals identified in subdivision (1) of this subsection;

3. Identification of the role each institution, entity, organization and program plays in the state-wide workforce development system;

4. Ways to improve access to public and certified nonpublic postsecondary educational institutions;

5. A strategy for assessing unmet workforce preparation needs;

6. A description of comprehensive performance measures to ensure coordination and eliminate duplication of services;
(7) A strategy for assessing types of jobs for which there are shortages of available qualified workers and the geographical concentration of unmet workforce needs in this state;

(8) A strategy for maximizing or redirecting funding to deliver services more effectively to meet the state's workforce development needs;

(9) A provision stating that the members of the Governor's Workforce Council and the regional workforce development boards shall comply with state ethics laws and the applicable provisions of Sections 111(f) and 117(g) of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended;

(10) A provision stating that the Labor Commissioner and the Commissioners of Social Services and Education shall develop a coordinated program of referring workforce development participants to supportive services, including, but not limited to, transportation and child care services for eligible participants of workforce activities. Such program shall include a requirement that each regional workforce development board submit an annual report to the Governor's Workforce Council on or before January 31, 2000, and each January thirty-first thereafter detailing such board's plan for coordinating such supportive services;

(11) A description of the state of Connecticut's proposed one-stop delivery system, which shall be consistent with the provisions of Section 134(c) of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended, and shall include a description of the following components: (A) A uniform individual training accounts voucher system which shall be used by the regional workforce development boards to pay for training of eligible workers by eligible providers and which shall include a reporting system that ties funding to actual participation in training programs, (B) the core services, as identified in subdivision (12) of this subsection, which shall
be available to adults or dislocated workers, including exemptions from
core services, (C) the intensive services, as identified in subdivision (13)
of this subsection, which shall be available to adults or dislocated
workers who have received the maximum amount of core services but
were unable to obtain employment through such core services,
including prerequisites for obtaining such intensive services and
exemptions from such prerequisites, and (D) the training services, as
identified in subdivision (14) of this subsection, which shall be available
to adults or dislocated workers who have received intensive services,
but were unable to obtain unsubsidized employment through such
intensive services, including prerequisites for obtaining such training
services and exemptions from such prerequisites;

(12) Identification of core services available under the one-stop
delivery system, which shall, at a minimum, include: (A) Determination
of whether individuals are eligible to receive assistance under Subtitle B
of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L.
113-128, as from time to time amended; (B) outreach, intake and
orientation to the information and other services available through the
one-stop delivery system; (C) a uniform assessment procedure for
screening adults and dislocated workers which shall include, but not be
limited to, initial assessment of skill levels, aptitudes, abilities,
supportive service needs and for application of the self-sufficiency
measurement developed in accordance with the provisions of section 4-
66e; (D) job search and placement assistance and, where appropriate,
career counseling; (E) provision of (i) employment statistics
information, including the provision of accurate information concerning
local, regional and national labor market areas, including job vacancy
listings in such labor market areas, information on job skills necessary
to obtain such vacant jobs and information relating to local occupations
in demand and the earnings and skill requirements for such
occupations; (ii) provider performance information and program cost
information on eligible providers of training services, as described in
Section 122 of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of
2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended, provided by program,
and eligible providers of youth activities described in Section 123 of said
act, eligible providers of adult education described in Title II of said act, providers of postsecondary vocational education activities and vocational education activities, which shall include, but not be limited to, preapprentice programs available through, but not limited to, the Technical Education and Career System, available to school dropouts under the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act, 20 USC 2301, et seq., and providers of vocational rehabilitation program activities described in Title I of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 USC 720, et seq.; (iii) information regarding how the local area is performing on the local performance measures and any additional performance information with respect to the one-stop delivery system in the local area; (iv) accurate information concerning the availability of supportive services, including child care and transportation, available through the local area and referral to such services, as appropriate; (v) information regarding filing claims for unemployment compensation under chapter 567; (F) assistance in establishing eligibility for programs of financial aid assistance for training and education programs that are not funded under said act and are available through the local area; (G) follow-up services, including counseling regarding the workplace, for participants in workforce investment activities authorized under Subtitle B of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended, who are placed in unsubsidized employment, for not less than twelve months after the first day of the employment, as appropriate; and (H) assistance in establishing eligibility for authorized activities under Section 403(a)(5) of the Social Security Act, as added by Section 5001 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, available in the local area. For purposes of this subdivision, "local area" refers to an area designated as such pursuant to Section 116 of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended;

(13) Identification of intensive services available under the one-stop delivery system, which services may include (A) comprehensive and
specialized assessments of the skill levels and service needs of adults and dislocated workers, which may include diagnostic testing, use of special education planning and placement teams and use of other assessment tools and in-depth interviewing and evaluation to identify employment barriers and appropriate employment goals; (B) development of an individual employment plan to identify the employment goals, appropriate achievement objectives and appropriate combination of services for the participant to achieve the employment goals; (C) group counseling; (D) individual counseling and career planning; (E) case management for participants seeking training services authorized under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended; and (F) short-term prevocational services, including development of learning skills, communication skills, interviewing skills, punctuality, personal maintenance skills and professional conduct, to prepare individuals for unsubsidized employment or training;

(14) Identification of training services authorized under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended, that are available under the one-stop delivery system, which services may include a combination of occupational skills training, including training for nontraditional employment, on-the-job training, programs that combine workplace training with related instruction, which may include cooperative education programs, training programs operated by the private sector, skill upgrading and retraining, entrepreneurial training, job readiness training, adult education and literacy activities and customized job training conducted with a commitment by an employer or group of employers to employ an individual upon successful completion of the training;

(15) Development of a uniform system of identifying and certifying eligible providers of the training services described in subdivision (13) of this subsection, which system shall (A) incorporate each of the requirements of Section 122 of the federal Workforce Innovation and
Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended, and (B) be used by each regional workforce development board in selecting an eligible provider of training services;

(16) A strategy for the establishment of (A) regional youth councils by the regional workforce development boards, which regional youth councils shall (i) recommend eligible providers of youth activities to the council and conduct oversight of eligible providers of youth activities; (ii) in cooperation with local boards of education, identify available programs and activities to assist youths in completing education programs; (iii) identify available programs and activities to assist youths in securing and preserving employment; and (iv) coordinate youth activities with Job Corps services, coordinate youth activities authorized under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended, and improve the connection between court-involved youths and the state labor market; and (B) criteria for selection of regional youth council members and awarding youth program grants for state-wide youth activities described in Section 129(b) of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended;

(17) Development of a program to provide job readiness and job search training to unemployed and underemployed noncustodial parents no later than July 1, 2000;

(18) Development of a career pathways program to link alternative education programs to regional community-technical colleges and work-related learning no later than October 1, 2000; and

(19) Any other provisions required to be included in the plan under Sections 111 and 112 of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended.

(c) The Governor may submit modifications to the single Connecticut workforce development plan approved by the United States Secretary of Labor as necessary during the five-year period covered by the plan,
with the advice and assistance of the [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor's Workforce Council, provided such modifications are (1) approved by the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations, education, labor and social services, and (2) consistent with the requirements of Sections 111 and 112 of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended.

Sec. 34. Section 31-11q of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

On or before October 15, 1999, the [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor's Workforce Council shall submit to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations, education, labor and social services the comprehensive state performance measures developed by said [commission] council in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (5) of subsection (b) of section 31-3h for activities specified in Title I of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended, and annually thereafter during any year in which such performance measures are modified.

Sec. 35. Section 31-11r of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(a) On or before January 1, 2000, the [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor's Workforce Council shall submit a single Workforce Development Plan to the Governor, which plan shall (1) be approved by the General Assembly, (2) comply with the requirements of section 31-11p, and (3) comply with the requirements of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 13-128, as from time to time amended.

(b) On or before March 15, 2000, the Governor shall submit a single
Connecticut Workforce Development Plan to the United States Secretary of Labor, which plan shall satisfy the requirements of subsection (a) of this section.

(c) The Governor shall submit to the United States Secretary of Labor any appropriate or necessary request for waiver of the statutory or regulatory requirements of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 13-128, as from time to time amended, with the advice and assistance of the [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor's Workforce Council.

Sec. 36. Section 31-11s of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(a) On or before February 9, 2000, and annually thereafter, the [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor's Workforce Council shall make recommendations consistent with the provisions of the single Connecticut workforce development plan submitted to the Governor pursuant to section 31-11r to the Governor and the General Assembly concerning the appropriation of funds received for adult workforce development activities under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended, for (1) job-related vocational, literacy, language or numerical skills training; (2) underemployed and at-risk workers; (3) individuals with barriers to full-time, stable employment, including language, basic skills and occupational literacy barriers; (4) vocational training using apprentice and preapprentice programs and customized job training programs that are designed to serve at-risk workers and promote job retention and the obtainment of higher wage jobs; (5) special incentives for programs that successfully train (A) women for nontraditional employment, and (B) minorities for occupations or fields of work in which such minorities are underrepresented; and (6) special grants or contracts in each region for training programs that target workers who are difficult to serve, including, but not limited to, workers (A) with limited literacy or numerical skills, (B) without a high school diploma or its equivalent, or...
(C) for whom English is a second language. For purposes of this section, "nontraditional employment" refers to occupations or fields of work for which women comprise less than twenty-five per cent of the individuals employed in each such occupation or field of work.

(b) On or before February 9, 2000, and annually thereafter, the commission council shall make recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly concerning the appropriation of funds received under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended, for dislocated workers.

(c) Pursuant to Section 189(i)(4)(A) of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended, the Governor is authorized by the General Assembly to apply for a waiver of federal eligibility requirements to allow incumbent workers with annual family incomes that do not exceed two hundred per cent of the poverty level guidelines issued by the federal Department of Health and Human Services to receive job training services.

Sec. 37. Section 31-11t of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(a) The Governor's Workforce Council shall provide each regional workforce development board with criteria for the evaluation of funded programs, including a description of the amount, type and effectiveness of literacy training provided to participants, the number of persons completing job training, the gender and race of persons who receive training, occupational skill types, the number of persons who enter unsubsidized employment, the number of persons who remain in unsubsidized employment six months later and the earnings received by such persons.

(b) The commission council shall develop an education and job training report card to assess the accomplishments of Connecticut's...
workforce development system and for meeting the accountability
requirements of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended. The report card
shall address the effectiveness of such system in meeting (1) employers' 
needs for educated and trained workers, and (2) clients' needs for
improving their economic well-being.

Sec. 38. Subsection (b) of section 31-11ff of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1,
2021):

(b) The [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor's Workforce Council shall develop, in collaboration with the
Connecticut state colleges and universities, Department of Education,
and regional workforce development boards established pursuant to
section 31-3j, a state-wide plan for implementing, expanding or
improving upon career certificate programs established under section
10-20a, middle college programs, early college high school programs
and Connecticut Early College Opportunity programs to provide
education, training and placement in jobs available in the
manufacturing, health care, construction, green, science, technology,
computer science, engineering and mathematics industries and other
emerging sectors of the state's economy. Such plan shall include a
proposal to fund such programs.

Sec. 39. Subsection (b) of section 31-11jj of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1,
2021):

(b) The Workforce Training Authority Fund shall be used by the
administrator: (1) To provide training assistance to eligible recipients as
may be approved by the Workforce Training Authority pursuant to
subsection (e) of this section, and (2) to pay or reimburse the
administrator for administrative costs pursuant to subsection (h) of this
section. Such training assistance shall be awarded for the purpose of:
Developing and implementing training programs for the recruitment of
businesses to the state and the training or retraining of persons in the
state to achieve the workforce goals established by the [Connecticut
Employment and Training Commission] Governor's Workforce Council
and the relevant sections of the strategic master plan for higher
education developed pursuant to section 10a-11b. Training assistance
shall target job growth in the areas of construction, health care, early
childhood education, insurance, financial services, bioscience, advance
manufacturing, digital media, green technology, and tourism.

Sec. 40. Subsection (j) of section 31-11jj of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1,
2021):

(j) The administrator shall consult with the office of apprenticeship
training, the [Connecticut Employment and Training Commission] Governor's Workforce Council, the Planning Commission on Higher
Education and the administrator of the Connecticut Manufacturing
Innovation Fund to ensure coordination and compatibility of the
development and implementation of training programs awarded by the
Workforce Training Authority.

Sec. 41. Subsection (a) of section 4-124z of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1,
2021):

(a) The Labor Commissioner, the Commissioner of Economic and
Community Development, working with the Office of Workforce
[Competitiveness] Strategy, the Commissioners of Education and Social
Services, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and the
president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, in
consultation with the superintendent of the Technical Education and
Career System and one member of industry representing each of the
economic clusters identified by the Commissioner of Economic and
Community Development pursuant to section 32-1m shall (1) review,
evaluate and, as necessary, recommend improvements for certification
and degree programs offered by the Technical Education and Career
System and the community-technical college system to ensure that such programs meet the employment needs of business and industry, and (2) develop strategies to strengthen the linkage between skill standards for education and training and the employment needs of business and industry.

Sec. 42. Section 4-124gg of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

Not later than October 1, 2012, the Labor Commissioner, with the assistance of the Office of Workforce [Competitiveness] Strategy and in consultation with the superintendent of the Technical Education and Career System, shall create an integrated system of state-wide industry advisory committees for each career cluster offered as part of the Technical Education and Career System and regional community-technical college system. Said committees shall include industry representatives of the specific career cluster. Each committee for a career cluster shall, with support from the Labor Department, Technical Education and Career System, regional community-technical college system and the Department of Education, establish specific skills standards, corresponding curriculum and a career ladder for the cluster which shall be implemented as part of the schools' core curriculum.

Sec. 43. Section 4-124tt of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

Within available appropriations, the Office of Workforce [Competitiveness] Strategy, within the [Labor] Department of Economic and Community Development, may establish a pilot program to provide any eligible individual with a minor dependent access to training in order to obtain skills and credentials necessary to obtain and maintain employment. Such skills and credentials may include, but need not be limited to (1) a high school diploma or its equivalent; (2) an alternative degree; (3) English as a second language training; and (4) vocational training. For purposes of this section, an eligible individual is an individual who would qualify for benefits under the temporary
assistance for needy families program pursuant to Title IV-A of the Social Security Act.

Sec. 44. Section 4-124vv of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

The Labor Department, working with [its] the Office of Workforce [Competitiveness] Strategy, shall, within available appropriations, fund Connecticut Career Choices.

Sec. 45. Subsection (a) of section 10-21c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(a) Any local or regional board of education that has a demonstrated shortage of certified teachers in those fields designated by the State Board of Education or that elects to expand the academic offerings to students in the areas identified by the Labor Commissioner and the Office of Workforce [Competitiveness] Strategy pursuant to the provisions of section 4-124w may solicit and accept qualified private sector specialists, not necessarily certified to teach, whose services to teach in shortage areas have been donated by business firms, as defined in section 12-631. Private sector specialists who donate their services may be permitted to offer instruction in existing or specially designed curricula, provided no private sector specialist shall be permitted to work more than one-half of the maximum classroom hours of a full-time certified teacher, and provided further no private sector specialist teaching in an area identified by the Labor Commissioner and the Office of Workforce [Competitiveness] Strategy pursuant to section 4-124w shall have sole responsibility for a classroom. No certified teacher may be terminated, transferred or reassigned due to the utilization of any private sector specialist. Local or regional boards of education shall annually review the need for private sector specialists and shall not renew or place a private sector specialist if certified teachers are available.
Sec. 46. Subsection (a) of section 10-74n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(a) The State Board of Education, in collaboration with the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services, the Department of Developmental Services and the Office of Workforce [Competitiveness] Strategy, shall: (1) Coordinate the provision of transition resources, services and programs to children requiring special education and related services, (2) create, and update as necessary, a fact sheet that lists the state agencies that provide transition resources, services and programs and a brief description of such transition resources, services and programs and disseminate such fact sheet to local and regional boards of education for distribution to parents, teachers, administrators and boards of education, and (3) annually collect information related to transition resources, programs and services provided by other state agencies and make such information available to parents, teachers, administrators and boards of education.

Sec. 47. Subsection (b) of section 10a-19d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(b) The president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, in consultation with the [Labor Department's] Office of Workforce [Competitiveness] Strategy, the Department of Education, the Department of Social Services, Charter Oak State College, early childhood education faculty at two and four-year public and independent institutions of higher education, early childhood education professional associations, early childhood education advocates and practitioners, and persons knowledgeable in the area of career development and programs in early childhood care and education, shall define the preservice and minimum training requirements and competencies for persons involved in early childhood education, from birth to five years of age, including requirements for individual levels of early childhood credentialing and licensing.
Sec. 48. Section 10a-55g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

Not later than July 1, 2020, the Office of Higher Education and the Labor Department shall each publish on their respective Internet web sites the career ladder for jobs in the green technology industry established and updated by the Office of Workforce [Competitiveness] Strategy in accordance with section 31-3rr, as amended by this act, and an inventory of green jobs related equipment used by technical education and career schools and institutions of higher education.

Sec. 49. Section 31-2d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

Any order or regulation of the Office of Workforce [Competitiveness] Strategy affecting the functions, powers, duties and obligations set forth in this section and sections 4-124w, as amended by this act, 4-124z, as amended by this act, 4-124ff, 4-124gg, as amended by this act, 4-124hh, 4-124tt, as amended by this act and 4-124vv, as amended by this act which is in force on July 1, 2011, shall continue in force and effect as an order or regulation of the [Labor Department] Department of Economic and Community Development until amended, repealed or superseded pursuant to law. Where any orders or regulations of said office and said department conflict, the [Labor] Commissioner of Economic and Community Development may implement policies and procedures consistent with the provisions of this section and sections 4-124w, as amended by this act, 4-124z, as amended by this act, 4-124ff, 4-124gg, as amended by this act, 4-124hh, 4-124tt, as amended by this act, 4-124vv, as amended by this act, 10-95h, 10a-11b, 10a-19d, as amended by this act, 31-3h, as amended by this act and 31-3k while in the process of adopting the policy or procedure in regulation form, provided notice of intention to adopt regulations is printed in the Connecticut Law Journal not later than twenty days after implementation. The policy or procedure shall be valid until the time final regulations are effective.

Sec. 50. Subsection (b) of section 31-3rr of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(b) Not later than January 1, 2020, the Office of Workforce [Competitiveness] Strategy, in consultation with the Office of Higher Education, Department of Education, Labor Department, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, regional workforce development boards and employers, shall, within available appropriations, establish a career ladder for jobs in the green technology industry, including, but not limited to, a listing of (1) careers at each level of the green technology industry and the requisite level of education and the salary offered for such career, (2) all course, certificate and degree programs in green jobs offered by technical education and career schools within the Technical Education and Career System and institutions of higher education in the state, and (3) jobs available in the green technology industry in the state. The Office of Workforce [Competitiveness] Strategy shall update the green jobs career ladder established pursuant to this section on an as needed basis.

Sec. 51. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 31-3k of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(b) Each board, within its region, shall:

(1) Carry out the duties and responsibilities of a private industry council under the Job Training Partnership Act, provided the private industry council within the region elects by a vote of its members to become a board and the Labor Commissioner approves the council as a regional work force development board.

(2) Within existing resources and consistent with the state employment and training information system and any guidelines issued by the commissioner under subsection (b) of section 31-2, (A) assess regional needs and identify regional priorities for employment and training programs, including, but not limited to, an assessment of the
special employment needs of unskilled and low-skilled unemployed
persons, including persons receiving state-administered general
assistance or short-term unemployment assistance, (B) conduct
planning for regional employment and training programs, (C)
coordinate such programs to ensure that the programs respond to the
needs of labor, business and industry, municipalities within the region,
the region as a whole, and all of its citizens, (D) serve as a clearinghouse
for information on all employment and training programs in the region,
(E) prepare and submit an annual plan containing the board's priorities
and goals for regional employment and training programs to the
commissioner and the [commission] council for their review and
approval, (F) review grant proposals and plans submitted to state
agencies for employment and training programs that directly affect the
region to determine whether such proposals and plans are consistent
with the annual regional plan prepared under subparagraph (E) of this
subdivision and inform the [commission] council and each state agency
concerned of the results of the review, (G) evaluate the effectiveness of
employment and training programs within the region in meeting the
goals contained in the annual regional plan prepared under
subparagraph (E) of this subdivision and report its findings to the
commissioner and the [commission] council on an annual basis, (H)
ensure the effective use of available employment and training resources
in the region, and (I) allocate funds where applicable for program
operations in the region.

(3) Provide information to the commissioner concerning (A) all
employment and training programs, grants or funds to be effective or
available in the region in the following program year, (B) the source and
purpose of such programs, grants or funds, (C) the projected amount of
such programs, grants or funds, (D) persons, organizations and
institutions eligible to participate in such programs or receive such
grants or funds, (E) characteristics of clients eligible to receive services
pursuant to such programs, grants or funds, (F) the range of services
available pursuant to such programs, grants or funds, (G) goals of such
programs, grants or funds, (H) where applicable, schedules for
submitting requests for proposals, planning instructions, proposals and plans, in connection with such programs, grants or funds, (I) the program period for such programs, grants or funds, and (J) any other data relating to such programs, grants or funds that the commissioner or the [commission] council deems essential for effective state planning.

(4) Carry out the duties and responsibilities of the local board for purposes of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended.

(5) Establish a worker training education committee comprised of persons from the education and business communities within the region, including, but not limited to, regional community-technical colleges and technical education and career schools.

(c) Each board shall make use of grants or contracts with appropriate service providers to furnish all program services under sections 31-3j to 31-3r, inclusive, unless the [commission] council concurs with the board that direct provision of a service by the board is necessary to assure adequate availability of the service or that a service of comparable quality can be provided more economically by the board. Any board seeking to provide services directly shall include in the annual regional plan submitted to the commissioner and the [commission] council under subparagraph (E) of subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section its plan to provide services directly and appropriate justification for the need to do so. When the decision to provide services directly must be made between annual planning cycles, the board shall submit to the commissioner and the [commission] council a plan of service and appropriate justification for the need to provide services directly. Such plan of service shall be subject to review and approval by the [commission] council.

Sec. 52. Section 31-3m of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

Not later than July 1, 1992, and annually thereafter, the Governor
shall designate appropriate state agencies as agencies involved in employment and training. The department heads of each agency involved in employment and training shall: (1) Not later than August 15, 1992, and annually thereafter, identify the employment and training programs administered by the agency that shall be subject to oversight by one or more boards under the provisions of sections 31-3j to 31-3r, inclusive; and (2) provide to the commissioner, for distribution to the boards through the [commission] council, information concerning (A) all employment and training programs, grants or funds to be effective or available in the following program year, (B) the source and purpose of such programs, grants or funds, (C) the projected amount of such programs, grants or funds, (D) persons, organizations and institutions eligible to participate in such programs or receive such grants or funds, (E) characteristics of clients eligible to receive services pursuant to such programs, grants or funds, (F) the range of services available pursuant to such programs, grants or funds, (G) goals of such programs, grants or funds, (H) where applicable, schedules for submitting requests for proposals, planning instructions, proposals and plans, in connection with such programs, grants or funds, (I) the program period for such programs, grants or funds, and (J) any other data relating to such programs, grants or funds that the commissioner or the [commission] council deems essential for effective regional planning.

Sec. 53. Section 31-3n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(a) The commissioner, in consultation with the [commission] council, shall adopt regulations in accordance with chapter 54 to carry out the provisions of sections 31-3j to 31-3r, inclusive. The regulations shall establish criteria for the organization and operation of the board and for ensuring that the membership of each board satisfies the requirements of section 31-3l.

(b) The commissioner, acting through the [commission] council, shall facilitate communication and exchange of information between the boards and state agencies involved in employment and training.
(c) The commissioner shall distribute all information received under the provisions of sections 31-3j to 31-3r, inclusive, to the [commission] council in order to ensure that the review and coordination duties of the [commission] council are effectively carried out.

(d) The commissioner shall submit each annual regional plan prepared pursuant to subparagraph (E) of subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 31-3k, together with the recommendations of the commissioner and the [commission] council, to the Governor for final approval.

(e) The commissioner shall approve, in consultation with the [commission] council, each board established pursuant to section 31-3k which meets the requirements of sections 31-3j to 31-3r, inclusive.

Sec. 54. Section 31-3o of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(a) The [commission] council shall review and approve each annual regional plan prepared pursuant to subparagraph (E) of subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 31-3k.

(b) The [commission] council shall ensure that the membership of each board satisfies the representation requirements of section 31-3l and regulations adopted by the commissioner under section 31-3n.

(c) The [commission] council shall review and consider the annual report of each board evaluating the effectiveness of employment and training programs, prepared pursuant to subparagraph (G) of subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 31-3k.

Sec. 55. Section 31-3p of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

In any case where a board, after review, determines that a grant proposal or plan submitted to a state agency involved in employment and training is inconsistent with the board’s annual regional plan
prepared pursuant to subparagraph (E) of subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 31-3k, the board shall notify the agency in writing of its determination and may request a response from the agency. The agency, if so requested, shall respond to the inconsistency noted by the board and shall make every effort to resolve the issues involved. If such issues cannot be resolved to the satisfaction of the board, the board may appeal to the [commission] council. The [commission] council shall review the subject matter of the appeal and recommend a resolution to the commissioner, who shall render an opinion consistent with applicable state and federal law.

Sec. 56. Section 31-3q of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

All state employment and training programs shall be consistent with any guidelines issued by the commissioner under subsection (b) of section 31-2 and the annual plan for the coordination of all employment and training programs in the state developed by the [commission] council and approved by the Governor under section 31-3h.

Sec. 57. Sections 10a-57a, 10a-57b, 10a-57c and 10a-57e of the general statutes are repealed. (Effective July 1, 2021)

Sec. 58. Section 3 of public act 16-44 is repealed. (Effective July 1, 2021)

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

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**ED**    Joint Favorable Subst.

**APP**   Joint Favorable