



General Assembly

**Amendment**

February Session, 2022

LCO No. 5526



Offered by:

REP. CURREY, 11<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. HARTLEY, 15<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
REP. BUCKBEE, 67<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. MARTIN, 31<sup>st</sup> Dist.

To: House Bill No. 5124

File No. 287

Cal. No. 217

**"AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO CERTAIN ECONOMIC AND  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT-RELATED STATUTES."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Section 32-7g of the 2022 supplement to the general  
4 statutes is amended by adding subsection (h) as follows (*Effective from*  
5 *passage*):

6 (NEW) (h) The commissioner may contract with nongovernmental  
7 entities, including, but not limited to, nonprofit organizations, economic  
8 and community development organizations, lending institutions, and  
9 technical assistance providers to carry out the provisions of this section.

10 Sec. 2. Section 32-4p of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is  
11 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
12 *passage*):

13 (a) [For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, to] On and after July 1,  
14 2021, and until June 30, 2024, [inclusive,] the Commissioner of Economic  
15 and Community Development, in coordination with the Secretary of the  
16 Office of Policy and Management, may, for the purposes of  
17 implementing the state's Economic Action Plan, use bond funds,  
18 funding received as a result of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021,  
19 P.L. 117-2, as amended from time to time, and available resources, to  
20 provide (1) not more than one hundred million dollars in the aggregate  
21 for grants in support of major projects selected pursuant to subsection  
22 (b) of this section, and (2) [matching grants] not more than one hundred  
23 million dollars in the aggregate for community development grants  
24 awarded pursuant to subsection (c) of this section. Total funding for  
25 grants provided pursuant to subsections (b) and (c) of this section shall  
26 not exceed two hundred million dollars in the aggregate.

27 (b) On and after July 1, 2021, and until [July 1] June 30, 2024, the  
28 Department of Economic and Community Development may [develop  
29 and issue requests for proposals] establish an Innovation Corridor  
30 program, which shall provide grants for major projects in the state. The  
31 department shall develop a competitive application process and criteria  
32 consistent with the purposes of the state's Economic Action Plan to (1)  
33 evaluate [proposals] applications submitted pursuant to this subsection,  
34 and (2) select [proposals] projects for funding pursuant to subdivision  
35 (1) of subsection (a) of this section.

36 (c) On and after July 1, 2021, and until [July 1] June 30, 2024, the  
37 [Commissioner] Department of Economic and Community  
38 Development may establish a [competitive grant program to provide  
39 matching grants of not more than ten million dollars for major projects  
40 selected pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. Each major project  
41 selected pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall be eligible for a  
42 matching grant under this subsection not more than two times a year.  
43 The commissioner shall establish eligibility criteria, an application  
44 process, evaluation criteria and reporting requirements for the  
45 competitive grant program] Connecticut Communities Challenge  
46 program, which shall provide community development grants. The

47 department shall develop a competitive application process and criteria  
48 consistent with the purposes of the state's Economic Action Plan to (1)  
49 evaluate applications submitted pursuant to this subsection, and (2)  
50 select community development projects for funding pursuant to  
51 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section.

52 Sec. 3. Subsection (h) of section 10-416c of the general statutes is  
53 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
54 *passage*):

55 (h) The Department of Economic and Community Development may  
56 charge any owner seeking a tax credit pursuant to subsection (b) of this  
57 section an application fee in an amount not to exceed ten thousand  
58 dollars to (1) cover the cost of administering the program established  
59 pursuant to this section, and (2) fund programs that advance historic  
60 preservation in the state.

61 Sec. 4. Subparagraph (C) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section  
62 32-1m of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the  
63 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

64 (C) An investment analysis, including (i) total portfolio value, (ii)  
65 total investment by industry, (iii) portfolio dollar per job average, and  
66 (iv) portfolio leverage ratio;

67 Sec. 5. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Economic and  
68 Community Development shall, in consultation with the Commissioner  
69 of Revenue Services, conduct a study regarding whether to extend  
70 research and development tax credits to pass-through entities. Not later  
71 than January 1, 2023, the commissioner shall report, in accordance with  
72 the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, regarding such  
73 study to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having  
74 cognizance of matters relating to commerce.

75 Sec. 6. Subsection (b) of section 22a-134tt of the general statutes is  
76 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
77 *passage*):

78 (b) The commissioner, or his or her designee, shall co-chair and  
79 convene, in conjunction with the Commissioner of Economic and  
80 Community Development, or his or her designee, a working group in  
81 the department for the purpose of providing advice and feedback for  
82 regulations to be adopted by the commissioner in accordance with the  
83 provisions of this section. The Commissioner of Economic and  
84 Community Development, or his or her designee, shall serve as co-chair  
85 of such working group. The membership of the working group shall  
86 include: (1) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing  
87 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
88 relating to the environment and commerce; (2) environmental  
89 transaction attorneys; (3) commercial real estate brokers; (4) licensed  
90 environmental professionals; (5) representatives from the Connecticut  
91 Manufacturers' Collaborative; (6) representatives of environmental  
92 advocacy groups; (7) representatives of the Environmental  
93 Professionals Organization of Connecticut; (8) municipal  
94 representatives; (9) representatives from the brownfields working  
95 group established pursuant to section 32-770; (10) representatives of the  
96 Connecticut Conference of Municipalities and the Connecticut Council  
97 of Small Towns; (11) representatives of the Council on Environmental  
98 Quality; and (12) any other interested members of the public designated  
99 by the commissioner. The commissioner shall convene monthly  
100 meetings of such working group until such time as regulations are  
101 adopted pursuant to this section. Not less than sixty days before posting  
102 notice on the eRegulations System pursuant to section 4-168, the  
103 commissioner shall provide a draft of such regulations to the members  
104 of the working group and allow members of the working group to  
105 provide advice and feedback on such draft. The members of the working  
106 group shall provide such advice and feedback not later than thirty days  
107 after the date on which such members receive such draft. Not less than  
108 fifteen days before posting such notice on the eRegulations System  
109 pursuant to section 4-168, the commissioner shall convene at least one  
110 monthly meeting of the working group after providing a draft of such  
111 regulations. The commissioner shall provide a revised draft for review  
112 by such members prior to posting notice on the eRegulations System

113 pursuant to section 4-168.

114 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) On or before July 1, 2023, the  
115 Chief Workforce Officer, in consultation with the Commissioner of  
116 Education, the executive director of the Technical Education and Career  
117 System and the Labor Commissioner, shall develop a model student  
118 work release policy. Not later than July 1, 2023, the Chief Workforce  
119 Officer shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a  
120 of the general statutes, regarding such model student work release  
121 policy to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having  
122 cognizance of matters relating to education, commerce and labor.

123 (b) The Chief Workforce Officer may update the model student work  
124 release policy developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section as  
125 needed. The Chief Workforce Officer shall notify each local and regional  
126 board of education of such updated model student work release policy.

127 (c) For the school year commencing July 1, 2024, and each school year  
128 thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall adopt the  
129 model student work release policy developed pursuant to subsection (a)  
130 of this section or the most recent updated model student work release  
131 policy developed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	32-7g
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	32-4p
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	10-416c(h)
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	32-1m(a)(2)(C)
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	22a-134tt(b)
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	New section