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## OLR Bill Analysis

### sHB 5496

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING THE CAPITAL REGION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN CERTAIN PROJECTS AND THE FINANCIAL INTERESTS OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill authorizes the Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA) to solicit private investment funds from businesses to finance projects in conjunction with CRDA. It allows CRDA to solicit these funds for any capital city project or other project it undertakes in the capital region (i.e., Hartford and its contiguous towns). The bill requires that the private investments be made on equivalent or substantially similar terms and conditions as the investments CRDA makes for the project, as set by CRDA's board of directors, but allows CRDA to give these private investments priority.

The bill allows businesses to make these private investments even if an officer, director, or shareholder of the business is a CRDA board member, so long as the member recuses himself or herself from the board's consideration or action on the project.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

#### **BACKGROUND**

##### ***Capital City Projects***

By law, "capital city projects" include, among other things, the:

1. construction or rehabilitation of up to 3,000 downtown housing units,
2. development and redevelopment of buildings in Hartford,
3. development of riverfront infrastructure and improvements in Hartford and East Hartford,

4. demolition or redevelopment of vacant buildings in Hartford and East Hartford, and
5. addition of downtown parking.

***Related Bill***

sSB 478, favorably reported by the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee, contains similar provisions.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 13    Nay 6    (03/28/2022)