

Commerce Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: HB-6754

AN ACT CONCERNING INCENTIVES TO INCREASE EMPLOYMENT OF

Title: INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY.

Vote Date: 3/14/2023

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 3/2/2023

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Commerce Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

Connecticut residents with intellectual disabilities have experienced difficulties finding employment, especially after the COVID-19 pandemic. HB-6754 aims to create opportunities for those with intellectual disabilities to find jobs, improving their lives and help reduce the workforce shortage in the state.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None expressed.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Carol Scully, Director of Advocacy, The Arc of Connecticut

Ms. Scully supports this bill. She believes HB-6754 will result in a greater number of persons with disabilities to find employment, providing them with a solid income as well as improving their engagement with the community. However, Ms. Scully suggests amended language to the bill clarifying the definition of intellectual disabilities to include intellectual developmental disabilities (IDD) and developmental disabilities (DD). Additionally, she requests amendments to clarify employers requirement to pay individuals with IDD/DD a competitive wage that is not less than the current minimum wage and to consider including penalties for employers not maintaining the minimum number of intellectual disabled employees as defined in the bill including but not limited to a refund of the credit or grant monies.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None expressed.

Reported by: Colin DeCure

Date: 3/28/2023