

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



**PA 23-57**—sSB 1042  
*Commerce Committee*

**AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TO PROVIDE CAPACITY BUILDING GRANTS TO CONNECTICUT BROWNFIELD LAND BANKS**

**SUMMARY:** This act expands the scope of the Remedial Action and Redevelopment Municipal Grant Program (i.e., “Brownfield Municipal Grant Program”) to include capacity-building grants for Connecticut Brownfield Land Bank (CBLB) operational expenses. It authorizes the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) commissioner to award these grants, up to a maximum of \$50,000, to any CBLB that (1) matches the funding award and (2) has not previously been awarded a capacity-building grant under the program.

Under the act, a CBLB may apply to the DECD commissioner, as she determines, for a capacity-building grant of any amount up to the maximum. The CBLB must include any information the commissioner needs to determine whether to award the grant in whole or in part, including information to verify that the CBLB has sufficient matching funds and has not previously received a capacity-building grant from the program.

The act also makes numerous conforming changes (§§ 2-5).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2023

**BACKGROUND**

*Brownfield Municipal Grant Program*

DECD’s Brownfield Municipal Grant Program provides grants of up to \$4 million to municipalities, CBLBs, and economic development agencies for eligible brownfield remediation or assessment projects and administrative expenses of up to 5% of the grant awarded.

*Connecticut Brownfield Land Banks (CBLBs)*

The law authorizes DECD to certify Connecticut non-stock corporations as CBLBs. They can be established to, among other things, (1) acquire, retain, remediate, and sell brownfields to benefit municipalities and (2) educate government officials, community leaders, economic development agencies, and nonprofit organizations on best practices for redeveloping brownfields (CGS §§ 32-771 & 32-773).