



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

***Raised Bill No. 6585***

LCO No. 3530



Referred to Committee on COMMERCE

Introduced by:  
(CE)

***AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY TO PROMOTE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT USING THE GLOBAL ENTREPRENEUR IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM AS A MODEL.***

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a working  
2 group to conduct a study and make recommendations regarding the  
3 feasibility of state universities leveraging the H1-B visa cap exemption  
4 process to fill high-value job openings and promote workforce  
5 development, using the Global Entrepreneur In Residence program as a  
6 model. The study shall include, but need not be limited to: (1) The  
7 development of recommendations for creating an international pipeline  
8 that would expand the size of the eligible workforce population; (2) an  
9 examination of any barriers to establishing such a pipeline; (3) an  
10 examination of any barriers faced by the business community when  
11 hiring international students; (4) an evaluation of international  
12 workforce pipeline programs used in other states; (5) the creation of a  
13 best practices document regarding current international workforce  
14 pipelines; (6) an examination of how to promote such a pipeline for in-  
15 demand jobs outlined by the Office of Workforce Strategy; and (7) an

16 examination of how the state can be more competitive in recruiting an  
17 international workforce.

18 (b) The chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General  
19 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce shall  
20 appoint cochairs from among the members of the working group, which  
21 shall consist of, but need not be limited to, the following members:

22 (1) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing  
23 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
24 relating to commerce and higher education;

25 (2) The president of The University of Connecticut, or the president's  
26 designee;

27 (3) The president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities,  
28 or the president's designee;

29 (4) The Chief Workforce Officer, or the officer's designee;

30 (5) The Labor Commissioner, or the commissioner's designee;

31 (6) Two immigration attorneys representing different immigration  
32 populations, who shall be appointed by the chairpersons of the working  
33 group;

34 (7) Five representatives from businesses with experience in hiring  
35 and sponsoring international students, who shall be appointed by the  
36 chairpersons of the working group; and

37 (8) A representative from an association representing businesses and  
38 industries in this state, who shall be appointed by the chairpersons of  
39 the working group.

40 (c) Any member of the working group appointed under subdivision  
41 (6), (7) or (8) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the  
42 General Assembly.

43 (d) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later

44 than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall  
45 be filled by the appointing authority.

46 (e) The chairpersons of the working group shall schedule the first  
47 meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty days  
48 after the effective date of this section.

49 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the  
50 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce  
51 shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

52 (g) Not later than January 1, 2024, the working group shall submit a  
53 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing  
54 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
55 relating to commerce, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a  
56 of the general statutes. The working group shall terminate on the date  
57 that it submits such report or January 1, 2024, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To establish a working group to conduct a study and make recommendations regarding the feasibility of leveraging the H1-B visa cap exemption process to fill high-value job openings and promote workforce development, using the Global Entrepreneur In Residence program as a model.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*