



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

Substitute Bill No. 6585



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
6 a model. The study shall include, but need not be limited to: (1) The
7 development of recommendations for creating an international
8 pipeline that would expand the size of the eligible workforce
9 population; (2) an examination of any barriers to establishing such a
10 pipeline; (3) an examination of any barriers faced by the business
11 community when hiring international students; (4) an evaluation of
12 international workforce pipeline programs used in other states; (5) the
13 creation of a best practices document regarding current international
14 workforce pipelines; (6) an examination of how to promote such a
15 pipeline for in-demand jobs outlined by the Office of Workforce
16 Strategy; and (7) an examination of how the state can be more
17 competitive in recruiting an 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 cochairpersons from among the members of the working
21 group, which shall consist of, but need not be limited to, the following
22 members:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

44 (d) All initial appointments to the working group shall be made not
45 later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any
46 vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.

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

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

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

In Subsec. (b), "cochairs" was changed to "cochairpersons" for consistency with standard drafting conventions. In Subsecs. (d), (e) and (f), "task force" was changed to "working group" for accuracy and internal consistency.

CE *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*