
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6354

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A GREEN JOBS CORPS PROGRAM.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the Chief Workforce Officer, with other specified officials, to jointly develop a workforce training plan for green jobs (i.e., jobs that employ green technology) to accomplish the state's greenhouse gas emissions goals (see BACKGROUND).

Specifically, the Chief Workforce Officer; Connecticut State Colleges and Universities president; Technical Education and Career System executive director; and Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Department of Labor, and State Department of Education commissioners must jointly develop a plan that includes:

1. development of work-based learning programs for green jobs with workforce shortages;
2. development of certificate and degree programs related to the green technology industry at technical education and career schools and in-state higher education institutions;
3. identification of available public or private funding to develop these programs and provide grants to apprentices and students; and
4. a strategy to market and recruit individuals, especially from underrepresented populations, to existing and newly developed green jobs work-based learning programs and certificate and degree programs related to the green technology industry at job centers, technical education and career schools, and higher education institutions.

The officials must develop the plan by January 1, 2024, and the Chief Workforce Officer must submit it to the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee by February 1, 2024. Beginning by January 1, 2025, the officials must jointly update the plan as necessary, with plan updates submitted to the committee by each February 1.

By law, green technology is technology that (1) promotes clean energy, renewable energy, or energy efficiency; (2) reduces greenhouse gases or carbon emissions; or (3) involves the invention, design, and application of chemical products and processes to eliminate the use and generation of hazardous substances.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2023

BACKGROUND

Global Warming Solutions Act

The Global Warming Solutions Act requires the state to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from all sources to a level at least (1) 10% below 1990 emission levels by January 1, 2020; (2) 45% below 2001 emission levels by January 1, 2030; and (3) 80% below 2001 emission levels by January 1, 2050. The state must also reduce greenhouse gas emissions from electricity supplied to electric customers in the state to zero percent by January 1, 2040 (CGS § 22a-200a).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 22 Nay 0 (03/07/2023)