

**AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION
OF TEN-YEAR PLANS TO ERADICATE CONCENTRATED POVERTY
IN THE STATE.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) It is hereby declared that
2 there exists a concentrated poverty crisis in the state that exacts a critical
3 toll on poor and nonpoor residents of communities that house areas of
4 concentrated poverty, which create lifelong and persistent
5 disadvantages across generations by lowering the quality of educational
6 and employment opportunities, limiting health care access and
7 diminishing health outcomes, increasing exposure to crime, reducing
8 available choices for affordable and properly maintained housing and
9 imposing obstacles to wealth-building and economic mobility. It is
10 further declared that the development and implementation of the ten-
11 year plans under this section to eradicate concentrated poverty in the
12 state are necessary and for the public benefit, as a matter of legislative
13 determination.

14 (b) There is established an Office of Neighborhood Investment and
15 Community Engagement within the Department of Economic and
16 Community Development. Said office shall have a staff dedicated
17 exclusively to carry out the provisions of this section, oversee the
18 implementation of the ten-year plans developed pursuant to this
19 subsection, monitor the state's progress in reducing concentrated
20 poverty in the state and serve as the facilitator to coordinate
21 communication between the various parties and disseminate

22 information in a timely and efficient manner.

23 (c) (1) There is established a pilot program to implement the
24 provisions of a ten-year plan developed for participating concentrated
25 poverty census tracts pursuant to this section. Any concentrated poverty
26 census tract or group of tracts (A) that is located in any of the four
27 municipalities with the greatest number of concentrated poverty census
28 tracts, and (B) for which community members have established a
29 community development corporation pursuant to the provisions of
30 section 32-7s of the general statutes, as amended by this act, to assist the
31 municipality in which such census tract or group of tracts is located in
32 carrying out the municipality's responsibilities under this section and
33 the ten-year plan developed for such census tract or group of tracts, shall
34 be eligible to participate in the program. Notwithstanding the
35 provisions of subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, any municipality in
36 which a concentrated poverty census tract or group of tracts is located
37 and for which a community development corporation has been
38 established as described under subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, or
39 any such community development corporation, may request to
40 participate in the program. As used in this section, "concentrated
41 poverty census tract" means a census tract identified as a high poverty-
42 low opportunity census tract, as of January 1, 2024, by the Office of
43 Policy and Management pursuant to section 101 of public act 23-205.

44 (2) (A) The Office of Neighborhood Investment and Community
45 Engagement shall develop a plan for each participating concentrated
46 poverty census tract or group of tracts, as applicable, to eradicate, over
47 ten years, the levels of concentrated poverty in the state, evidenced by a
48 reduction, to twenty per cent or lower, in the percentage of households
49 who reside in a concentrated poverty census tract and have incomes
50 below the federal poverty level, as well as sustained improvements in
51 community infrastructure and other underlying conditions that serve to
52 prolong concentrated poverty and economic inertia in such census
53 tracts. In developing such plan, said office shall consult with the Office
54 of Community Development Assistance established under section 32-7s

55 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, the Office of Workforce
56 Strategy established under section 4-124w of the general statutes, the
57 Office of Early Childhood, the Department of Education, the Office of
58 Policy and Management, the municipal chief elected officials and the
59 applicable community development corporation serving each
60 participating concentrated poverty census tract or group of tracts and
61 any other public or private entity the Commissioner of Economic and
62 Community Development deems relevant or necessary to achieving the
63 purposes of this subsection.

64 (B) Each ten-year plan shall include, but need not be limited to, (i)
65 measurable steps to be taken for its implementation, the target date by
66 which each such step is to be completed and the state or municipal
67 official or state or municipal agency, department or division responsible
68 for each such step, (ii) minimum state-wide averages for educational
69 metrics, including, but not limited to, kindergarten-readiness, grade
70 level reading and mathematics and college-readiness or career-
71 readiness, to be used as benchmarks for improvements in each
72 concentrated poverty census tract or group of tracts, as applicable, and
73 (iii) the list of possible projects determined pursuant to subdivision (2)
74 of this subsection.

75 (C) On or before June 1, 2025, the Commissioner of Economic and
76 Community Development shall inform the joint standing committee of
77 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to finance,
78 revenue and bonding, in writing, of the progress made to date in the
79 development of each ten-year plan. Not later than January 1, 2026, said
80 commissioner shall submit all such plans to the General Assembly, in
81 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

82 (3) The Office of Neighborhood Investment and Community
83 Engagement shall, jointly with the chief elected official of each such
84 municipality and the community development corporation established
85 to assist such municipality, develop a list of possible projects that will
86 be included in the ten-year plan for each participating concentrated

87 poverty census tract or group of tracts, as applicable, located in such
88 municipality. Said office, official and corporation shall (A) determine
89 the types of projects they deem to be the most appropriate and effective
90 for such census tract or group of tracts to eradicate concentrated poverty
91 within such census tract or group of tracts, including, but not limited to,
92 capital projects, workforce development programs, housing
93 development, community and neighborhood improvements and
94 education initiatives to assist and support residents in meeting and
95 surpassing the educational metrics described in subparagraph (B)(ii) of
96 subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section, and (B) take into account
97 the criteria for projects eligible for grants under sections 32-7s of the
98 general statutes, as amended by this act, 32-7x of the general statutes, as
99 amended by this act, and 32-285a of the general statutes, as amended by
100 this act.

101 (4) Not later than February 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, the
102 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall submit
103 a report to the General Assembly, the Office of Workforce Strategy, the
104 Office of Early Childhood and the Office of Policy and Management, in
105 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,
106 that summarizes the progress being made by the Office of
107 Neighborhood Investment and Community Engagement in
108 implementing each of the ten-year plans, the status of any projects
109 pending or undertaken for each participating concentrated poverty
110 census tract or group of tracts and any other information the
111 commissioner or the Office of Neighborhood Investment and
112 Community Engagement deems relevant or necessary.

113 (5) (A) Commencing with the calendar year 2027, not later than
114 March first of said year and annually thereafter for the next two years,
115 the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
116 cognizance of matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding shall
117 hold an informational forum for the Commissioner of Economic and
118 Community Development to present the contents of the submitted
119 report and for other state officials, municipal officials, representatives of

120 community development corporations serving participating
121 concentrated poverty census tracts or groups of tracts and other
122 interested parties to provide oral and written comments on the
123 submitted report and the pilot program.

124 (B) Commencing with the calendar year 2030, said committee shall
125 hold such informational forum every two years.

126 (d) Not later than January 1, 2029, the Commissioner of Economic and
127 Community Development shall submit a recommendation to the joint
128 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
129 matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding of whether the pilot
130 program should be expanded to all concentrated poverty census tracts
131 or groups of tracts in the state for which a community development
132 corporation has been established as described under subparagraph (B)
133 of subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section. If the commissioner
134 recommends such expansion, the commissioner and the Office of
135 Neighborhood Investment and Community Engagement shall
136 immediately undertake such expansion.

137 (e) If any state or municipal official responsible for carrying out a
138 requirement or responsibility under the provisions of this section or a
139 ten-year plan fails to do so in a timely manner, any community
140 development corporation established for a participating concentrated
141 poverty census tract or group of tracts that is aggrieved by such failure
142 may bring an action against such official in the superior court for the
143 judicial district in which such census tract or group of tracts is located
144 for a writ of mandamus to compel such official to carry out such
145 requirement or responsibility.

146 Sec. 2. Section 32-7s of the general statutes is repealed and the
147 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

148 (a) As used in this section:

149 (1) "Certified community development corporation" means an

150 organization exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the
151 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding
152 internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to
153 time, that (A) focuses a substantial majority of the community
154 development corporation's efforts on serving one or more target areas,
155 (B) has as its purpose to engage local residents and businesses to work
156 together to undertake community development programs, projects and
157 activities that develop and improve urban communities in sustainable
158 ways that create and expand economic opportunities for low and
159 moderate-income people, (C) demonstrates to the Office of Community
160 Economic Development Assistance established under subsection (b) of
161 this section that the community development corporation's
162 constituency is meaningfully represented on the board of directors of
163 such community development corporation, through (i) the percentage
164 of the board members who are residents of a target area or a community
165 that such community development corporation serves or seeks to serve,
166 (ii) the percentage of board members who are low or moderate-income,
167 (iii) the racial and ethnic composition of the board in comparison to the
168 racial and ethnic composition of the community such community
169 development corporation serves or seeks to serve, or (iv) the use of
170 mechanisms such as committees or membership meetings that the
171 community development corporation uses to ensure that its
172 constituency has a meaningful role in the governance and direction of
173 the community development corporation, and (D) is certified by the
174 Office of Community Economic Development Assistance pursuant to
175 this section;

176 (2) "Department" means the Department of Economic and
177 Community Development; and

178 (3) "Target area" means a contiguous geographic area in which the
179 current unemployment rate exceeds the state unemployment rate by at
180 least twenty-five per cent or in which the mean household income is at
181 or below eighty per cent of the state mean household income, as
182 determined by the most recent decennial census.

183 (b) (1) There is established an Office of Community Economic
184 Development Assistance within the Department of Economic and
185 Community Development. The office shall, within available
186 appropriations, (A) provide assistance to organizations seeking to
187 establish themselves or be certified as a community development
188 corporation in the state, (B) provide grants to certified community
189 development corporations for projects to be undertaken in a target area,
190 (C) serve as the liaison between community development corporations
191 and investors seeking to invest funds in such community development
192 corporations and provide assistance in soliciting investment funds for
193 such community development corporations, and (D) seek to ensure
194 coordinated, efficient and timely responses to such organizations,
195 community development corporations and investors.

196 (2) The office shall identify eligible target areas in the state and post
197 such target areas on the department's Internet web site.

198 (c) (1) Any organization exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3)
199 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding
200 internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to
201 time, may apply to the Office of Community Economic Development
202 Assistance to establish itself as or be certified as a community
203 development corporation in the state. The office shall prescribe the form
204 and manner of such application.

205 (2) (A) Any existing community development corporation that
206 operates or seeks to operate in the state may apply to the office to be
207 certified. The office shall certify any community development
208 corporation that is exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of said
209 Internal Revenue Code and meets the requirements set forth in
210 subparagraphs (A) to (C), inclusive, of subdivision (1) of subsection (a)
211 of this section. Each community development corporation that is
212 established pursuant to this subsection shall be deemed to be certified.

213 (B) The office shall maintain a current list of certified community
214 development corporations and shall post such list on the Internet web

215 site of the department.

216 (3) The Office of Community Economic Development Assistance
217 shall establish a grant program for projects to be undertaken by a
218 certified community development corporation in a target area,
219 provided, on and after the date the ten-year plans developed under
220 section 1 of this act are submitted to the General Assembly, the office
221 shall give priority to projects included in such plans. Such projects shall
222 include, but not be limited to, infrastructure improvements, housing
223 rehabilitation, streetscape improvements and facade improvements for
224 businesses. The office shall establish the application form and process
225 for such grant program, the criteria for eligible projects and for
226 awarding grants and any caps or limits on the amount or number of
227 grants awarded. The office shall post information concerning the grant
228 program on the department's Internet web site.

229 (d) (1) For the purposes described in subdivision (2) of this
230 subsection, the State Bond Commission shall have the power from time
231 to time to authorize the issuance of bonds of the state in one or more
232 series and in principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate fifty
233 million dollars.

234 (2) The proceeds of the sale of such bonds, to the extent of the amount
235 stated in subdivision (1) of this subsection, shall be used by the
236 Department of Economic and Community Development for the
237 purposes of carrying out the duties of the Office of Community
238 Economic Development Assistance under subsection (b) of this section
239 and the grant program under subsection (c) of this section.

240 (3) All provisions of section 3-20, or the exercise of any right or power
241 granted thereby, that are not inconsistent with the provisions of this
242 section are hereby adopted and shall apply to all bonds authorized by
243 the State Bond Commission pursuant to this section. Temporary notes
244 in anticipation of the money to be derived from the sale of any such
245 bonds so authorized may be issued in accordance with section 3-20 and
246 from time to time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or

247 times not exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be
248 provided in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State
249 Bond Commission authorizing such bonds. None of such bonds shall be
250 authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that
251 there has been filed with it a request for such authorization that is signed
252 by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management
253 and states such terms and conditions as said commission, in its
254 discretion, may require. Such bonds issued pursuant to this section shall
255 be general obligations of the state and the full faith and credit of the state
256 of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the principal of and
257 interest on such bonds as the same become due, and accordingly and as
258 part of the contract of the state with the holders of such bonds,
259 appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual payment of such
260 principal and interest is hereby made, and the State Treasurer shall pay
261 such principal and interest as the same become due.

262 (e) Not later than July 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, the Office of
263 Community Economic Development Assistance shall submit a report,
264 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing
265 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
266 relating to commerce, planning and development and finance, revenue
267 and bonding. Such report shall include, but not be limited to, a
268 description of the activities undertaken by the office in the preceding
269 fiscal year, the number of community development corporations
270 established and certified in the preceding fiscal year, the number and
271 amounts of grants awarded to certified community development
272 corporations in the preceding fiscal year and a description and the
273 locations of the projects undertaken by certified community
274 development corporations in the preceding fiscal year.

275 Sec. 3. Section 32-7x of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes is
276 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
277 *passage*):

278 (a) As used in this section, ["high poverty-low opportunity census

279 tract"] "concentrated poverty census tract" means a United States census
280 tract in which thirty per cent or more of the [residents] households
281 within such census tract have incomes below the federal poverty level,
282 according to the most recent five-year United States Census Bureau
283 American Community Survey.

284 (b) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall
285 compile a list of [high poverty-low opportunity] concentrated poverty
286 census tracts in the state and the municipalities in which such census
287 tracts are located and shall, not later than July 31, 2023, submit such list
288 to the General Assembly in accordance with the provisions of section
289 11-4a. The secretary shall post such list to the Internet web site of the
290 Office of Policy and Management and shall review and update such list
291 as necessary. Whenever the secretary updates such list, the secretary
292 shall submit such updated list to the General Assembly in accordance
293 with the provisions of section 11-4a.

294 (c) (1) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development
295 shall establish a grant program to fund eligible projects within [high
296 poverty-low opportunity] concentrated poverty census tracts. An
297 eligible project shall seek to reduce concentrated poverty within such
298 tracts and the effects of such poverty, including, but not limited to, the
299 lower lifetime income of residents within such tracts, the lower lifetime
300 income expectations of future generations within such tracts, increased
301 crime and risk of incarceration for residents within such tracts and
302 educational deficiencies within such tracts. An eligible project includes:

303 (A) Construction, renovation or rehabilitation of mixed-income rental
304 housing and owner-occupied housing, in order to retain individuals and
305 families of different income levels and to increase the percentage of
306 owner-occupied housing within such census tract or tracts;

307 (B) The establishment or improvement of workforce development
308 programs, including, but not limited to, programs that partner with
309 organizations to identify unemployed or underemployed individuals
310 and at-risk youth residing in such census tracts, identify workforce

311 training opportunities and other resources for such individuals and link
312 such individuals with the appropriate training and resources that will
313 increase the skills and earning potential of such individuals; and

314 (C) Construction, renovation or rehabilitation of public
315 infrastructure, in order to support and improve the private investment
316 opportunities, quality of life and public safety within such census tract
317 or tracts.

318 (2) Beginning on January 1, 2024, and not later than January 1, 2030,
319 each municipality in which a [high poverty-low opportunity]
320 concentrated poverty census tract is located may apply to the
321 commissioner, in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner,
322 to receive a grant for an eligible project or any combination of eligible
323 projects. An application may target one [high poverty-low opportunity]
324 concentrated poverty census tract or more than one such census tract if
325 such census tracts are geographically contiguous or within reasonable
326 proximity of each other. An applicant shall not be prohibited from filing
327 more than one application for different [high poverty-low opportunity]
328 concentrated poverty census tracts or groups of such census tracts.

329 (d) (1) Not later than January 1, 2024, the commissioner shall establish
330 criteria for the awarding of grants as described in subdivision (2) of this
331 subsection, requirements for documents and information as described
332 in subdivision [(3)] (4) of this subsection and deadlines for submitting
333 applications and revised and modified applications under subsection (e)
334 of this section. The commissioner shall post such criteria, requirements
335 and deadlines on the Internet web site of the Department of Economic
336 and Community Development, notify each municipality in which a
337 [high poverty-low opportunity] concentrated poverty census tract is
338 located of such posting and promote the availability of the grant
339 program established by this section in each [high poverty-low
340 opportunity] such census tract.

341 (2) Criteria for the awarding of grants pursuant to this section shall
342 include, but need not be limited to:

343 (A) The likelihood that a proposal will reduce adult or child poverty
344 within a [high poverty-low opportunity] concentrated poverty census
345 tract;

346 (B) The likelihood that a proposal will reduce the likelihood that
347 children currently residing within a [high poverty-low opportunity]
348 concentrated poverty census tract will live in poverty after reaching
349 adulthood;

350 (C) The likelihood that a proposal will produce persistent and
351 meaningful improvements in residents' wealth, financial security,
352 employability or quality of life beyond the duration of the proposal;

353 (D) The feasibility of the initiatives in a proposal and the
354 demonstrated or perceived capacity to execute upon the scope of work
355 in a proposal, including, but not limited to, adequate staffing levels of
356 entities involved with the proposal; and

357 (E) The interconnectivity and mutual reinforcement among all
358 proposed initiatives in the same [high poverty-low opportunity]
359 concentrated poverty census tract area or areas, such as providing
360 workforce training programs to parents of children enrolled in a
361 supported early childhood program.

362 (3) On and after the date the ten-year plans developed under section
363 1 of this act are submitted to the General Assembly, priority shall be
364 given to projects included in such plan.

365 ~~[(3)]~~ (4) Requirements for documents and information to be
366 submitted by municipalities to evaluate applications shall include, but
367 need not be limited to:

368 (A) A description of how the proposal intends to address each type
369 of eligible project described in subparagraphs (A) to (C), inclusive, of
370 subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section, and whether there are
371 existing projects or programs to address such eligible projects;

372 (B) A description of each initiative within the proposal, which may
373 include multiple simultaneous initiatives, and how each initiative will
374 meet one of the criteria established pursuant to subdivision (2) of this
375 subsection;

376 (C) A description of sufficient efforts, as determined by the
377 commissioner, to engage residents of the [high poverty-low
378 opportunity] concentrated poverty census tract in formulating a
379 proposal;

380 (D) For an initiative that is an eligible project described in
381 subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section, a
382 description of the municipality's consultations with the regional
383 workforce development board that serves the municipality regarding
384 the development of such project and efforts to coordinate such project
385 with the board's activities;

386 (E) A description of each organization that will participate in an
387 eligible project described in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of
388 subsection (c) of this section, and information on each organization's
389 commitment to provide continuous, sustained engagement with
390 residents of such tract throughout the project;

391 (F) A description of the entity or organization responsible for
392 coordinating the implementation of each component of the application
393 and overseeing the various projects and programs outlined in such
394 application;

395 (G) A description of plans for ongoing engagement with residents of
396 such census tracts and solicitation of feedback on the progress of a
397 proposal during its implementation; and

398 (H) A description of plans to provide residents of such census tract
399 with opportunities to become involved in implementation of a proposal.

400 (e) (1) The department shall review and evaluate each application
401 submitted and shall work with the applicant municipality to revise the

402 application if the department believes such revisions will improve or
403 strengthen the application. The department shall assist an applicant in
404 identifying and applying for funding under other programs in order to
405 maximize the amount of funding available for an applicant, including
406 seeking funding under section 4-66c. For a proposal for an eligible
407 project described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of subsection
408 (c) of this section, the commissioner shall evaluate such project in
409 consultation with the Commissioner of Housing and the Commissioner
410 of Housing shall assist the applicant with obtaining funding for such
411 project through programs operated by the Department of Housing.

412 (2) The commissioner shall submit to the Governor all applications
413 that are deemed to satisfy the requirements of subsection (d) of this
414 section. The Governor shall review such applications and may approve
415 or disapprove an application or return an application to the
416 commissioner for modifications. If an application is returned to the
417 commissioner, the commissioner shall work with the applicant to
418 modify the application and shall resubmit such application with
419 modifications to the Governor. If the Governor approves an application,
420 the Governor shall make a grant award from bond proceeds under
421 section 32-7y, provided the Governor may use funds from other bond
422 proceeds authorized for the general purposes described in
423 subparagraphs (A) to (C), inclusive, of subdivision (1) of subsection (c)
424 of this section for such grants. Grants awarded under this section shall
425 be for a period of three years, and in an amount sufficient to carry out
426 the objectives of the application, but not less than five hundred
427 thousand dollars. Each application that the Governor approves shall be
428 considered at a State Bond Commission meeting not later than two
429 months after the date the application was approved by the Governor.

430 (f) At the conclusion of the initial grant period, the commissioner
431 shall evaluate the municipality's progress toward reducing the number
432 of [residents] households within the applicable [high poverty-low
433 opportunity] concentrated poverty census tract who have incomes
434 below the federal poverty level to less than thirty per cent of the

435 [residents] households of such census tract. Such evaluation shall
436 consider, among other factors, any change in the percentage of
437 [residents] households within such census tract who have incomes
438 below the federal poverty level, and whether the actions taken pursuant
439 to such grant during the initial grant period: (1) May reasonably result
440 in a future reduction in the percentage of [residents] households within
441 such census tract who have incomes below the federal poverty level, (2)
442 have resulted in a reduction in child poverty within such census tract,
443 (3) may reasonably result in a future reduction in child poverty within
444 such census tract, or (4) may reasonably decrease the likelihood that
445 children who are currently living within such census tract will have
446 incomes below the federal poverty level after they reach adulthood.
447 Upon a determination by the commissioner that reasonable progress has
448 been made, the municipality shall be eligible for subsequent grants
449 under this section, provided, at the conclusion of each subsequent grant
450 period of three years, each applicant municipality shall be subject to an
451 evaluation and determination under this subsection prior to being
452 eligible to apply for a subsequent grant. An application for a subsequent
453 grant and the awarding of a subsequent grant shall be in accordance
454 with the provisions of subsections (c) to (e), inclusive, of this section.

455 (g) Not later than August 1, 2024, and annually thereafter until and
456 including August 1, 2029, the commissioner shall submit a report, in
457 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the General
458 Assembly, that includes the municipalities that submitted applications
459 and that were awarded grants under this section in the prior fiscal year,
460 a description of each purpose and eligible project a municipality
461 awarded a grant under this section is seeking to accomplish or
462 undertaking, a progress report, if applicable, for each such purpose or
463 eligible project and any other information the commissioner deems
464 relevant.

465 Sec. 4. Section 32-285a of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes
466 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
467 *passage*):

468 (a) As used in this section:

469 (1) "Administrative costs" means the costs paid or incurred by the
470 administrator of the Community Investment Fund 2030 Board
471 established under subsection (b) of this section, including, but not
472 limited to, allocated staff costs and other out-of-pocket costs attributable
473 to the administration and operation of the board;

474 (2) "Administrator" means the Commissioner of Economic and
475 Community Development, or the commissioner's designee;

476 (3) "Eligible project" means:

477 (A) (i) A project proposed by a municipality, community
478 development corporation or nonprofit organization, for the purpose of
479 promoting economic or community development in the municipality or
480 a municipality served by such corporation or organization, such as
481 brownfield remediation, affordable housing, establishment of or
482 improvements to water and sewer infrastructure to support smaller
483 scale economic development, pedestrian safety and traffic calming
484 improvements, establishment of or improvements to energy resiliency
485 or clean energy projects and land acquisition and capital projects to
486 construct, rehabilitate or renovate buildings and structures to facilitate
487 or improve home rehabilitation programs and facilities such as libraries
488 and senior centers; or

489 (ii) A grant-in-aid proposed by a municipality, community
490 development corporation or nonprofit organization for the purpose of
491 providing (I) a revolving loan program, microloans or gap financing, to
492 small businesses located within such municipality or a municipality
493 served by such corporation or organization, or (II) start-up funds to
494 establish a small business in any such municipality; and

495 (B) Such project or grant-in-aid furthers consistent and systematic
496 fair, just and impartial treatment of all individuals, including
497 individuals who belong to underserved and marginalized communities

498 that have been denied such treatment, such as Black, Latino and
499 indigenous and Native American persons; Asian Americans and Pacific
500 Islanders and other persons of color; members of religious minorities;
501 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer persons and other persons
502 comprising the LGBTQ+ community; persons who live in rural areas;
503 and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or
504 inequality; and

505 (4) "Municipality" means a municipality designated as a public
506 investment community pursuant to section 7-545 or as an alliance
507 district pursuant to section 10-262u.

508 (b) (1) There is established a Community Investment Fund 2030
509 Board, which shall be within the Department of Economic and
510 Community Development. The board shall consist of the following
511 members:

512 (A) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president
513 pro tempore of the Senate;

514 (B) The majority leader of the House of Representatives, the majority
515 leader of the Senate, the minority leader of the House of Representatives
516 and the minority leader of the Senate;

517 (C) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives
518 and one appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, each of
519 whom shall be a member of the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus of the
520 General Assembly;

521 (D) The two chairpersons of the general bonding subcommittee of the
522 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
523 matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding;

524 (E) Two appointed by the Governor; and

525 (F) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the
526 Attorney General, the Treasurer, the Comptroller, the Secretary of the

527 State and the Commissioners of Economic and Community
528 Development, Administrative Services, Social Services and Housing, or
529 their designees.

530 (2) All initial appointments shall be made not later than sixty days
531 after June 30, 2021. The terms of the members appointed by the
532 Governor shall be coterminous with the term of the Governor or until
533 their successors are appointed, whichever is later. Any vacancy in
534 appointments shall be filled by the appointing authority. Any vacancy
535 occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled for the balance
536 of the unexpired term.

537 (3) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, it shall not
538 constitute a conflict of interest for a trustee, director, partner, officer,
539 stockholder, proprietor, counsel or employee of any person to serve as
540 a member of the board, provided such trustee, director, partner, officer,
541 stockholder, proprietor, counsel or employee abstains and absents
542 himself or herself from any deliberation, action and vote by the board in
543 specific respect to such person. The members appointed by the
544 Governor shall be deemed public officials and shall adhere to the code
545 of ethics for public officials set forth in chapter 10.

546 (4) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro
547 tempore of the Senate shall serve as the chairpersons of the board and
548 shall schedule the first meeting of the board, which shall be held not
549 later than January 1, 2022. The board shall meet at least quarterly.

550 (5) Eleven members of the board shall constitute a quorum for the
551 transaction of any business.

552 (6) The members of the board shall serve without compensation, but
553 shall, within the limits of available funds, be reimbursed for expenses
554 necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties.

555 (7) The board shall have the following powers and duties: (A) Review
556 eligible projects to be recommended to the Governor under subsection

557 (c) of this section for approval; (B) establish bylaws to govern its
558 procedures; (C) review and provide comments to the Department of
559 Economic and Community Development on projects funded through
560 the state's Economic Action Plan as provided under section 32-4p; and
561 (D) perform such other acts as may be necessary and appropriate to
562 carry out its duties described in this section.

563 (8) The administrator shall hire such employee or employees as may
564 be necessary to assist the board to carry out its duties described in this
565 section.

566 (c) (1) The Community Investment Fund 2030 Board shall establish
567 an application and review process with guidelines and terms for funds
568 provided from the bond proceeds under subsection (d) of this section
569 for eligible projects. Such funds shall be used for costs related to an
570 eligible project recommended by the board and approved by the
571 Governor pursuant to this subsection but shall not be used to pay or to
572 reimburse the administrator for administrative costs under this section.
573 The Department of Economic and Community Development shall pay
574 for administrative costs within available appropriations.

575 (2) The chairpersons of the board shall notify the chief elected official
576 of each municipality when the application and review process has been
577 established and shall publicize the availability of any funds available
578 under this section. Each such official or any community development
579 corporation or nonprofit organization may submit an application to the
580 board requesting funds for an eligible project. The board shall meet to
581 consider applications submitted and determine which, if any, the board
582 will recommend to the Governor for approval.

583 (3) (A) The board shall give priority to eligible projects (i) that are
584 proposed by a municipality that (I) has implemented local hiring
585 preferences pursuant to section 7-112, or (II) has or will leverage
586 municipal, private, philanthropic or federal funds for such project, [and]
587 (ii) that have a project labor agreement or employ or will employ ex-
588 offenders or individuals with physical, intellectual or developmental

589 disabilities, and (iii) on and after the date the ten-year plans developed
590 under section 1 of this act are submitted to the General Assembly, that
591 are included in such plans. The board shall give additional priority to
592 an application submitted by a municipality that includes a letter of
593 support for the proposed eligible project from a member or members of
594 the General Assembly in whose district the eligible project is or will be
595 located.

596 (B) In evaluating applications for an eligible project described in
597 subparagraph (A)(ii) of subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section,
598 the board shall (i) evaluate the risk of default on the repayment of a
599 proposed loan or financing, (ii) consider the impact of the eligible
600 project on job creation or retention in the municipality, (iii) consider the
601 impact of the eligible project on blighted properties in the municipality,
602 and (iv) consider the overall impact of the eligible project on the
603 community. The board shall not recommend any proposed loan or
604 financing under subparagraph (A)(ii) of subdivision (3) of subsection (a)
605 of this section for which the interest rate varies from the prevailing
606 market rate.

607 (4) (A) Whenever the board deems it necessary or desirable, the
608 chairpersons of the board shall submit to the Governor a list of the
609 board's recommendations of eligible projects to be funded from bond
610 proceeds under subsection (d) of this section. The board may
611 recommend state funding for eligible projects, provided the total cost of
612 such recommendations shall not exceed one hundred seventy-five
613 million dollars in any fiscal year. Such list shall include, at a minimum:

614 (i) For each eligible project described in subparagraph (A)(i) of
615 subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section, a description of such
616 project, the municipality in which such project is located, the amount of
617 funds sought for such project, any cost estimates for such project, any
618 schematics or plans for such project, the total estimated project costs and
619 the applicable fiscal year to which such disbursement will be attributed;
620 and

621 (ii) For each eligible project described in subparagraph (A)(ii) of
622 subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section, a description of and
623 specific terms for any proposed loans, financing or start-up funds to be
624 provided from such grant-in-aid, the types of small businesses located
625 or to be located in the municipality that may be eligible for such loan,
626 financing or start-up funds, the amount of the grant-in-aid sought and
627 the applicable fiscal year to which such disbursement will be attributed.

628 (B) The Governor shall review the eligible projects on the list and may
629 recommend changes to any eligible project on the list. The Governor
630 shall determine the most appropriate method of funding for each
631 eligible project and shall provide to the members of the board, in
632 writing, such determination for each eligible project on the list and the
633 reasons therefor. The board may reconsider at a future meeting any
634 eligible project for which the Governor recommends a change. Each
635 eligible project for which the Governor recommends the allocation of
636 bond funds shall be considered at a State Bond Commission meeting not
637 later than two months after the date such eligible project was submitted
638 to the Governor pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

639 (5) Funds for an eligible project approved under this section may be
640 administered on behalf of the board by a state agency, as determined by
641 the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, provided a
642 memorandum of understanding between the administrator of the
643 Community Investment Fund 2030 Board and the state, acting by and
644 through the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, has been
645 entered into with respect to such funds and project.

646 (6) Not later than August 31, 2023, the board shall submit a report, in
647 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the General
648 Assembly, the Black and Puerto Rican caucus of the General Assembly,
649 the Auditors of Public Accounts and the Governor, for the preceding
650 fiscal year, that includes (A) a list of the eligible projects recommended
651 by the board and approved by the Governor pursuant to this section, (B)
652 the total amount of funds provided for such eligible projects, (C) for

653 each such eligible project, a description of the project and the amounts
654 and terms of the funds provided, (D) the status of the project and any
655 balance remaining of the allocated funds, and (E) any other information
656 the board deems relevant or necessary. The board shall submit such
657 report annually for each fiscal year in which the funds specified in
658 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of this subsection are disbursed for
659 eligible projects.

660 (7) The Auditors of Public Accounts shall audit, on a biennial basis,
661 all eligible projects funded under this section and shall report their
662 findings to the Governor, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
663 Management and the General Assembly.

664 (d) (1) The State Bond Commission may authorize the issuance of
665 bonds of the state, in accordance with the provisions of section 3-20, in
666 principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate eight hundred
667 seventy-five million dollars. The amount authorized for the issuance
668 and sale of such bonds in each of the following fiscal years shall not
669 exceed the following corresponding amount for each such fiscal year,
670 except that, to the extent the State Bond Commission does not provide
671 for the use of all or a portion of such amount in any such fiscal year,
672 such amount not provided for shall be carried forward and added to the
673 authorized amount for the next succeeding fiscal year, and provided
674 further, the costs of issuance and capitalized interest, if any, may be
675 added to the capped amount in each fiscal year, and each of the
676 authorized amounts shall be effective on July first of the fiscal year
677 indicated as follows:

T1	Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Amount
T2	2023	\$175,000,000
T3	2024	175,000,000
T4	2025	175,000,000
T5	2026	175,000,000
T6	2027	175,000,000
T7	Total	\$875,000,000

678 (2) The proceeds of the sale of bonds set forth in this subsection shall

679 be used for the purpose of funding eligible projects for which the
680 Governor has determined under subsection (c) of this section that bond
681 funding is appropriate and that no other bond authorization is available.

682 (e) (1) Upon the agreement of the Governor and the Community
683 Investment Fund 2030 Board, and subsequent to the adoption of a
684 resolution by the General Assembly affirming the reauthorization of the
685 board and the program provided for under this section, the State Bond
686 Commission may authorize the issuance of bonds of the state, in
687 accordance with the provisions of section 3-20, in principal amounts not
688 exceeding in the aggregate one billion two hundred fifty million dollars.
689 The amount authorized for the issuance and sale of such bonds in each
690 of the following fiscal years shall not exceed the following
691 corresponding amount for each such fiscal year, except that, to the
692 extent the State Bond Commission does not provide for the use of all or
693 a portion of such amount in any such fiscal year, such amount not
694 provided for shall be carried forward and added to the authorized
695 amount for the next succeeding fiscal year, and provided further, the
696 costs of issuance and capitalized interest, if any, may be added to the
697 capped amount in each fiscal year, and each of the authorized amounts
698 shall be effective on July first of the fiscal year indicated as follows:

T8	Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Amount
T9	2028	\$250,000,000
T10	2029	250,000,000
T11	2030	250,000,000
T12	2031	250,000,000
T13	2032	250,000,000
T14	Total	\$1,250,000,000

699 (2) The proceeds of the sale of bonds set forth in this subsection shall
700 be used for the purpose of funding eligible projects for which the
701 Governor has determined under subsection (c) of this section that bond
702 funding is appropriate and that no other bond authorization is available.

703 (f) All provisions of section 3-20, or the exercise of any right or power
704 granted thereby, that are not inconsistent with the provisions of this

705 section are hereby adopted and shall apply to all bonds authorized by
706 the State Bond Commission pursuant to this section. Temporary notes
707 in anticipation of the money to be derived from the sale of any such
708 bonds so authorized may be issued in accordance with said section, and
709 from time to time renewed. All bonds issued pursuant to this section
710 shall be general obligations of the state and the full faith and credit of
711 the state of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the principal of
712 and interest on said bonds as the same become due, and accordingly
713 and as part of the contract of the state with the holders of said bonds,
714 appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual payment of such
715 principal and interest is hereby made, and the Treasurer shall pay such
716 principal and interest as the same become due.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	32-7s
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	32-7x
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	32-285a