General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 1361

January Session, 2025

LCO No. **4853**

Referred to Committee on HOUSING

Introduced by:
(HSG)

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A HOUSING GROWTH FUND FOR A MUNICIPAL GRANT PROGRAM.

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

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) There is established a Housing Growth Fund which shall be administered by the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development. The fund shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited into the fund. The commissioner may accept gifts, grants or donations from public or private sources for the fund. The commissioner shall expend any moneys of the fund to provide grants to eligible municipalities for purposes of (1) increasing the availability of affordable housing, as defined in section 8-39a of the general statutes, (2) promoting the production of housing affordable to families of low and moderate income, as defined in section 8-39 of the general statutes, and (3) maximizing the amount of residential, commercial and leisure space within walking distance of transit facilities.

(b) Not later than November 1, 2025, the commissioner shall develop eligibility criteria to be used in selecting applicants for such grants,

develop application forms and deadlines, and post in a conspicuous location on the Internet web site of the Department of Economic and Community Development a description of the grant program that includes, but is not limited to, such criteria, forms and deadlines. Any eligible municipality may apply for such grants in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner.

(c) The commissioner shall, within available appropriations, allocate fifty million dollars to the Housing Growth Fund on an annual basis.

(d) Not later than January 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, the department shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to housing. Such report shall include information for the preceding calendar year on the number of applications for grants that were received, the number of grants that were awarded, and a list of the municipalities that received grants and the purpose and amount of such grants.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	*July 1, 2025*	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To establish a Housing Growth Fund for a municipal grant program to increase the availability of affordable housing and maximize the amount of residential, commercial and leisure space near transit facilities.

[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.]