

Senate, March 30, 1998. The Committee on Planning and Development reported through SEN. COLEMAN, 2nd DIST., Chairman of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION ZONE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

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

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (a) The Secretary of the
2 Office of Policy and Management shall establish a
3 Neighborhood Revitalization Zone Advisory
4 Committee to coordinate state and private
5 resources on behalf of neighborhood revitalization
6 zones established pursuant to sections 7-600 to
7 7-607, inclusive, of the general statutes.
8 (b) The committee shall consist of (1) one
9 member from each municipality with one or more
10 neighborhood revitalization zone committees,
11 appointed by the chief elected official of the
12 municipality from nominations submitted by each
13 neighborhood revitalization zone committee in the
14 municipality; (2) the Secretary of the Office of
15 Policy and Management, or his designee; (3) the
16 chancellor of the regional community-technical
17 college, or his designee; and (4) any other head
18 of a state agency the secretary deems appropriate
19 to fulfill the purpose of section 7-607 of the
20 general statutes.
21 (c) The first meeting of the committee shall
22 be convened jointly by the Connecticut Institute

23 of Municipal Studies and the Secretary of the
24 Office of Policy and Management not more than
25 thirty days after the effective date of this act.
26 Thereafter, the committee shall meet at least
27 quarterly.

28 (d) The Connecticut Institute of Municipal
29 Services shall provide the personnel and resources
30 necessary for the committee to perform its tasks.

31 Sec. 2. (NEW) The mission of the committee
32 established pursuant to section 1 of this act
33 shall be to assist neighborhood revitalization
34 zone committees in the development and
35 implementation of strategic plans adopted under
36 the provisions of sections 7-600 to 7-601,
37 inclusive, of the general statutes. To accomplish
38 its mission the committee shall (1) design a
39 technical assistance delivery system to enable
40 neighborhood revitalization zone committees to
41 promote self-sufficiency and community economic
42 development; (2) act as a clearinghouse for
43 information about neighborhood revitalization
44 zones including information on (A) linkages with
45 technical experts for development of strategic
46 plans; (B) development of a data base on best
47 practices for neighborhood revitalization; (C)
48 establishment of collaborative partnerships with
49 federal, state and municipal agencies; (D)
50 development of agreements with financial
51 institutions and foundations; and (E) leveraging
52 corporate and public sector strengths through
53 mentor and volunteer programs; (3) establish a
54 collaborative network of state and private
55 institutions of learning, libraries, non-profit
56 organizations and churches; (4) identify training
57 and curriculum needs; and (5) conduct conferences
58 and seminars.

59 Sec. 3. (NEW) There is established a
60 neighborhood revitalization zone grant program
61 which shall be administered by the Office of
62 Policy and Management. The purpose of the program
63 is to provide grants, within available
64 appropriations, to neighborhood revitalization
65 zone committees for activities that promote
66 organizational development, economic development
67 or business planning, specialized curriculum
68 development, leadership training, use of
69 technology, property management, landlord tenant
70 relations, government regulations, and municipal

71 or state waivers and such other activities as the
72 Office of Policy and Management deems appropriate
73 for neighborhood revitalization.
74 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect July 1,
75 1998.

76 PD COMMITTEE VOTE: YEA 13 NAY 6 JFS

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"THE FOLLOWING FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND BILL ANALYSIS ARE PREPARED FOR THE BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SOLELY FOR PURPOSES OF INFORMATION, SUMMARIZATION AND EXPLANATION AND DO NOT REPRESENT THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR EITHER HOUSE THEREOF FOR ANY PURPOSE."

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT - BILL NUMBER sSB 380

STATE IMPACT	None, see explanation below
MUNICIPAL IMPACT	None
STATE AGENCY(S)	Legislative Management (Connecticut Institute of Municipal Studies), Office of Policy and Management

EXPLANATION OF ESTIMATES:

STATE IMPACT: There is a workload increase for the Connecticut Institute of Municipal Studies (CIMS) associated with providing staff support to the Neighborhood Revitalization Zone Advisory Committee established by the bill. This can be handled within the anticipated budgetary resources of CIMS.

The bill establishes a neighborhood revitalization grant program to be administered by OPM, within available appropriations. It should be noted that no funding for the grant or its administration was included in the Appropriations Act, as passed by the Appropriations Committee.

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OLR BILL ANALYSIS

sSB 380

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION ZONE
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

SUMMARY: This bill establishes a statewide Neighborhood Revitalization Zone Advisory Committee to help local neighborhood revitalization zone (NRZ) committees obtain state and private resources. The law specifies a process through which neighborhood groups can form these committees to prepare strategic plans and seek waivers from state and local codes that hinder revitalization efforts.

The bill specifies the advisory committee's composition and purpose and requires the Connecticut Institute of Municipal Studies (CIMS) to provide staff support and other resources for it. CIMS and the secretary of the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) must jointly convene the committee's first meeting by July 31, 1998. The committee must then meet at least quarterly. The bill requires OPM to provide grants within available appropriations to the local committees, mainly for training and technical assistance.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 1998

FURTHER EXPLANATION**Advisory Committee Composition**

The advisory committee must consist of municipal and state representatives. Each town with an NRZ gets one representative, who must be appointed by the town's chief elected official from a list of nominees submitted by each of the town's NRZs. The bill appoints the OPM secretary and the chancellor of the regional community-technical colleges or their respective designees to the committee and allows the OPM secretary to appoint the head of any state agency who can help the local NRZs committees achieve their goals.

Advisory Committee's Mission

The advisory committee must help the local committees develop and implement their strategic plans. It must

design a technical assistance delivery system that helps them promote self-sufficiency and community economic development. And it must serve as an information clearinghouse on NRZs by providing information on:

1. technical experts who can prepare strategic plans,
2. best practices for revitalizing neighborhoods,
3. establishing partnerships with government agencies,
4. developing agreements with financial institutions and foundations, and
5. obtaining corporate and government mentors and volunteer programs.

The advisory committee must also create a network through which state and private schools, libraries, nonprofit organizations, and churches can collaborate on projects. It must identify training and curriculum needs and conduct conferences and seminars.

Grants

The local NRZ committees can use grants to promote: (1) organizational development, (2) economic development and business planning, (3) specialized curriculum development, (4) leadership training, (5) the use of technology, (6) property management, (7) landlord-tenant relations, (8) government regulations, (9) municipal and state waivers, and (10) any other activity OPM deems appropriate for revitalizing neighborhoods.

BACKGROUND

Related Bill

sSB 229 (File 106) changes some of the requirements governing the composition of local NRZ committees and the process for obtaining code waivers. It also defines the process the committees must follow when amending strategic plans. The bill eliminates local legislative bodies' powers to specify the committees' powers, which

the statutes delineate.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 13 Nay 6